

News from the Cardinal's Nest

April 19, 2024



St. Mary/McCormick Catholic Academy

The mission of St. Mary/McCormick Catholic Academy is to provide a safe learning environment which fosters academic excellence and spiritual growth in the Catholic faith; mind, body & soul.

A Letter from our Principal

I hope everyone has been enjoying this beautiful weather! It's been great to see our students outside exploring nature, having lessons, and enjoying playing outdoors! I hope this beautiful weather continues into next week when we have our All School Open House and first Track Meet.

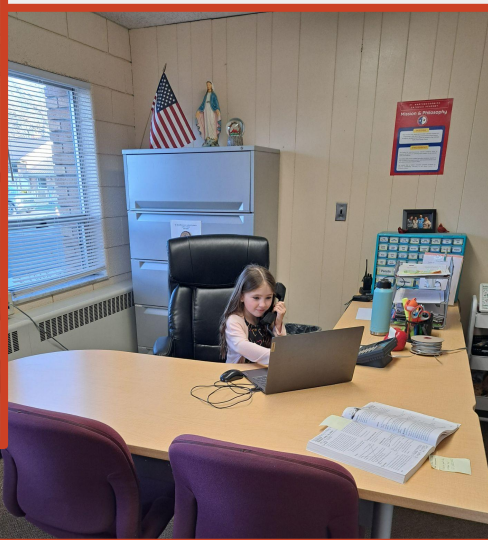
This week I was assisted by my Principal for a Day, Principal Isabella on Tuesday! She helped greet students in the morning, do morning announcements over the PA, wrote a letter to families, visited each classroom, assisted at lunch, made a school day countdown chain, designed free dress passes, and helped prepare for the talent show. It was a fun day! Below is a message from Principal Isabella:

*My favorite part of the day was seeing the kids enjoying school. Have a great day!
Go Cardinals!
Sincerely,
Principal Isabella*

Please join us next week for our first Track Meet on Wednesday, April 24th at 5:30 PM at Marine City High School. Come cheer on our Cardinals as we race against the other Blue Water Vicariate schools!

Have a blessed week!
Mrs. Weaver

Pictures of our Principal for a Day, Principal Isabella!



Next Week!

Thursday, April 25th:
All School Open House 5-6:30 PM, this open house is for grades Preschool, Young 5's, and K-8. Come meet our wonderful staff, see our campus, and meet other families!

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Registration for 24/25 School Year

As a current SM/MCA Family, you only need the following to register your child(ren) for next school year:

- Fill out and sign the Tuition Contract
- Registration Fee (\$300 per family if you register before June 7, \$400 per family if you register after June 7) -cash or check.

*If you're enrolling an additional child (who is not currently enrolled), please come to the school office for the additional enrollment paperwork or email/call the school office and request it to be sent home.

You may return the completed tuition contract along with the registration fee to the school office.

**For K-8 families that are eligible for the in-vicariate rate (by being registered at a Blue Water Vicariate Parish, supporting the parish with your time, talent, and treasure, and attending Sunday Mass and other days of Holy Obligation), please fill out the top portion of the [Active Parish Verification Form](#) and return it to the school office upon registration.



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Mrs. Weaver has spring fever and has some school improvement projects she would like help with! If you're in the need of parent hours or just want to help with any of the following projects, please contact Mrs. Weaver or use this [Sign Up Link](#). Thank you!!

