

St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School

Passionately Catholic & Academically Excellent

HAWK HERALD



AUGUST 1, 2024

Dear St. Mary Magdalen Families,

I hope that everyone is having an enjoyable summer. It's hard to believe that it is August 1st already! I pray this month is full of fun times with family and friends.

Huge CONGRATULATIONS are in order for the students, faculty, and staff of SMM! For the third consecutive year, St. Mary Magdalen has been named an AOP School of Distinguished Instruction. SMM students demonstrated both a year's worth of growth and met or exceeded their potential based on the results of the 2024 Terra Nova tests. Congratulations to our fabulous students and amazing faculty and staff who work so hard in the classroom every day. I am unbelievably proud to be principal of this school and to witness the top-notch instruction by our teachers and the academic excellence of our students each day.

Enjoy these last few weeks of summer! Don't forget summer reading and math, too ;) See you soon!

Fondly,

Mrs. Amy Bauer
Principal

Important Information

- Yesterday, we were alerted of an account issue with Achieve 3000. The program should be up and running by Friday or Monday at the latest. An email will be sent to let you know that students can access the program.
- Summer Reading has been posted on the school website.
<https://www.stmarymagdalenschool.net/communication-forms> → Summer Reading Assignments
- Stationery lists are also posted.
<https://www.stmarymagdalenschool.net/communication-forms> → 2024-25 Stationery Supply Lists

Summer Office Hours

SMM summer hours are Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 am – 2 pm. The office may be staffed on other days as well. If these days/times are not convenient, please email Mrs. Higgins at shiggins@stmarymagdalen.net to set up a mutually convenient time.

Attention 7th & 8th Grade Parents

Ms. Logan and Mrs. Gosseaux are beginning to prepare for their High School Test Prep classes, which will begin in September. Classes take place after school from 3:30-5:00 on the following dates: Tues. 09/10, Wed. 09/11, Thurs. 09/12, Mon. 09/16, Tues. 09/17, Wed. 09/18, Thurs. 09/19, Mon. 09/ 23, and Tues. 09/24.

Eighth grade students will take the HSPT in school on Wednesday, September 25th. The results of this testing will determine scholarship winners at the archdiocesan high schools, as well as the winners of the Neumann Scholarship. This course also prepares eighth grade students for the entrance exams at independent Catholic schools, which take place in October and November. Seventh grade students will be prepared to take practice tests in the spring, which may qualify them for scholarships.

If you have already signed up your student at the end of the school year, we have you registered. If you would still like to sign up, please email jgosseaux@stmarymagdalen.net. Textbooks will be ordered in late August. You will be contacted before the order to clarify your final intention to be included in the classes. Thank you.

Help Needed

The Parish Office is looking to hire someone two days a week for 10-15 hours. If you or someone you know may be interested, please contact Deacon Joe at 610-566-8821 x 124 or deaconjoe@stmarymagdalen.net.

SMM Directory

The Family Directory is a valuable resource for our school families. Your contact information in the Parent Portal of your FACTS account generates the directory. It is important that we have up-to-date and accurate information for the directory.

Please review your contact information, and email Sharon Higgins at shiggins@stmarymagdalen.net with any changes you wish to make. If you prefer not to have your contact information in the directory, you **MUST** let Mrs. Higgins know this as well. Contact information is not given to anyone outside the school or parish community.

Please let Mrs. Higgins know of any changes to your contact information **no later** than August 5th.

Important Dates

- Wednesday, 9/4 – First day of school for grades 1-8 (full day, no hot lunch)
 - Wednesday, 9/4 – Kindergarten Meet & Greet 9-11 am
 - Wednesday, 9/4 – New Family Orientation at 5:30 pm in the cafeteria
 - Wednesday, 9/4 – Pre-K & Kindergarten Back-to-School Night at 6:30 pm
 - Thursday, 9/5 – Kindergarten students begin (12 noon dismissal)
 - Thursday, 9/5 – Full day for grades 1-8 (no hot lunch)
 - Thursday, 9/5 – Pre-K Meet & Greet 9-11 am
 - Friday, 9/6 – Opening Mass at 8:30 am; Noon Dismissal for grades K-8
- ***The SMM school and parish picnic will take place after the 4:30 mass on Saturday, 9/21.
- ***Father Banecker's official installation as pastor of St. Mary Magdalen parish will be held at the 9:30 am mass on Sunday, 9/29.

Attachments

- 1) Gym uniform ordering
- 2) Intro to Catholicism



*Creator God
who breathed this world into being,
who is discernible within
the harmony of nature,
the perfection of a butterfly's wing,
the grandeur of a mountain range,
the soaring eagle and humming bird,
thank You for this world
which You have created.
Thank You for summer sun,
which reminds us
that Your creative breath
is still alive and active.
Thank You for the warmth of Your love,
sustaining this world, Your garden.*