



The Saints Go Marching On!

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

- DECEMBER 16
Christmas Program 1:00 p.m.
Cookie Platter Sales
- DECEMBER 17
Recycling
- DECEMBER 22
Early Dismissal
12:35 P.M.
- DECEMBER 23 -
DECEMBER 30
Christmas Break
No school
- JANUARY 2
School Resumes
- JANUARY 18
Early Dismissal
12:35 P.M.
- JANUARY 20
End 2nd Quarter
- JANUARY 23
No School

WE WISH YOU A
MOST BLESSED
CHRISTMAS AND
JOYOUS NEW
YEAR!



PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

Dear Parents:

Accreditation Process – I'm updating you about the progress that has been made in the last few weeks. To review, this is the year of our Self Study. The faculty and Ministry of Ed are responsible for reviewing our school's mission and providing documentation on ways that it is fulfilled. For example, one of our goals this school year is to review curriculum needs for all grades. As we carry out this responsibility in Faculty Meetings, we type the agendas, highlight the agenda item that follows this procedure, and file the highlighted copy in the appropriate standard level. As of today, we are on schedule according to the timeline that was designed by me. There have been meetings and meetings and more meetings to enable this to happen. We will be taking a break from this process and resuming it again in mid January. I'll keep updating you as the process moves along.

The Standards in the Accreditation Process are:

Foundation, Communication, Environment, Leadership, Resources, Learning, Materials, Student Services, Long Range Plan, Early Childhood, Extended day, Religious Identity, and School Improvement

WITC Partnership – Mr. John Schutte, student networker, has spent many hours here since our partnership began. Mr. Ed Paulsen, parent, has assisted with this partnership as well. Our computers in the Tech Lab along with the lap tops used by Grades 4-8 have been maintained and are fully functioning. I am very grateful that this opportunity was available because it has taken hours for this to happen.

Ann Marie Foundation – It has awarded us a grant for \$ 1,000 to purchase two IPADs for our school. The grant monies will be here in January and the IPADS purchased then.

Goal Program Update – The faculty and I continue to meet the needs of all students in K-8. These accommodations occur throughout the day and are documented as they happen. You may reference Differentiated Instruction on the web in order to better understand this program. There are presently eight committees consisting of teachers and me who meet periodically to discuss the present and future learning needs of our students. In most instances, the classroom teacher is responsible for modifying the design of his/her classroom to accommodate these needs.

Informal Classroom Observations – I have concluded the informal classroom observation for Pre School – Grade 8. I document my observations and then meet with the individual classroom teacher to review my expectations and his/her commitment to our school's mission.

These are some of the ways that Jesus' light blessed us this school year.

- +Fr. Jim officiated at our weekly Wednesday liturgy and visited classrooms afterwards.
- +Prayer services were planned by Student Council representatives.
- +Daily public address announcements included reciting the pledge and prayer.
- +Teachers and students ended the day in prayer.
- +The Kindergarten – Eighth Grade students, faculty, staff joined together during October to share the Rosary at church.
- +A Spirit Day was shared by the whole school on Early Out Wednesdays.

- +The older/younger children's Faith Friends Program started in September.
- +Older students read to their Pre School and Pre K friends.
- +Faculty, staff, and children received Safe and Sacred training.
- +An Athletic Program included volleyball and basketball at St. Mary School and basketball, cross country, and volleyball at the School District of New Richmond.
- +The Health Teacher and Principal arranged for a guest speaker to visit Grades Kindergarten – Eighth Grades to present on bullying prevention.
- +Parent and grandparent volunteers were welcomed in the classrooms.
- +Parents organized the Recycling Program.
- +Parents participated in fund raising events.
- +Parents joined Home, School, and Church Assn. committees and chaired them.
- +Home, School, and Church met twice.
- +Ministry of Ed met monthly.
- +Parents participated in all Home, School, and Church Assn. committees.
- +Adoration was held at ICC in September-December.
- +The St. Mary's Children Choir represented the school at weekend liturgies.
- +A Holiday Performance was held for Pre Kindergarten children.
- +Faculty meetings were scheduled throughout the school year to review curriculum needs and goals.
- +Creative Curriculum was part of the Pre K instruction.
- +Iowa Basics were administered to Grades 3, 5, and 7.
- +WKCE were administered to Grade 8.
- +The Goal Program was part of Kindergarten – Eighth Grades.
- +Title I classes started in September.
- +Espindle was used in Grades 6-8.
- +Accelerated Math continued for Grades 4-8.
- +Homework Club was offered for Grades 4-8.
- +The second grade class performed a Thanksgiving Play.
- +Teachers will observe in each other's classrooms.
- +The principal informally and formally observed in classrooms.
- +Teachers mentored each other and scheduled regular monthly meetings to review the progress.
- +Teachers registered for graduate classes.

REMINDER:

Thursday, December 15th is Marathon It Pride day. Wear your 2011 Marathon It shirts.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM DRESS ATTIRE

All students should wear their "Sunday Best". Please, no blue jeans.

St. Mary School Christmas Program
 December 16, 2011 1:00pm
 School Gym



Following program:
Refreshments!

FOR SALE:

Christmas Cookie Platters

Large platters (3+ dozen) \$15

Small platters (2 dozen) \$8

With a variety of the following:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| *Pizzelles | *Toffee bars | *Nutmeg logs |
| *Ginger cookies | *PB blossoms | *Spritz |
| *Meltaways | *Cutouts | *PB Cup |
| *Cherry winks | *Pistachio cookies | |
| *M&M pretzels | *PB Crunch delights | |
| *Fudge | *Egg white cookies w/mint | |
| *Russian tea cakes | *Choc. dipped oreos | |
| *Molasses cookies | *Mini cupcakes | |
| *Powdered sugar cookies | | |
| * And more! | | |



**Free Photos
 with Santa**

*You are also welcome to take pictures
 with your own camera.

Scrip for sale!

Bits & Pieces Doris Mitchell

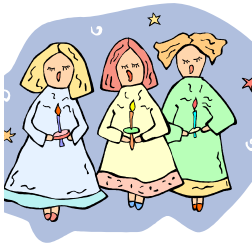
I see a lot of students wearing boots during the school day. Small feet sweat in their boots then get cold outside. Remember to send in shoes or keep a pair of shoes at the school at all times.

We received a check from RockTenn for paper recycling for \$142.80.

We received a check from Good Search for \$126.93. This is a result of families using their search engine on the internet.

We received checks totaling \$104.50 from Image Craft for toner and ink cartridges.

I will be sending in Milk Moola and Kemps next week. Thanks for collecting!



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
Friday, December 16
1:00 p.m.

EARLY DISMISSAL
Thursday, December 22nd



Merry Christmas!
NO SCHOOL
Friday, December 23rd -
Friday, December 30th

