

+J.M.J.



October Newsletter

Dear SMS Families,

This week is the feast of St. Michael, our school and parish's patron Saint! He is one of the few Saints that is also an angel: beings created by God without bodies. His feast is on September 29 along with St. Gabriel and St. Raphael. Michael's story can be found in [Revelation 12](#): the great battle in heaven! He is also mentioned in the book of [Daniel](#). In 1886, Pope Leo XIII had a vision (read more about it [here](#)) that led him to write the prayer we now know as the Saint Michael Prayer. In 1994, Pope St. John Paul II encouraged all faithful to pray the prayer every day.

Saint Michael Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; may God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

In the News and Shamrock ShoutOuts:

- ♣ We raised \$172.00 in our first Casual for a Cause on September 15! Thank you for your generosity!
- ♣ Congratulations to top sellers for our Chick-fil-A/Krispy Kreme Fundraiser: Bert/Keeter Family, Barr Family, Eddy Family, and Philson Family!
- ♣ A BIG Shamrock Shoutout goes to all who helped to organize and participate in our Shamrock Golf Scramble! Special thanks to Trichelle and Matt Eddy, Sara and Randy Barr, Leighanne Bert, Anna Brickwood, Aimee Forsythe, Kenda Hoovler, Mary Jo Lipani, Sue Lauffer, Ellie McIntosh Diana Miller, Sandy Ohl, and Maggie Shaughnessy as well as all of our golfers, sponsors, and people who donated! THANK YOU!!
- ♣ Thank you to all who attended our Open PTO Meeting on Tuesday, September 20! Minutes of the meeting and our treasurer's report are always available for review!
- ♣ We are excited to announce our annual raffle is back and has a new twist. This year's grand prize is a 2022 Yamaha Wolverine RMax2 1000 XR-T Side by Side Utility vehicle or \$20,000 cash. We have a huge opportunity to raise significant funds to benefit St. Michael School and Catholic education. We invite everyone to help support us by purchasing tickets, selling tickets to friends and family, volunteering to sell at an event in the community and by promoting the Side by Side Raffle. If every family could sell 1 packet of tickets this event will be a huge success!! Tickets will be available this weekend after all Masses. Tickets can also be acquired through the school office. Please watch FlockNote for ways to volunteer to help.

- ♣ Thank you to Ashleigh Jamison for picking up the flowers at the church that fell over in the storm!
- ♣ Thank you to Mike Sellards for donating and planting a tree in our playground! We can't wait for it to grow and offer shade and another spot to play!
- ♣ Thank you to Deacon Marty for cleaning our school until we find a custodian!
- ♣ **ST. MICHAEL FORTY CLUB 109 CHANCES TO WIN PRIZES TOTALING \$26,150** Ticket cost is \$100. There are 3 weekly winners for \$100, \$100 & \$50. There are 8 winning numbers drawn at Christmas and Easter week for \$500, \$250, \$125, \$75 (2 each prize). One SPECIAL drawing on October 20 for people that have fully paid for their ticket. The final drawing is May 28, 2023 with 57 winners for a total cash prize of \$13,400. Only 600 tickets sold. Tickets still available. Please contact any seller listed to purchase tickets: Wes Bates @ 724 699-6255 Walter Beh @724-588-3108 Natalie Higbee @724-699-9021 Mark Holian @ 724-932-5937 Fran Krachkowski @ 724-588-3749 Roseanne McConnell @ 724-588-3254 Judy McKay @ 724-456-5654 Charles Stepp @724-588-2127

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events!

NWEA Map Assessments

All students in Grades K and up took the NWEA Map assessments. Reports of your child's results will be coming home this week.

Math Fluency Open House

Tuesday, September 27, at 6:00pm in Lateran Hall will be our Math Fluency Open House. This event is open to all school families AND friends, and the greater community. Please spread the word!

Chick-fil-A/Krispy Kreme Pick-Up

Chick-fil-A/Krispy Kreme orders will be available for pick-up on Wednesday, September 28, after school. More information will be forthcoming regarding time and procedure for pick-up.

Feastday of St. Michael

The feastday of our school's patron Saint, St. Michael, is on Thursday, September 29! Please join us at the 9:00am Mass that day to celebrate him and ask for his intercession! The Jeans Day for that week will be postponed to Friday, September 30.

School Masses

Each Friday, a different class is in charge of providing readers and greeters. For October, the following classes will be in charge: October 7: Teachers; October 14: 3rd Grade; October 21: 2nd Grade; October 28: 1st Grade. Shorts should not be worn on Mass days.

Seton Cross Country Invitational

On Friday, September 30, Seton Catholic School in Meadville is hosting a Seton Cross Country Invitational. The event is open to ALL CHILDREN in Kindergarten through 8th Grade. Flyers went home in backpacks this week!

Feast of St. Francis

Tuesday, October 4, is the feastday of St. Francis of Assisi. Francis was a hardcore saint who, among many other things, bore the stigmata (the wounds of Christ) on his body and lived a life of radical poverty. The thing that children love most about St. Francis, however, is his love and affinity for animals. In honor of his feastday, students may bring one stuffed animal with them to school.

