



# ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

**WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN**

**May 15, 2015**

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## REMINDERS FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

**Friday, May 15**  
-Lion Safari Camp Registration Due

**Friday, May 15 - Saturday, May 16**



**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!

- "St. Mark Sweater Preorder Week" at Academic Outfitters

### **Monday, May 18**

- 7:45 AM, Cafetorium: 8th Grade Memory Boards Due

### **Thursday, May 21**

- May All-School Service Project Donations Due (see details below)

- 8th Grade High School Spirit Day (see details below)

- 12:30-1:10 PM, Cafetorium: 8th Grade Parent-Graduate Luncheon

- 2:40 PM, Cafetorium: 8th Grade/2nd Grade Prayer Partner Farewell & Yearbook Signing

### **Friday, May 22, 2015**

- 2015-16 School Supply Package Preorders Due (see details below)

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

- 8:30 AM, Church: All School Mass in honor of the Class of 2015. The Mass will be presented by the 8th grade. They will perform the Call to Worship, the Mass readings, and present the Communion gifts. All are welcome.

- 5:30-11:00 PM: 8th Grade Graduation Photos, Mass/Ceremony, Reception, Dance (see details below)

### **Monday, May 25, 2015 - Memorial Day**

- No School For Students



## **WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LIONLAND**

### **Virtue of the Month - Acceptance**

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

### **May All-School Service Project**

For the May service project, St. Mark will collect donations for the St. Vincent DePaul food pantry and for Hope's Door. Students may donate any item from the list below.

St. Vincent DePaul:  
Any canned food, beans or pasta

Hope's Door:  
Small toiletry items or make-up samples

**Students must turn in donations to their classrooms by Thursday, May 21.**

Remember, the monthly service project counts as a grade for all students.

### **May Brag Board**

Check out what 2nd grade has been up to this month! As always, bring along your tablet or smartphone and scan the QR codes for more. The Brag Board is located in the hallway

-7:00 PM, Church: Children's Choir Sings at Mass

### **Tuesday, May 26**

-4:00-6:00 PM, Bacot Gym: 2015-16 Volleyball Evaluations for Rising 6th Graders

-6:15-8:15 PM, Bacot Gym: 2015-16 Volleyball Evaluations for Rising 7th Graders

### **Wednesday, May 27**

-Field Day (see details below)

### **Thursday, May 28**

-End of 4th Quarter Grading Period

-4:00-6:00 PM, Bacot Gym: 2015-16 Volleyball Evaluations for Rising 5th Graders

-6:15-8:15 PM, Bacot Gym: 2015-16 Volleyball Evaluations for Rising 8th Graders

### **Friday, May 29 - Last Day of School**

-8:30 AM, Church: All School Mass/Mass of the Holy Spirit. The Mass will be presented by the 3rd grade. They will perform the Call to Worship, the Mass readings, and present the Communion gifts. All are welcome.

-12:00 PM: Early Dismissal for Students

-3:00 PM: After School Program Dismisses (see details below)

-10:00 AM - 11:00 PM - Raising Cane's Fundraiser Benefitting the Athletics Dept.

### **SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY UPDATE**

**Effective immediately: Our school uniform policy has been slightly updated.** Last names will no longer be embroidered on uniform

between the Cafetorium and the Administration Offices.



### **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.

### **SEWERS NEEDED FOR STUDENT CHAIR PACKS**

Can you sew? Our elementary students use "chair packs" to store their books and school supplies during the day. We need your talents to make more. All supplies are provided. Please contact [rene.oconnor@stmcs.net](mailto:rene.oconnor@stmcs.net) if you are interested.

### **KIDVENTURE -- FULL-DAY SUMMER CAMPS**

"Camp St. Mark" will take place on the St. Mark campus

sweaters or vests. All newly purchased sweaters and vests will simply be embroidered with the new school logo (no last name). Academic Outfitters will implement this policy immediately. All pending sweater/vest orders will be processed accordingly.

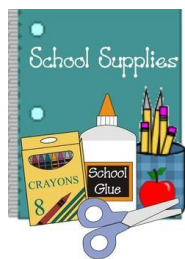
It will be the responsibility of each parent to ensure that the student's name is placed on the inside of each clothing item in case of loss.

For anyone who has already purchased a new sweater or vest with an embroidered last name, it will continue to be acceptable as part of the school uniform. In addition, Academic Outfitters did not charge St. Mark families an extra fee to add a last name to sweaters, so the embroidery cost would have been the same with or without the added name.

A reminder that all existing uniform sweaters/vests that are embroidered with names, initials and variations thereof, will continue to be acceptable as part of the uniform for a few more years. The revised guidelines are posted below and on the school website.

