

# Apple Bytes

St. Mary School Monthly Newsletter

September 2010



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## Upcoming Events

- ◆ Magazine Kick-off 9/7
- ◆ Back to Football Friday 9/10
- ◆ Open House 9/14
- ◆ School Pictures 9/27

## Principal's News

The first days are now behind us and the students are adjusting well with their new teachers and classrooms.

We have a new lunch schedule this year that involves recess before lunch. Research suggests that students eat better if recess is scheduled before lunch so we are giving it a try this year. The younger grades tend to rush and not eat their lunch as well when they are anxious to go outside. Parents who have children in grades K to 3 should pack a hearty snack especially if your child is not a breakfast eater. We are currently looking into providing a breakfast snack for students who would like to purchase a yogurt, breakfast bar or juice when they arrive at school. More information will follow.

For parents new to St. Mary School, this is the first copy of **APPLE BYTES** our monthly newsletter. The newsletter is published monthly with more in-depth information. Each week an update of news is also published and is referred to

as the **APPLE UPDATE**. Both publications can be accessed online. We ask that you request the newsletter be sent via e-mail if possible. This helps our "Go GREEN" efforts and also with reducing costs of printing and paper.

These publications and other information are sent out every Wednesday. Please look online or in your child's book bag on this day.

This year **PRAYER at the FLAGPOLE** will include collecting student petitions in a prayer jar. Students may put petitions in the Prayer Jar throughout the week. Parents may send in prayer requests also.

**Thank you to Greg Herchler and Larry Feldkamp** who helped Mr. **Wojceichowski** install electrical and cabinetry in the classrooms!

**Thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Fridrich** for the orange cones!

## Important Information

Vermilion Public Schools have added an additional 4 days off to their schedule for professional development for their staff. **St. Mary School WILL have school on those days unless you are notified otherwise**

### BUSING WILL NOT BE PROVIDED.

That means that parents must provide alternative transportation for your child on those days. Those dates are as follows:

**September 24    November 12**

**December 10    February 4**

**\*It is possible that we may take advantage of two of these dates for professional development and we will inform you if and when that occurs.**

**ALSO NOTE: Early Dismissal days are now on TUESDAYS at 1:45. Please check your calendars for those dates.**

**It's NOT TOO LATE to purchase Raffle Tickets.** Please contact the school office. Thank you to those who have purchased and sold. They are going fast.!

### **BACK TO FOOTBALL FRIDAY!!**

Students may wear NFL Clothing on **Friday, September 10<sup>th</sup>**. Students may wear jeans with their favorite NFL Team shirt or jersey. Students will also participate in an activity to support health and wellness. By participating in this activity, St. Mary School is eligible for a \$10,000 grant.



**September's Faith Hero is St. Michael the Archangel whose Feast Day is September 29<sup>th</sup>.**

*St. Michael is patron of knights, policemen, soldiers, paramedics, ambulance drivers, etc., and also danger at sea, for the sick, and of a holy death. He is usually depicted in art carrying a sword and/or shield, battling Satan.*

## School-wide News

This year's theme or focus is on heroes. Students will be involved with activities that encourage them to examine the characteristics of heroes. Each month will feature a secular hero and a faith hero on the school bulletin boards. Our examples this month are

**Wilbur and Orville Wright, and St. Michael the Archangel.** Come and visit the bulletin boards in our hallways to learn more about these heroes.

*Prayer to St. Michael*

*Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls.*

*Amen.*

## Kindergarten and First Grade News

First Graders were "taking flight" with learning about our aerospace heroes, Wilbur and Orville Wright. On the first day each student in grades K, 1 and 2 received an airplane and observed how planes fly.

Mrs. "D" has been working with First Graders on the "Dino Step" learning centers. First Graders are also learning how they are "anchored" in faith and are participating in an activity

demonstrating this concept.

Mrs. Maurer's Kindergarteners are learning the basic routine of the day. This includes practicing identifying the left hand from the right so the correct hand is placed on the heart for the Pledge of Allegiance. Fr. Ron visited students on Friday after Mass and gave them a blessing for the new year. Fr. Ron and Mrs. Maurer will be taking students on a field trip to visit the church this Friday.

## Second and Third Grade News

Mrs. Trinter's Class is reviewing adding "doubles" in Math already. This will be a special year for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders as they prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion.

Mr. Purcell's Class is already dipping into projects and tests. Students take a pretest on Monday for Spelling and a final test on Fridays. Check Mr. Purcell's web page for the word list.

## 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade News

Fourth Graders are adjusting to having lockers. In Language Arts, they are reviewing grammar and learning about "declarative" and "interrogative" sentences.

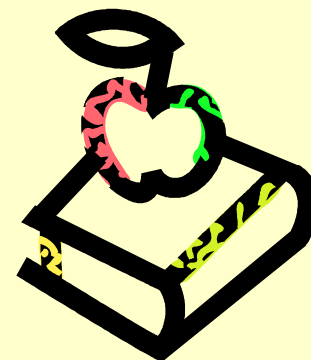
Fifth Graders are preparing for their first news broadcast. Each Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Class presents the news via network within the school. We look forward to their new format this year.

Fifth Graders are also discussing what it means to be a good steward.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade News

The Sixth Graders have been learning the routine of putting up the flags, collecting recycled paper, opening and closing gates and setting up the cones. They have been doing a great job so far!

In addition to the oldest in the school, they also sit with our 1<sup>st</sup> Graders at Mass and help them learn how to participate.



### FINAL NOTES.....

Just a reminder that **gym class is on Wednesdays and students should be wearing their St. Mary Gym Uniform.** If you have not received your uniform, your child should bring in clothes for gym and change into the regular uniform after gym.

#### Note about uniforms...

If you have placed an order with Schoolbelle’s for uniforms and have not received it, it is probably because you sent your order in late. Each order takes several weeks to process

especially girls plaid skirts. We ask that you place your order several weeks in advance because Schoolbelle’s, in trying to be cost effective for you, will not produce a surplus supply. Also....

- Cargo shorts are not part of the St. Mary School uniform.
- Students should be wearing belts unless they are wearing the banded polo
- Students may “dress down” on their birthday. If the birthday falls on a weekend or other non-school day they may choose another day to dress down

## Newsletter e-mail Request

Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please send the newsletters to my e-mail address.

My e-mail is \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to school in envelope marked e-mail request.

