

Dear Parents,

The month of May is dedicated to our Blessed Mother Mary. She lived her life with grace and dignity becoming our spiritual role model. There is nothing in life that Mary did not endure. We look to Mary for her loving guidance. So, too, do we honor our own dear mothers for their nurturing spirits. In celebration of our dear mothers, enjoy this sweet thought: *"I believe in love at first sight because I loved my mother since I opened my eyes."*

I recently accepted the resignation of Mrs. Kaitlyn Lasswell. She has decided to return to her former position at Red Hill. We wish her and her family the best. The middle school language arts position will be posted once the new principal is in place in a few weeks.

Pre-registration packets were placed in the breezeway earlier this week. If you have not already picked your family's packet up, and you are able to, that will save us on postage. The ones still remaining on May 8 will be dropped in the mail. The registration papers along with the registration fee and the Fair Share booklet must be returned to SMS by May 15. Also included in this will be the physical, dental, eye, and sport physical forms for the appropriate grade levels as well as the school calendar for the 2020-2021 school year. All health forms **MUST** be completed by final registration which will be set once a new principal is in place. Your child will **NOT** be allowed to start school until all health forms are completed as per Illinois State Law and registration fees are paid in full.

The Diocese of Belleville has put all schools in the diocese on a tuition freeze for the 2020-2021 school year. Catholic tuition for your child to attend SMS for the 2020-2021 school year will remain at \$3,893.00 after fair share is deducted for Catholic and will be \$4,531.00 for Non-Catholic. Are you aware that the full amount to educate a child at SMS is currently over \$7,000? We are very grateful for the support of both St. Mary's Church and St. Sebastian for the subsidies they pay monthly to help keep your cost at a minimum. Fair share amount will remain at \$700 per family.

Please see below our schedule for pick-up of your child's school supplies and personal items that were left in the classrooms. All chromebooks, library books, and anything else borrowed from the school will need to be returned at this time as well. The classroom teachers will be in the front of the school and will bring the supplies directly to your car. Mr. Hillyard will be there

to accept all chromebooks, iPads, and chargers and will inspect them at a later date. Please make sure that all devices are fully charged.

May 12

10:00 - 12:00 pm

PreS-1st grade

1:00 - 3:00 pm

2nd-5th grade

May 13

10:00 - 12:00 pm

6th -8th grade

If you can not make the assigned time, please email your child's teacher so that other arrangements can be made. If your child is in grades 4th-8th grade, Mr. Hillyard will need to be a part of this process so the chromebook and charger can be inspected and accepted. Please do **NOT** expect the classroom teacher to accept these items.

Report cards for the fourth quarter will be mailed out the week after school ends. The school office will be open beginning May 4 until May 29 on MWF from 8am-11 am. The office will reopen sometime in late July. Official dates and times will be announced on Facebook when they are available. If you need to speak to someone, and the office is closed, please leave a message on the answering machine.

Father Robert will be doing a Mass to close out the school year on Facebook Live beginning at 8:00 am on Tuesday, May 12. We hope all of our teachers, staff members, students and their families are able to watch this special Mass from home.

With a grateful heart, I want to thank you for being incredibly supportive of me the past four years. I pray that the transition of a new principal is an easy one, and I hope all of the wonderful things that are currently happening at St. Mary's are able to continue.

In God's Grace,

Mrs. Brogan

St. Mary's Principal