[2015-16 Uniform Guidelines Chart - Girls](#)  
[2015-16 Uniform Guidelines Chart - Boys](#)

### 2015-16 SCHOOL SUPPLIES NOW AVAILABLE FOR PREORDER



Place your preorder now for prepackaged 2015-16 school supplies. Simply

and will serve three-year-olds through rising 7th graders. It will begin June 8 and run through August 7. Each camp week will take place Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM, with the option of adding a 7:00 AM drop-off, and a 6:00 PM pick-up. [Click here](#) for more information and registration.

### NEWS FROM THE ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT



### REGISTER NOW FOR THE SPRING DPL GOLF TOURNAMENT:

**Annual DPL Golf Tournament**, open to 5th-8th graders. [Click here](#) for more details. The deadline to register is May 22.

### REGISTRATION ALSO OPEN FOR 2015-16 FALL SPORTS:

#### **Fall Volleyball**

The deadline for Fall Volleyball registration has been extended to May 20. [Click here](#) for more information.

**Volleyball Evaluation Week:** 2015-16 volleyball evaluations will take place May 26 & 28.

[click here](#) for the order form. Print and complete the form, and return it to the school office by May 22. Payment can be made by cash or check to the school office, or by online payment.

School supply lists for each grade level are also posted on our school website at the link above. Use these lists if you will be purchasing your own school supplies.

**\*Please note:** Each grade level has required **St. Mark supplies** that must be purchased directly from the school. Use the order form at the link above to order those items, even if you will be purchasing your own school supplies.

### LAST DAY TO REGISTER - LION SAFARI CAMPS!



## LAST DAY TO REGISTER!

THIS SUMMER, WOULD YOUR CHILD LIKE TO:

- BUILD AN AMUSEMENT PARK OUT OF CANDY?
- DESIGN A PIZZA PARLOR?
- BUILD LEGO MACHINES?

Each grade will participate in a two hour session which will be held after school in the Bacot Gym. [Click here](#) for more information about evaluations. The schedule by grade level:

Tuesday, May 26, 4:00-6:00 PM - rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders  
Tuesday, May 26, 6:15-8:15 PM - rising 7<sup>th</sup> graders  
Thursday, May 28, 4:00-6:00 PM - rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders  
Thursday, May 28, 6:15-8:15 PM - rising 8<sup>th</sup> graders

### Fall Football

The deadline for Fall Football registration is May 20. [Click here for more details.](#)

### Fall Cross Country

The deadline for Fall Cross Country registration is May 20. [Click here for more details.](#)

### Fall Cheerleading

The deadline for Fall Cheerleading registration is May 20. [Click here for more details.](#) Cheer teams will be based on football team sign-ups.

## GO LIONS!

### FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE

ATTENTION PARENTS: If your student is currently keeping a medication in the school nurse's office (including, but

- WALK WITH A SCIENTIST?

- LEARN VOLLEYBALL SKILLS FROM A  
STATE CHAMP?

## SIGN-UP NOW FOR OUR "LION SAFARI" SUMMER CAMPS!

DEADLINE: Today, May 15, 2015

Session I - June 8-12 - 8:30-11:30 AM  
Session II - June 15-19 - 8:30-11:30 AM

These camps are facilitated by St. Mark teachers and include a wide range of interesting, educational, and engaging topics. Enrollment is limited. The cost is \$80 per session. For more information and registration, [click here](#).

### HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HSA) NEWS

**Final HSA Meeting:** Thank you to everyone who attended the last HSA meeting of the year! We had a great turnout. All of the students whose parents attended have received a "5 points on a test" pass. The lists have been given to teachers, so encourage your child to approach the teacher to apply his/her 5 points.

Congratulations to Mrs. Escobar's PK4 class. They had the highest percentage of parents attending the meeting and received a special class party!

Please take a moment to view the minutes from our meeting and catch up on what HSA has been up to, as well as what is ahead! [Click here](#) for more information.

not limited to, EpiPens, inhalers, prescriptions, or over-the-counter medications), please arrange to pick up the medication by the last day of school (May 29). Any medication that is left at school over the summer will be disposed of--NO EXCEPTIONS.

### CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER CAMPS

Our local Catholic high schools offer summer sports camps for kids of all ages. As we receive their brochures, we will make them available in the school lobby, or you can click below to learn more:

[Bishop Lynch](#)

[Cistercian](#)

[Jesuit College Prep](#)

[John Paul II High School](#)

[Ursuline Academy of Dallas](#)

### FIELD DAY REMINDERS

Wednesday, May 27 is Field Day. This is a fun day filled with many indoor and outdoor activities. Please send a change of clothes and a towel to school. We also encourage you to apply sunscreen before school, and we encourage your child to wear a hat. A pizza lunch will be provided to all students, so there is no need to send a lunch that day,

**Merchant Programs:** Even during the summer months, you can still earn money for our school. If you haven't done so already, please link your Tom Thumb, Kroger, and Target shopping cards to St. Mark. Each time you shop, the school earns funds. Instructions can be found [here](#).

