



# NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2018

Website: [www.smsbera.org](http://www.smsbera.org)

Dear St. Mary Catholic School Parents and Students,

November brings forth the beginning of the Holiday Season. It is truly an eventful and spiritual time of the year, bringing peace and excitement to many. All St. Mary Catholic School students will be attending Adoration, All Saints Day Holy Mass, and the Thanksgiving Prayer Service.

Band Director, Mr. Patrick Hickey, has a brilliant event planned for any student wishing to learn an instrument. The Instrumental Petting Zoo will be held on Tuesday, November 13, from 3:30-4:30pm. Students will be able to test a snare, trumpet, clarinet, saxophone, and flute.

This month Preschool, Kindergarten, First grade, and Second grade families have a great opportunity to come together and experience an early childhood faith and family fun event focusing on values, ideals, service, God, prayer, and love. Please join Mrs. Dober, Mrs. Lake, Mrs. Sam, Mrs. Schiele, and Mrs. Giblin, Thursday November 15<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30-8:30pm, in the school gym, for an evening of crafts and conversation. (Please look in your child's folder for further information).

St. Mary Catholic School faculty and students have completed the first quarter of the school year. Report Cards will be sent home, Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup>.

An "Incomplete" may be issued on your child's report card if he/she has experienced a longer than normal absence from school. Please keep in touch with the teacher to receive the missed work and due dates. Once the work is completed, the "Incomplete" will be changed to the appropriate grade.

Remember, students in Grades 6-8 will receive a letter grade in Spanish, Physical Education and Music. Students must receive at least a (B-) in these classes to qualify for the Honor or Merit Roll.

Student Council organized a Halloween parade throughout the school for Kindergarten through Grade 5 on Wednesday, October 31st. Faculty and students were delighted to see the costumes. Thank you Student Council and Junior High Students for purchasing and distributing candy!

Special thanks to Officer Gute! His informative Q & A sessions with each grade proved to be a successful law enforcement learning experience for all. Much appreciation, also, to Firefighter Mr. Scott and the Berea Fire Department for providing the students with informative fire safety lessons.

Mr. Carner, Principal

## WINTER DRESS & ACTIVITIES

The cold weather is approaching! Outdoor recess occurs when the temperature exceeds 20<sup>0</sup> F (wind chill included). Every teacher requests that your child dress appropriately for outdoor recess. Please check your child's attire before they come to school. Winter coats, boots, hats, and gloves are a **MUST** on the playground. Snow pants must be worn to play in the snow (sweat pants and gym uniform pants **DO NOT** qualify as snow pants). Please check with your child's homeroom teacher if you are unsure of proper attire.

Junior High students generally don't wear snow pants or snowsuits. Sweat pants are permitted under the uniform skirt for added warmth during **outdoor recess only**. Students may not throw snowballs or play on the ice. Only "catch" may be played with nerf-style balls on the blacktop area during winter.

## EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING

As the seasons begin to change, it is time to look ahead to the possibility of Calamity Days (snow days). Remember, when **BEREA CITY SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED –ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL is CLOSED!**

Bus service is canceled when other school districts are closed. If St. Mary Catholic School is open parents need to provide transportation. Your child will be marked absent, if not in attendance, and must complete missed work. When surrounding districts have school buses on a **TWO-HOUR DELAY**, and SMS is open, class will begin at 9:00am; parents are asked to provide transportation for their child to school. If parent transportation is not available, your child may wait for the delayed bus and will not be marked tardy. Your child, however, will be required to complete all missed work. The school day will end at the normal time with buses running as usual.

St. Mary Catholic School receives **12 CALAMITY DAYS** per school year. Should calamity days exceed 12 days, teachers will email parents with homework to be completed, as stipulated by the State of Ohio. Once 12 Calamity Days are used, additional days off will be administered to the end of the school year, as required by the State of Ohio.

**\*\*\*NOTE: St. Mary Catholic School Day Care will be open on Calamity Days from 6:30 am to 6:00 pm.** (Please be advised that if the weather is extreme, the Day care will be closed, as well, for everyone's safety. Please refer to school closing emails and phone messages for further information)

## MEDICATION ALERT

As stated in our Parent/Student Handbook and in past Newsletters, students must follow the posted procedure when bringing ANY MEDICATION to school. It is a **SERIOUS** matter when a student is found with a prescription or over the counter medication! **ALL MEDICATION MUST BE KEPT IN THE SCHOOL CLINIC along with the proper physician and parental forms.**

## SMS SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS

The end of 2018 is approaching and perhaps you might consider a tax-deductible donation to the St. Mary Catholic School Scholarship Fund. Each year SMS awards scholarships to outstanding students who will be attending a Catholic High School. Your donation of any size will be greatly appreciated, and your name will be posted in the St. Mary Catholic School Graduation program. A Scholarship Donation Form can be found on our website or at the school office. Many companies provide matching gifts – check with your benefits office if your employer is one of them.

**THANKSGIVING BLESSING** (*Numbers 6:24-26*)

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make His face to shine upon you,  
And be gracious to you;  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,  
And give you peace.

(Calendar of events to follow)

## IMPORTANT NOVEMBER DATES

Thursday, November 1	All Saints Day Holy Mass, 10:30am @ St. Mary Catholic Church Eager Artists, 3:30-4:30pm Activity Room 116
Friday, November 2	Adoration for students, All Day @ St. Mary Catholic School
Monday, November 5	Chess Club, 7:30-8:30am Activity Room 116
Wednesday, November 7	Band Practice, 3:30-4:30pm Spanish Room
Thursday, November 8	Kdg Field Trip Eager Artist, 3:30-4:30pm Activity Room 116
Friday, November 9	Power of Pen, 3:30-4:30pm 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Homeroom
Sunday, November 11	Sacraments, <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Grade 9:30-10:30am Mass @ St. Mary Catholic Church</i> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Grade 10:30-11:30am Class @ Father Garrity Center</i> <i>8<sup>th</sup> Grade 9:30-10:30am Mass @ St. Mary Catholic Church</i> <i>8<sup>th</sup> Grade 6:00-7:30pm Class @ Father Garrity Center</i> PTO Mother & Daughter Event, 12:30-2pm, SMS Gym
Monday, November 12	Chess Club, 7:30-8:30am Activity Room 116
Tuesday, November 13	Instrumental Petting Zoo, 3:30-4:30pm Spanish Room Scholastic Books Preview Begins
Wednesday, November 14	Band Practice, 3:30-4:30pm Spanish Room
Thursday, November 15	Eager Artists, 3:30-4:30pm Activity Room 116 Early Childhood Family Faith Event, 6:30-8:30pm SMS Gym
Friday, November 16	Thanksgiving Prayer Service, 2:30pm SMS Gym
Monday, November 19	PARENT/ TEACHER CONFERENCES, ALL DAY, SMS SCHOOL Scholastic Book Parent Purchasing Day
Monday, November 19-23	Thanksgiving Break, No School
Monday, November 26	Chess Club, 7:30-8:30am Activity Room 116
Wednesday, November 28	Band Practice, 3:30-4:30pm Spanish Room
Thursday, November 29	Eager Artists, 3:30-4:30pm Activity Room 116
Friday, November 30	Stewardship, Dress Down Day Faith Families