

St. Patrick's School  
Tuesday Notes  
September 3, 2024

Shamrock Open

The Shamrock Open, our annual golf and pickleball event, will take place on Monday, September 30th at Manor Country Club. Like 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>

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 on 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)).

September Service Project

We will support the Koller Family's annual toy drive. Mrs. Koller, our kindergarten teacher, and her husband have three children, Jordan, AJ, and Hunter. AJ was born in 2004 with Alagille Syndrome, a multi-organ disorder. He had multiple heart surgeries and procedures over the course of his life. In between hospital stays, doctors' appointments and therapy, the Koller Family spent a lot of time together trying to live as normal of a life as possible. As a family, they traveled to amusement parks, the beach and AJ was awarded a Make-A-Wish trip to Disney when he was three years old. AJ was a very good friend and was well loved at his school! Through all of these fun times, AJ's liver and heart disease progressed and he passed away at the age of ten on September 14, 2014. As a family, the Kollers wanted to do something positive on the anniversary of his passing to celebrate the joy he brought into so many lives.

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. Please see the flyer for more details.

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 13th. 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.

### Back to School Night

Back to School Night is scheduled for Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>.

There are two classroom sessions scheduled for kindergarten- grade 8 and one session for PK.

If you have a child in our PK, please attend the 6:30-7:00 p.m. session in the PK classroom.

If you have a Junior High student, you can visit his/her classroom for the first session 6:30-7:00 p.m. then come back up after the general information session and visit with Mrs. Cockrell (advanced reading), Mrs. Fecko (science and math), Mrs. Scango (advanced math) and Senora Pappa (Spanish) who will be available in the science lab throughout the evening.

All sessions will be held in your child's homeroom and will be approximately 25 minutes.

There will be a general information session from 7:00-7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. I hope all can attend.

This night is incredibly helpful to you and our teachers as we work together to support the children.

Parents only, please.

Teachers will e-mail Back to School Night Information to parents on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>.

Teachers of special classes (art, music, P.E., library, & technology) will be available in the school library from 6:30-7:00 p.m. Please stop in if time allows and introduce yourself.

### Summer Work

Scholarly Shamrocks and Brilliant Bookworms will be rewarded on Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. Those who met the requirements for Scholarly Shamrocks will receive an ice cream treat and be out of uniform. Children who achieved the Brilliant Bookworm level will also receive an ice cream treat.

### ADW Family Survey

Please only submit one form per family but be sure to clearly list grade levels for all of your children attending our school. Your hard-earned tax dollars are paying for these programs and your response helps us keep them. Please return this form to the school office no later than **Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. Thank you!

### After School Clubs

Chess Wizards is back! Sign up information is attached.

We are trying an Artificial Intelligence (AI) Foundations course for our 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders. AI Foundations is focused on teaching about the basics of AI and its real-world applications. Topics include understanding the differences between AI, machine learning, and deep learning. Students will become familiar with block-based programming and the importance of data analysis through fun, hands-on activities. Please see attached.

### 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-WRdPAfr2BKGAEcaDATn7AMBBNM\\_Q/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/12gOjGI97bZYg-WRdPAfr2BKGAEcaDATn7AMBBNM_Q/edit?usp=sharing)

### Career Day

Mark your calendars for Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>! St. Patrick's will be hosting our first Career Day on Monday March 10<sup>th</sup>. 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 24th (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 19th 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#.

#### Draft of School Directories

The draft of the school directory will be available at back-to-school night, please check your information and initial that it is correct before we distribute the final copies to our families.

#### HSA Dues and Forms

Please make sure you submit your HSA dues, handbook acknowledgment forms, medicals forms, and early release forms. School directories will go home in the next few weeks to families who have all paperwork submitted.

#### *Walking with Purpose: so much more than a Bible Study!*

Have you ever asked yourself...

- Is there more to life than this?
- How do other moms do it all?
- Why should I read the Bible?

*Walking with Purpose* is a community of women looking for more sanity in our lives, better relationships with our families, and lasting inner peace. We want to nurture our relationship with Christ, our families, and one another through the in-depth study of His Word in a supportive group setting. You are invited to join us this fall as we return to the foundational study of the WWP curriculum, **Opening Your Heart**. We meet weekly and will offer both a Wednesday morning session (with child care) or a Thursday evening session (no childcare) starting in October and going through April. Our community includes many school moms in addition to wonderful women from the parish and other parishes. WWP has been a fruitful blessing in our lives, helping us deepen our faith and personal relationship with God while

providing a loving and supportive community of faith-filled women. We hope and pray you will prayerfully consider accepting the Lord's invitation to deepen your relationship with Him. Check out our flyer or email [stpatrickWWP@gmail.com](mailto:stpatrickWWP@gmail.com) for more information. Please reach out anytime to these school moms from our Leadership Team: Stephanie Schneider, Gina Swanda, Elizabeth Hoffmann, and Amanda Fangmeyer.

St Patrick's 5K & Fun Run is this Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM

Please join us this Saturday to help kick-off the school year and St Patrick's School 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration! As always there will be a 5K course through the Flower Valley neighborhood and the Fun Run for the younger runners will be on the parish grounds.

*This is an HSA Sponsored event, open to the St Patrick's School Community. There is no cost to participate.* However, we ask that you please register so we have an idea of how many runners to expect. If you registered in the spring, you do not need to register again. If you did not sign up in the spring but are able to participate in September, please REGISTER HERE: <https://onecau.se/funrun24>

**\*\*Not Running? Please Volunteer!**

Thank you to all who have already signed up to help out. We still need a few more volunteers, especially with the Fun Run! Please volunteer if you can:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050E4CA4AD2EA1F58-50954468-stpatricks>

Annual Fund

This is the fourth year of our Annual Fund campaign, and we thank all our school families who have participated in the past. This year, we have an ambitious goal of matching the \$140,000 that we raised last year. With your help, these funds will support key priorities including hiring and retaining the best teachers, academics and tuition assistance. Gifts of every amount to the Annual Fund are important and appreciated. Monthly recurring donations are available to spread your gift throughout the year. Make your gift to the Annual Fund today by visiting the campaign's website (<https://onecau.se/spsshamsrocks>).

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

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!

The Upcoming Weeks:

Thursday, September 5th	Back to School Night 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Friday, September 6th	Summer Work Reward Day 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Back to School Picnic

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