



ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN

March 6, 2015

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REMINDERS FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

Monday, March 9 - Friday, March 13
Spring Break, No School For Students

Monday, March 16
-Classes resume

-Junior Achievement Begins

Friday, March 20
-7:30-8:15 AM, Cafetorium: Lion's Den Spirit
Store Open



**A NATIONAL SCHOOL
OF EXCELLENCE**

St. Mark Catholic School
is a two time recipient of the
U.S. Department of
Education
National Blue Ribbon Award,
and has been nominated to
apply for a rare third award
in 2015.

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

Follow us and stay connected!

-8:30 AM, Church: All School Mass - Our All-School Mass will be held at 8:30 AM in the church. All are invited to attend. This Mass will be presented by the 8th grade. They will perform the Call to Worship, the Mass readings, and present the Communion gifts.

CARPOOL LINE SIGNS

A reminder to please display a sign with your student's name(s) on it in your vehicle during afternoon pick-up. Large, dark print works best. We got off to a great start earlier this year, but signs have dwindled causing pick up to move slower. Thank you for your help!

MIDDLE SCHOOL DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS

Issues with dress code are increasing in middle school -- everything from not wearing the required sweater or vest, to wearing orange socks. Please help your child be in compliance every day to avoid any consequences.

Middle School Dress Code Violation Policy:
Violation 1 & 2- Warning to student; RenWeb notice to parents
Violation 3 & 4- Private dining at lunch; RenWeb notice to parents
Violation 5 or more- Detention

NEWS FROM THE ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT



7th Grade Lions - DPL Champs! Congratulations to our 7th grade D2 Boys White basketball team who beat out



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LIONLAND

Virtue of the Month - Kindness

Teachers discuss the Virtue of the Month with students by using either stories or activities to engage them into seeing the virtue in action. Ask your child what he/she is learning about "Kindness" this month.



Vocations Chalice

8th grade was presented with the Vocations Chalice at the conclusion of today's All-School Mass. They will be praying for vocations during the upcoming week.

March All-School Service Project

The March service project is the annual Baby Shower benefitting White Rose and Birth Choice pregnancy crisis centers. It will be held at school on Wednesday, March 25. **Preschool and elementary students** will donate needed items. [Click here](#) for the list. Donations may be brought to school between March 16-24, or given to volunteers in all morning carpool lines on March 25. **Middle school students** will donate coins during lunch between March 2-20. The money collected will be used to purchase car seats for the centers. Remember, monthly

St. Thomas for the 2015 DPL Championship!
The game was played on Tuesday night at John Paul II High School. Final score -- 27-23. We're so proud of these boys who fought hard until the end, and brought the trophy home!

(photo removed)

Many thanks to all of our Lions basketball teams and their dedicated coaches who represented St. Mark so well -- it was a fun season to watch!

DPL All-Star Game: The DPL Basketball All-Star Games were played on Saturday, February 28 at the American Airlines Center. Though the teams that our players participated on did not win their games, there were some exciting highlights, including a 3-pointer by Ethan M. Watch the [action here!](#)

Letterman jackets are in! Payment must be made before pick-up. All pick-ups take place on Fridays at the Lion's Den store between 7:30-8:15 AM.



Monsignor Smyth Golf Tournament:
Get your foursomes together and mark your calendars for the 2015 Monsignor Smyth Golf Tournament - Friday, April 24, 2015 at The Courses at Watters Creek in Allen. This annual event, hosted by St. Mark alumni, is always a fun outing complete with a round of golf, dinner and prizes. Shotgun start at 1:00 PM. Click [here](#) for details, registration, and sponsorship opportunities!

[service projects count as a grade for all students.](#)

March Brag Board

Check out the "incredible" things that 1st grade has been up to during the month of March! The Brag Board can be found in the breezeway between the Cafetorium and the Administration Offices. Bring along your tablet or smartphone so you can scan the QR codes and see even more!



Lion's Den Spirit Store Hours

Check in at the school office on Fridays from 7:30-8:15 AM and shop 'til you drop at the Lion's Den Spirit Store located in the Cafetorium. Can't visit in person? [Place your order online anytime!](#)

Calling all alumni ... Join Lifetime Lions!

St. Mark alumni are invited to join Lifetime Lions, our official alumni network. Keep up with former classmates, learn about mentoring opportunities, and volunteer for service hours. Click [here](#) for more information.

GO LIONS!

JOIN CUB SCOUTS!

Cub Scout Pack 285 is hosting its annual New Member Spring Round-Up, Thursday, March 19 at 7:00 PM in the St. Mark Cafetorium. Come for some ice cream and fun! Cub Scouts is getting a new face. It's easier than ever for boys entering 1st through 5th grade (2015-16) to join. Learn about the new adventure program, spring camp-out at Lake Texoma, summer day camp, visiting Battleship Texas, special discounts to sporting events and more! Contact Cubmaster John Petroff at 972-442-1346 or at petroffhome@verizon.net if you have questions.

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HSA) NEWS

HSA Meeting: HSA will hold its third general meeting for all parents on March 25, 2015. Join us at 8:15 AM in the school cafeteria to meet other parents, and to learn more about upcoming volunteer opportunities. We will also be discussing officer and committee chair positions for the 2015-2016 school year. The class with the most parents in attendance will win a class snack party!

AT ST. MARK, WE SERVE.

On Wednesday, our third graders stuffed 350 goody bags using the items our students donated during the February All-School service project. These bags will soon be delivered to the Baylor Cancer Treatment Center, and will bring joy to many cancer patients. Way to go, St. Mark students!

(photo removed)

UPDATE! THE TEMPLETON FAMILY TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGE



Keep those donations coming in -- our total has increased to \$37,715 this week!

