

NEW RICHMOND, WI

FALL 2017

St. Mary School

Quarterly Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

Students Score High

Spring MAPS scores in Math and Reading are above both the Diocese of Superior and National Mean scores. This is a prime example of the academic excellence that is offered in an education from St. Mary School.

St. Mary School graduates perform at a high level in high school. According to WISEdash Portal (The Wisconsin Information System for Education), the Class of 2016 state average ACT combined score was 18. Those graduates of the New Richmond Class of 2016 who attended St. Mary School average combined ACT score was 28. Each of these students had at least one AP class in high school, but most averaged between 4-6 AP classes.

To provide the best education possible, St. Mary School has reviewed curriculum and purchased new K-8 science, religion, and math textbooks and Catholic Youth Bibles for grades 4-8. These upgrades in materials were made possible by very generous donors at the 2016 Mardi Gras fundraiser and by an anonymous donation.



Upcoming Events:

October 4 Pet Blessing

October 7 Marathon-It

October 18 Grandparents' Day

October 27 Superior Diocese Fall Conference

November 3 First Ouarter Ends

November 7 Veteran's Day Assembly

December 12 4K Holiday Program

December 21 Christmas Concert

December 22 to January 1 Christmas Break



MISSION

St. Mary School serves the parishes of the Immaculate Conception Church of the Blessed Virgin, St. Patrick's Church of Erin Prairie, the New Richmond community, and the surrounding areas. St. Mary School exists to pass on the values and teaching of the Roman Catholic Church and is open to all families of faith who accept the philosophies and mission of St. Mary School.

St. Mary School students, preschool through eighth grade, **grow in knowledge** through having their needs and abilities met by nurturing and compassionate staff. Students grow in faith by having God placed in the center of learning. Dedicated staff are devoted to students realizing their potential as God's children. All are welcome to **follow in faith** as members of God's kingdom.

Our mission calls us as teachers, parishioners, parents, and students to **serve in harmony** by being active members of our communities and promoting Catholic values through civic responsibility, charity, leadership, peace, and tolerance.

Mardi Gras 2017

Mardi Gras Gala is the school's largest fundraiser. This event is held each year at Ready Randy's Convention Center south of town on the Saturday night prior to the start of the Lenten season. The Gala has something for everyone: dinner, dancing, live auction, silent auction, cake auction, fund-a-need drive, and blackjack; overall a whole lot of fun.

This year's event was the biggest and most successful so far. With a theme set on the high seas, (think Love Boat) the event raised over \$60,000 for the school. The fund-aneed fully funded the re-carpeting of all of the classrooms and main office in the school. This much needed facelift for the school became a reality this past June.

The 2018 Mardi Gras is scheduled for Saturday, February 10th. Grab your leather jackets, poodle skirts, and loafers for a night of "back to the 50s"!





"St. Mary offers small class sizes allowing for more teacher interaction as well as many opportunities for public speaking. I love the interactions & relationships formed by the younger and older students through the Faith Friend program."

~8th Grade Parent Survey

Alumni

Stuart Pearson (St. Mary Class of 2013) was named co-salutatorian for the New Richmond High School Class of 2017. Stuart has participated as a prominent member of the hockey, tennis, and crosscountry teams along with being an active participant of the Academic Decathlon team. Stuart is looking forward to college where he will focus on either engineering or teaching.



Students in Service

St. Mary students know the importance of service to their school, parish, community and the world around them. Listed below are just a few of the many service projects the students participated in. Students in 4th-8th grades spent a morning in late October at Feed My Starving Children where they packaged 27,432 meals for children around the world. The entire student body participated in a penny drive during the month of November and raised funds to donate to Five Loaves Food Shelf and Grace Place. In December the Kindergartners did a supply drive for the local animal shelter, Gregory's Gift of Hope. During the month of January in celebration of Catholic Schools Week, the Student Council sponsored an all school food drive. The students and their families donated 437 pounds of food to Five Loaves Food Shelf. The St. Mary Student Council also helped with the Happy Kids Backpack program and served meals at the Wednesday Night Catholic Formation Dinners. The 8th grade class volunteered at the St. Patrick's Day Dinner at Erin Prairie.



Students Take the Stage

St. Mary students took to the stage at the Gem Theater on April 28th for two performances of "*Bus Oh-Z*". The story is an adaption of the *Wizard of Oz* written by Sherry Halonen and Laura Jo Jarchow.

St. Mary student, Dorothy, must decide whether to complete her homework on her own or succumb to the Wicked Witch of Temptation and cheat on her assignment. Dorothy is met along the way by a variety of friends who encourage her to choose the right path.

Besides the usual characters of the Tin-man, Scarecrow, Lion, and Glinda the Good Witch, Dorothy



sees singing and dancing poppies, crows, munchkins, and trees.

The school is very fortunate to have the opportunity to perform on a live stage. We are grateful to the Gem Theater for opening their doors to us and helping us create this experience for the kids.

Students at St. Mary School have been performing these original plays bi-annually since 2009.



2nd & 3rd graders as crows and scarecrows



Maggie, Natalie, & Charlie as the Lolly-pop Guild

Graduates 2017

St. Mary School graduated 13 students on June 6, 2017. Class President, Ellie Barlow-Sager, during her graduation speech thanked her family for giving her the opportunity to attend St. Mary School and her teachers for creating a loving environment for learning.

Vice President, Katie Mehr, spoke about her move to St. Mary School in 3rd grade and how she was so warmly welcomed and accepted.

Each year at graduation two scholarships are awarded to the graduating class. The first scholarship is the **Katie Pederson Scholarship** that recognizes a student who has volunteered in their community, school, and parish. This year's recipient was Jennifer Graham, daughter of Steve & Jacquie Graham.

The second scholarship is the **Grace Walsh Scholarship** that is awarded to the graduate with the highest GPA. This year's recipient was Delaney Brown, daughter of Don & Louise Brown.





Russel as the Scarecrow



4th grader Jillian greets guests in the land of Oh-Z



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE: MAPS scores, Students in Service, Graduates 2017

St. Mary School

Pastor Rev. John Anderson

Principal Mrs. Laura Jo Jarchow

A Note from the Principal

Dear Graduates, Parents, Parishioners, Supporters, & Friends,

I am excited to share with you the first issue of our St. Mary School Quarterly Newsletter. It is our hope that through this publication, we will be able to share with you all the wonderful things that are happening at St. Mary School.

Our school is a fully WRISA accredited school that is aligned with Wisconsin State Standards and the Diocese of Superior Curriculum Guidelines. Our school is home to 154 students in Preschool through Eighth grade. Our teachers hold Wisconsin teaching licenses and participate in the Diocese of Superior's Forming Effective Disciples program. Our next accreditation process will begin with our self-study year in 2018-2019.

We would like to feature an alum of St. Mary School in each of these quarterly newsletters. If you are an alum or know an alum that would be willing to be featured please have them contact me at <u>principal@st-marysschool.com</u> or at 715-246-2469.

As we begin this next school year please keep our students, staff, and parish in your prayers.

Blessings,

Mrs. Laura Jo Jarchow

Principal, St. Mary Catholic School

