



Week of 11-17-2011

Weekly Envelope content will appear in the following order:

Principal's Letter

New Arrival Procedure and Map

Sunday Evening 5pm Mass

December 15, 2011

“Christmas is Love in Action!”

~ ~ Dale Evans

Hello St. Mary Families,

I continue to be amazed at what our students do whether it be learning or singing, playing or working ... they simply amaze me. I've seen the children say the alphabet like I've never heard it before, identifying letters and their sounds, watched as children learned how to divide decimals, and even got to experience learning circles first hand! I know in all my years of teaching, I am constantly amazed at what the children here are able to do, and we can't forget what our teachers bring, if it weren't for them,

so much of this would not happen So teachers, I do know how hard you work and I appreciate you!

The Christmas Concert was beautiful and I think Mrs. Weiss-Cornelius deserves a standing ovation; she brought it all together with beautiful song choices, lovely dance moves, and even some joyous instrumentals! When you see her, please share with her all the kind words you shared with me, as I know after the time she put in, she could use the 'pats' on the back and the kudos, she truly deserves them! And to Mr. Rallis for his hard work and dedication to the students. The band sure did sound fantastic! Thank you Mr. Rallis!

It has come to my attention that some people think the Olympathon and Talent Show were being cancelled for this year, and I just want to assure you that is not the case and we will go forward with them as planned. Opportunities like these, a chance for our children to shine in so many different ways, is not one I want to miss and I think all of you would agree! The dates for both will be determined as the committees meet.

Your patience with the new dismissal procedure is deeply appreciated. I have asked and continue to ask for feedback from you, as you are the ones trying to 'live' with it, your input is vital in our final overall plan. I know the Continuous Improvement Committee continues to come up with ideas, so over the vacation and upon our return, we shall meet and see what we can do to improve. As you all know, our goal is safety for the children, so suggestions and ideas will help in making this the safest possible for everyone.

On that same note, we are implementing **a new arrival procedure**, and that will **start on Wednesday, January 4, 2012 (when we return from Christmas break)**. I am asking members of the Continuous Improvement Committee and any other parent volunteers to assist in this new drop off plan, so if you are free, please email Mr. Mulvihill at mdmulvihill@gmail.com and let him know your availability for January, 4, 5, & 6. The committee has reviewed this plan and they think it will work, but will again be open to suggestions as we see how this works. A map of the new plan is on the website.

Student news:

- Michael S. won the Burr Ridge chess tournament on December 2. About 80 students competed, and he won 1st place in the 4th through 8th grade category. Go Michael, we are very proud of you Can't wait until the next tournament; let's hope more of our students place! The next tournament is open to the community on February 18, 2012 right here at St. Mary School, so stop on by to either play or just watch! Good Job Michael!

Information:

- Mr. Moore wanted me to let everyone know how much he appreciates those of you who are taking the time to drop off Labels for Education! He volunteers so much of his time in many ways himself, so while he is thanking you, I'd like to send out a big Thanks to him for being so committed to

our school and the children... All our volunteers are appreciated, as St. Mary School would not function as smoothly as it does without your continued support so thank you all for EVERYTHING you do!

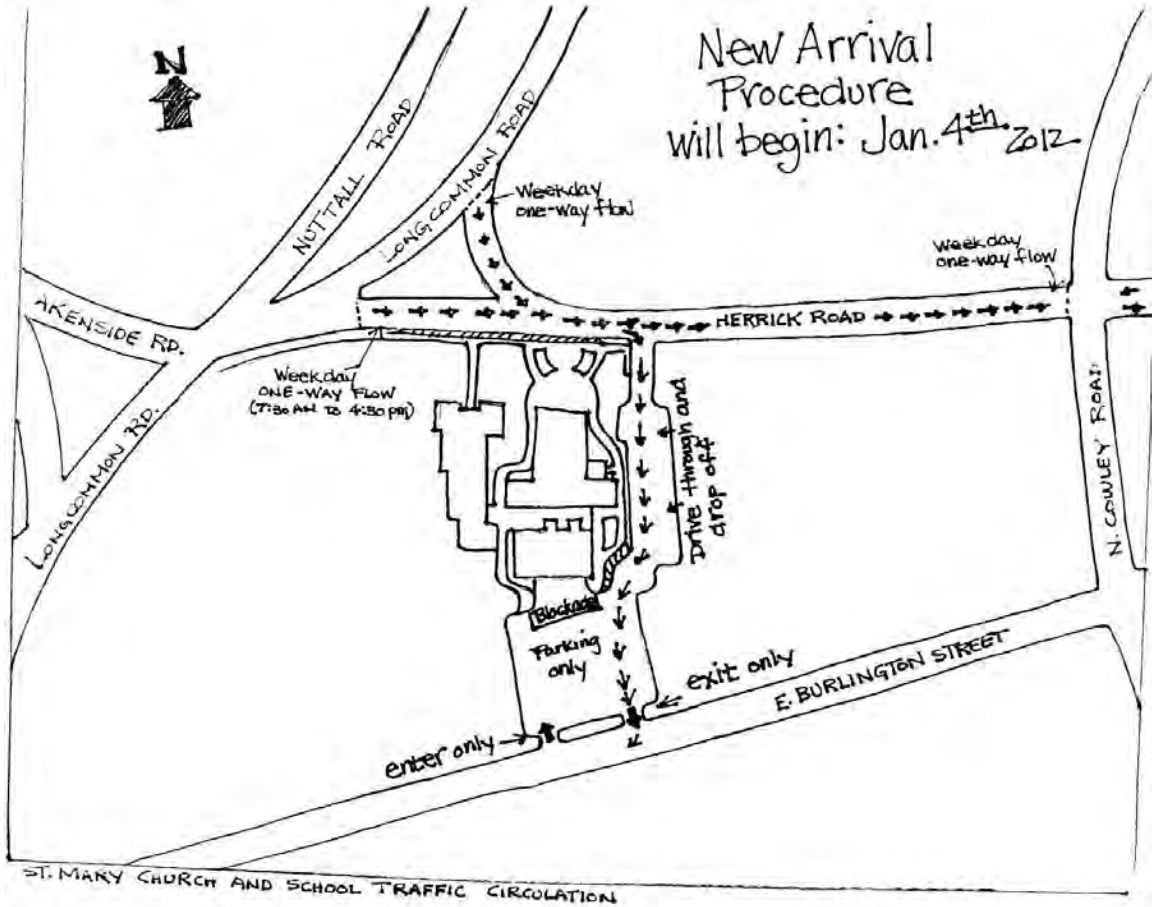
- Registration for the Pav YMCA Holiday Camp 2011 is currently open. It's from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM for ages 5 to 14. Contact the YMCA for more information.

Merry Christmas to everyone, these first few months seem like they have flown by, and I am so happy to be part of a community that feels so passionate about their children and their successes at school. There is so much promise for a strong future together. As we finish up this Advent Season I recognize that many promises were fulfilled in the coming of Jesus Christ our Savior. So not only are we celebrating Christ's birth, but also the idea of hope and possibilities as we look to the new year. It is my very deepest wish for all of you to continue to find the wonder in Christmas and be open to the promise of a successful 2012! God Bless you all!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Peace,
Ms. Diane M. Simonaitis
Principal
St. Mary School

New Arrival
Procedure
will begin: Jan. 4th 2012



ST. MARY CHURCH AND SCHOOL TRAFFIC CIRCULATION

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