



ST. MARY

THE BUSS TRIP

Newsletter

Mission Statement: St. Mary Elementary School, in collaboration with its parents, educates the "whole child" in a Catholic environment. This allows every child to meet the challenges of a continuously changing society.

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, May 27th

- 5th Grade Recognition Mass

Monday, May 30th

- **Memorial Day** (No School)

Wednesday, June 1st

- Bay Beach Trip

Friday, June 3rd

- Liturgy @ 8:10 am
- Summer Vacation Begins at 11:30 am



May Birthdays

Morgan Schroeder	5/25
Norah Lee	5/25
Alex Walsh	5/25
Kaley Keddell	5/28
Jackson Kuehn	5/31
Elijah Darrow	5/31
Charlie Alft	5/31

June Birthdays

Ethan Tines	6/3
Molly Manderfield	6/3
Ava Crema	6/13
Sophia Grenell	6/14
Lydia VanRossum	6/21
Julian Vera	6/21
Paul Nutini	6/22

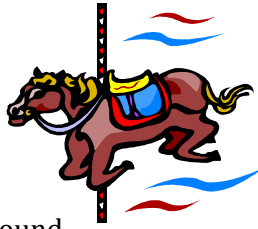
Catholic Identity ... Good Shepherd!

This past weekend, Father Richard Allen of St. Gabriel Parish in Neenah celebrated his 50th year as a priest and his 26th year as Pastor of St. Gabriel Parish with a very special Mass. He will also retire from the active priesthood and become a member of the senior priests in the diocese. Father Allen was one of the founding pastors and members of a group that organized and established the Twin City Catholic Educational System (TCCES). Not only has Father Allen dedicated his life to the priesthood, but also he has been an instrumental figure in the formation of Catholic education in the Neenah and Menasha area. As we continue to look for models of Jesus as a Good Shepherd in our lives and our community, one only has to look as far as Father Allen. He is a very good model of someone who leads by example, dedication, and commitment towards Catholic education. If you ever had an opportunity to listen to one of Father Allen's homilies, you would be impressed with the knowledge of scripture that he possesses and how he can take a gospel passage and make it very meaningful for the listener. At the many Masses that he celebrated with the TCCES students, I was always impressed with the manner in which he talked to the students. He was gentle, compassionate, and a wonderful storyteller. The children always found his stories both amusing and meaningful. We will certainly miss Father Allen in our school system. He has touched many lives both as a pastor and priest but also as a wonderful teacher and shepherd. Sometimes we fail to see the wonderful examples of our Catholic faith until it's time to say goodbye. Thank you, Father Allen, you are a blessing to Catholic education and our community.



Our Bay Beach Trip

It is hard to believe but next week we will have our end of the year school trip. On **Wednesday, June 1st**, the school will depart for Bay Beach in Green Bay. Weather permitting, we will be departing around **9:00 am** and returning to school around **2:45 pm**. Chaperones are needed for the trip, however, you must be in compliance with the TCCES/Diocesan Safety Policy (Virtus trained). Make sure that your child dresses for the weather (usually about 5-10 degrees cooler) and brings or orders a lunch.



School Information

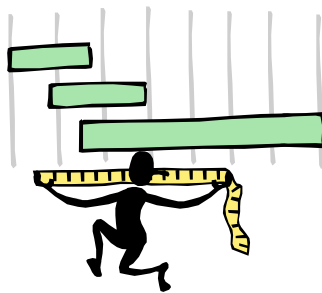
As a way of assisting your needs during the summer months, St. Mary Elementary School will be posting on our website (www.tcces.org) important school information. In the next few weeks, you will be able to find the following items.

- TCCES School Calendar 2011-12 (shorten version)
- New Supply List for each grade level
- School Uniform Information sheet

Please refer to the website during the summer months for your questions. As always you can call the school office to talk to a person for questions.

