



Falcon News



Office Email: stmatthewsoffice@comcast.net

School Website: www.stmatthewscs.org

February 21, 2012



Surveys!!



Parents: Once again your help is needed in providing data that will drive our School Improvement Process. On February 21st, all families who have provided an email address will be emailed a second on-line survey. **Please take a brief moment and fill out these surveys regarding faith formation at SMCS.** The surveys are due by February 29th. The children of the families who complete the survey will receive a dress down day that will include apparel choices that will not be limited to only jeans and a SMCS shirt. The **dress down** date will be provided. **Also, your assistance is requested for ONE LAST survey, March 8th.** This survey reflects the desired results SMCS sees for student learning (student performance). This survey directly influences the action plan that will guide SMCS academic policy for the next seven years so it is crucial we receive your input. To make this survey as convenient as possible, **it will be available in the computer lab to all parents from 2:00 to 6:00 on March 8th.** When you come to pick up your child for the day, stop in the computer lab in the office building. Administration and faculty will be on hand to assist in getting you into the survey site.

Your child is welcome in extended care during this time at no charge to you. Again, the children of families who complete this survey will once again receive a less restrictive **dress down day.** **Our thanks!**



National Junior Honor



Society Induction: March 1

Eligible students in the 6th grade are now eligible to receive an invitation to the NJHS. Membership is recognized as one of the highest awards earned by a middle school student, however, membership is not automatically granted. The faculty council will review the students' applications and select those for membership based on their attributes of scholarship, leadership, character, citizenship, and service. Congratulations students!



Dates to Remember



February 22	Ash Wednesday Mass 8:30am
February 24	Jeans Day
February 29	Cybercrime Presentation 1:30pm
March 2	No School Diocesan Inservice
March 5-16	ITBS Testing Grades 2nd-8th
March 9	Early Dismissal Extended Day Available Third Quarter Ends Report Cards Go Home
March 15	
March 23	Spring Pictures



From the Desk of the School Counselor



Do Your Best On The Test!

Dear Parents, next month our students in 3rd grade through 8th grade will be taking the *Iowa Assessments®*. Here are some ways to help prepare your child for this standardized test. Encourage your child to do his best, but don't put so much emphasis on them that they feel stressed. Discuss their concerns or worries about test-taking. Encourage him to stay positive and take deep breaths to relax. Limit activities the night before the tests. Be sure your child gets to bed on time and sets an alarm for the next morning. On test day, give your child an energy-boosting breakfast.



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Jeans Day: February 24!!



This Friday will be a jeans day for all students who bring \$2 and one jar of spaghetti sauce or box of cereal. All proceeds go to benefit needy families in our community through St. Vincent de Paul. Thank you for your generosity!!



SMCS Honors



Congratulations to Caitlyn Greene and Nicholas Suggs for placing first and second place, respectively, in this year's National Woodsman Speech Contest. They will continue to the Diocesan competition next week! Also, congratulations to Miranda Bowen for winning first place overall in Bishop Snyder's first Science Fair! Austin Barton and Maggie Kalka also won for their categories. Congratulations Falcons!!



Falcon Sports



Softball

Girls 3:30pm

Boys 5:00pm

February 27 vs. St. Paul's @ SMCS

February 29 vs. St. Patrick's @ St. Patrick's

March 9 vs. Resurrection @ SMCS

March 12 vs. Holy Spirit @ Ed Austin Park
(The Dunes)

March 15 vs San Juan del Rio @ SMCS

March 21 vs. St. Michael's @ Joe Valardi
Field



VPK Excellence



Congratulations kindergarten students and PreK teachers! Our children have scored over 90% in the Kindergarten Readiness Rate Report of the Florida Department of Education for the past five years!!



Car Wash



Please join us for our 8th grade car wash and bake sale before, during and after 8:30 and 10:30am masses, Sunday March 4th. Please come and support this fundraising event to help support their end of year graduation field trip. All donations welcome!



CyberCrime Unit

Internet Safety



On February 29th @ 1:30pm our students in grades 5, 6, 7, and 8 will participate in a presentation by the **Office of the Attorney General of Florida** regarding safe internet use and cyberbullying. This is an important topic for children and adults. **Parents are encouraged and welcomed to attend.**



PTO Spring Fundraiser "Boot Scootin' Auction"



Come join us for an evening of western fun, delicious food & spirited fellowship as we two-step our way through hay bales & auction tables. Our night of adult fun will include a Bar-B-Q Dinner, Cash Bar, entertainment, "Draw Down" and Silent Auction. Ticket prices are **\$20 in advance** per guest (\$25 after 3/21/12) and each ticket includes entry into a "Draw Down" Proceeds benefit St. Matthew's Catholic School's educational programs, technology resources, and campus enhancements. To volunteer for this event, please contact Kirsten Most at **370-0481**. For more information, please visit our website at www.stmatthewscs.org.