

...from the desk of the principal

God, our Father and Creator, be with us in our school. Help us to treasure your gift of life and treat one another with care. Let us always remember that we are all created in your image. Come, Lord Jesus, and be with us in our school. Guide our teachers, guide our parents, and lead our students to recognize you in all people. Come, Holy Spirit, and be with us in our school. Give us a vision for the future, and the determination for shaping a faith-filled future. Amen.

January 27, 2012

Dear Members of the SMS Community,

Happy Catholic Schools Week!! Catholic Schools Week celebrates education that goes beyond preparation for a secular life; it is an education that prepares students for a Christian life. CSW also celebrates the high standards of excellence and the quality of the education available to all students in Catholic elementary and secondary schools across the U.S. In the words of one parent, ***“In an ever more demanding and challenging world, parents only have one chance to adequately prepare their children for the future. We can’t blow it. That is why we are sending our daughter to SMS. Thank you.”*** We have much to be proud of and to celebrate at Saint Mary School, and as you saw on the schedule of events that was sent home earlier this week, we will be celebrating – our faith, our academics, and our service to others. I hope all families will join the faculty and staff at the 11:30 Mass this Sunday, and then come over to school to enjoy a pancake breakfast – our treat!

Parent Conferences: Today marks the end of the second quarter. Your children have been reminded to speak with their teachers concerning tests, quizzes, and assignments that they may still need to make up. You may want to ask your child if he/she is current with the aforementioned items or you can check the Teacher’s grade book yourself with your secret password. Report cards will be sent home with the students next Friday, February 3, and Parent Conferences will be held the following Monday, February 6. Please stop in to sign up for a conference or contact your child’s teacher to arrange for one.

Re-Enrollment Contracts: Be on the lookout for the Re-Enrollment Packet that will be sent home by the end of next week with your youngest child. We are especially excited about “The Early Bird Special” that we are offering.

Storm Make-up Days: We will follow the same schedule as Newington Public Schools for making up any missed school days due to the snowstorm in October, as well as any other days that may be missed due to weather related issues. This means that the missed days will be added to the end of the year. At this point our last day of school has been moved to June 20. If we miss any more days, they will be made up by adding to the end. We only risk losing April vacation, if we reach June 29, and there are still days to be made up. Please note, due to Principal error – I counted wrong – April 11, 2012 will be a school day for students. By taking

this day back and adding the five school days to the end of the year, we will be in compliance with the mandated 180 school days.

Reminders: Parents are reminded that you must call the school office each day when your child is absent. Also, when picking your child up for an early dismissal, please come to the school office to sign your child out. The office will contact the child's classroom and they will meet you in the office. Please do not go to the child's classroom directly.

On the Calendar:

Friday, January 27 – Close of marking period

Pastor Appreciation Luncheon

Sunday, January 29 – Catholic Schools Week opening Mass – 11:30 a.m.

Pancake Brunch follows Mass

Monday, January 30 – School Spirit Day

Monday, January 30 – Grade 2 – First Communion Parent Meeting 6:30 – Church Hall

Tuesday, January 31 – Student Leadership & Sports/Game Day

Tuesday, January 31 – Bingo

Wednesday, February 1 – Service to Others & Get Up and Move Day

Thursday, February 2 – Academic Day

Thursday, February 2 – Science Fair 6:30

Friday, February 3 – Faith-Filled Day

Friday, February 3 – Mass 8:30 – led by Grade 3 – Dress Uniforms

Friday, February 3 – Report Cards issued

Saturday, February 4 – Bingo

Monday, February 6 – Early Release 12:20 PM – Parent/teacher conferences

Tuesday, February 7 – Bingo

Friday, February 10 – Grade 8 – Dress Down (\$1.00) & Bake Sale

Friday, February 10 – Valentines Dance – Grades 5-8 – 3:00-5:00 in the gym

Club News/Schedules:

Monday, January 30 – Scrabble/Puzzle Club 2:35-3:15

Tuesday, January 31 – All Chorus (K-8) 2:35-3:15

Tuesday, January 31 – Chess Club 2:35-3:30

Wednesday, February 1 – Newspaper Club 2:35-3:15

Thursday, February 2 – Drama Club 2:35-3:30

Thursday, February 2 – Lego Club 2:35-3:15

Monday, February 6 – Early Release 12:20 PM – NO CLUBS MEET

Tuesday, February 7 – Student Council visits Jefferson House

Tuesday, February 7 – All Chorus (K-8) 2:35-3:15

Tuesday, February 7 – Chess Club 2:35-3:30

Wednesday, February 8 – Newspaper Club 2:35-3:15

Thursday, February 9 – Drama Club 2:35-3:30

Thursday, February 9 – Lego Club 2:35-3:15

Bingo News: Thank you, parents for your willingness to work at bingo on Saturday, and now on Tuesday. I pray that you be richly blessed for your dedication to SMS.

Saturday, January 28, 2012 – Team 5

Biella (7)
DeWolf (8)
Picard (3)
Smith (3)
Stewart (1)
Tabellione (K)
Nevico (3,5)
Bilodeau (4)

Caller: Russell (3,5)
Team Leader: DiCicco

Saturday, February 4, 2012 – Team 6

Cruz-Duarte (1)
Ferraiolo (8)
Goegel (3,5)
Gurekovich (3)
Jackie (K,5)
Kilkenny (1,5)
Reis (4)
Tougas (5)
Yzaguirre (K)

Caller: Robinson (5)
Team Leader: DiCicco

Thank you for entrusting your precious children to us. May we be richly blessed for our efforts.

God's Blessings and Peace,

Mrs. McDonald