



Good Afternoon St. Mary's Families,

A quick update on our school week. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students received the Sacraments of Penance and Reconciliation on Wednesday – Mrs. Chumich does such an amazing job with our 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students – we are so blessed that she prepares our students in such a loving and caring way and is able to share her deep faith. Thank you Mrs. Chumich!

On Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, at the end of the day, we will celebrate Shrove Tuesday - a festive occasion as it is the last day before the fast for Lent. Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> is Ash Wednesday – we will attend our regular 8:30 Mass – parents are invited to attend.

On a very different note, Roni and I are working on a Pay Now option on our re-enrollment forms – this is taking us a little longer than we anticipated. We hope to send out the Re-enrollment email by the end of next week. Please check your primary email attached to our PlusPortals system – I have been sending email updates pertaining to the recent news and offering support for our community.

Next week is Hallisey Weekend – a basketball tournament for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from around the state -it is such an amazing way that our middle school students can participate and come together as Catholic Schools and parishes. We will have a pep-rally on Thursday morning (immediately following prayer) to wish them luck!

Students do not have school on Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup> or Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. Friday is a teacher in-service day and Monday is President's day.

**Important Information from past week's newsletter:**

**Student Pick Up – Before and After School**

Just a reminder, the road way in front of the school is a drive through- please do not stop and wait for your children – you must park in a parking spot or in the parking lot west of the parish hall. This is for student safety!

**Plus Portals System**

We need to increase the number of St. Mary's families in our School Directory. Please **OPT IN within the system to be listed in our school directory**. The school directory will be available through our Plus Portals system. Please let Roni or I know if you are having difficulty.

**Enrollment and Tuition for Next Year**

Tuition has been set for next year- the information is posted on our website under the admissions tab. Roni and I are working on a Pay Now option on our re-enrollment forms – this is taking us a little longer than we anticipated. We hope to send out the Re-enrollment email by the end of next week. We are going to offer a referral incentive program for our current families – if you refer a new family to our school, they mention your name and they enroll their child/children for the 2018-2019 school year, you will receive \$125 off enrollment fees for the 2018-2019 school year (this reduction in fees is per family not per child). This referral incentive program goes into effect February 1, 2018 and runs through the first day of school, August 20, 2018. You, our current families, are the best form of marketing we have – spread the word about our wonderful school! Please let me know if you have any questions.

If you have a child entering kindergarten next year, please make sure you get them on our kindergarten list for 2018-2019 school year. Email Mrs. Davis or come to the office.

Have a wonderful weekend,

*Tammy Emerich*

Principal

**Weekly Calendar**

- **Feb 14** **Ash Wednesday Mass** (*Corpus Christi*) 4th Grade  
**Happy St. Valentine's Day** ♥♥♥
- **Feb 16** **Teacher In-Service—NO SCHOOL**
- **Feb 16-18** **Hallisey Tournament Weekend** various locations
- **Feb 19** **Presidents Day—NO SCHOOL**
- **Feb 21** **Mass** (*Treasure*) 2nd Grade  
**Christian Leaders Reception** after Mass
- **Feb 23** **Girl Scouts Selling Cookies** after School

**Up Coming Dates**

- February 28** **Mass** (*Food*) 1st Grade
- March 7** **Mass** (Time) 8th Grade  
**Christian Leaders Reception** after Mass
- March 8-11** **Scholastic Book Fair** Gym
- March 11** **Daylight Savings Begins** Spring Forward
- March 14** **Mass** (*Corpus Christi*) 7th Grade
- March 16** **End of Quarter—NOON DISMISSAL**
- March 17** **Happy St. Patrick's Day!** 🍀🍀

**St. Mary's Scholastic Book Fair**

(March 8, 9 & 11th)

Mrs. Lawley is gathering a team of enthusiastic, creative, and talented volunteers to help out at our upcoming Scholastic Book Fair, and would like to invite you to help out.

Check out [this link](#) to find the sign-up sheet to see what roles interest you.

Questions? please contact her by email: [jlawley@stmarys-boise.org](mailto:jlawley@stmarys-boise.org)

**March Lunches**



Don't forget to send in your March [Blimpie](#) & [Pizza Hut](#) Lunch Order Forms by Wednesday, February 21st. They won't be accepted after 3:00 pm on that day.

**Valentine's Day Suckers**

If your student forgot to hand you the Valentine Day sucker form, [here](#) it is. They need to be turned in by Monday, February 12th —to be delivered on Valentine's Day. Directions are on the form.

**Fat Tuesday Baked Food Extravaganza**

8th grade students will have Baked Goods available for your Fat Tuesday or pre-Valentine's Day dining pleasure, afterschool on Tuesday, February 13th. They are raising funds for their class retreat in May. Donations will be accepted



**Nurses Note: Important Vaccine/Immunization information updates**



**PERTUSSIS (Whooping Cough)**

Both Canyon and Ada Counties are reporting an increased number of PERTUSSIS this year.

• **Why worry about pertussis if you or your children have been vaccinated?**

Even though you or your child may have been vaccinated, protection from the vaccine weakens or disappears over a period of time. Very few pre-teens, adolescents or adults have any protection. Pertussis can be deadly to infants. The best way to protect yourself and others is by getting vaccinated.

• **What should you do?**

Watch for signs of whooping cough and keep anyone at home who has symptoms until they have seen a healthcare provider or are not contagious. Symptoms include a cough that is persistent, comes in "fits," is so forceful it causes vomiting, or it may cause a noise as the person breathes in. Consult your health care provider for specific recommendations.

• **Where can people get their Tdap vaccine?**

- CDHD offers vaccines to children through age 18. Call 208-327-7400 to make an appointment.
- Call your child's or your health care provider to schedule a vaccine.
- Vaccines are available through most medical clinics, walk-in clinics and some pharmacies.

For more information about pertussis or the vaccine, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/index.html> or contact a medical provider such as your doctor, nurse, or Central District Health Department's (CDHD) Communicable Disease Program (208-327-8625).

**SHINGLES**

1 in 3 people will get shingles in their lifetime, so it is recommended that anyone who is 50 and older receive a vaccination. The vaccine is especially important because as people age, their immune system weakens, leaving them more susceptible to shingles. Even healthy, active people can get shingles. A new and more effective herpes zoster (shingles) vaccine, is now available. Shingrix® was recently approved by the FDA and released to the public as a more effective vaccine. Shingrix® is over 93% effective. Those ages 50 and up are asked to speak with their pharmacist or healthcare professional about this vaccine.

**INFLUENZA**

As you may have seen in the news, the flu season is in full swing nationwide. For those who have not yet received the FLU shot, it is not too late! The School Health Program (for children), Health Department, Pharmacies and your Health Care Providers still have vaccine available. Everyone should continue to monitor themselves and their children for signs and symptoms of influenza like illness and stay home if you feel ill. Always remember, **good and frequent hand washing with soap and water is your number one defense.**

Ask yourself and your family the following questions DAILY

Within the last 24 hours, have I had any of the following:

- Fever (at least 100.0 or higher)?
- Cough?
- Sore Throat?
- Nasal congestion or runny nose?
- Nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea?
- Headache, muscle, and/or aches?

If your temperature is at least 100.0 °F (37.8°C) or higher and you answered yes to any of the symptoms please **DO NOT GO TO SCHOOL OR WORK**. You must be excluded from work/school for at least 24 hours after you no longer have a fever. If you develop acute *respiratory symptoms*, including a cough, without fever, you should be allowed to continue or return to work/school (cough after influenza infection may be prolonged and may not be an indicator of viral shedding.)