

St. Mary's News



304 E Cloud, Salina, KS 67401 785-827-4200

www.stmarysalina.org

February 2023

Upcoming Events

February Events

February 8 - Chocolate Sale Ends

February 9 - Class Pictures -
Love N Learn and T/TH

February 9 - Early Education
parent meeting 6pm-7pm

February 10 - Class Pictures
Main Day

February 15 - Evening
Parent/Teacher Conference
6pm-8pm

February 16 - Parent/Teacher
Conference 9am-1pm & 4pm-8pm

February 17 - No School

February 20 - No School -
Diocesan In-Service

February 22 - Ash Wednesday

From the Principal

*"Catholic Schools prepare every student to meet the challenges of their future by developing their mind, yes, but also their **body and their soul and spirit.**" - David Vitter*

The end of January and the beginning of February marks the celebration of Catholic Schools Week. It's a time to celebrate who we are and what we are about. In that context, it would be very tempting for me to talk about how our students perform very well on the State assessments, ITBS tests and many standardized assessments. For me though, this is not what makes us unique and special.

As the Principal of this school, what makes us special is our **"Catholicity"**. It's our devotion to our faith, to family, traditional values and sharing the love of Christ with each other that separates us from other schools. The values that we teach our students serve our children well in an ever changing world. Catholic educated students become better citizens, because they are devoted to their community and they are used to serving others. They become better employees because they understand hard work, ethical decision making, and how to work with others. Lastly, they become better human beings because they are devoted to God and believe in something higher than themselves.

SMGS is a family. It truly is our "secret sauce" and why our graduates come back and teach here (like me), send their children here, and are committed to its continued success.

Let's celebrate Catholic education and be the light of the world to the people around us.

Vivat Jesus!

Mr. Tym Bonilla
Principal

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.'" — Jeremiah 29:11



Reid Andrews was the Jr. Basketball manager for the boys varsity team!!
This was a St. Mary's Extravaganza item!!



4th Grade Wax Museum



Match Madness gifts provide permanent support to charities, which helps keep their programs and services available for years to come. On March 23, all donations will be matched up to 50%!! Please consider making a donation to **St. Mary's Grade School!! Give in person at Salina Fieldhouse 7am-7pm**

OR Give online

MatchMadnessGSCF.org/stmarysgradeschool

Come out and support St. Mary's Grade School!



Tax Information

If your child is enrolled at Love 'n Learn Day Care, St. Mary's Pre-K program or St. Mary's Extended Care Program, you may qualify for a tax credit. Please consult your tax accountant. If you qualify, you will need the school's Federal ID Number. We will be glad to provide the information, if you make such a request in writing. We will not give the information over the phone. Please allow a couple of days for processing.

Catholic Schools Week Snapshots



We are
thankful for our
Catholic School!!



Catholic Schools Week 2023

Catholic Schools Week Snapshots



Students from St. Mary's & Sacred Heart as well as teachers, staff and parents gathered to watch the amazing Mike Debus create 3 original unique pieces. A painting will go to each school and one will be auctioned off at the SHHS auction with profits split between both schools!



Students ended CSW with popcorn & movies. They got to bring blankets and pillows.



All School Mass with SMGS & SHHS

"Race for Education"

Are you interested in helping St. Mary's Grade School raise funds in order to continue to provide a quality education and affordable tuition??

Our goal this year is to raise \$25,000 which will go to the general fund.

Race for Education will be held on Friday, April 21st!!

Details will be sent home in Red Folders as the date gets closer.





St. Mary's Grade School

Pre-Enrollment forms were mailed out January 30th.

Call the school office for more information.

785-827-4200

Parent-Teacher Conferences!

Conferences this year will be on February 15 & 16. Parents will be able to sign up online for conference times with their child's (or children's) teacher.

5th & 6th grade teachers will have open times during conferences.

To help accommodate parents, we will have two evening periods for conferences.

Parents....please pay attention to the schedule for the week of conferences.

Wednesday, February 15, we will have a full day of school. Conferences will be in the evening from 6pm-8pm.

No extended care on Wednesday.

Thursday, February 16, No School.

Conferences will be from 9am-1pm & 4pm-8pm.

Friday, February 17, No School. Teacher work day/in-service.

Monday, February 20, No School. Diocesan in-service

Garage SALE!

Home & School Garage Sale

March 11 & 12 from 8am-2pm.

Families can drop off items March 9 from 8am-12pm & March 10 from 5:30pm-7:30pm.

Please bring items to the All Purpose Room

SMGS ITBS Testing Scores

Our Iowa Test of Basic Skills results are in and we are trending in the right direction. These results show the grade equivalent of the grade that the students in those grades are performing at. This is a national standardized test, so our students are compared to students across the country.

Notes:

- This test was given in the Fall of 2022.
- Most of this growth is based on last year's instruction.
- 2021 saw scores drop across the country due to COVID.
- 2022 allowed us to see the positive growth.

