



THE ACADEMY OF SAINT MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE

BRIDGES

WWW.STMATTHIAS.ORG

JANUARY 5, 2024



HAPPY NEW YEAR

A new year gives us all an opportunity for reflection and a fresh start. In just 10 school days the students will begin a new quarter of the school year. In the classroom the students will revisit and modify their goals and dreams for academic, spiritual, and social growth. There are some "resolutions" that would contribute to this growth. For example, being on time for school, completing assignments, having time to read and pray individually and together as a family, practicing math facts, spelling, and vocabulary words. This is not to say that schoolwork should dominate family time to the extent that there is no time for anything else. If your child is spending too much time on homework, you need to let the teacher know. Communication between home and school is a very critical part of school success.

ST. MATTHIAS ACADEMY'S GOT TALENT

The school needs parents or family members with skills and experience in marketing, development, strategic planning, finance, landscaping and building maintenance to share their expertise with the school administration. There are several projects related to these fields that lie ahead. If you can help, please contact Principal Schratz or our pastor, Fr. Avellino.

WELCOME MS. JENKINS

We are pleased to introduce the school community to Ms. Jasmine Jenkins who is serving for the next 5 or 6 weeks as the teacher in the St. Matthias kindergarten. Ms. Jenkins holds a teaching credential from the District of Columbia. She has taught for ten years in the private and public school system. As an experienced teacher and certified early childhood educator, Ms. Jenkins brings a wealth of expertise to our kindergarten. She is also the mother of a St. Matthias graduate and children in grades 7, 1 and P3.



Monday, January 8
No Title I Tutoring Today
Faculty Meeting

Tuesday, January 9
Dance Ministry
3:00 - 4:30 pm
Title I Tutoring - Math

Wednesday, January 10
Drama Club 3:00 - 4:00 pm
Title I Tutoring - Reading

Thursday, January 11
Title I Tutoring - Math

Friday, January 12
Noon Dismissal
Professional Development

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK BEGINS

On Sunday, January 28 the national, week-long celebration of Catholic education begins. This year's theme is *Catholic Schools United in Faith and Community*. Look for a full schedule of events in *Bridges* next week. Some of the highlights include student participation at Sunday Mass, a school open house, a parent pot-luck social, spirit events, a writing service project and student, teacher, and volunteer appreciation.

RAFFLE TICKETS DUE

All raffle ticket stubs and the corresponding \$300 are due by Thursday, February 1. Families who return their 30 tickets stubs and payment on time will receive one service hour. Families who do not return the stubs and payment, will have \$300 debited from their TADS account on February 1. The first drawing will take place at lunchtime on February 1. From then on, a drawing will be held on the 1st and 15th of the month after school prayer. One of the student prayer leaders pulls the winning ticket. The ticket is then returned to the bin for another chance to win. The winner is announced, published in *Bridges* and the parish bulletin, and posted on the school website. The family that sells the most tickets receives a \$50 tuition credit.

IT'S TIME TO RE-ENROLL

Re-enrollment will open very soon. Please watch for a text announcing the opening of the re-enrollment window in Tads. Families who re-enroll by February 1 will receive a \$50 credit on their 2024-2025 tuition contract. Please note the deadline to receive this incentive award is firm!

MATH IXL SKILL PLANS

Students in grades K-8 will be taking the mid-year MAP tests in early February. The school goal is growth for every student. To ensure that the children do their best on the mid-year assessment, the math teachers are assigning individual IXL skill plans to their students. Please encourage your child to complete assignments and do extra practice on their IXL MAP skill plans.

CONGRATULATIONS IXL WINTER CHALLENGE CHAMPS!

85 students participated in the IXL Winter Challenge. All of them are receiving a dress pass and a certificate. Grades 3, 5 and 6 achieved the goal of 75% or more participation by the class. They have earned a class celebration at the teacher's discretion. The following students are the top champs in the school for greatest number of minutes: Chelsea Esene, Michael Morfaw, and Enuma Offiah. Class champs are Jaden Maduabuchi (K), Emily Udebuala (1), Jedidiah Fuller (2), Jathniel Wahab (3), Chelsea Esene (4), Grace Asgill (5), Justin James (6), Michael Morfaw (7) and Idara Onyewu (8).

UNIFORM REMINDER

As we start the New Year, please help your children be successful by reminding them of the expectations of our uniform policy. This week the teachers have been giving gentle reminders to those students who are not in proper uniform. On Monday, January 8th, 2024, all teachers will be issuing uniform infraction notices to students who are in violation of the uniform policy. These students will lose the right to be out of uniform on the next free dress day. Repeated violations result in a low behavior grade on their report card.