



Newsletter for October 24 through October 31, 2025

From Principal Greg Ahmann to All Families:

Oh my gosh! Praise God from whom all blessings flow! This past weekend, the Jog-a-Thon was so awesome. A ton of people participated and made many laps around the field. The camaraderie and joy that was spread was delightful. Thank you, Shisler family, for putting on this successful fundraiser. A huge **"THANK YOU!"** for all you did to get the pledges. We are a healthy school because of your loving support.

We are looking forward to seeing you next week at the *Parent/Teacher Conferences*. Please do not hesitate to stop in and say hello, ask any questions, or share your concerns. This is the best way for me to get to know you better.

I also want to let you know that the PENNY WARS is starting this next week. What exactly is Penny Wars? This has been a long tradition at St. Mary's. It's a fun way to "compete" among the grades for a **common cause**. Basically, every class is trying to have the *lowest* amount of money in their jar by putting only pennies in their class jar. However, they try to increase their odds by adding nickels, dimes, quarters, etc. into everyone else's jar! Who wins? The "the winner" this year will be **The Moscow Food Bank**. Penny Wars will run from Monday, Oct. 27 through Friday, Nov. 7th.

On Wednesday, October 29th. We will be having Mass. Students need to wear their school uniforms at Mass. However, later in the early afternoon we'll be having our annual **costume parade at 2 pm**. Students will be given time before the parade to put on their costumes. Please be sure the costume can be put on over their clothes. *Weapons*, even though fake, are not allowed. Also be mindful that we have students as young as 3 years old and scary or gory costumes would not be appropriate. Teachers will be reaching out with information on class parties. Parents are welcome to come for the costume parade, and please check with your child's teacher if you would like to stay for the class party.

I had a recent question from a parent about the Parent Choice Tax Credit in which she wrote: *"I don't think I will qualify because of our income. Should I still apply for the Tax Credit?"* And the answer is a **definite YES!** According to the investigation into how far the money will go, the Diocese believes that there will be approximately \$30 million used by those who qualify. The *remaining \$20 million will go to families that have receipts for private education expenses on a first-come come first-served basis!* So, everyone, please apply for the benefit because it can really help the school if you receive any Tax Credit.

The last thing I wanted to share with you is depending on the weather, we plan to host a **school grounds cleanup party starting on the 14th and ending on Saturday November 15th**. Please consider helping by bringing trucks, rakes, leaf blowers, scoop shovels, and garbage cans to pick up leaves and debris. Friday we'll work from 3:30 to 5:00 and on Saturday, we'll start at 10 am. till we are done. Pizza and drinks will be provided following this event. Thank you.

Greg

EVENTS to note:

School Mass is tomorrow, Friday Oct. 24 at 8:45 with Father Ben at the school, gym...all are welcome to come. Grades 3 and 4 are our prayer leaders. All parents are invited to pray together in our "Chapel" on the second floor of the school before Mass. They will be gathering at 8:15.

There is a **School Mass** at the school gym on **Wednesday, October 29** due to parent-teacher conferences on that Thursday and Friday. Mass is at 8:45 in the school gym. The prayer leaders are Grade 2...all are invited to attend.

CHILDCARE for THURSDAY, Oct. 30 and FRIDAY, Oct. 31

October 30 and 31 there is no school due to parent-teacher conferences. Childcare is available---be sure to let the school **know on/by October 27th Sign**-up for childcare on these days by calling the school office: 208-882-2121, signing up with Ms. Ellie when you see her in the Childcare Program, or [completing the google form here](#).. **ALL must be signed for childcare on Oct. 30/31 on or by Monday, October 27** so that we have adequate childcare staff for these days. Thank you!

EVERY Tuesday during the rest of October and all of November at 7:30 a.m. the Rosary will be prayed. ALL are welcome to come and pray for world peace; one's family intentions and needs, etc. The prayer time is about 20 minutes---parents and children are welcome to come together for this prayer time.

Are you a **new family** at St. Mary's this year: If you are --- would you like to *be contacted by a current family, as part of our Ambassador Program*? Being a part of the school's Ambassador Program gives you access to a family that has been enrolled at St. Mary's for over a year, and can answer any questions you might have about upcoming fundraisers, school lunch, volunteer committee opportunities, or just chat with you about any questions that you might have regarding all of the fun and busyness that is St. Mary's! This is a great opportunity to connect with our community. We are so glad you are here! If you would like to be contacted by an Ambassador family, please reach out to Sister Margaret in the school office (office@stmarysmoscow.com) and let her know.

