



ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN

May 8, 2015

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REMINDERS FOR NEXT WEEK

Saturday, May 9
-10:00 AM, Church: Second grade receives the Sacrament of First Communion, followed by a reception; Children's Choir Sings at Mass

Sunday, May 10 - Mother's Day
Happy Mother's Day to all of the amazing mothers in our community!



**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!

Monday, May 11 - Friday, May 14

-Middle School Exams

Monday, May 11 - Saturday, May 16

-"St. Mark Sweater Preorder Week" at Academic Outfitters (see details below)

Tuesday, May 12

-Free Dress Day for Students (see details below)

Wednesday, May 13

-7:30 AM, Lions Lair Gym: Mathfax Awards Presentation (see details below)

Thursday, May 14

-10:00 AM - 11:00 PM: Raising Cane's Fundrasier Benefitting the Athletics Dept. (see details below)

-2:30 PM, Cafetorium: St. Mark Spring Band Concert

-ISEE Pretest Opportunity for Current 7th Grade Students (see details below)

Friday, May 15

-Lion Safari Summer Camp Registration Due (see details below)

-7:30 - 8:15 AM, Cafetorium: Lions Den Spirit Store Open

-8:30 AM, Church: All School Mass. The Mass will be presented by the 5th grade. They will perform the Call to Worship, the Mass readings, and present the Communion gifts. All are welcome.

-9:30 AM, Cafetorium: Water for Otter Presentation for Grades 3-5



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.



Vocations Chalice

Fifth 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.

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.

2015-16 SCHOOL SUPPLIES NOW AVAILABLE FOR PREORDER



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

SIGN UP NOW FOR "LION SAFARI" CAMP!



THIS SUMMER, WOULD YOUR CHILD LIKE TO:

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 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.

ISEE PRETEST OPPORTUNITY FOR CURRENT 7TH GRADERS

Current 7th grade students have the opportunity to take an ISEE pretest on Thursday,

- BUILD AN AMUSEMENT PARK OUT OF CANDY?
- DESIGN A PIZZA PARLOR?
- BUILD LEGO MACHINES?
- WALK WITH A SCIENTIST?
- LEARN VOLLEYBALL SKILLS FROM A STATE CHAMP?

**TIME IS RUNNING OUT.
ONE WEEK LEFT TO REGISTER!**

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

DEADLINE: 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](#).

RAISING CANE'S - RAISING FUNDS FOR ATHLETICS



Raising Cane's, located across the street from the school, is helping to raise funds for the St. Mark Athletics Department. **Simply visit on Thursday, May 14 between 10:00 AM - 11:00 PM, mention St.**

May 14 in preparation for the real thing next year. The cost is \$25.00. [Click here](#) for more details and registration.

KIDVENTURE -- FULL-DAY SUMMER CAMPS

"Camp St. Mark" offers full-day, themed camp weeks throughout the summer that will take place on the St. Mark campus, 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



Come out and cheer on your St. Mark Lions! Visit the [DPL website](#) for more information.

Upcoming Track Meet:
5/9 - Varsity @ Bishop Lynch

Upcoming Baseball Game:

Mark, and 15% of your purchase will be donated back to the school. The Athletics Dept. is raising funds to replace the wall pads in both gyms, resurface the Bacot Gym floor, and purchase new footballs, volleyballs, and Cross Country uniforms. Treat your kids to lunch or dinner (**especially those middle schoolers celebrating the end of final exams!**) -- ALL St. Mark students will benefit! [Click here](#) for more information.

ST. MARK WEEK AT ACADEMIC OUTFITTERS

The "St. Mark Sweater Preorder Week" at Academic Outfitters starts Monday, May 11 and runs through Saturday, May 16 during regular store hours. During this week, all school uniform sweaters and vests (only) will be 10% off. Ordering during this week allows plenty of time for monogramming. Don't wait until the end of summer to order yours! Simply complete the sweater order form below and take it to the store located across the street from the school.

Then, during the month of June, Academic Outfitters will hold their annual sale when all uniform items will be 10% off. A large inventory of uniform items will be available at that time.

For your reference, Academic Outfitters has also prepared easy-to-read "uniform guideline" charts with photos that should simplify uniform purchases -- please see below.

[2015-16 Uniform Guidelines Chart - Girls](#)
[2015-16 Uniform Guidelines Chart - Boys](#)
[Academic Outfitters Sweater Preorder Form](#)

FREE DRESS DAY - MAY 12

Tuesday, May 12: Pay \$2.00 and receive free dress. Proceeds benefit the middle school yearbook.

5/10, 5:15 PM, Varsity
vs. St. Patrick @
Breckenridge Field

Upcoming Softball Game:
5/10, 5:00 PM, JV vs. POP @
Oran Good Field

REGISTER NOW FOR THE SPRING DPL GOLF TOURNAMENT:

Annual DPL Golf
Tournament, open to 5th-8th
graders. [Click here](#) for more
details.

REGISTRATION ALSO OPEN FOR FALL SPORTS:

Fall Volleyball

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

Volleyball Evaluation Week:

The dates for volleyball
evaluations have been
rescheduled. They will now
take place May 26 & 28.
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:

Free Dress Day Guidelines: Students should wear modest shirts, neat jeans/pants/skirts that are free of holes, and closed-toe shoes. No shorts or sandals. Clothing should be free of inappropriate slogans and graphics.

MATHFAX AWARDS PRESENTATION

Attention Mathfax Participants: We will have an awards presentation for all participants on Wednesday, May 13 at 7:30 AM in the Lion's Lair Gym. Please have all students enter through the Cafetorium and proceed to the Lion's Lair. This presentation is for the students only. Thank you for supporting the Mathfax program this year.

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 "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](#).

