

St. Patrick's School  
Tuesday Notes  
September 10, 2024

Shamrock Open

We're less than three weeks out from the Shamrock Open, our annual golf and pickleball event, which will take place on Monday, September 30th at Manor Country Club. Similar to last year, we will be offering 18-hole and 9-hole golf outings as well as a pickleball tournament. This event fills up fast so sign-up ASAP (FYI the pickleball tournament has a max of 18 players, 9 groups of 2, so make sure to register quickly). For event information and to register, please click on the following link:

<https://onecau.se/spsgolf>

Once you have registered, please email Matt Hinz ([mchinz221@gmail.com](mailto:mchinz221@gmail.com)) with the names of your foursome so we can compile our list and share with Manor.

For those who don't want to play but want to participate in the Shamrock Open, we need volunteers throughout the day to make this a successful event. If you would like to volunteer, please email Erin Murphy ([ehussey01@gmail.com](mailto:ehussey01@gmail.com)).

To assist with childcare needs the afternoon of September 30th, Miss Short and Mrs. Mitchell have kindly agreed to waive the aftercare fee for anyone playing or volunteering. If you would like to enroll your child/children in aftercare that day, please email Mrs. Mitchell directly at ([nora.mitchell@stpatrickadw.org](mailto:nora.mitchell@stpatrickadw.org)).

Grandparents/Special Friend Day

Wednesday, October 2nd will mark our biennial Grandparents' Day celebration! Please see the attached *Save the Date* and mark your calendars. Your son/daughter will bring home an invitation by Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> for this event. If you could please help your son/daughter fill in the appropriate mailing address and get these formal invitations in the mail, we would appreciate it. We used this activity as an opportunity to practice writing a formal friendly letter (an art that is slowly getting lost due to emails and evites) and inviting a loved one to a special event. We would appreciate your help in sharing information with grandparent(s) or special friends sooner rather than later so all our students can have a special guest. We understand that there are many grandparents who are no longer with us, and we will certainly pray for and remember them at this Mass. If a grandparent is not able to be with us, a special family friend or other relative is welcome to attend.

We plan to start our special day at 9:00 a.m. with Mass beginning at 9:10 a.m. and end at 11:30 a.m. after donuts and coffee. Students will be allowed to leave with grandparents/special friends immediately after the celebration to spend the remainder of the school day with their guests if you choose. Classroom teachers/Mrs. Ali MUST have permission to allow any child to leave with a grandparent. Please send an RSVP to [Crystal.Schmidtlein@stpatrickadw.org](mailto:Crystal.Schmidtlein@stpatrickadw.org) with the number of guests by Friday, September 27th.

Additionally, we are offering an essay/writing contest for students in all grades. The winner will be announced and encouraged to read his/her essay at the reception and leave with a little treat!

Theme: **Something my grandparent has taught me**

Essays in grades 4-8

Paragraph in grades 2 & 3

2-4 sentences in 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Artwork with a sentence in kindergarten

Pretty Pictures from our PK friends

All participants should submit their work to their homeroom teachers by Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup>!

#### 2024-2025 St. Patrick's Annual Fund-Donate Today!

Please consider contributing to the annual fund. We have had a great first week of donations and are on our way to our goal of \$140,000. You can check out our progress or make your gift to the Annual Fund by visiting the campaign's website: <https://onecau.se/spsshamrocks> Thank you to everyone who has contributed to date!

#### September Service Project

We invite all from the St. Patrick's community to show our love and support and honor AJ's life by participating in the annual toy drive. Toys will be donated to Johns Hopkins Children's Center to the Child Life Department.

#### Emergency Packs & Drills

Each year we ask parents to send in a "crisis pack" for your child. This is mandated by the Archdiocese of Washington in case our children ever need to "shelter in place". We will store these packs in our classrooms. We recommend two bottles of water and a couple of snack pack size snacks that have a long shelf life (pretzels, cheese and crackers, goldfish etc.). Please put these items in a gallon size Ziploc bag and label your child's name on the outside. It is not necessary to send in stuffed animals, toys, or blankets.

