



# Holy Name of Mary School



**Father David Regan, Pastor**

**Mrs. Marcia Velasco, Principal**

10/8/2023

Dear Families,

Thank you to all the families that were able to attend the PTL Meeting. The next PTL meeting will be Wednesday, November 1st at 7 p.m. please join us! We continue to encourage students to take on leadership roles. Thank you to the National Junior Honor Society for initiating their book drive. It is a wonderful idea for a great cause, please donate books! During the next few weeks, 18 students (5th-8th graders) have signed up to be a guest teacher! Guest teachers are helping us observe Hispanic Heritage Month, Italian American Heritage Month and Polish American Heritage Month. Guest Teachers will be teaching the lower grades about a spanish speaking country of their choice, Italy or Poland.

## **Catholic Identity**

Leading to Advent, we have more opportunities for our students to practice our faith. We will have a traveling statue of Mary visit each classroom for a week. Students and the teacher(s) will create a shrine (flowers, decor, signage). Father Regan will visit at the beginning of the week to say a few words to the class. Father Mike and Father Roger will visit each class in the school. Father Mike will teach the students the rosary. Father Roger will give church tours, talk about our faith and recruit altar servers.

**Tip of the week:** As a family, you can help support your child's development as a lifelong reader. It is not just about reading a book, there are many ways to support your child. Here are some suggestions on how to support your child according to their age.

[Raising Readers: What Parents Can Do | NEA](#) - younger children [love-of-reading-6-12.pdf \(niu.edu\)](#) - Older children [fomentando-el-amor-a-la-lectura-en-el-hogar-para-los-estudiantes-en-los-grados-6-12.pdf \(niu.edu\)](#)

## **Evacuation and Lockdown Drills**

"Education Law §807 requires that New York State public and nonpublic schools conduct four lockdown and eight evacuation drills each school year (September 1 - June 30), with at least eight of the required drills being conducted by December 31 of each school year."

We will conduct the required evacuation drills (fire drills) and lockdowns (soft and hard) before it gets cold (our goal - weather permitting is November 27). Hard Lockdowns are when an announcement is made and the children move away from the door and hide with their teacher. Teachers lock the door from the inside. Teachers do not respond to the PA or fire alarm. If it were an actual lockdown - they would wait for law enforcement to come to them (not admin, school staff, no exception). Soft lockdowns (lockouts), the announcement is made, the teacher locks the door and continues to teach. No one can enter or leave the classroom until the administrator checks every door. Teachers will teach and review these terms in class.

Evacuation drills will take place at different times of the day. We want students to be aware of where the closest exits are in different parts of the building (the gym, cafeteria, classrooms). We will also have at least one rapid dismissal (more details to follow). If you want to talk to your child about drills, here is a resource:

[How to Talk to Your Kid about School Lockdown Drills \(tinybeans.com\)](#)

**Uniform Challenge:** A few classes who were in full uniform received water bottle stickers this week! We are almost at 100% as a school, thank you for implementing the uniform. Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform and footwear on the correct day. If there is a documented medical reason your child cannot wear the dress uniform, please let us know.

This week's push - you will receive a letter if your child is out of uniform:

- All white sneakers (on gym days), sweatpants/shorts with the school logo, white, blue or yellow school shirt with the logo. Students cannot wear nonuniform sweatpants or shirts.
- All black footwear (including black soles/bottoms).

**Reminder: Physical Education schedule - gym uniform:**

Monday- Grades 1,6,7 and 8

Tuesday-Grades 3, K,2, 4 and 5

Wednesday- Grades 4,5 and 6

**Middle School Families:** Our Math teacher begins on Tuesday! Thank you for your support and understanding while we waited for the right person.

*This is peak high school season, here is a gentle reminder about open houses.* It is never too early to start looking at catholic high schools. Thank you to Mrs. Powell for sharing this information.

1. Please check the following website for a list of dates for Open Houses for the high schools. You will be able to look at the campus and see classrooms.
  - a. <https://tachsinfo.com:8443/pdf/DioceseOfBrooklynQueensOpenHouse.pdf?1695303688878>
  - b. <https://tachsinfo.com:8443/pdf/DioceseOfRockVileCentreOpenHouse.pdf?1695303675161>

**8th Grade Families ONLY:** Please make sure you have registered your child for the Catholic schools exam: <https://tachsinfo.com/> We still have a few 8th graders who need to sign up.

**Weekly Shoutouts:**

Shout out to our 5th - 8th grade who signed up to be a guest teacher!

Shout out to the National Junior Honor Society for their book drive. Here is some information on Book Fairies

[Home - Book Fairies \(thebookfairies.org\)](https://thebookfairies.org)

Thank you to our PTL for working together! We are excited about what you have in store this year.

Thank you Ms. McEnaney for helping with our prayer services and morning prayer prep.

**Shoutouts From Friday:**

**From Mrs. Moltz for David and Grace,** Thank you for your kindness and patience with our younger students at B.A.S.E. Both of you are such positive role models for ALL of Holy Name of Mary School. We are blessed to have you both in our school.

**Ms. Williams for Isa,** Thank you for always being willing to help and for holding doors for others.

**Mrs. Powell for Kassandra,** Thank you for sharing her beautiful artwork that showcases her talent with Holy Name of Mary School.

**Mrs. Fischer for Daniel G.,** Thank you for keeping our hallways safe! Daniel cleaned up a water spill in the hallway without being asked.

**Mrs. Fischer for ALL students:** Thank you to all students who tried their best and completed iReady.

## **October 2023**

### **This week:**

**Monday, October 9, 2023** - Columbus Day - ***School is closed.***

Indigenous Peoples Day ***School is closed.***

**Wednesday, October 11, 2023** - 8th Grade Pin Ceremony @10:45

**Wednesday, October 11, 2023** - Our chocolate bar fundraiser for the year begins. Please make sure you completed the google form <https://forms.gle/SuGZU6Ukk92Sxc2n9>

**Friday, October 13, 2023** - Our Lady of Fatima Processional at the church

Pizza Day -\$3 per slice or 2 slices for \$5

**Sunday, October 15, 2023** - School Mass at 9 a.m.

### **Upcoming weeks:**

**Monday, October 16, 2023** -Communion Meeting in the church at 7 pm

**Tuesday, October 17, 2023** - Dress Down Day - Wear Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness \$2 Donation

Confirmation Parent Meeting - 7 p.m. in the church

**Monday, October 23, 2023** - Professional Development for Teachers - ***No school for students.***

**Saturday, October 28, 2023** - Trunk or Treat

**Tuesday, October 31, 2023** - Halloween Parade

Students from grades N-5 can dress up. No masks, nothing gory, no weapons.

**Wednesday, November 1, 2023** - All Saints Day - Holy Day of Obligation

- PTL Meeting at 7 p.m.

**Thursday, November 2, 2023** - All Souls Day

Peace and Blessings,

Mrs. Marcia Velasco

Principal

