

St. Mary's School

Morning Memo – Week of December 4, 2017



1. Follow us on Twitter: @stmarys_mh, Instagram , and Facebook
2. St. Mary's School is once again offering "Homework Club" every Tuesday and Wednesday from 3:30 to 4:30. During this time, a Math/Science teacher and a Humanities teacher are available to help the students with their homework, or to provide them with a quiet place to work and computer access. Several teachers are also offering drop in help before school and at lunch.
3. During December, we will be allowing students to wear hats on Friday's with a donation of a Loonie to Mission Mexico. Donations made to Mission Mexico at St. Mary's this year will go towards "Alex's Welding Shop."
4. Upcoming Events
 - Textbook checks all week during library
 - Monday – Assembly - Period 1
 - Tuesday – Homework Club 3:30 to 4:30
 - Wednesday – Homework Club 3:30-4:30
 - Thursday – Dance at St Mary's 6:00-9:00 pm
 - Friday - Hats for Mission Mexico \$1
 - Kernels popcorn and yogurt \$2
 - Pizza by the slice \$3
 - Library Books are due
5. Sports Events this Week
 - Tuesday – Boys A home @ 5:30
 - Wednesday - Girls A Home@ 4:15
 - Girls B at Home @ 5:30
 - Thursday – Boys B2 @ Dr. Roy Wilson at 3:30
 - Boys B1 @ MH Christian at 4:15
 - Friday - Boys B1 at NDA Tournament
 - Girls B at NDA Tournament
6. Chocolates & Chocolate covered pretzels, are due back as soon as possible (October 31). For convenience, chocolates can be paid for using School Cash Online. Profit on these chocolates (50%) is used to run student activities at the school. Prizes are offered as an incentive for sellers.
7. Congratulations to all students and staff who participated in our "Word of the Week" program last week. We will continue this week.
 - Staff and students are encouraged to be "caught" using the word of the week. If this happens they will be given an entry form for a draw to be completed on Friday mornings during announcements (Staff draw will occur monthly).

- i. Student Word- **genial** *adj.* friendly, kind and cheerful
- ii. Staff Word- **anachronism** *noun* an error in chronology especially a chronological misplacing of persons, events, or customs in regard to each other.

8. This week's article discusses some of the concerns developing around societal use of technology and the motives of the technology giants! Enjoy...

David Brooks on the Scourge of Technology

In this *New York Times* column, David Brooks says that high-tech companies like Google, Facebook, Amazon, and Apple are in danger of becoming “social pariahs” like the tobacco industry, which makes billions “peddling a destructive addiction,” or the N.F.L., a beloved sport that “leaves a trail of human wreckage in its wake.” Brooks says three critiques are being made of technology behemoths:

- Their negative impact on young people – “Social media promises an end to loneliness but actually produces an increase in solitude and an intense awareness of social exclusion,” he says. “Texting and other technologies give you more control over your social interactions but also lead to thinner interactions and less real engagement with the world” – less hanging out with friends, less dating, less experience with actual work.

- Their greed – “Tech companies understand what causes dopamine surges in the brain,” says Brooks, “and they lace their products with ‘hijacking techniques’ that lure us in and create ‘compulsion loops.’” Examples: Snapstreak that rewards friends who send Snapchat photos every day; “bottomless bowls” in news feeds with one page leading to another and another; irregularly timed rewards so people are constantly checking their devices.

- Their monopoly status – These companies use their market power “to invade the private lives of their users and impose unfair conditions on content creators and smaller competitors,” says Brooks.

There are short-term fixes to overusing technology – for example, an app called Moment to track and control phone usage. But we need to face the core issue with social media, says Brooks: These technologies “are extremely useful for the tasks and pleasures that require shallower forms of consciousness, but they often crowd out and destroy the deeper forms of consciousness people need to thrive. Online is a place for human contact but not intimacy. Online is a place for information but not reflection... Online is a place for exploration but discourages cohesion. It grabs control of your attention and scatters it across a vast range of diverting things.”

Brooks suggests that technology companies should deploy “the ultimate and most disruptive technology” – humility – and market their products as efficiency devices that “can save us time on lower-level tasks so we can get offline and there experience the best things in life.”

