



# Saints' Sentinel

St. Mary's Visitation School

[www.smvschool.org](http://www.smvschool.org)

September 9, 2022

## From Mrs. Murphy's Desk

Dear Parents,

If you haven't already signed up we still have a few spots open to play in our Annual Golf Outing on Oct. 1st at Diamond Springs. If you can't play, we have many sponsorship and volunteer opportunities available as well.

Also mark your calendar for October 9th, which is our first school sponsored pancake breakfast since before the COVID shut-down! Don't forget that "Many hands make light work!"

Blessings, Shannon Murphy

## Dates of Interest

- ♦ Sept. 12—First Day of 3 year old Preschool
- ♦ Sept. 21—1/2 Day
- ♦ Sept. 25—Auction Committee meeting 1PM
- ♦ Sept. 30—Walk-a-Thon @Hungry Horse Campground
- ♦ Oct. 1—SMV School Golf Outing
- ♦ Oct. 5—Color Day
- ♦ Oct. 9—School sponsored Pancake Breakfast
- ♦ Oct. 10—Picture Day
- ♦ Oct. 14—No School (Professional Development)
- ♦ Oct. 19—Spirit Day
- ♦ Oct. 28—End of 1st Quarter
- ♦ Oct. 31—1/2 Day
- ♦ Nov. 3—No School (Professional Development)
- ♦ Nov. 4—No School (Professional Development)

## Volunteer Credits

We do not do a lot of little fundraisers selling wrapping paper, candy, and pizza kits, instead, we do a few super fun events. To help offset raising tuition more than we like each year, we ask you to help us raise the funds needed to continue to take our school into the future. We have three events this year that will require all hands on deck. The Golf Outing is at Diamond Springs Golf Course in Hamilton on Saturday, October 1st. We are very excited to have the fellowship of the Pancake Breakfast back on Sunday, October 9th, and our annual Dinner Auction will be held on Saturday, February 18, 2023. On **Tuesday, September 13**, the sign up Genius for these events will come to you via email at **8 am**.

What you NEED to know: Each preschool family is asked to sign up to fulfill just one credit spot per family. The families of our Kdg.—7th Grade families are required to fulfill 3 volunteer spots per family and one MUST be on the Dinner Auction Sign up. You may likely have to take two at the Dinner Auction to fulfill your need to get three. Serving on the Auction Committee can also earn you credits.

Please Note—Pancake Breakfast Chairpersons are worth 2 credits each.

### Walk-A-Thon

Thank you for promoting our school and sharing the 99 Pledges fundraiser link with your family and friends. Here are a few details in regards to our Walk-A-Thon. We are changing up a few things this year. Location will be at Hungry Horse Campground. We are going to be walking with our neighboring Catholic Schools of St. Stanislaus and St. Therese. The SMV bus will leave school around noon. We will walk between 12:30 and 2. We plan to arrive back at school around 2:30. If you could donate some granola bars or cheese sticks please call or email the office. We will provide water for refilling water bottles.

**Please be sure your student brings a water bottle.**



### SPORTS GRACEAC

Basketball Registration is open now.

Boys sign up—Winter I Season by October 13

Girls sign up—Winter II Season by December 16

Open to 3rd-8th grade.

Register at <https://graceac.com/register/>



### SMV Golf Outing

There is still time to register your team and submit sponsorships. We also need donations for raffle prize drawings. Team Registration, Sponsorship, and donation forms went home in your family envelopes on August 26. If you need additional forms, you may request one be sent with your student, picked up in church, or found on the website



### SCRIP

If you are a new family or returning one that just has never used the Scrip program before, it is a great way to earn money to go towards your tuition. Simply purchase gift cards for places you normally shop for groceries, gas, restaurants and more, and a percentage of that purchase gets added to your account.

An easy way to purchase these gift cards is through the RaiseRight app available on your mobile store on your phone.

Nicole Hasservoort with the help of Heidi Schumaker, will once again be our Scrip coordinators. Orders are due on Mondays throughout the school year. Current schedule every Monday through November 14.

Let us know if you have any other questions.



### !IMPORTANT! Hot Lunch!

The menu is on the website under the Parent Connect tab/Documents, but each day is also in your facts ACCOUNT.

