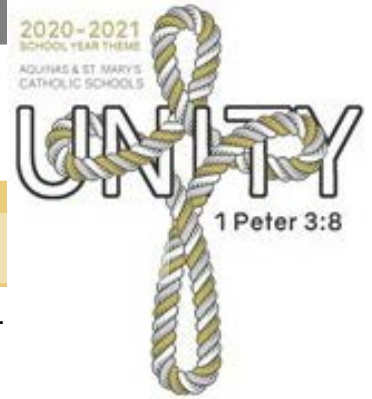




Friday Notes



COVID Update

Per our school administrator call this morning with Four Corners Health Department: Our region remains in **orange**, Butler County had the least number of new cases at 15. Detailed region information available at fourcorners.ne.gov.

*** We continue to provide elevated protections for the students.** They are in masks all but when they are at their desks 6 feet apart, to/at PE, while eating 6 feet apart, and to/at recess outside. This should not result in close contact exposures per the Four Corners guidelines. Hopefully we don't have positives any time soon. You will see the **4 Corners Screening Form has been updated.** Please continue to do morning screenings for symptoms. ****You may always request additional precautions, please contact the teacher or the office with your request. We know each family's situation is unique.**

***Please make sure your child has a water bottle and a mask each morning.**



Upcoming Events:

October is the Month of the Rosary, Pro-Life Month, All Saints, and Halloween. ****Don't forget your October calendar (back of lunch menu) for more ideas of Fun and Faith this month!**

FRI, Oct. 9: PICTURE ORDERS DUE! Go online if you did not send them in.

For the AQ Football game tonight: - DCPS is now requiring all attendees that come to watch the game to wear a mask.

SAT, Oct. 10, Noon: Fatima Rosary, parking lot at Aquinas, bring a dozen treats to the Chapel meeting room.

Oct. 12, 19, 22 – NO SCHOOL

Oct. 22, 2 PM-7 PM, Parent Conferences: We will send your scheduled time home as soon as possible after our survey closes on Oct. 15.

A Little Extra “STEAM”

I am excited to share a fun STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) opportunity we will be sharing with 5th grade students first this year. Fifth grade students will have the chance to use LEGO's and robotics to fulfill some of their grade level's computer standards this year. Students will be building a robot and solving a real-world problem using technology while learning their MS Word, PowerPoint, and coding standards. Until now, they have used “teacher-created” projects to meet these standards, but this year, students will try to make their learning make a difference in the real-world. They will work on their tasks during computer class time. Some of the work will require students to

cooperate as a team as well.

In the past, St. Mary's only opportunity for robotics was outside of class in the evenings and during summers and that meant many students would not be able to try it. This will give each student an extra STEAM learning opportunity without extra burden on families. **Thank you to computer teacher, Mrs. Urban** for your willingness to try out this program!

Past solutions that our students have generated included:

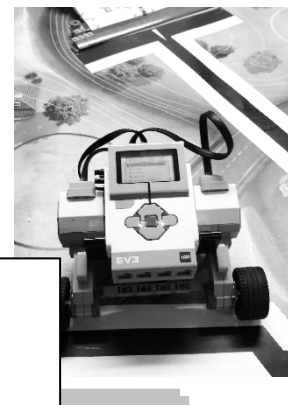
- A robot that could “drive” the city water lines removing debris and deposits
- A sensor for train crossings that would add extra lights to crossing signs for warning
- Drones that could crop dust fields
- Drones that could detect humans by infrared sensing during floods or fires
- A self-contained, self-insulating, year-round green house
- And many others

Students spoke with experts, took field trips, and presented their ideas to local groups. This year's general theme will be *Game Changers: how can we use technology to improve sport, athletic, or activity opportunities.* Seems like a theme that will be fun to dig in to.

5th grade students who wish to continue as part of the competitive team will have that opportunity as part of FIRST LEGO League again. We anticipate a hybrid competition this year—some video, some in-person. I will send more information on that as we get closer.

If this method works well, we will try it with **4th grade and younger students** as well!

God Bless, Mrs. Zook



****Check your email and complete the Parent-Teacher Conference survey by Oct. 15****

Oct. 9, 2020

Usborne Books and More Book Sale



***During St. Mary's Conferences*
Thurs., October 22**

**Come shop for books with your children.
Get books for holiday and birthday gifts!
Novelty Items for Sale in Library**

Proceeds to support the St. Mary's School Library

*From St. Mary's Spiritual Committee
Coordinator:*

Coming up....

Time to Be a Saint!

It's never too early to start planning your All Saints Day costume. **Students will dress up on Oct. 30** for school. We will have them share the name of their Saint and hopefully a little more about them.

Costumes should be SIMPLE, using items you have at home as much as possible. There are LOTS of great ideas with a search of "child Saint Costumes" or "All Saints Day Costumes" on the internet. We'll share some more easy ideas as the day gets closer.



Usborne Book Sale is Coming!

When: During Parent/Teacher Conferences on October 22, 2:00-7:00

Where: Main hallway at St. Mary's School

This year you can also order online! (Starting today! October 9th-October 25th)

Go to e0665.myubam.com

Choose **SHOP**, then **St. Mary's Book sale**

OR (To avoid shipping charge of \$6.95)

Shop online and then contact Gloria Edgars with your choices and payment.

(Text or call 402-430-8788 or email jgedgar@diodecom.net)

Pay by credit card, Venmo, PayPal or send her a check.

She will add your order to onsite sale order and deliver your books to St. Mary's School with no shipping charged!

50% of total purchases (both online and in person) will be given as free books to the St. Mary's School Library!

Novelty Items

Sold in the main hallway at the end of the school day (3:00-3:30) on Tuesday, October 20th and Wednesday, October 21st and during conferences on Thursday, October 22nd.

(Also the following week if items are available.)

Items range in price from \$.25 – \$3.00

OH BABY!



**St. Mary's School is
having a
PRO-LIFE**



**Diapers in
sizes 4, 5, & 6
are
especially
needed.**

Baby SHOWER

October is Respect Life Month.
Donate items by leaving them in the pack-n-play set up in the front entry of the school by Mary.



At the end of the month items will be given to Butler County Right to Life and they will be donated to a charity that serves moms and babies in need.