



ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN

September 13, 2019

Prayer for the 2019-20 School Year

Lord, help us to come together as a community to support one another, encourage one another and show each other kindness. Amen.

St. Mark Mantra

Every day we treat others as we would treat Jesus Christ, with all our heart, mind and soul.

REMINDERS

Today, Friday, September 13:

-3rd grade received the Vocations Chalice at today's All School Mass and will be praying for vocations during the upcoming week.

-1:00 PM: Monsignor Smyth Golf Classic (details below)

Monday, September 16:

-Fall Enrichment Clubs Begin (details below)

Tuesday, September 17-Thursdays, September 19:

-Texas Week (Preschool)

-8:15 AM, Cafetorium: Kindness Assembly presented by John Paul II High School (PK-1st grade)

Wednesday, September 18:

-Progress Reports (grades 1-8)



3:30-10:00 PM: Dairy Queen Spirit Night (details below)

Thursday, September 19:



A National School of Excellence



Named 1 of the top 3 Catholic schools in the nation for technology integration.

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)



North Texas Giving Day (details below)

-4th Grade Social Studies Trip

Friday, September 20:

-7:30 AM, Library: HSA General Meeting

-8:30 AM, Church: All School Mass presented by 3rd grade. All are welcome.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As a Catholic school, it is a given that St. Mark places great emphasis on high academic standards and faith formation. What may not be so apparent are the many other aspects of a well-rounded education that our faculty and staff incorporate into the school day. One of these is "**growth mindset**." Because we feel this is such an important component of your child's education, we will be providing you with some tools throughout the school year that will help you reinforce this concept at home.

What is a "growth mindset?"

It is a term coined decades ago by Dr. Carol Dweck PhD, a psychologist at Stanford University. In the education arena, having a growth mindset means students understand that they can increase their intelligence and success through hard work and asking for help. Individuals with a growth mindset thrive on challenge and learn from their mistakes, using them to push forward towards success. A "fixed mindset" on the other hand, assumes that one's abilities, intelligence, and creativity are set in stone and cannot be altered in a meaningful way.

How do I know what my child's mindset is?

Children tend to exhibit a mindset early on, which continues to inform many aspects of their lives all the way into adulthood. Examples include their approach to success and failure, their behavior, and ultimately their ability to achieve happiness. Does your child give up easily, or keep going in the face of adversity? Does your child bristle at constructive criticism or learn from it? Does he/she find the success of others threatening or inspiring?

What can the school do and what can parents do to encourage a growth mindset?

Growth mindset is an area that St. Mark Catholic School has been focusing on for a couple of years, and one that we will continue to emphasize with our students. Teachers consistently encourage

Follow us and stay connected!



Like what you see?

"Like" and "share"
on your social media!

QUICK LINKS

[Calendar](#)
[Lifetime Lions Alumni Admissions](#)
[Lunch Menus](#)
[Safe Environment](#)
[Lion's Den Spirit Store](#)
[Work of Heart Nomination](#)

FALL ENRICHMENT CLUBS START ON 9/16/19

A reminder that Fall Enrichment Clubs start this coming Monday, September 16.

Pick-Up Information:

Clubs dismiss at 4:15 PM behind the elementary building with the exception of the OSMO Time! club which dismisses at 4:00 PM at the Early Childhood Education building circle drive.

Out of consideration for the 4:00 PM dismissal group, we ask that parents of the 4:15 PM clubs stay parked back by the rectory

students not to give up, or to try a different approach if something is not working. In addition, throughout campus (in the classrooms, hallways, and video monitors), you will see reminders about having a growth mindset. Examples might include quotes such as:

"I CAN'T DO IT -- YET."

"I HAVE NOT FAILED. I'VE JUST FOUND 10,000 WAYS THAT WON'T WORK." -Albert Einstein

Periodically throughout the school year, we will feature a growth mindset tool in the *Weekly School Bulletin*. We hope you will use these tools to continue the discussion at home.

[Click here for a good starting point.](#)

We frequently say that we have no idea what our students will do for a living, given that the landscape is changing so quickly. What we do know is that persistence and a "can do" attitude will be key, and we feel that teaching a growth mindset now will go a long way towards helping them reach their full potential in both their personal and professional lives.