“How Evil Is Tech?” by David Brooks in *The New York Times*, November 21, 2017,
<http://nyti.ms/2A8Ei6N>

Important Dates 2017-2018

December

4	Assembly
4-9	Textbook Checks during library classes
7	St. Mary's School Dance 6:00-9:00PM
8	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
8	Red/Green Day- Class order 2,3,4,1
8	Library Books are due
11	Assembly
11-	Door Decorating Contest- more info to follow.
11	Rehearsal for the Christmas Show 9:00AM-2:20PM
12	Christmas Show at the College 12:30PM and 7:00PM
13	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
15	Ugly Sweater Day
15	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
18	Assembly
18	9Van Christmas Caroling at Cypress View Seniors Centre
19-21	Detentions for lost library books and lost textbooks
20	School Mass 10:00 AM – Holy Family Parish
21	PJ Day- PM for classroom clean up/lockers and movie in the gym.
22	PD Day

January

8	Return to School
8	Assembly
9	Grade 9 Immunizations
10	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
12	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
12-13	Girl's B Basketball Tournament
16	Alberta Opera
16	Parent Council meeting at 6:30 PM in the Library
18	Ski Trip/Activity Day
19	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
19-20	Girl's A Basketball Tournament
22	Assembly
24	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
25	Friday's Schedule
25	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
26	PD Day
31	Twin Day
31	First Day of Semester II (options change only)

February

2	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
2	Pep Rally for Basketball
2-3	Boy's B Basketball Tournament
5	Assembly
6	St. Mary's Orientation 6:00-8:00PM
7	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
9	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
9	Fine Arts Silent Art Auction and Wine Gala
9-10	Boy's A Basketball Tournament
13	Shrove Tuesday
13	Red/Pink Day
14	Valentine's Day
14	Ash Wednesday
16	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
19-21	PD Days – No School for students
22-23	Teacher's Convention – No School for Students
26	Assembly
28	Pink Shirt Day

March

2	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
5-6	Choral Music Festival
7	Face to Face Retreat
7	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
9	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
11	Daylight Savings Time Begins
12	Assembly
13	Friday's Schedule
13	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
13	Parent Teacher Interviews 4:00-7:30PM
14	Band Music Festival
15	Green Day
16	PD Day
20	Parent Council Meeting 6:30 PM in the Library
21	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
22	PARTY Program- 9 Law
23	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
26	Assembly
29	Holy Thursday Celebration
29	Find The Bunny Activity
30	Good Friday

April

9	First Day back after Easter
11	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
13	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
16	Assembly
17	Parent Council Meeting 6:30 PM in the Library
20	Zoo Day
20	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
23-27	Madagascar Jr. Production
25	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
26	Students will attend Madagascar Jr. Production at 1:00PM
27	PD Day
30	Assembly

May

3	Track Day
4	Fake An Injury Day
4	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
8	Grade 9 English Language Arts Achievement Part A Exam
9	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
10	Grade 9 French Language Arts Achievement Part A Exam
11	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
13	Mother's Day
14	Assembly
15	Gr. 9 Immunizations
16	Friday's Schedule
16	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
17	PARTY Program- 9 Rus
18	PD Day
21	No School
23	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
25	Disney Day
25	Grade 9 Practice Math PAT- period 1-3
25	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
28	Assembly

June

1	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
4	Parent Council Meeting 6:30 PM in the Library
6	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
7	Friday's Schedule
7	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
7	St. Mary's Dance 6:00-9:30 PM
8	PD Day
11	Assembly
11	Rehearsal for the Spring Show
12	Spring Show at the College

13	School Mass 10:00 AM – Holy Family Parish
15	Neon/80's Day
15	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
17	Father's Day
20	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
22	Grade 9 French Language Arts Achievement Part B Exam
22	Grade 9 Farewell
25	Grade 9 Social Achievement Exam
26	Grade 9 English Language Arts Achievement Part B Exam
27	Grade 9 Math Achievement Exam
28	Grade 9 Science Achievement Exam
29	Last Day for Teachers