



STELLA MARIS ACADEMY

Holy Rosary Campus Newsletter

December 14, 2018

Mission Statement

Commissioned by the Catholic Church, the Stella Maris Academy community prepares lifelong learners who lead, love, and serve as Jesus taught—transforming our world one student at a time

Christmas Program—Mark your calendars for Wednesday, December 19th. The students will be performing at 1:00 pm and 6:30 pm in the Cathedral. Students should wear uniforms for the 1:00 pm performance but may dress their best for the 6:30 pm performance.

Details to remember

- If you are taking your child after the 1:00 performance please let the teacher know prior to the date. After the 1:00 performance, all students should check in with their teacher before leaving with a parent.
- The evening performance is at 6:30. Students in grade Pre K-4 will meet in the church social-hall. Please arrive no earlier than 6:10. Students can be dressed out of uniform for the evening performance but should be dressed “up”.

Scrip Program Arrives for Christmas— We had a great order for the second week of Scrip. We had participation from fifteen families, and with the Voyageur order we raised \$523.95 for Stella Maris Academy. The potential is great if everyone participated. There is one more order for the Christmas season on Monday, December 17. If you set up an account using PrestoPay you can continue to use Scrip after December to order E-cards. If you order an E-card it will be delivered to your inbox shortly after you order.

Praise and Worship—The students will be having a short praise and worship time on Thursday, December 20, at 12:15. Please join us for this time of prayer before the hustle and bustle of Christmas approaches.

No Extended Day—There will be no extended day on Friday, December 21st. Students are on break December 22nd through January 1. School resumes on Wednesday, January 2nd.

Painting—The beautiful addition to our entryway was commissioned by Thomas Vecchi, a parent of several alumni and long time member of the Cathedral. Thomas graciously had this done to honor his wife, Jeanne who passed away in 2015. The painting was unveiled on Saturday at a private gathering. The artist is Jeffrey Larson who resides in Duluth.

Out of Uniform—Students may bring \$1 for charity on December 21st and dress in green, red or Christmas attire.





Advent Prayer Services—The final prayer service will be on Thursday, Dec. 20th. Hosted by grade 4 (Mrs. McKeever) at 12:15 pm in the church.

Spelling Bee—Students in grades 3 and 4 will be doing their classroom spelling bee tests. This isn't a test the kids can study for. The top 3 spellers from each class will proceed to the Holy Rosary campus spelling bee on January 8th. Holy Rosary will send the top 3 spellers from the campus bee to the SMA Spelling Bee to be held on January 28th at the St. John's campus.

Catholic Liberal Arts Education at SMA - We (teachers and SMA Administration) are excited about our research on Catholic Liberal Arts Education, Classical Curriculum, and the use of "the classics" within our curriculum. Our entire faculty will be using January 18th (Friday in-service day) for site visits, classroom observations and panel discussions with two Catholic Liberal Arts schools (each with a Classical Curriculum) in Minneapolis/St. Paul. Following that visit, information will be shared with families about our observations and about details from our work this year. To date, teacher teams have traveled to Denver for the Catholic Liberal Education Forum and explored the use of shared inquiry, Latin, memorization, and book lists as tangible ways to see Liberal Arts education strengthened in our curriculum. Stay tuned for opportunities to learn more about our curriculum work!

Stella Maris Board Meeting—The next board meeting will be on Thursday, January 3, at the St. John's campus.

SAVE THE DATE! Hello families! We have invited Protect Young Eyes (protectyoungeyes.com) to visit Stella Maris Academy in February. The purpose of their visit is to increase the digital IQ of our staff, students, and families. Led by Chris McKenna, PYE is a team of digital experts who present around the country. Students will hear talks during the day on 2/6 & 2/7 and all caring adults are invited on 2/6 to a 90-minute seminar starting at 6:30 pm (location TBD) look for the RSVP link soon! This parent presentation is relevant for both parents of young kids and teenagers, so get it on your calendar and invite your friends! Here's a link to an [amazing post about Digital Screen Time](#) from the PYE Team to give you an idea of what they teach.

Stella Maris Academy Community Christmas Concert (6-8th grade choir students)	Tuesday, December 18th at Cathedral of Our Lady 6:30 pm
Christmas Program	Wednesday, December 19th 1:00 pm and 6:30 pm
No School	December 22—January 1
School Resumes	January 2nd
SMA Board Meeting	January 3rd 3:00 pm
Campus Spelling Bee	January 8th at 1:00 pm
Family Association Meeting	January 9th at 9:30 am