**Newcomer Committee Volunteers Needed:** **St. Mark wants all of our new families to feel like part of our community right away! Can you help?** The Newcomer Committee is looking for volunteers to help welcome new families to our school. This could be as simple as a phone call and an email to reach out and be available for questions, or making plans to meet up with the new family for coffee or lunch over the summer. If you are interested in helping, or have any questions, please contact Holly Lewis or Jennifer Pike. Please let them know the grades of your children for the 2015-2016 school year, so we can pair you with a similar family.

Holly Lewis: 214-264-8635;  
[anglophilefootballfanatic@gmail.com](mailto:anglophilefootballfanatic@gmail.com)

Jennifer Pike: 972-839-5042;  
[timothyandjennifer@verizon.net](mailto:timothyandjennifer@verizon.net)

### **BIBLICAL MANUSCRIPT/ARTWORK PRESENTED TO ST. MARK**

The Center for the Study of New Testament Manuscripts is an organization that travels the world taking high resolution photographs of New Testament manuscripts. Steve and Maggie C., and their son Samuel, have supported this organization for a number of years. Through their affiliation, the CSNTM has arranged for two of these images to come to St. Mark. The first, a photograph of an

unless your child prefers not to eat pizza.

### **8TH GRADE GRADUATION WEEK REMINDERS**

A few important reminders for 8th grade graduates and their families:

#### **Monday, May 18**

-7:45 AM, Cafetorium:  
Memory Boards Due

#### **Thursday, May 21**

-High School Spirit Day. 8th graders may wear a shirt from their new high school with their uniform pants (boys) or uniform skirt (girls).

-12:30-1:10 PM, Cafetorium:  
Parent-Graduate Luncheon

-2:40 PM, Cafetorium: 8th Grade/2nd Grade Prayer Partner Farewell & Yearbook Signing

#### **Friday, May 22 - Graduation Day**

-8:30 AM, Church: School Mass dedicated to the Class of 2015

-9:30 AM, Cafetorium: Family breakfast; view memory boards

- 5:30 PM, School Lobby:  
Individual graduate photos



illustration of St. John, was presented to the school by the CSNTM. The second, a photograph of the oldest of St. Paul's manuscripts, was presented to the school by Ms. Steinkirchner's third grade class. Samuel and his father shared the images with Ms. Steinkirchner's class earlier this week, explaining their significance. These pieces will be displayed in a prominent place in the main school building for everyone to enjoy.

(photo removed)

### IN ALUMNI NEWS ...

**Alum Receives Catholic Foundation's Scholar Award:** Maria R., Class of 2012 alumna and current junior at The Highlands School, was recently presented with the 2015 Catholic Foundation Scholar Award. [Click here](#) to read her article about what a Catholic education means to her, as it appeared in the 2/20/15 issue of *The Texas Catholic*.

**Alums Have Rugby Success:** The Jesuit Rugby team won the Rugby Texas Plate Division State Championship. Several St. Mark alumni from 2011, 2012 and 2013 are on the team, and a few other former students were at the game to support the team. From left to right: Alex R., Chandler P. (player), Roman K. (player), Bill N. (player), Felix K., Chris M. (player), and Christian S. (player).

(photo removed)

**Former Student Receives Art Honor:** Congratulations to St. Mark Class of 2012 alumna and current junior at John Paul II High School, Abby M., who received an Honorable Mention in the 2015 Congressional Art

-6:30 PM, Church: Graduation Mass and ceremony

-8:00-9:00 PM, Cafetorium: Reception for graduates and families

-9:00-11:00 PM, Cafetorium: Dance for graduates

### AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM - LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

**ATTENTION AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM FAMILIES:** The After School Program will be available until 3:00 PM on the last day of school, Friday, May 29. Pizza will be served for lunch, so you do not need to send a lunch that day, unless your child prefers not to eat pizza.

### AT ST. MARK, WE SERVE.

On Tuesday, middle school members of our Respect Life Club, along with the Knights of Columbus Council 6065, presented checks and car seats to representatives from Birth Choice and White Rose crisis pregnancy centers. Our middle-schoolers participated in the March All-School Service Project by raising "Change For Life." They collected a total of \$2,525.