As always, feel free to reach out to [me](#) or to [Ms. Steinkirchner](#), if you have any questions or comments.



Patricia Opon
Principal

AUTHOR VISIT/AUTOGRAPHED BOOK ORDER

Michelle Staubach Grimes, author of the children's books *Where is Pidge?* and *Pidge Takes the Stage*, will visit TK-2nd grade on October 3 to discuss her books and her writing process with the students.

All school families have an opportunity to order autographed copies of her books.

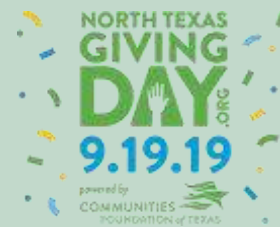
To order autographed books, complete and return the following order forms with payment NO LATER THAN **next Tuesday, September 17** to Mrs. Hughes.

[Where is Pidge? Order Form](#)



garage, allowing the 4:00 PM cars to pull around and pick-up their children from the ECE building. At 4:10 PM, all cars should then move forward to be ready for the 4:15 PM club dismissal.

NORTH TEXAS GIVING DAY

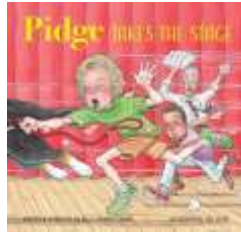


Plan to "get up and give" to St. Mark next Thursday, September 19! This is a one day, online giving event where all donations to the school up to \$10,000 will receive bonus funds, making your donation go even further! Not available that day? Schedule your online donation between now and September 18 just like you'd schedule an online bill payment. [Click here](#) for details. Our goal this year is \$50,000 to benefit St. Mark Financial Assistance. This fund helps provide a Catholic education to all, and assists current school families who have a financial need arise during the school year.

DAIRY QUEEN SPIRIT NIGHT

[Pidge Takes the Stage](#)
[Order Form](#)

Make checks out to St. Mark Catholic School, or bring exact cash. Books will be delivered to students on Friday, October 4. Please [email Mrs. Hughes](#) if you have any questions.



MIDDLE SCHOOLERS: JOIN MATH COUNTS!



Last chance to register for Math Counts! Does your middle school child love math? Is your child interested in furthering his/her math skills and competing in local math competitions? St. Mark middle school students have the opportunity to participate in Math Counts. Topics ranging from introductory high school geometry to the characteristics of mathematical proof and basic trigonometry will be covered. A heavy emphasis is placed upon the application of simple concepts to challenging problems. Students apply their skills in four nationally-ranked competitions that take place throughout the school year. Math Counts will be facilitated by Alonso T. '18, a sophomore at Bishop Lynch High School, and Paul S. '19, a freshman at Cistercian Preparatory School. **The first session will take place on Sunday, September 22 on the St. Mark campus.** If your student is interested in participating, or if you are a Safe Environment cleared parent who can serve as a chaperone at meetings, please contact 7th/8th grade Math teacher, Erica Rivera, at Erica.rivera@stmcs.net.

GIRL SCOUTS



A new St. Mark parish Girl Scout troop is forming. Catholic girls of all grades (K-12) are invited to join. The first meeting for girls and parents will be Sunday, September 22 at 4:00 PM in Room SPC-103 (on the first floor of the Smyth Pastoral Center located on the SW corner of 15th Street and Alma Drive). Adult volunteers are also needed. Email [Elena Mappus](#) to let her know your daughter is interested and for answers to any questions.



Take a break from cooking! Grab dinner or just pick up some ice cream on Wednesday, September 18 from 3:30-10:00 PM at the Dairy Queen located at 2425 K Avenue in Plano. Simply drop your receipt in one of the decorated "St. Mark" boxes located inside on the counter or at the drive-thru window. HSA will receive 20% back on all receipts. Proceeds benefit HSA special projects. All purchases count as long as you drop a receipt in a box.



FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE

Vision and hearing screenings will be conducted at school over the next couple weeks. If your student wears corrective lenses, please ensure that he/she brings them to school. Parents will only be notified of screening results if a referral is needed.