I know it is scary to think about emergencies, but with a little preparation and practice, we will be fully prepared, and your children will be in good hands and SAFE. We will practice emergency drills with pre-kindergarten-grade 8 students Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. I recommend that you talk with your children over the next few days about emergency drills (fire, earthquake, bad weather, and an unsafe person in the building) and reiterate to them that the drills we must do are best to keep our St. Patrick's Family safe.

#### Emergency Notification

On this Friday (13<sup>th</sup>) at approximately 10:30 a.m. you will receive a test notification from the emergency alert system that we use at St. Patrick's School. Depending on if you entered a home phone or chose parent cell, you may receive a text message in addition to a call. Please make note of this and try to refrain from calling right back if you see a missed call! Thank you.

#### 5K Race and Fun Run

Thank you to all who participated in the St Patrick's 5K and Fun Run on Saturday morning! We had beautiful weather and a good turnout.

Congratulations to our top student finishers in the 5K:

1st Place: John Wahl

2nd Place: Timmy Veith

3rd Place: Daniel Murphy

The parent winner was Michael Hoffman.

In the hotly contested Fun Run, Patrick Greaney won in a photo finish ahead of Nick Mitchell with Patrick Keown right behind in third place.

Finally, a big Thank You to all our volunteers who helped to make the event fun and safe!

### Appointments/Late Arrivals to School

In an ideal world, doctors' appointments should be made during the lunch/recess hour, after school hours, or as early in the morning as possible in an effort to minimize students in and out of the classrooms and to maximize their learning time.

Note our holidays and early dismissals are an ideal time to schedule appointments.

### Picture Day

Individual student pictures will be taken on:

Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup> for children in grades 3-8.

Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup> for children in grades PK-2.

Students may be out of uniform on these days but should be dressed nicely.

Class pictures will be held on Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> for all grades. Students should wear their uniforms (even if it is a birthday-IOU out of uniform). **Boys should wear long khaki pants and girls should wear their jumpers/kilts (not skorts).**

### After School Clubs

1. AI Foundations Course - In this foundational 6-week course, students will explore the basics of AI, machine learning, and data analysis through engaging, hands-on projects. They'll gain practical experience using block-based programming, learning how AI is applied in the real world.

Grades: 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

Dates: Wednesdays, September 18 – October 24

Time: 3:00 – 4:30 PM

Cost: \$239

Registration deadline: September 17

Register Here: <https://www.labjunior.com/register>

2. Introduction to Robotics & AI - This 4-class program introduces students to the fascinating world of Robotics and how AI drives robotic systems. Students will engage in coding exercises using both block-based programming and Python, learning to design, build, and program robots. The program fosters creativity and problem-solving while giving students a hands-on experience that is crucial for understanding how AI operates in the real world.

Grades: 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

Dates: Thursdays, November 7 – December 12

Time: 3:00 – 4:30 PM

Cost: \$199

Registration deadline: November 5

Register Here: <https://www.labjunior.com/register>

### Quizbowl is Back!

St. Patrick's Quizbowl

Don't forget to sign up to join this year's Quizbowl team. Use the link below to register. We are looking forward to a great year in our second season.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/12gOjGI97bZYg-WRdPAfr2BKGAeCaDAAtn7AMBBNM\\_Q/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/12gOjGI97bZYg-WRdPAfr2BKGAeCaDAAtn7AMBBNM_Q/edit?usp=sharing)

### Career Day

Mark your calendars for Monday, March 10th! St. Patrick's will be hosting our first Career Day on Monday March 10th. Information will be sent out soon about how you can volunteer to participate as a speaker at the event. Right now, we are looking for volunteers to help with planning and preparation for the event. If you are interested in helping to plan this exciting day for our children, please contact Brigid McKelvey @ [dunmaryb@gmail.com](mailto:dunmaryb@gmail.com). Come be a part of what promises to be a GREAT day for our kids and a GREAT opportunity to help prepare them for the future!!!