From Krista, Chair of Jog to all Parents: Thank you to everyone that made it to the jog this weekend and everyone that helped out! I hope everyone had a great time. We had a great turn out. All donations are due by Monday, November 3rd. You are welcome to turn it in earlier if you have collected all your donations. The online pledge website will be open until November 3rd. Please turn in your pledge forms with your donations. I will do jog awards after I receive and count all the money. Thank you again and have a great week!

Every year since the late 1990's, the school has held a yearly **Spelling Bee**. This event is open to students (grades 1 through 8) and it is done under the auspices of the national Spelling Bee organization. This year our Spelling Bee will be held on Friday, **January 17**, after lunch. All are invited. The winner of this event will go to the Regional Spelling Bee that is held in Lewiston. Since we have paid the fee to belong to the Spelling Bee, parents if you wish, you can go online to <https://spellingbee.com/word-club> to set up your account and access materials, apps, games that

students can use to develop their spelling skills. A good one is found under “parents” called word club. Words that your child may study for the local bee will be going home soon. Be on the lookout for them.

Lunch Menu: (lunches always include fruits, fresh veggies and milk)

Friday, Oct. 24 Cheese enchiladas + rice
Monday, Oct. 27 Tacos
Tuesday, Oct. 28 Chicken nuggets +tater tots
Wednesday, Oct. 29 Spaghetti + meatball bits in a muffin tin

Coming Soon: Our school is going to be starting a program that will do the following:

Raise additional funds **without doing any fundraising**. How? Basically, we are going to ask that if you, or any relatives, or friends, or co-workers, or neighbors, or acquaintances ever do online shopping at such places like Walmart, Old Navy, Kohl’s, Verizon, Land’s End, etc. then through a program we have connected with— ***SchoolStore.net***---this company will send an affiliate link (at no cost) to you to use when ordering online. *There is no cost to the school, no selling, no money to collect or product to deliver!* The company you order from will give a percentage that is a “kickback” to our school with NO strings attached to the customer. More information will be coming soon to you. We are planning on launching this program the beginning of November. Be on the lookout for more information. Any questions? Please call Sister Margaret at the school office.

Update about a health concern in our area: *The Public Health agency has received notice in our area that there are cases of pertussis in our area (whooping cough).* This infection is characterized by a cough lasting at least two weeks with one or more of the following features: paroxysms of cough, inspiratory “whoop”, followed by vomiting with no other apparent cause. Early symptoms consist of a mild, cold-like illness with runny nose, sneezing, low-grade fever and occasional cough. As the illness becomes more severe, numerous rapid bursts of violent cough appear, coughing occurring most frequently at night. This stage can last from one to six weeks. During the convalescent stage, recovery is gradual, and the cough will have fewer spasms and disappear over two to three weeks.

Igniting faith, knowledge, creativity, and service

ALL meals are made fresh daily using the freshest and healthiest ingredients possible. We want the students to have the best foods possible for their bodies. Our goal is to offer one or two fruits as well as a variety of fresh vegetables with a healthy hot entrée and milk daily. Students may come back for seconds (thirds) as long as they finish what they have taken. We want students to enjoy their hot lunch experience while feeding their bodies with good food.

Menus for Hot Lunch: Monday, November 3 through Friday, December 19, 2025

Monday, Nov. 3 Baked Potatoes
Tuesday, Nov. 4 Hot Dog + Chips
Wednesday, Nov. 5 Quesadillas + ham + cheese
Thursday, Nov. 6 Fish sticks + tater tots
Friday, Nov. 7 Pasta shells + chicken in a white cream sauce + green salad
Monday, Nov. 10 Grilled cheese sandwiches + tomato soup
Tuesday, Nov. 11 Fish Tacos
Wednesday, Nov. 12 Noodles + butter + ham + corn
Thursday, Nov. 13 Chicken nuggets + tater tots
Friday, Nov. 14 Corn Dogs
Monday, Nov. 17 Tacos
Tuesday, Nov. 18 Mac + Cheese
Wednesday, Nov. 19 Breakfast Taquitos (sausage, eggs and cheese)
Thursday, Nov. 20 Chicken Pot Pie
Friday, Nov. 21 Waffles and sausage

