



St. Mary's Cathedral School Newsletter

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December 6, 2017

Dear Families,

We would like to thank you in advance for your support of the upcoming changes to our after school dismissal process. In an effort to create a better flow of school traffic and in the interest of safety for our students, we are implementing new practices for dismissal. Beginning the first day of our spring semester, Monday, January 8, 2018, the new procedures will be enforced. We will **NO LONGER** allow parents to park and walk up to pick up elementary children at dismissal. All elementary students will be picked up by car riders following the flow of traffic in the drive line. The **ONLY** exception will be those students with special needs whose parents are permitted to park in handicapped parking to escort their students from the building.

Our dismissal time has inadvertently turned into a time for fellowship with other parents and has even become a time for parent-teacher conference, which keeps our staff from their dismissal duties and places our children at risk. No one, who is not a part of the faculty or staff, should be walking through the groups of students, around the campus, or through the vehicles in the drive line. Having parents and visitors walk up to get their children creates chaos and invites an unsafe environment for all.

Families will be given two Family Name Signs with their student's last name, which should be displayed in the passenger side window (either attached to the sun visor or placed on the dash board, as long as it is visible). There will also be adult supervisors assisting fifth grade students with safety patrol. Colored cones will be used to indicate where a car should stop in the drive line. Montessori students will be dismissed at an earlier time and through a different area. This will assist with the flow of traffic making for a quicker and more pleasant experience for our drive line while keeping our students safer, which will also relieve some of the congestion and chaos our parents have to endure.

We ask that you adhere to these new procedures, as we do not want to have to be the safety police nor do we want to feel the need to forcibly ask anyone to follow the new process, and lastly, we do not want to be the bad guy in all of this. We realize change is sometimes confusing or difficult and some may feel offended by the changes that will be enforced. However, our ultimate goal is the care and safety of our students.

AMDG...Ad Majorem De Gloriam ~ for the greater glory of God

Respectfully, Linda Aranda

Upcoming Events

◆ Wednesday, 12/6
St. Nicholas Visits School



◆ Friday, 12/8
NO SCHOOL



This Friday, December 8, is a Holy Day of Obligation, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

A Solemnity is the highest rank of celebration and is identified with such days as Easter and Christmas. That makes this day pretty special!!! Mass Times are at 7am, 12:10pm, and 6:30pm. Take your pick and delight in your day off!

- ◆ Monday-Friday, 12/11-15
Penguin Patch
- ◆ Thursday, 12/14
Spelling Bee @ 9:30am - Parish Gym

Looking Ahead

- ◆ Tuesday, 12/19
NUT Day for the EYS *(See p. 2)*
- ◆ Thursday, 12/21
School Mass@ 8:15am
Classroom Christmas Parties:
Kindergarten parties will be in the parish gym following Mass - noon.
Montessori and Grade 1-5 parties will be held in the classrooms from 11:00-noon.
Noon Dismissal

Dress Out of Uniform Stewardship Project
 N.U.T. Day to Benefit
 Catholic Charities of the Texas Panhandle:
 Emergency Youth Shelter

All students are being given the opportunity to donate monies toward a a *Dress Out of Uniform Day.....No Uniform Today (NUT Day)* on **Tuesday, December 19**. This means your child may wear clothing of their choice (as long as it is appropriate for school).

Help us support the Catholic Charities Emergency Youth Shelter this Christmas Season by donating a minimum of \$2.

Please bring donations to school by Monday, December 18. This is an optional stewardship project.

Students who do not participate should wear their usual school uniform.

~ Thank you and God bless!

*“Called to Holiness...
 as we grow
 in prayer, mercy, and service.”*



The St. Mary's Cathedral School carnival committee is looking for our 2018 carnival chair and co-chair. There is no better way to serve our children, our school and our God than helping in this capacity. This position manages 16 committees that run the event. We would love someone who is organized, leads well, with lots of ideas and who can give some time to our event in July to October. We have lots of people who will support, train, and help you. Would you prayerfully consider this spot? Please call Kasi Janssen at 640-2122.



Spelling Bee

The Spelling Bee for grades 3-5 will be held **Thursday, December 14 at 9:30am** in the parish gym. We have 18 students who will be competing, representing grades 3-5. The winner of the school Bee will compete in the district Bee in January.



Jenny's
Penguin Patch®
 KIDS' HOLIDAY SHOPPE

Calling Parents, Grandparents, Aunts and Uncles!

We need Volunteers!

Help students experience the joy of giving by assisting as they shop for friends and family.

Where: The Hut (red building behind the school)

When: December 11-15

This site has been created to help people sign-up to volunteer

www.volunteersignup.org/HPYLP Everyone is able to sign-up for two hour sessions, and there are various times available.

This is a great way to get your volunteer hours!



amazonsmile
 You shop. Amazon gives.

Did you know that Amazon gives back? Shop for everyone on your gift list this holiday at smile.amazon.com/ch/75-2359355 and Amazon donates a portion of every dollar you spend to St. Mary's Cathedral School.

St. Mary's Cathedral School provides academic excellence and fosters Catholic identity
 Through teaching and learning in Christ with our hearts, souls, and minds!