NO SCHOOL (for Students)

Wednesday, [October 5](#), is a day off from school for students. It is a professional development day planned by the diocese for teachers. It is not a mistake on the calendar!

October Jeans Days

The Jeans Days for October are Thursday, [October 6](#), [October 13](#), and [October 27](#).

First Friday and Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, [October 7](#), is the First Friday of the Month! "What's the big deal about First Fridays?" you may be wondering. Check out this article: [5 Things Catholics Should Know About First Fridays](#), and pay special attention to the 12 promises listed! Please join us for Mass that day and for Eucharistic Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament throughout the school day. I also encourage you to make a visit Jesus in Adoration with your family that day too!

NO SCHOOL!

Monday, [October 10](#), is a scheduled vacation day to celebrate Columbus/Indigenous People Day!

Grandparents' Breakfast

Grandparents Breakfast is coming up! Families with last names A-K will be invited on Tuesday, [October 11](#) and families with last names M-Z will be invited on Wednesday, [October 12](#). Look for more information coming home soon!

School Picture Day

SMILE! 😊 School Picture Day is scheduled for Thursday, [October 13](#). Forms will be coming home very soon. PreK Parents: if your child does not normally come on Thursdays, please try to send them that day, or at least the morning, to get their picture taken. Picture Re-Take Day will be Wednesday, [December 7](#).

Hot Lunch

Thursday, [October 13](#), is our Wendy's Hot Lunch! For those who paid, lunch will be a 6-piece nugget, fries, and applesauce.

Trunk or Treat

St. Michael Parish and School PTO will be hosting a Trunk or Treat on Saturday, [October 15](#) from 6:30-8:30 in the church parking lot! Flyers will be coming home with more information.

Casual for a Cause

Thursday, [October 20](#), will be our Casual for a Cause. Since the feast of St. Francis is in October, our Cause for October will be Stray Haven. Please see page 21 of our [Handbook](#) for what is permissible on Casual for a Cause days. In order to participate, students and staff need to bring in *at least* \$1 toward our adopted Cause for the month.

Fr. Brandon's Installation Mass

Bishop Persico will be visiting our parish on Saturday, [October 22](#), at the 4:30pm Mass to officially install Fr. Brandon Kleckner as our new pastor! Please come, pray, and help us show Fr. Brandon how glad we are he is at our parish and school!

Waugh House Field Trip for K and Up

On Monday, [October 24](#), we've been invited to tour the Waugh House, the headquarters and museum of the Greenville Historical Society. Students will walk to the Waugh House in 2 groups that day. Permission forms will be coming home soon!

All School Field Trip!

On Thursday, [October 27](#), we will be taking an all school field trip to Iron Mills for the day to learn about farm life! Thank you to Ms. G for organizing this and to the PTO for providing buses and covering ½ of the student cost! Permission forms will be coming home with more information during the first week of October.

Greenville Halloween Parade

SMS plans to walk in Greenville's Halloween Parade this year! Join us on Saturday, [October 29](#) with your best costume and/or SMS gear! I'd

like to enter my car into the parade with a guest appearance from the pope...! The parade begins at 2:00pm. Stay tuned for more information!

Halloween

Monday, October 31, is Halloween and also the day we'll be celebrating with a parade at 12:30pm and classroom parties to follow. Students should come to school dressed in their uniforms with plans to change into an easy-to-put-on costume for the afternoon. Teachers will be in touch with specifics for parties!

All Saints Day Costumes

I know students are already planning (may have already planned!) their Halloween costumes!

Don't forget to also start thinking about and planning for which Saint they will dress as on All Saints Day, November 1. Pinterest, Instagram, and even just googling give great, FREE ideas for Saints costumes. Please encourage your child to pick and start researching a Saint that they have never dressed up as before! I am going to be dressing as St. Philomena this year. My newest little niece was named after her and I'm excited to learn more about her!

Report Cards

Report cards for the first grading period will be going home the week of October 31 for all students in Grades 1 and Up!

Reminders:

- We sent home many clearance packets for parents who expressed interest in volunteering at our school, but haven't gotten any back. We would love to offer after-school clubs, sports, and extra fun things throughout the school year, but need clearances on file before anyone can volunteer. If you got a clearance packet, please return it as soon as you can. If you have questions, don't hesitate to ask!
- The drinking fountains at school are turned off, but we do have water bottle filling stations with filtered water. Please double-check each day to make sure your child has a refillable water bottle.
- When packing lunches for your child, please be sure to pack appropriate utensils. We are going through our backup store of plastic spoons like water!
- As per our dress code, all students in Grades K-8 need to have their shirts tucked in. Belts are required for students in Grades 4-8 when wearing pants or shorts with belt loops.
- Toys should not be sent/brought into school. The exception will be by special permission/request from the teacher (i.e. a show-n-tell project).
- You are an awesome, amazing person and your child is too! We are so blessed to have you at our school this year!

Thank you for partnering with us to make our students' year a great one!

St. Michael, pray for us!

Grace and Peace,

Emily Zgonc 😊

Principal

"Open wide the doors of your heart to Christ! Do not be afraid!" - St. John Paul II