- **Painting the sidewalk leading to Preschool** - The vision is for it to say the word PRESCHOOL down the path, stencils could be purchased to make the letters, or if we have any artistic parents that want to decorate the sidewalk with other things (like a sensory path, cardinals, flowers, etc.) along with the word preschool, that would be amazing!
- **Cardinal City** - Last August Mrs. Weaver, Ms. Mary & her family, and Ms. Sue put together Cardinal City by the playground for our Preschool-Kindergarten students. Several playhouses/structures were assembled and set up. This area has been a hit with the little ones but there is still room for improvement. We could use help organizing the storage room next to Cardinal City that houses all the smaller toys they play with (we are in need of a shelving unit donation and storage bins to store the items). We could also use more donations for the city i.e. playhouses, small bikes/tricycles, and other outdoor toys for imaginative play. If someone has a knack for building, we also would love to add a stage for the students to have plays and performances on!
- **Spring Planting** - With last year's title funds we were able to purchase 5 irrigation system planters as well as the potting soil. We are looking for help assembling the 5 planters as well as donations for seeds (preferably quick growing) so that once we have reached warm enough temperatures our classrooms can start planting and tending to the gardens and learn about gardening!
- **Storage Units** - If you like to organize, we also could use help re-organizing several storage units! We are looking for donations of shelving units and totes and/or tubs as well as help organizing and labeling all items. There are sports items, school history, PTO items, decorations for previous events, etc. that could all use re-organizing.



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Fri. Apr. 19: Track Practice 3:30-4:45 PM

Mon. Apr. 22: Book Fair Begins!; Cheap Charlie's Prepaid lunch; Book Fair Shopping 3-4:15PM

Tues. Apr. 23: Jersey Mike's \$ Due; Track Practice 3:30-4:45 PM; Book Fair Shopping 3-4:15PM

Wed. Apr. 24: Jersey Mike's Prepaid lunch; Choir 9:45-10:45 AM; 1st Track Meet @ Marine City High School 5:30 PM; Book Fair Shopping 7:15-7:45 AM & 3-4:15PM

Thurs. Apr. 25: Mass 8:15 AM; Cheap Charlie's \$ Due; Adoration 1st-8th Gr. ; Book Fair Shopping 7:15-7:45 AM, 9:30-11AM, 3:15-4 PM, & 5-6:30 PM

All School Open House 5-6:30 PM; Trail Life 6 PM

Fri. Apr. 26: Casual for a Cause (\$1); 3rd/4th Grade Field Trip to Earth Fair; Book Fair Shopping 7:15-7:45 AM, 12:30-2 PM, & 3-4:15 PM

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Fundraisers

American Heart Association

We raised a total of \$1,733.22 for the American Heart Association from our fundraiser! Thank you to all who participated and helped make an impact on on this great cause!



Book Fair



Dear Families,

Our school is participating in a classroom-level coin drive for the Scholastic Book Fair called Share The Fair Coin Drive Challenge. Your small change during book fair week (April 22nd-April 26th) can make a big difference. Our goal is to provide books for the library and for our teachers! Each day represents a different type of coin:

April 22nd- Penny Monday
April 23rd- Nickel Tuesday
April 24th- Dime Wednesday
April 25th- Quarter Thursday
April 26th- Anything Goes Friday

The classroom or grade that collects the highest overall total will receive a prize: To Be Determined.

Please send your donations back to school with your child. Your act of kindness is greatly appreciated!

Thank you!

Shelly Papinaw
Parent and Scholastic Book Fair Organizer

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Fundraisers

Book Fair

Scholastic Book Fair Shopping Hours



April 22nd: After school shopping- 3:00- 4:15 pm

April 23rd: After school shopping- 3:00- 4:15 pm

April 24th: Morning shopping- 7:15- 7:45 am
After school shopping- 3:00- 4:15 pm

April 25th: Family Event Day 1 Shopping- 7:15- 7:45 am
In school shopping- 9:30- 11:00 am
After school shopping- 3:15- 4:00 pm
Evening shopping- 5:00- 6:30 pm

April 26th: Family Event Day 2 Shopping- 7:15- 7:45 am
In school Shopping- 12:30- 2:00 pm
After school shopping- 3:00- 4:15pm

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Parent Hour Opportunities

Please note: To volunteer at our school, you are required to have completed the [Protecting God's Children course OR take the recertification course if you took Protecting God's Children prior to 2020](#). Please email or call the office for help registering for this free course.

Lunch Help

There are daily opportunities to help in the lunchroom from 11:15am-12:20pm. Parents will help with warming up food and wiping down the tables after each lunch.