GRANDPARENTS' DAY



Invitations to the September 27, 2019 Grandparents' Day were mailed out earlier this week, and an email was

TODAY IS THE DAY!

There is still time to grab a foursome (or we'll assign you to one) and join this longstanding school tradition which helps raise funds for St. Mark athletic team uniforms, equipment, DPL fees, new championship gym banners, tournament fees, sports equipment maintenance, and more.

It's a great afternoon of friendly competition, food, and fellowship!



All participants will enjoy a BBQ dinner, a swag bag from our sponsors, and a chance to win some great prizes.

Raffle prizes will be awarded every 5 minutes during dinner -- Raising Cane's gift baskets, golf gear, and spirit items ... just to name a few.

The First Place foursome will each receive:

- *A signature Monsignor Smyth Golf Classic polo
- *Gift certificate to the Lion's Den Spirit Store
- *The use of a BMW for the weekend, compliments of



Special prizes will be awarded to:

- *Longest Drive
- *Straightest Drive
- *Closest to the Pin

also sent to school families with complete details. Please [click here](#) for a copy of the invitation. If you have questions, please contact the school office.



Calling all "Dads of Great Students!" [Click here](#) to learn more about our Watch D.O.G.S. volunteer program for dads (and grandfathers, uncles) only, and to reserve your spot during the month of October. Sign-ups are due September 15. Half days and full days are available. Please remember, you must be [Safe Environment trained](#) to serve.

HELP SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT ST. MARK!

Do you know someone interested in a St. Mark education



for their PK-8th grade child? We have limited 2019-20 openings in select grade levels.

Encourage prospective families to schedule a **private tour** at www.stmcs.net/open-house-tours. If they attend, you'll receive a \$10 gift certificate for the Lion's Den Spirit Store,

Registration and sponsorships are available by [clicking here](#).

Shop the Lion's Den Spirit Store for all of your spirit wear needs! It is open every Friday morning that school is in session from 7:30- 8:15 AM in the Cafetorium. Can't make it in person? Shop online at www.stmcs.net/spirit-gear. Once an order has been submitted it will be bundled and ready for pick up on Friday. Note: Not all items available are offered online.



HOME & SCHOOL
ASSOCIATION

-9/18: Dairy Queen Spirit Night

-9/20: 1st HSA morning General Meeting in the library

-9/26: \$2 Dress Down Day -- students wear their favorite football team shirt



WANT TO VOLUNTEER? PLEASE REMEMBER THAT
YOUR SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING MUST BE CURRENT.

2019-20 HSA Volunteer Opportunities: The Home & School Association cannot be successful without amazing volunteers to help in our school. There are many ways you can share your time and talents in the new school year. Below are the links to the 2019-20 HSA Committee and Room Parent Sign-Up Geniuses. All positions are available on a first come, first serve basis. Please consider lending your time and talents to these positions:

[Committee Sign-Up](#)
[Room Parent Sign-Up](#)

Preschool-2nd Grade Classroom Helpers Needed: Please sign-up to help our teachers in the classroom with reading, paper pulling, and craft prep. All of the teachers have Sign-Up Geniuses with specific classroom needs. [Click here](#) to access the Sign-Up Geniuses for each teacher on the school website. Questions? Contact [Liz Delaney](#) or [Brandy Pazora](#).

and if they enroll, you could receive a [\\$500 tuition credit!](#)

COMMUNITY PRAYER TEAM

Welcome to the St. Mark Community Prayer Team! It is our goal to bring the St. Mark community closer to Christ and to each other. There will be numerous opportunities for you to get involved this school year. Even if you are unable to participate in person, please pray for St. Mark from wherever you are.



***Prayer Walks:** We will conduct Prayer Walks on the first Friday of each month and hope you can join us. The next one will take place October 4.

***Prayer Requests:** Everyone is welcome to place prayer requests in the box on the prayer table located in the hallway between the Admin. offices and the Cafetorium. The intentions will be taken to Mass on Fridays as part of the offering.

***Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer Intention:** In addition to your prayers for our St. Mark community, we hope you will also remember Pope

ECE Front Desk Volunteers Needed: Early Childhood needs volunteers to man the front desk each day, answering the door, the phone, and doing occasional craft prep. Volunteers may bring a book/work, and the desktop computer is available if needed. Hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:30AM-2:00 PM, and Friday, 9:30AM-2:00 PM. Any amount of time is appreciated. Please [click here](#) for the Sign-Up Genius, and be sure to include the hours you can volunteer in the "comments." Questions? Contact [Liz Delaney](#).



Helping Hands Committee

If you know any St. Mark families that are in need of help due to a birth, sickness, death, or any life changing event, please contact the Helping Hands

Committee: <https://stmcs.net/helping-hands>.



Thank you for all of you who are submitting online and those of you who submitted in August! Please keep saving those Box Tops for our September collection. Download the Box Tops app and scan your receipt with eligible products within 14 days of purchase. For physical Box Tops, please

carefully cut out unexpired Box Tops from participating brands; place in a Ziploc (which conveniently has box tops!) or envelope; clearly write your child's grade/teacher on it; and turn them in to your child's teacher by **September 27**. Each Box Top submitted earns \$.10 for St. Mark. [Click here for details](#). For more information, please contact [Melissa King](#) or [Sharon Mattis](#).



Shop at Kroger and Earn Money for St.

Mark: Enroll in the Kroger Community Rewards program and a percentage of your purchases will go directly to the St. Mark Home & School Association.

[Click here](#) for complete instructions. Kroger cards must be relinked to St. Mark every 12 months.

FUN FACTS ABOUT THE STAFF

Did you know? Music teacher, Ms. Corsi, was raised in Amarillo, TX. She is very thankful for her wonderful parents, as well as the Catholic nuns and the teachers she had in elementary, junior high, and high school. She attended The University of Texas at Austin (Go Horns!) where she earned a Bachelors Degree of Music Education. She is the fifth child in her family and has six loving siblings and



Francis' monthly intentions:

September: The Protection of the Oceans - That politicians, scientists and economists work together to protect the world's seas and oceans.



HOLY TRINITY SEMINARY

HTS invites you to public mass. Each mass is followed by a reception hosted by the local Serran clubs where you can get to know the HTS seminarians.

Upcoming Mass Dates:

*September 29

*October 6 & 13

Time:

9:15 AM

Location:

3131 Vince Hagan Drive,
Irving, TX

SEEN & HEARD AROUND ST. MARK

A few scenes from this week. To learn the stories behind these photos, visit our [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) pages!

8th Grade at The Pines:



three beautiful children. She loves talking with family, reading, playing the piano, singing, praying, and being with friends.

AROUND THE PARISH

Help moms and save babies by joining the annual Hike for Life!

Mrs. Opon has her own sponsor page again this year in support of Father Roshan's St. Mark team -- let's help her reach her \$625 fundraising goal! You can register as a hiker, sponsor her team, or both, by [clicking here](#).



HIGH SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES



PK3 Friendship Fruit Salad:



Monthly Virtue:



Prayer Walk:



Art Elective:



Forward To A Friend

The John Paul II High School National Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta students are offering six weeks of ISEE study sessions in preparation for the high school entrance exam. Sessions will take place every Tuesday from 3:45-4:45 PM from October 22-December 3 at John Paul II High School. The cost is \$30. Snacks will be provided. Participating 8th graders will meet Ms. Steinkirchner at the breezeway doors by the Cafetorium at dismissal and the JP II bus will transport students from St. Mark to JP II. Parents must pick-up students at the JP II main entrance at 4:45 PM. Please [click here](#) for details and registration.



Join Our Mailing List



JP II Monthly Information Night! Information Nights are designed to introduce you to the John Paul II High School community. The evening begins with a short presentation followed by an extensive tour of the campus led by administration, teachers, and students. To register, please [click here](#).

St. Mark Catholic School | 1201 Alma Drive, Plano, TX 75075
www.stmcs.net | (972) 578-0610



Copyright © 2019. All Rights Reserved.

St. Mark Catholic School, 1201 Alma Drive, Plano, TX 75075

[SafeUnsubscribe™](#) debbie.reed@stmcs.net

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by debbie.reed@stmcs.net in collaboration with



Try email marketing for free today!