

***SAINT MARY STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL
16 HUNTINGTON STREET
NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT 06320
(860) 443-7758***

November 2009

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers:

The weather has gotten very chilly the past few weeks and it appears that it is not going to change for a while. Please remember to send your child to school dressed appropriately. The children will continue to go outside for recess and gym as long as the weather permits, so please make sure that they have coats, gloves, and hats.

Winter is coming! St Mary's follows the same schedule as New London Public Schools for weather delays. If the start of school needs to be delayed due to inclement weather, it will be delayed for 60 minutes, 90 minutes, or 2 hours. Supervision of students will begin at the times noted below depending on the start time:

1 hour delay – 9:30 start – supervision at 9:20 – Before Care at 8:00

90 minute delay – 10:00 start – supervision at 9:50 – Before Care at 8:30

2 hour delay – 10:30 start – supervision at 10:20 – Before Care at 9:00

You will find information regarding school delays or cancellations on the following radio and television stations:

WICH, 1310 AM

WCTY, 97.7 FM

WKNL, 100.9 FM

WFSB, CBS channel 3

WVIT, NBC channel 30

WTIC, 1080 AM

WXLM, 102.3 FM

WNLC, 98.3 FM

WZMX, 93.7 FM

Additionally, weather can change once school has begun and school may need to be dismissed early. You will find information about an early dismissal on the same radio and TV stations.

We understand that your schedule may not allow you to change plans because of an unexpected early dismissal from school. Therefore, we are asking that you complete the attached form and return it to school by November 6th. This will allow us to assist your child in getting to the location you have determined in the event there is an unexpected early dismissal from school. Your plan can be as simple as "Go home on the bus as usual." Your plan should not involve the need for telephone calls, as the school cannot accommodate 121 students making calls or receiving calls. **Do not write, "Call Me"**. For the safety of all students, it is essential that we have a plan on file. After Care **WILL NOT** be open if school is let out early due to inclement weather.

Food Drive

Winter is not the only thing that's on its way. Thanksgiving is coming. St. Mary's will be collecting canned and non-perishable food items beginning November 16th to donate to the Covenant Shelter. Each class will collect donations. You may send your donations in with your child or bring the donation in yourself. The Covenant Shelter needs the following non-perishables: cereal, coffee, creamer, sugar, canned fruit/vegetables, spaghetti sauce, soups, and tuna. The class that has the most items collected will win a pizza party.

Happenings in the Parents' Guild

We all should extend a big "Thank You" to the members of the Parents' Guild and parents who worked so hard to make the Harvest Supper a success. Everyone had a great time.

Uniforms

Now that the weather has turned cold, some students are wearing sweatshirts in class. The only items that can be worn over the uniform are St. Mary's fleece jacket, fleece vest, and sweatshirts, uniform vest or sweater. Gym shorts cannot be worn on gym days. This went into effect on November 1st and will continue through April 30th. Students can only wear the navy blue sweatpants with the St. Mary's logo.

Important Dates

Some important dates to remember in the month of November:

November 4 th	Picture Day
November 4 th	Parent Guild Meeting
November 6 th	4 th Tuition payment due
November 10 th	No School, Teachers' Institute
November 11 th	No School, Veteran's Day
November 22 nd	9:30 School Mass followed by a Pancake Breakfast. Spanish Food Sales will follow the 12:00 Mass.
November 25 th	12:30 Dismissal, No After Care, Report Cards are distributed, \$1 Dress Down Day
November 26 th , 27 th	Thanksgiving Recess

As always, if you have any comments, questions, or concerns please feel free to call me at 443-7758.

Thanks and God Bless You,

Regina Ferrante
Principal

EARLY DISMISSAL PLAN

Child's Name: _____

Grade: _____

If there is an early dismissal from school the plan for my child is:

Parent Signature: _____