Changes to Ordering—**We must order from HPS** no later than 8am on Monday for M/T/W and **we must** order no later than 8 am on Thursday for Th/F. We will only be ordering twice a week and will likely not have extra's as they must be paid for. You **WILL** order all lunches on your parent portal this year. **Cost is \$2.40.** Milk only can be purchased each day for 50 cents. Please be patient as we navigate changes. If you have questions, please contact the office and we will walk you through the process.

**Make sure to click the final submit button to finalize order.**

**I am working with FACTS to take care of Free/Reduced as well as Cafeteria Account hiccups. Thank you for your patience and your accounts will be credited if necessary.**

### Auction Committee Needs You

It's not too early to be looking ahead to our February Auction. Nicole Hassevoort is looking for new members. We would love to invite our newer families what goes into our biggest event of the year. You can earn volunteer credits for joining the committee. Please join us for an introductory meeting Sept 25 at 1PM in the school library. Questions, contact Nicole at [nhassevoort@att.net](mailto:nhassevoort@att.net) or by cell 616-262-9681.

### Volunteer and Recess Duties



Non Credit parent volunteer opportunities are very much welcome and encouraged. You make us a strong community. Things you can do include being a room parent, coming in to read with students, recess duty, etc... Room Parents help plan classroom parties, and organize treats. They may ask you for help or donations throughout the year.

Recess is right after lunch from 11:55-12:20. You can pick random days as you are available. Or we would love to have you on a set day each week, twice a month or whatever works for you. Just give us a heads up!

Please contact your child's teacher if you would like to see if they need any additional help.

Remember all Volunteers must be VIRTUS trained and have a current background check filed with us. Thank you for all you do as parents!!

### Protecting God's Children VIRTUS

The diocese will continue to offer the Virtus training for our parents or grandparents that want to volunteer. This is a required course before you can volunteer in a classroom or attend a field trip. **It is now done all online.** Please go to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) and select "begin the registration process" rather than "view a list of sessions" and create an account. Once that is done, please email Marina Hentz and let her know you created an account and she will help you from there. [mhentz@diokzoo.org](mailto:mhentz@diokzoo.org). This is once and done course, if you have completed it in the past you are all set.

### Financial Planning: K-12 & Beyond

Open to all families with Children of any age. It's never too early to start planning and to be informed.

Date: Thursday, September 29, 2022

Time: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Location: West Catholic High School (enter through Main Office doors)

RSVP HERE:

<https://www.grwestcatholic.org/track/click/41f0032cd15821/85fe60c2a8734>



Cynthia Kneibel, West Catholic President/CEO, will be presenting on ways in which you can prepare to afford Catholic school education. Cynthia began her professional career in the financial services industry and has applied this expertise to her current role - helping award financial assistance to families who attend West Catholic High School. Over the past 10 years, she has seen hundreds of creative ways parents and guardians have used to afford tuition. She would like to share what she has learned, both professionally and personally, with anyone considering or currently investing in K-12 Catholic education.



### Picture Day

Picture Day is October 10th this year. This is a free color day, but students should wear appropriate clothing for photos. Order forms will come home soon.

### New After School Care Phone Number

The afterschool care phone number has been changed to **1-616-210-0478**. Please use this number to call or text when you are ready to pick up your child from afterschool care.



### Color Days

As stated previously, we offer color days for a \$1 donation once a month. Thank you to all our students who sent in their money. However donations were short compared to the amount of non uniforms we saw. We don't really track who pays and who doesn't. It's more on the honor system, and we have been rather lax in the past if donations were light. Please remember that it is not a free color day. The small donation is a way to teach children charity and to keep color days as a privilege. The money we raise goes to a charity or in the case this year a special project for the school. More details to come on that later. If your child forgot to turn in the money, just have them do so as soon as possible, or you can pay for the entire year next month if it is easier to remember. Thank you.

### Reading Buddies are the Best!

Every week Mrs. Nickel's class joins Mrs. BeVier's class to have reading buddies. The 5th, 6th, and 7th graders are partnered with the younger students to read books they picked out. Everyone really looks forward to this time.



### **Mission Statement for St. Mary's Visitation School**

At St. Mary's Visitation Catholic School we are disciples, walking in the path of Jesus, making Mary our Model, and striving for personal and academic excellence.