MAP Testing Results

The MAP testing results are being sent home for the students in grades 2nd through 5th grade this week. Parents will be receiving a letter explaining their child's reading lexile score for choosing library books during the summer and a colored graph reporting their child's progress in the areas of reading, language arts, and math. Remember that this test is one snap shot of your child's accomplishments for this year. Depending upon the individual student, you should see a growth pattern of 3-7 points over the course of the year. Should you have any questions about the scores, please contact your child's teacher.



Track and Field Day

Last Friday, the 4th and 5th grade students participated in the annual Menasha Elementary Track and Field Day at Calder Stadium. The weather was great and so were the performances of the students. Many students finished highly in their different field and running events. Here are a couple of our winning performances.

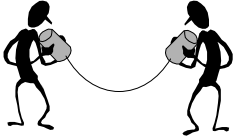


TCCES Band Trip

Congratulations to our TCCES Elementary Band! Last Friday they competed in the **Music in the Parks** competition in Chicago. The band under the direction of Mr. Orth did very well receiving an excellent rating and a 1st place trophy. The trophy will be on display in the school office.



This week, Mr. Orth will be sending a band note to all 3rd grade students. The note is regarding their interest in becoming a band member and playing an instrument for next year. Parents please keep an eye out for this note.



5th Grade Recognition Liturgy

Just a quick reminder that on **Friday, May 27, 2011**, the school will not be attending the 8:10 am Mass. Instead, Father Paider will have a special recognition liturgy at **9:30 am** for the 5th grade students and their parents.

Memorial Day Thought

This weekend is a very special weekend in our country. Thanksgiving is a day when we pause to give thanks for the things we have. **Memorial Day** is a day when we pause to give thanks to the people who fought for the things we have. Make sure you thank a Veteran this weekend, they gave up there tomorrows so you and I could have one.



St. Mary Statue

I would like to thank Ellen VanderHyden, Liz Korth, Brianna and Rebecca Schultz for planting flowers around the statue of Mary in front our school. This is an example of being good stewards for our school.



Madison Capitol Trip

The 4th grade students had a wonderful time visiting the State Capitol. Senator Mike Ellis and Representative Dean Kaufert took some time from there busy day to talk to the children at the end of their tour. Afterwards the students visited the Henry Villas Zoo to view a "Birds of Prey" presentation. For some students this was their first opportunity to view the Capitol.



Office Depot Program

With school coming to a close next week, it seems strange to remind you about the **Office Depot Back to Schools Program**. However, our school will receive **5%** of your purchase when that time comes again to gather new school supplies. Attached to your email is a card with our **school ID # 70109513** that you can use to guarantee that St. Mary Elementary School receives credit from your purchase. Make a copy and place it in your purse or wallet. Thank you for the support. It really benefits our school.

Summer Office Hours

During the month of June (beginning 6/6), the school office will be open from 8:30 until 2:00 pm unless I am attending a principal or administrative meeting. The school office will be closed during the month of July and reopening on **Monday, August 1st**. I will be checking the phone regularly, so you can always leave a message and I will get back to you. Email is another way to communicate with the school office during the vacation period.

TCCES Summer Business Hours



Yes ... summer is coming! The TCCES Business Office hours for the summer will be as follows:

- June 6th through August 19th – 8:00 am-3:00 pm

- The Office will be closed July 1st and July 4th
- SMC Office closes June 21st and re-opens August 8th.

The TCCES Office phone number is 722-7796.

The Menasha Brain Walk



On **Tuesday, June 21st**, the Menasha Library along with some other sponsors will hold their annual **Brain Walk from 6-8 pm**. This is a fun event that has been held for the last three years. It is a nice family outing promoting exercise and education. This walk begins at the Menasha library, continues to the trestle bridge and then returns to the library. The children stop at booths along the way and answer trivia questions about health, safety, etc... get a card stamped and return back to the library.

Last year, the children were able to eat ice cream and visit with the fire fighters at the Fire Station.

If you have any questions please call Cassie Payne at 967-3670 or email her at Payne@menashalibrary.org at the Menasha Library.

The Menasha Health Department supports this event.