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HSA) NEWS

Tuesday, May 26, 4:00-6:00 PM - rising 6th graders
Tuesday, May 26, 6:15-8:15 PM - rising 7th graders
Thursday, May 28, 4:00-6:00 PM - rising 5th graders
Thursday, May 28, 6:15-8:15 PM - rising 8th 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.

Each sport has a dedicated page on our [school website](#). Please visit them for more details, as well as registration information.

GO LIONS!

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER CAMPS

Our local Catholic high schools offer summer sports camps for kids of all ages. As

Box Tops Winner: The grade winner for the spring Box Tops competition is FIRST Grade -- they will soon receive a surprise! Thanks to everyone who contributed this year. A special thank-you to all of the volunteers who helped count Box Tops: Iris Price, Sandra Hernandez, Chris Keith, Erica Rivera, Annette Planey, Miriam Brainard, Tara Roman, Lucrecia Pantarotto, Elaine Fritcher, Angie Baldwin, Laura Arnold, Maggie Carson, Madi Davila, Janelle Bain, Rachel Volmer, Kathleen Frye, and Soon-Mi Yoo.

Your contributions paid off -- St. Mark raised approximately \$1,883 for the school this year from Box Tops alone. Please keep collecting Box Tops over the summer!

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.

IN ALUMNI NEWS ...

More Alumni Inducted Into the Ursuline Academy Chapter of the National Honor Society: Congratulations to St. Mark Class of 2013 alumni and current juniors at Ursuline Academy, Emily A., Caroline D., Jennifer D., Hannah K., Emily V. and Isabelle V., who were all recently inducted into the National Honor Society.

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](#)

SEEN & HEARD AROUND ST. MARK

First Grade Auction Package: The first grade teachers and Mrs. O'Connor recently enjoyed a lovely breakfast with the First Grade package winners from the St. Mark Mardi Gras Auction!

(photo removed)

First Grade Soccer Success: Congratulations to the PSA Thundercats, a first grade soccer team that includes several St. Mark students. They finished in third place in the top PSA Recreation division. Addison V. was named the Team MVP, Sneha M. was named one of the Most Improved, while Reid G. led the team in scoring and Sophia G. finished third. Also on the team are Leah D., Diya C., Cameron G., and Audrey

Alumnus Named Jesuit "Ranger of the Week":

Congratulations to Chris S., St. Mark Class of 2011, who was named Jesuit's "Ranger of the Week" for his outstanding performance on their lacrosse team. [Click here](#) to read more.

St. Mark Alumni Chosen for Diocesan Mission Trip to Nicaragua: Each year, the Diocese of Dallas sponsors a student summer mission trip. Fifty students from five area Catholic high schools are chosen to participate. Students must submit applications in order to be considered, and are chosen based on their academic standing, letters of recommendation, and personal interviews. This year's trip will take place June 10-19. Students will travel to Nicaragua to assist communities in need with construction projects, and to engage in fellowship with the youth of the parishes they serve. Among the fifty students chosen, several are St. Mark Catholic School alumni: Sarah C., Abby M., Sean R., and Abbie V. from John Paul II High School; and from Ursuline Academy of Dallas, Hannah K. and Elizabeth L. We are so proud of these students for continuing to carry out their Catholic mission of service to others.

LION PRIDE!

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

National History Bee: Recently, several students from St. Mark participated in the Regional Finals of the National History Bee. Of the thousands of students at schools across the country who participate, only a select few are

M. The girls now have a four season record of 22-1-9.

Third Grade Studies Simple Machines: Students recently had the opportunity to play " Mousetrap" in class and were asked to determine how many simple machines make up this classic board game.

(photo removed)

St. Mark Boy Scout Troop in the News: [Click here](#) to read a story about a recent Boy Scout Troop 285 campout that appeared in bubblelife.com.

Gymnastics Success: Congratulations to fifth grader, Tiffany T., who attended the TAAF (Texas Amateur Athletic Federation) Texas State Championships in Gymnastics for Level 3 on May 2 in Lancaster, TX. She placed 1st (State Champion) on beam with a score of 9.4, 5th on floor with a 9.35, and 10th All Around (beam, floor, bars, and vault) with an overall score of 36.775.

May Crowning: Today, we celebrated our Blessed Mother Mary at May Crowning. Each student

invited to advance to the Championship held in Louisville, KY from May 22-24. Congratulations to Antonio M., Minh-Khanh P., Min-Tuan P. and Joann N. for advancing to the Championship! This is an amazing accomplishment and we wish them the very best of luck!

Math Counts: Math Counts is a nationwide program that promotes math excellence for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students. It is a math skills coaching program based on higher thinking skills development with a series of progressive competitions at local, state and national levels. Congratulations to all of our students who participated this year. Overall, the St. Mark team managed to beat out over half of the 30 participating teams. This is quite impressive, considering that most other teams have been attending this competition for a much longer time than St. Mark. Also, congratulations to our top three competitors (out of a total of 245): Antonio M. - 71st; Joel K. - 96th; and Ian S. - 121st. The St. Mark Math Counts program is coordinated by Chris B., St. Mark Class of 2013 alumnus, and current sophomore at Cistercian Preparatory School.

VOLUNTEER THANK YOU

Special thanks to our Student Council and parent volunteers for placing all of the flowers presented to Mary in vases and brightening everyone's day with the beautiful floral arrangements!

presented a flower to Mary before Mass, and second graders Anthony and Francesca F. crowned Mary.

(photo removed)

In anticipation of their First Holy Communion, which will take place tomorrow, our second graders sang their traditional "Sunflower Song" at the conclusion of today's Mass. They did a wonderful job and received a standing ovation. There wasn't a dry eye in the house!

(photo removed)

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