Reading Grade Equivalent			Math Grade Equivalent			Lang Arts Grade Equivalent		
	2021	2022		2021	2022		2021	2022
Grade 3	2.4	3.9	Grade 3	2.3	4.0	Grade 3	2.4	4.0
	(2nd Gr.)	(3rd Gr.)		(2nd Gr.)	(3rd Gr.)		(2nd Gr.)	(3rd Gr.)
Grade 4	3.8	5.1	Grade 4	3.9	4.9	Grade 4	3.7	5.4
	(3rd Gr.)	(4th Gr.)		(3rd Gr.)	(4th Gr.)		(3rd Gr.)	(4th Gr.)
Grade 5	5.1	6.2	Grade 5	4.7	6.0	Grade 5	5.3	6.4
	(4th Gr.)	(5th Gr.)		(4th Gr.)	(5th Gr.)		(4th Gr.)	(5th Gr.)
Grade 6	6.8	7.3	Grade 6	6.0	7.5	Grade 6	6.8	7.2
	(5th Gr.)	(6th Gr.)		(5th Gr.)	(6th Gr.)		(5th Gr.)	(6th Gr.)

Science Grade Equivalent			Social Studies Grade Equivalent		
	2021	2022		2021	2022
Grade 3	2.4	3.8	Grade 3	3.4	3.5
	(2nd Gr.)	(3rd Gr.)		(2nd Gr.)	(3rd Gr.)
Grade 4	3.9	5.5	Grade 4	3.5	5.4
	(3rd Gr.)	(4th Gr.)		(3rd Gr.)	(4th Gr.)
Grade 5	4.9	6.3	Grade 5	5.0	6.2
	(4th Gr.)	(5th Gr.)		(4th Gr.)	(5th Gr.)
Grade 6	6.3	7.1	Grade 6	6.6	7.4
	(5th Gr.)	(6th Gr.)		(5th Gr.)	(6th Gr.)



Counselor's Corner

5 Ways to Practice Perseverance as A Family:

1. Set small goals. Help your child figure out the steps they need to take to accomplish a goal. This will show them that achieving small wins can lead to something big.

4. Cheer on as your child follows their passions and interests. The surest recipe for success in encouraging perseverance is supporting your child with something they are passionate about.

2. Normalize mistakes. Talk to your child about the importance of seeing mistakes positively and as a natural part of the learning process.

5. Encourage your child to get support — and support others. Talk about the importance of supporting friends and family. When your child sees you supporting them, they learn that they can also support others.

3. Figure out feelings together. Your child may feel frustrated or disappointed while they work towards a goal — and that's OK. When your child experiences frustration while working towards a goal, support them.



Practicing Perseverance

Perseverance is a soft skill that can help determine success. Perseverance is the idea of not giving up and continuing to work toward a goal even if it can be difficult or there is not instant success. As you talk to your child about perseverance, use concrete examples such as stories from your childhood or from books and shows, to explain how perseverance prepares us to tackle challenges.

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

February 2023

St. Marys School



Thoughtful Moments

Instill confidence in prayer

Many Catholic parents worry their children will be tempted away from the Faith. The good news is that children who grow up with a strong prayer life, regular Mass attendance and Confession often are likely to stay Catholic. Youngsters who turn to God from an early age grow up to revere and lean on Him. Teach children to pray and have prayer aids handy. Pray regularly as a family, and stay close to the greatest Catholic prayer – the Mass.



Love of God and others

Christian parents, by example, can help their children live the greatest commandments – love of God and neighbor. By creating a home where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, and humility flourish, the family places the spiritual above the material aspects of society. Children learn to love as God loves – freely, confidently, and without limits.

"Discipline your children, and they will bring you comfort, and give delight to your soul" (Proverbs 29:17).



Four holy habits to teach children during Lent

The season of Lent is a call to change our ways and repent. It's also a chance to help our youngsters grow in holiness. In turn, we will find ourselves becoming more virtuous as we *"train a child in the way he should go"* (Proverbs 22:6).

Patience: Children often have trouble waiting, but impatience can make us sad or mad, and lead us to stop trusting in God.

Teach patience by calmly waiting your turn, don't complain when enduring difficulty, and encourage children to pray while waiting.

Kindness: Flowing out of the virtue of charity, it is best learned by feeling it so it can be reproduced. Make kindness a signature virtue your family shares.



Honesty: Deception in any form is sinful. Children may lie to get out of trouble, to get something they want, to avoid upsetting others.

When they admit to wrong doing, extend mercy. If you uncover a lie, require an

apology and impose steps to repair damage done.

Obedience: Our fallen nature means that disobedience is more natural to us than submitting to authority, but

obedience recognizes rightful authority. This virtue encourages us to submit to God's will – a critical life skill. We can model obedience when we seek God's will in prayer and Scripture, pray for His guidance, and model those habits for our children.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Each color highlights a particular aspect of the season and helps us enter the mystery we're celebrating. Green symbolizes spiritual growth and is worn during Ordinary Time. Purple (or violet) is for the penitential seasons of Lent

Why do we use different colored vestments during Mass?



and Advent. White and gold signify joy and glory and are for Christmas and Easter. Red, recalling Christ's blood, is worn on Good Friday and the feasts of the martyrs. It also recalls the Holy Spirit and is worn on Pentecost and Confirmations.



February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 4th grade wax museum	2	3 First Friday Rosary	4
		*****Catholic Schools Week*****				
5	6	7	8 Chocolate Sales End	9 Class Pictures T/TH Classes	10 Class Pictures Main Day	11
12	13	14 Valentine's Parties	15 Conferences 6-8pm	16 No School Conferences 9am-1pm & 4pm-8pm	17 No School	18
19	20 No School In-service	21	22 Ash Wednesday	23	24	25
26	27 School Council 5:30	28				

Pre-enrollment forms were mailed out to current and interested families for the 2023-2024 school year. Please call the school office for more information. 785-827-4200.

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St. Mary's Messenger

St. Mary's School

304 E Cloud
Salina, KS 67401



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