



# Letter From The Principal

Date: 9/1/2021

Dear Parents / Guardians,

## Updated Regarding 2021-2022 School Year and COVID-19 Policies

We promised to continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation as we begin this school year. Our goal has been and continues to be keeping our students in school for in-person learning; we believe that this best supports the formation and education of our young people. We must also acknowledge the fact that this virus continues to present challenges to our community, is unpredictable, and, at times, is very destructive. Therefore, we are providing additional policies at this time:

- **Masks are strongly recommended and may be mandated when local circumstances are considered.** We continue to join the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and strongly recommend that students, faculty, and staff *who are not fully vaccinated* wear a mask. **We support your right to choose if your child should wear a mask or not and at this time it is still a RECOMMENDATION - NOT a REQUIREMENT. We ask that if you choose to have your student wear a mask that you attach them to a lanyard. This helps keep their masks clean by keeping them from falling on the floor or ground.**

**Please keep in mind that masks** may be required for a period of time in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak in a school or community, or for any reason in which a local health department deems it to be necessary due to local circumstances.

- **Ωε ωίλλ provide for social distancing of at least 3 feet between desks, as possible.** Earlier this month, the ODH had issued new guidelines for students and adults who are exposed to COVID-19 in a classroom setting. As part of this guidance, when all three prevention measures are in place including the use of a mask, physical distancing of at least 3 feet between desks, and other prevention policies (i.e. protocols for cleaning, identification of those experiencing symptoms, etc.) students and adults may not need to quarantine. In many cases, social distancing continues to be a safe, effective, and unobtrusive prevention measure.

- **Proper quarantine procedures have been updated and must be followed.** As part of the previously mentioned ODH guidelines, students and adults who are unvaccinated and unmasked are required to quarantine for a minimum of 7 days with a negative COVID-19 test or quarantine for 10 days without a test, following exposure to a COVID-19 positive individual at school. **Those who are masked, regardless of vaccination status, will be permitted to remain in school.**

Spirit Wear and Uniform Fleece Orders

A St. Mary's Spirit Wear order form will be coming home soon. This order form includes the **official St. Mary of the Assumption Fleece Uniform Jacket.**

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### **ProgressBook**

Your ProgressBook account should be up and ready for you. If you established an account last year, you can still access ProgressBook with the same log in and password. If you have forgotten either of these, please let us know and we will assist you.

If you did not establish an account last year or you are a new family to the school, a letter will be coming home soon explaining how to setup your account with a key code for you to set up a new username and password. The website is <https://parentaccess.noacsc.org>. There is also a link to ProgressBook on our school website under the "Parent" section. If you have any trouble accessing ProgressBook, let the school office know. We will work to get the issue resolved for you. This is a tremendous tool for you to keep track of your child(ren's) grades and homework.

### **Substitute Teachers**

Did you know having any type of bachelor's degree can qualify you to be a substitute teacher? You can earn \$75.00, \$85.00, or even \$100.00 per day depending on how many days in a row you are subbing. We are looking for qualified substitute teachers for the 2021-2022 school year. If you are interested, please contact the School Office for more information

### **Football Crazr2021 Fundraiser**

This year, we have decided to partner with Van Wert Council of the Knights of Columbus to help us meet our fundraising goals. The Knights of Columbus have been doing the same type of fundraiser for many years and it makes sense to work together. The Knights have agreed to donate \$14 of every ticket sold back to the School. In return, the Knights receive a discount on their total taxes they must pay as part of their membership into the Knights of Columbus. We feel that this will be a win for both groups.

A Football Ticket Sweepstakes is a unique, sweepstakes fundraiser based on professional football, where game card holders root for four pro football teams randomly assigned each week to their game card and each week those teams can change. No two game cards are alike and \$2,500 in cash prizes are given out each week based on the number of points scored and yards gained by the football teams printed on their game cards. The Knights have also agreed to **guarantee at least \$100 will be paid out locally each week!**

**The cost of a card is \$20.** With that \$20 donation, you are entered into a chance to win cash for 10 weeks starting November 7<sup>th</sup> and ending January 9<sup>th</sup>. Each family has received 10 game cards to sell. Simply have the person fill out the stub portion of the card and return it to the office with payment. **On the stub it will ask for a Council #, please write 6034 on each sold stub** as that is how the Knights will get their credit for the sale as well. Once returned, the Knights will take care of making sure that winners get paid each week.