Exciting news -- we also took delivery of our teacher iPads this week! Lots of smiling faces among our staff members, like second grade teacher, Mrs. Crider.



Donations in any amount made by April 6, 2015 are being matched 100% by St. Mark alumni family, Mary and Richard Templeton, who challenge all of us to contribute to the school technology fund. The Templetons have committed matching funds of \$100,000 for this challenge. With the proceeds from the auction, your help, and the Templeton

SEEN & HEARD AROUND ST. MARK

Serra Club Religious Women's Appreciation

Brunch: The Serra Club of North Central Dallas fosters and affirms vocations to the priesthood and vowed religious life. Recently, they hosted a Religious Women's Appreciation Brunch to honor consecrated women. Serra Club members from St. Mark Catholic School, Agnes Denvir and Jocelyn Bartz, attended along with Carolyn Eisele who was an invited guest. [Click here](#) to see their photo in *The Texas Catholic*. It was a wonderful luncheon with all of the orders of sisters we are blessed to have in the Diocese. Mrs. Denvir is the new Director of Vocations for the Serra Club, as well as the President Elect. Next year, she will serve as President.

Scouts Host Blue & Gold Banquet: Cub Scout Pack 285 hosted its annual Blue & Gold awards banquet last Saturday. Scouts and their families enjoyed dinner while awards were presented. The highlight of the evening was the "crossing over" of the 5th grade Webelos to Boy Scout Troop 285. Several St. Mark Boy Scouts were on hand, including alumni, to assist. They built a wooden bridge that the boys walked over to symbolize their transition from Cub Scout to Boy Scouts. The new Boy Scouts were met on the other side by Troop 285 members who replaced their neckerchiefs and epaulets with the Boy Scout versions.

(photo removed)

Crazy Hat Day/Stop, Drop and Read: At 9:45 AM on Monday, preschool, elementary and middle students, along with the entire faculty and staff, participated in "Stop, Drop and Read"

Challenge, we are committed to achieving our total technology fund goal. For those with a company match program, those funds will also be matched 100%. It's a wonderful way to leverage a \$1,000 donation into a \$3,000 donation! [Click here to donate!](#)



IN ALUMNI NEWS ...

Congratulations to Amanda L., Class of 2014 and current freshman at John Paul II High School, who participated in the TPSMEA Solo and Ensemble Festival - Dallas Area on February 21. Amanda sang "Danny Boy" and was awarded a "1," the best score possible for this competition! Amanda continues to sing and cant

by spending 15 minutes reading the book of their choice. Crazy hats were also seen in the hallways in celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday. This was all part of the National Education Association's "Read Across America" event that St. Mark participates in each year.



(photo removed)

3rd Grade Messy Rooms: Our third graders were recently challenged to write descriptive paragraphs using sensory details about their "messy bedrooms." Then they were asked to build dioramas depicting those bedrooms. Looks like they enjoyed receiving permission to have messy rooms!

(photo removed)

1st Grade Studies Inventions: First grade is studying inventions and inventors in Social Studies class. In order to extend instruction, they have become inventors and have designed and built simple inventions which are on exhibit in the library. They also used flow maps to write reports about their inventions. Some of the favorite inventions were a Lollipop Extender, a Shirt Folder and a Floating Snack Bowl!

with our St. Mark Children's Choir.

LION PRIDE!



Just some of the many reasons we're so proud to be St. Mark Lions ...

St. Mark Breaks \$100,000 for Leukemia/Lymphoma: This year, St. Mark raised \$17,048.80 for the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society through our "Laps For Leukemia" service project that takes place annually during Catholic Schools Week. Our students walked laps for pledges during their P.E. classes, and we hosted a St. Mark "Chipotle Day" to raise additional funds. This brought us to \$16,898.80. Upon hearing this total, Father Cliff personally made a donation to push us over the \$17,000 mark! This brings our 7-year total to an incredible \$112,600.07 for LLS! Mrs. Davenport's 4th grade class raised the most money this year with \$1,888.65 and they win a class pasta party from Olive Garden! Thank you to everyone who donated. Our



DON'T WAIT, PARTICIPATE!



Registration Going On Now For St. Mark Summer Camps: Register now for St. Mark full-day and part-time summer camps! A variety of weeklong camp themes are available. [Click here](#) for more information.



Calling All Dads! If you'd like to volunteer for a half day or a full day at school during the month of April as a Watch D.O.G.S. Dad, you must sign-up by March 15! For more information and the sign up calendar, [click here](#). You will need to be Safe Environment cleared before you can serve. [Click here](#) for more information on Safe Environment Training.

school is truly helping to save lives!

Middle Schoolers Succeed at Youth & Government: St. Mark sent four students to the Youth and Government State Competition. Jaiban M. received the outstanding club medal for Plano. Athena B., for the second time in a row, was chosen as one of the top five debaters of the Senate Chambers, and was awarded Distinguished Delegate of the Senate Chambers at the State Capitol. Congratulations to all of our participants.

(photo removed)

Geography Bee: Congratulations to Avery B. who was just notified that he is one of the semifinalists eligible to compete in the 2015 Texas National Geographic State Bee, sponsored by Google and Plum Creek! The contest will be held on Friday, March 27, 2015.

History Bee: Five students from St. Mark braved the weather last Saturday to attend the Regional Finals of the History Bee at Holy Trinity School in Grapevine. A total of forty-two students competed. Each school may only enter five students in the qualifying

round which is completed online. Our students performed very well! All of them qualified to attend the National Finals in Louisville, Kentucky in May. Antonio M., Minh-Tuan P. and Minh-Khanh P. made it to the finals. Antonio received second place and Ian S. and Joann N. scored high enough to qualify for the Nationals. Congratulations to all of our competitors!

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