[Link to April Lunch Help Sign Up](#)

[Link to May Lunch Help Sign Up](#)

Popcorn Fridays

Thank you to the volunteers that make this a fun lunch extra for our students!! The students truly look forward to Popcorn Fridays. [Link to sign up to pop, sell, and clean up](#)

Please remember to send in a quarter with your child(ren) to get a bag of popcorn on Fridays!

Spring Carnival

We are in need of parent volunteers to help plan different sections of our Spring Carnival (many hands make light work!). The Spring Carnival event will take place on **Saturday, May 11 from 11AM-2PM.**

[Link to sign up link](#)

Spring Fever Projects

Mrs. Weaver has spring fever and has some school improvement projects she could use help with! See page 3 for more information or use this [Sign Up Link](#). Thank you!!



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Parent Hour Opportunities (cont.)

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6- May 10th this year. We will be putting together a special week to honor our wonderful teachers and staff at St. Mary/McCormick Catholic Academy.

Please use this [sign up link](#) to donate your time, money, or food for teacher/staff appreciation week. Please email Emily Herbert at ewalker555@gmail.com with any questions or to volunteer!

LAST CALL Book Fair

We are in need of volunteers to help monitor the book fair.

Please use [this link](#) to sign up to help during student preview times and shopping times as well. Thank you!

Other

Do you have a talent or special skill set that could help our school? Parent hours can be earned in a variety of ways, not just the specific sign ups that we share. If you have a talent/skill with graphic design, marketing, carpentry, art, sports you can earn parent hours by helping the school! You can host an extracurricular club/sport, or help our school with marketing.

The opportunities are endless!



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Extracurricular activities/Athletics

Children's Choir

Choir is open to our 3rd-8th grade students. Students will rehearse with St. Mary parish music minister, Mrs. Doherty, for an hour each Wednesday, and will sing at most of our Thursday school Masses. The students have done a wonderful job singing at our school Masses!

Trail Life

Trail Life is every Thursday from 6-7:15 PM in our gym. This is a boys troop that is open to K-12 students. [Link to find our troop and register](#) If you have any questions, please contact Gerry McClelland at 248-431-6722.

Other Extracurriculars

If any parents are interested in starting another club, please contact Mrs. Weaver. Parents would receive parent hours for leading a club.

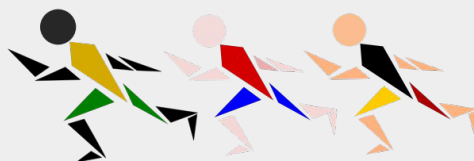
Some ideas are:

- Tennis
- Dance team
- School newspaper club, which could be featured in newsletters!
- STEM/Robotics Club

SM/MCA would love to offer additional clubs throughout the year!

Track

Track meets are scheduled for April 24th, May 1st, & May 15th at 5:30 PM at Marine City High School. Come cheer on our Cardinals!



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SM/MCA School Committee

Each month our school committee meets to discuss various school topics (marketing, tuition, academics, concerns, etc.). The committee is made up of Father Zbig, Mrs. Weaver, a different teacher representative each month, and parent/parish members (listed below). If you have any questions or topics you would like to present to the committee, please contact one of our members below. Thank you!

April Meeting Synopsis

The committee discussed recent marketing efforts, including a new postcard campaign that was mailed out earlier this week and our continuous Facebook campaign. There was also discussion about safety/security needs, with short and long-term goals created. Discussion on bussing continued, with the decision that at this time it is not worth trying to coordinate with PHASD to provide bussing to our students, since bussing times would differ from our school day and our students would be mixed in with PHASD students.

Jennie McClelland, Chair - jenniemcclelland@yahoo.com, 810.241.0392

Carrie Nadeau, Vice-Chair - canadeau74@yahoo.com

Kellen Elliott, Secretary - kellenelliott@gmail.com

Chantel Lasky - d_lasky@hotmail.com

Mike Schommer - mikeschommer@gmail.com

Marilyn Netter - netter@tir.com

Veronica Campbell - campbell.veronica.r@gmail.com

Go Cardinals!

