



ACADEMY NEWS

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

1967 - 2017

St. Mary's Academy Weekly Newsletter

January 5, 2018

Our Mission Statement:

St. Mary's Academy promotes academic excellence within a Christ-centered Catholic community. Students from Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 8 learn acceptance and appreciation of others and develop to their full potential within a nurturing, family environment."

Gospel Reflection

GOSPEL

Jesus said to the crowds: "This is how it is with the kingdom of God; it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land and would sleep and rise night and say and through it all the seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how. Of its own accord the land yields fruit, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain of the ear. And when the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once, for the harvest has come."

He said, "To what shall we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable can we use for it? It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth. But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them as they were able to understand it. Without parables he did not speak to them, but to his own disciples he explained everything in private.

REFLECTION

We know how seeds germinate. We can dissect all the parts and document the process. There is still wonder in the process. There is no better analogy for our work. We plant small seeds. We might not be there when they sprout and bear fruit. The work is ultimately God's. This should give us great comfort, as well as recognize that it is a mystery and a joy.

HELP WANTED:

Mirrors WANTED:

Do you have an old mirror you don't need anymore? We are looking for wall mirrors with all different style frames (which will be painted) for an upcoming project. If you have one, please contact Mrs. MacDonald at jmacdonald@stmaryslongmeadow.org

SMA Referral Program:

Each SMA family who refers a new enrolling family to our school will receive \$300 off your tuition the following year with a maximum of \$900. Most of our new families have been referred to us by a current family so thank you! Keep spreading the good word!

Principal's Message



Dear parents,

What an amazing year!!!

So many wonderful memories were made this year as we celebrated our 50th year. We had our first Carnival and our first Cruise Night. It is so wonderful to think back to those two "first" events. But there are so many, many more memories of events throughout the year and those day to day events that have made this school year so special.

I owe a thank you to each of you for sending your child/ren to us to learn each and every day. The academic, social, physical, and spiritual growth we have all experienced this year is so visible. I am also so grateful for your more than 1,000 hours of Fair Share!!!! We certainly could not have done it all without the helping hands of so many. Thank you.

I am so happy to say that our Fair Share Dollars this year will be used to purchase new security radios for the faculty and staff. I am always so pleased to announce what our Fair Share Dollars are used for.

I speak for the faculty and staff when I say how thankful we are for this wonderful school year we have spent together. Our hope and prayers are that we all have a safe and enjoyable summer and come back to school rested and prepared for another amazing school year.

God Bless

Fair Share Opportunities:

Creative Parents Wanted!

How does it sound to start on your fair share hours this summer and complete them all in one project? Next year, our Gala will have a theme, and we are looking for someone to start bringing it to "life" with some creative aspects. If this is something that gets you excited, we can start right away and work on it through the summer and into next Fall. Contact Jenna at jbanaitis@stmaryslongmeadow.org or 413-567-0907. Thanks in advance!

Alumni Wanted:

St. Mary's Academy is looking for alumni who may be willing to share a little about their life now. We will be featuring these former students on our Facebook page over the summer. If you know someone who may be interested, please email Mrs. Banaitis at jbanaitis@stmaryslongmeadow.org with answers to the following questions; First Name, Year of Graduation, What are you doing now? (a few sentences are fine). We would also need a recent photo. Thank you in advance for your help.

SOCBERSOCCER

Fall 2018 Soccer Registration:

Fall 2018 registration is now open! We know the beginning of each school year is overwhelming with information and paperwork, so to avoid adding one more item on your list, we are opening up Fall Soccer registration now. Please see attached forms to fill out. If you have any questions, please contact Lindsay at heyshonak@comcast.net.