### J.H. Math Study Hall

For our junior high students who need a little extra math support, Mr. Coe is back and offering his free math study hall again this year. He will begin working with students on Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 3:00-4:00 p.m. Please email Mr. Coe if you are interested [billcoe1@verizon.net](mailto:billcoe1@verizon.net).

### M.A.P Testing

Fall baseline testing will be held Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> (reading), Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup> (math), and Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> (L.A) for students in grades 2-8. It would be incredibly helpful to have your children here for the whole testing hour (9:00-10:15 a.m.). If possible, please try to reschedule appointments.

### High School Information Meeting

Parents with students in grades 6-8 who are interested in learning about the high school process and acceptance into area Catholic high schools are welcome to join me for an information session on Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. This session will walk you through the application process and help answer any questions you may have as you prepare your son/daughter for high school. The meeting will be in the parish center meeting room and the code to enter is 55555#.

### Let's Get Social!

Have you liked us on social media yet? Lots of photos and reminders will be posted on both Facebook and Instagram throughout the school year!

Facebook- St. Patrick's Catholic School, Rockville, MD

Instagram- [stpatrickscatholicsschool](https://www.instagram.com/stpatrickscatholicsschool)

### Photos

We would love to have you share your photos throughout the year with us! We will include them on social media as well as our yearbook. Please be sensitive and aware of other children's feelings if you send pictures of events that take place out of school. Let's start with your First Day of School Pictures! Please send your photos to [Crystal.Schmidtlein@stpatrickadw.org](mailto:Crystal.Schmidtlein@stpatrickadw.org). Thank you!

### 20 Years of Thanks:

St. Patrick's Home and School Association would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Miss Short for planning and executing a fantastic Back to School Picnic to celebrate the 20th anniversary of St. Patrick's founding. It was a truly memorable event that brought together our entire school community to mark this important milestone.

We also want to express our gratitude for the beautiful Legacy Brick Garden she helped design and had installed over the summer. The garden commemorates this special moment in our school's history and will serve as a lasting tribute to the generations of students, families, and staff who have made St. Patrick's such a wonderful place.

Miss Short's leadership and dedication to making our school true to its mission of faith, service, and academic excellence are deeply appreciated. We look forward to celebrating this special 20th anniversary year with her and making more wonderful memories together as a school community. With sincere thanks,  
St. Patrick's HSA

The Upcoming Weeks:

Friday, September 13 <sup>th</sup>	Emergency Drills Practice at 10:00
Thursday, September 19 <sup>th</sup>	High School Information Meeting 8:30 a.m.
Friday, September 20 <sup>th</sup>	Noon Dismissal; Aftercare Available until 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, September 24 <sup>th</sup>	M.A.P. Baseline Testing Reading 9:00-10:15 a.m.
Thursday, September 26 <sup>th</sup>	HSA Sponsored Welcome Back Coffee for Parents of students in PK-Grade 2 8:30 a.m. M.A.P. Baseline Testing Math 9:00-10:15 a.m.
Monday, September 30 <sup>th</sup>	Golf & Pickle Ball Tournament at Manor Country Club
Wednesday, October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Grandparents/Special Friends Day 9:00-11:30 a.m.
Friday, October 4 <sup>th</sup>	HSA Sponsored Welcome Back Coffee for Parents of students in Grades 3-5 8:30 a.m.
Monday, October 7 <sup>th</sup>	Individual Picture Day for Grades-3-8 Grade 8: HSPT Registration Opens
Tuesday, October 8 <sup>th</sup>	Individual Picture Day for PK-Grade 2
Wednesday, October 9 <sup>th</sup>	Class Picture day
Saturday, October 19 <sup>th</sup>	Annual Yard Sale
Wednesday, October 23 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip
Friday, October 25 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Hosted Halloween Trunk or Treat
Monday, October 28 <sup>th</sup>	No School; CSO Hosted PDD
Thursday, October 31 <sup>st</sup>	Halloween Party & Annual Parade 1:20-3:00 p.m.