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## *From the desk of Mrs. Folio*

St. Mary's School year is off to a wonderful start. The students are getting settled in and adjusting to new schedules and new friends.

Our theme for the school year is DO GREAT THINGS "The mighty has done great things for me~holy is HIS name." *Luke 1:4-9* We are instilling in the children Pope Francis' teaching that through acts of kindness we can accomplish great things by answering

God's call to act with kindness and provide service to the needy.

We are asking that every student purchase a SPIRIT SHIRT. It will have our theme for the school year. Please see attached order sheet.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year.

A big thank you to each and every parent for choosing St. Mary's School for

your child.

Please know that we take great pride in educating your child. If you have questions, concerns, or suggestions our door is always open.

Best wishes for a great school year.

Sincerely in Christ,  
*Nicole A. Folio, M. Ed.*

### Special points of interest:

- Student Council Class Representative Forms

Grades 3-6 will have class rep. elections (1 boy and 1 girl from each grade) on Tues., Sept. 19th. Students wishing to run for class rep. may get an application from the office.

FORMS are due on or before Fri., Sept. 15th. Once forms are received students may create 1 poster to display in their classroom. NO TREATS or FAVORS. Failure to adhere to these requirements will disqualify one from the election.

- Thank YOU!!!

### *Students in grades K-6 are to arrive at school no later than 7:30am.*

Students may be dropped off as early as **7:15 am.** Please **do not** drop off prior to 7:15am. We ask that you utilize our drop off service in the alley. Please do not park in the upper lot as this is where

SM&ND Faculty & Staff Park. Students are to report directly to their classrooms. We ask that all students in grades K-6 arrive to school by 7:30am. This gives the students time to unpack and prepare

for the school day. Students entering the building after 7:45 am will be marked as tardy. **A reminder that three tardies equal one absence.** Please do your best to get your child to school on time.

## ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL for St. Mary's School...

First of all, a big huge thank you to everyone for cooperating with our new dismissal plan. We have found it to be very effective and safe for all involved.

Please utilize the alley drop off system in the morning. Students arriving between 7:20-7:40 will be greeted by an SMS Faculty Member at the opening in the fence directly behind SMS.

We end our day at SMS with afternoon prayer. All students (Kindergarten—6th grade and ex-

tended care students) are to listen quietly in their classrooms as an end of the day blessing and announcements are made. We ask that parents do not come in the school at this time. We are also requesting that no one occupy the breezeway during dismissal. is necessary for all St. Mary's car riders to dismiss from the alley. All St. Mary's students that are walkers are to dismiss from the front of the school. After announcements we dismiss Keepers and Walkers to the main hallway

and the Carriders through the breezeway to the alley.

During alley pick up please pull all the way forward when it is your turn to load.

**Our goal is to load two vehicles at one time.** Please understand that our main goal is to get every child safely to his or her vehicle.

Please **DO NOT block the alley entrance to SMS at ANYTIME.**

(Thank You:)

"Please understand that our main goal is to get every child safely to his or her vehicle."



Please utilize the alley drop off and pick up system.

## COMMUNICATION is the KEY...

Please utilize the SMS Assignment books and SMS Folders. Please monitor your child's assignment book by reviewing homework assignments and signing off in it daily. The assignment books will be our main way of communicating with parents. The teachers will monitor that students record their daily assignments. We ask that parents review homework and initial the assignment book daily. Teachers will see that the assignment book is initialed daily. Teachers will have the students note daily homework, special events, quizzes and tests. PLEASE

monitor the assignment books!!!  
Homework is to be assigned each evening in grades Kindergarten through 6th grade on Monday—Thursday evenings. Please monitor that your child is completing his/her homework. Please let the teacher know if it is taking your child more than the allotted time to complete homework each evening. The following is a guide as to how many minutes should be dedicated to homework assignments each evening:  
Kindergarten/1st = 10-15 min

2nd Grade = 20 minutes  
3rd Grade = 30 minutes  
4th Grade = 40 minutes  
5th Grade = 50 minutes  
6th Grade = 60 minutes  
+

In addition to time for assigned homework, SMS encourages students to devote time to reading and math. Each student in grades 1st—6th will be assigned an Accelerated Reader goal by mid-late September. Please encourage your child to strive for his or her reading goal for this school year.



*AR Goals for the school year will be established by mid-late September.*

**Communication is the  
KEY to success>**

### *Enrollment at St. Mary's School*

Director of Enrollment-  
Michelle Palmer

St. Mary's School's enrollment has remained strong for the 2017-18 school year. **Thank you** for referring your family and friends and I encourage you to continue to invite people to our school. I am

happy to speak with anyone interested in SMS and give them a tour of our site. YOU are our BEST advertisement! We recognize that placing your child at SMS is a choice and a sacrifice. We strive for "*Academic Excellence with Christian Family Values.*"

Please feel free to contact me if I can assist you and your family in any way. I can be reached at SMS 622-9831 Ext. 28 or my cell 669-1972.



*Please know our door is always open.*

## HATS OFF...

- **Sammy Byrd and helpers for organizing the Uniform Exchange.**
    - **Mrs. Palmer for organizing the Back to School Bash.**
  - **Mr. Altenburg for assisting with various handyman jobs throughout the school.**
  - **Joe Michael Folio, Christian Palmer, John Kolodziej, Nicholas Palmer, and Nathaniel Palmer for assembling the scaffolding to paint the boys bathroom.**
    - **Emily Lehasky for giving the boys bathroom fresh new look.**
    - **Mrs. Yost for touching up the floors on the top and main levels.**
    - **To Mr. and Mrs. Krista Arnold, Mrs. Lauren Bealko, Mrs. Amanda Romano, and for organizing the Boo Hoo Breakfast for Preschool/ Kindergarten**
  - **To the many parents who purchased items for the classroom wish lists.**
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**PLEASE continue to visit our school website:**

**[www.stmaryswv.org](http://www.stmaryswv.org)**

**Check the Home Page for regular updates regarding school announcements and events. Please check out the Class Pages. Teachers will update Class Pages on a weekly basis (listing important information such as quiz, test, and project dates). Please note that schedules are subject to change.**

**If you are not receiving school messages via text or phone, please text Michelle Palmer 304-669-1972.**