Students are responsible to return all sold and unsold game cards. We must have all game cards returned to office by **Wednesday, September 15, 2021.** We must turn in all sold cards to be activated for them to be eligible to win. If you would like more game cards, please contact the school office and additional cards will be sent more home with your child. Our goal is to sell 700 game cards, which would profit the school \$9,800. With your help, we feel we can score a touchdown with this fundraising event! All funds generated by this fundraiser go directly to helping pay for the operations of the school.

**September Dates and Activities:**

**Thursday, September 2, 2021**

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade to V.W. County Fair**

Our 1<sup>st</sup> Grade class will be spending the day at the Van Wert County Fair learning about the various types of live stock there. A special thank you to the Drerup family for providing lunch for the 1<sup>st</sup> Grade.

**Monday, September 6, 2021**

**NO SCHOOL – Labor Day**

**Tuesday, September 7, 2021**

**School Council Meeting**

The September School Council meeting will start at 7pm in the School Library. Anyone is welcome to attend.

**Wednesday, September 8, 2021**

**SCHOOL PICTURE DAY!**

Picture packets and ordering information was sent home on Parent Orientation Night. If you need a new order form, we have extras in the School Office.

**Friday, September 10, 2021**

**St. Mary's Purse Bingo**

The Annual Designer Purse Bingo is back after being cancelled due to COVID last year. It will be held on **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>** at the Van Wert Knights of Columbus Hall, 425 Woodland Avenue. Doors open at 4:30pm and bingo begins at 6:00pm. **With your support we can do more!** Tickets cost only \$25 which includes 5 early bird games and 20 regular bingo games. You can purchase tickets at the Parish or School Office. Only 250 Tickets will be sold for this year's event.

**Saturday, September 11, 2021**

**Pulled Pork Dinners**

St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church is hosting a Pulled Pork Dinner on **Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 6:30pm**. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased at St. Mary's Church Office or by emailing [habitatvw@gmail.com](mailto:habitatvw@gmail.com). Meals are available for dine-in or drive-thru at St. Mary's gymnasium. Meals includes 2 sides, dessert, and drink. The proceeds will be going to benefit Habitat for Humanity.

**Monday, September 13, 2021**

**Van Wert Health Department Vision and Hearing Screening**

All students in Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Grades, along with any new students to the school, will be screened on this day. If your child(ren) is not in one these grades, you may request that they be screened. Please contact their teacher or the school office and we will make those arrangements.

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### **United Way Food Drive**

On **Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**, we will start to collect food for the United Way's Day of Caring Food Drive. We will collect food here at school through **Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>**. Students may bring their items to their classroom teacher before school during these days. **The class that brings in the most items per student will receive ice cream treats compliments of the United Way.** This is a very worthy cause. All items collected stay in Van Wert County and are used to restock the shelves at the Salvation Army Food Pantry. More information on what types of items are needed will come out closer to the event.

### **Wednesday, September 15, 2021**

#### **Football Crazr Tickets are due.**

Please return all sold and unsold Football Crazr Fundraiser Football tickets.

#### **Monthly Tuition payment are due.**

### **Thursday, September 23, 2021**

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Grade Cows and Plows Field Trip**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Class will be going on a field trip to the Van Wert Fairgrounds for the Cows and Plows Field Day. This event is put on by the Van Wert Soil and Water Conservation each year.

### **Friday, September 24, 2021**

#### **United Way Food Drive**


The United Way "Day of Caring" Food Drive will end on this day. The class that brought in the most items per student will receive an Ice Cream Party, courtesy of United Way.

### **Thursday, September 30, 2021**

#### **Religion Retreat to Carey Shrine**

The 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Grades will be going to The Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey, Ohio on **Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup>**. Students will tour the Basilica and the surrounding grounds and buildings as well as see various historical and religious relics and statues. Students will leave school by bus at 8:30am and should be back at school by 2:45pm. More information about this trip will come home closer to the date.

Thank you and God Bless,



Mr. Daniel Metzger  
Principal-Minister