



Principal's Newsletter

September 2011

Mrs. Cynthia Boyle,
Principal

Welcome Back!

New Faculty

PreSchool
Mrs. Kathy Sacco

Grade 4
Ms. Michelle Lapolla

Grade 5
Ms. Amanda MacKay

Grade 6
Mrs. Ryan Hamelin

Grade 7
Ms. Gina Mattson

Music
Ms. Daniella Nowell

It is hard to believe that our summer days are numbered and we are preparing for the opening of another academic school year. There is a flurry of activity as we prepare the school for you and your children.

PreK and Kindergarten Parent Orientation will take place on Wednesday evening, August 24th at 6:30 for PreK parents and 7:30 for Kindergarten parents in the lower Church hall. This meeting will give parents the opportunity

to meet the teachers, visit the classrooms and have any questions answered. Our goal is a seamless transition for you and your child. The Orientation Meeting is for adults only.

The first day of school for Grades 1-8 will be Tuesday, August 30 at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday will be early dismissal days. The After School Program will be available.

PreK and Kindergarten classes will begin on Wednesday, August 31st

Wednesday and Thursday the hours for all are 8-11.

There will be no school on Friday, Sept. 2 and Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 5th. Full days for everyone will begin on Tuesday, September 6th.

Welcome Breakfast

The PTO will be sponsoring a Welcome Back Coffee Social to welcome all new & old families. Please join us first thing at 8:00 on Thursday, Sept. 1st

Save the Date

Back to school night will be held on Tuesday evening, Sept. 13th at 7 pm. Please meet in the lower Church Hall for a short presentation followed by a visit to your child's classroom. It is important for every parent to attend so we can begin this journey together.

SMS Goes Paperless

We will be paperless this year. Notices, calendars, forms, the Student Handbook, and newsletters will all be posted online.

Please check out our website www.stmaryschoolmelrose.org daily for up-to-date school information. For a quick look at what is happening or for pictures of recent events, visit the [What's New](#) page!

Over the years, we have made a wonderful transition to electronic communication. Keep up the good work!



Uniform Reminders

During these first few warm weeks of school, summer uniforms can be worn. These uniforms must be packed away on October 10th. Please check the handbook for specific details.

Grades 5-8 have a new gym uniform that is required after October 10th. Jacket and pants are required to be worn. St. Mary's tee shirt should be worn underneath the jacket.



Before & After School Programs

The Before and After School Programs will begin the first day of school, August 30th. Please download the calendar or stop by the school anytime to pick it up. September calendars are due by August 29th. Drop ins are available anytime. Just send in a note or call the school. A \$25.00 registration fee is required to participate in the Before & After School Program.

Opening of School Liturgy

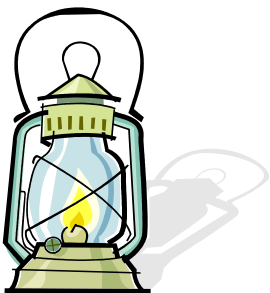
Our opening school Mass will be led by our eighth graders on Friday, Sept. 9 at 10:00 at St. Mary's Church. We hope you can join us for the celebration. There will be a full day of school on Sept. 9th.

Technology Update

Thanks to you the parents, 25 new Dell computers were purchased for our computer lab. The gently used computers from the lab were distributed to classrooms throughout the school. We now have more than 60 computers for the students to use in our school.

Assessment hand held devices were also purchased for our jr. high classrooms. This will enable teachers to get immediate feedback about the progress of their students. This also was a result of the PTO events that raised so much money for our school.

E Camp for Grade 5



Grade 5 students with their teachers will be attending Environmental Camp at W. Alton Jones Campus, University of Rhode Island on September 19, 20, & 21st. This wonderful educational opportunity allows the students to

learn so much about science in a natural environment. Once the children return, they will apply and use all of the information they gathered. Please join me in wishing them a successful and fun filled experience.

The Annual Candy Sale is Coming

Our annual candy sale will be coming up in a few weeks. If everyone does a little it will be a huge success.