November 24 through Friday November 28: no school; Thanksgiving Break

Monday, Dec. 1 Ravioli
Tuesday, Dec. 2 Baked Potatoes
Wednesday, Dec. 3 Cheese Enchiladas + Rice
Thursday, Dec. 4 Chicken Nuggets + tater tots
Friday, Dec. 5 Crème Brule and sausage
Monday, Dec. 8 Pizza Quesadillas
Tuesday, Dec. 9 S'pacos
Wednesday, Dec. 10 Corn Dogs and French Fries
Thursday, Dec. 11 Mac n' Cheese
Friday, Dec. 12 Fish Sticks + tater tots
Monday, Dec. 15 Chicken Gravy over biscuits
Tuesday, Dec. 16 Taco casserole + Fritos
Wednesday, Dec. 17 Spaghetti and Meat balls
Thursday, Dec. 18 Crème Brule and sausage
Friday, Dec. 19 Soup + sandwiches (Chef's choice)

St. Mary's School

November 2024 UPDATED—AGAIN

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
3 Daylight Savings Time Ends—gain one more hour of sleep! Knights of Columbus Sausage Dinner 11:00-6:00 M	4	5 Election Day 	6 Grades 2,3, 4 to the Kibbie Dome for Marching Band 12-1:30	7	8 Parents gather for prayer before school 9:00 Mass Grades 3 + 4 are leaders	9
10	11 Coffee/pastries for Vets at 7:30 a.m. Special celebration tribute for ALL Veterans at 8:15 assembly—please come ALL Vets!	12 Penny Wars begins: A school-wide fundraising service learning project—see Newsletter for more information	13	14	15 Parents gather for prayer before school 9AM – Mass Leader: 2nd. Grade	16
17	18 <i>Discover</i>	19 <i>Catholic</i>	20 <i>Schools</i>	21 <i>Week</i>	22 Parents gather for prayer before school 9:00 Mass Grades 7 + 8 are leaders	23
22 First Sunday of Advent	25 NO SCHOOL + NO CHILDCARE ALL WEEK	26	27 Thanksgiving Break	28 	29 Christmas Tree Sale Begins at Tri-State 	30

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St. Mary's School

November 2025



<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						1 All Saints Day Holy Day
2 Daylight Savings-set clocks back 12-6pm K of C Sausage Feed @ Parish Center	3 PENNY WAR WEEK CONTINUES	4 Election Day  Penny Wars	5 INDIVIDUAL Photo Day wear nice clothes today for the picture Penny Wars	6 Penny Wars	7 School Mass Gr. 6-8 prayer leaders Parents welcome to come to pray at 8:30 Penny Wars ends	8
9 Ornaments Decorating Party ---ALL families are welcome to come to help from 1 to 4 in the school cafeteria	10	11 Coffee/pastries for Vets at 7:30 a.m. Special celebration tribute for ALL Veterans at 8:15 assembly— please come ALL Vets!	12	13	14 Grade 5 prayer leaders Clean-up Party at school 3:30 to 5:00	15 Clean-up Party starts at 10 till finished with Pizza and drinks
16	17 DISCOVER	18 6:00pm School Board Mtg. CATHOLIC	19 SCHOOLS	20 WEEK.....	21 Grade 3 and 4 prayer leaders Parents welcome to come to pray at 8:30	22
===== Nov. 30 Advent begins	24 No School + no childcare this week....	25 No School + no childcare	26 No School + no childcare	27  No School + no childcare	28 Christmas Tree Sale Begins @ TriState 	29

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

WE ARE **EXCITED TO SHARE A FEW **FUN** ACTIVITIES HAPPENING **NEXT** WEEK TO CELEBRATE **OUR** STAFF, STUDENTS AND FAMILIES AND **ALL** THEIR **HARD** WORK THIS FIRST QUARTER OF **SCHOOL!!****

- **MONDAY-OCT 27TH: WEAR YOUR 2025 JOG-A-THON SHIRT AND DRESS DOWN PANTS OF YOUR CHOOSING**
- **TUESDAY-OCT 28TH: WEAR ANY SMCS T-SHIRT AND DRESS DOWN PANTS OF YOUR CHOOSING**
- **WEDNESDAY-OCT 29TH: WEAR YOUR MASS CLOTHING, BUT BRING YOUR COSTUME FOR THE PARADE AT 2PM IN THE AFTERNOON!!**

**FOR OUR SMCS FAMILIES:
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29TH
WE WILL BE HAVING A MORNING SOCIAL
AT 7:30AM. ALL ARE WELCOME (STUDENTS
MAY BE INCLUDED), FOR PASTRIES AND
COFFEE BEFORE MASS**