(photo removed)



Competition through Congressman Sam Johnson's office.

### SEEN & HEARD AROUND ST. MARK

**Kindergarten & 3rd Grade Authors:** Our Kindergarten and third grade students are published authors!

Recently, each Kindergarten student was asked to write about a sea creature and to create an accompanying illustration. Our middle school "Teachers In Training" elective helped them conduct their research on the Internet. The students' stories from each class were compiled and published as a hardcover book. Students also created their own wrapping paper, wrapped their books, and presented them to their mothers for Mother's Day. Mrs. Thompson created a video for her class book, including the individual students reading their stories. [Click here](#) to see it.

(photo removed)

Third grade was challenged to write about what their future will look like in 2035. Their stories and illustrations were also published as hardcover books. Each student then read their story to the class while sitting in a special "author's chair" made just for our writers!

(photo removed)

**Teachers In Training Elective:** We recently caught students from our "Teachers In Training" elective in the halls reading with some of our first grade students. Hanging out with their middle school counterparts and learning at the same time is a win-win!

### DON'T WAIT, PARTICIPATE!

**Parish Fall Festival Planning Meeting:** It is time to begin planning the 2015 Parish Fall Festival & Raffle. Help is needed in all areas including: Graphics, Solicitations, Raffle, Food, Games, Entertainment, Volunteers, Safe Environment, and Set-Up. All are welcome to participate!

**Event Date:** October 31, 2015

Please contact [Claudine Humphries](#) for more information.

### REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2015-16 RESPECT LIFE CLUB



The St. Mark "Respect Life Club" is an after-school opportunity for students in grades 1st through 8th to grow in their appreciation of the dignity of all human life. It is unique to St. Mark Catholic School. During the 2015-16 school year, The "Respect Life Club" will hold monthly meetings at the school. There will be educational and fun activities for 1st graders-8th graders. Some of this past year's favorite topics were



**Student Council Officers:** Mrs. Opon posed with the outgoing Student Council officers, who recently performed their last duty of the school year, as well as the 2015-16 officers, who are now officially on the job.

(photo removed)

**3rd Grade Reading Enrichment:** Third grade students who scored high on the reading portion of their standardized testing were given an extra challenge. They met weekly during the third and fourth quarters to work on reading projects related to the book, "The One and Only Ivan."

**5th Grade MVPs:** Each year, our 5th grade teachers participate in the Rough Riders MVP Student Program. Five students from each homeroom are chosen based on the criteria of putting our school mission statement into action. Each student receives a certificate and a ticket to a Frisco Rough Riders baseball game.

(photo removed)

**Sidewalk Chalk Art:** In between the recent rainy days, students in our P.E. classes took advantage of the nice weather and created some beautiful sidewalk chalk art. Pictured below are works by Adrienne F. (2nd grade) and Quynh N. (5th grade).

"Respect for the Poor," "Respect for the Imprisoned," "Respect for Vocations" and "Respect for Differently Abled Children." We invite you to learn more and to register for the 2015-16 "Respect Life Club" by [clicking here](#).

### LION PRIDE!



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

### National Quiz Bowl Championship:

Congratulations to St. Mark's Quiz Bowl team. They did a great job this past weekend at the Middle School National Championship Quiz Bowl Tournament! They competed all day on Saturday and made it to the play-offs on Sunday. They received 29<sup>th</sup> place from a total of 128 teams from all over the United States!

Members of the team are: Antonio M., Minh-Khanh P., Minh-Tuan P., Jaibin M. and Ian S.

### Math Fax Awards

**Presentation:** Congratulations once again to all of our 2014-15 Math Fax participants and

(photos removed)

**Spring Band Concert:** Our St. Mark band performed for students, staff and family members on Thursday. They did a great job playing a variety of tunes, including many the students were familiar with such as "Take Me Out to the Ballgame," and "Jurassic Park."



winners, who received their awards this week. One more special shout-out to our National Math Fax award winners Antonio M. (Math 7 National 1st Place) and Sean W. (Math 4 National 4th Place). Very impressive!

(photos removed)

**Diocesan "Best Book" Contest Winner:**

Congratulations to Marie D. who won 1st place in the 4th/5th grade division at the Diocesan "Best Book I Read This Year" contest!

**First Grader Acts in Play:** First grader, Robert S., recently played the part of the colonel in the play "Dalmation Plantation" at the Plano Children's Theater.

(photo removed)

**Soccer Champ:** 8th grader, Angelisa T., is a member of the PSA soccer team that won the 7th/8th Grade Girls Championship earlier this month. Angelisa was named game MVP with two goals and three assists, and even played through several injuries to help win the game!

**Forward To A Friend**

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