



SAINT MARY
STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL

14 N. Willard Avenue • Hampton, Virginia 23663
Ph: (757) 723-6358 • Fax: (757) 723-6544
Asc: (757) 723-5054

The Weekly Word

Check your email and click on the live links to access documents, sign-up sheets, lunch forms, & more!

www.saintmarystarofthesea.com

October 3, 2018

Asteroid Hits 3rd Grade Classroom!



Third and fifth grade students welcomed Mr. Justin Mason, the planetarium director from Old Dominion University for a unique astronomy lesson. The highlight of the visit was the opportunity our students had to touch a

meteorite that had fallen to the Earth. The students learned that the meteorite was bought for \$8,000 and that it weighed 63 pounds. The students also received "rainbow glasses" that separates lights into prisms. Students had fun learning new things and seeing all that Mr. Mason had to share with them!

States of Matter, Matter!



Students in 2nd grade have been busy learning about the states of matter, a unit of study in the Nancy Larson Science program.

Sister Marie de Lourdes planned an engaging activity for the students to observe how water can change from liquid to solid. The students visited the science lab where they observed an ice cube melting rapidly on a hot plate. Mrs. Sofianek explained to them how molecules move at different rates to create the states of matter.

In class, the students also observed another physical characteristic of matter when they noticed that light can pass through certain solid objects. They learned the vocabulary terms of transparent, opaque, and translucent and identified objects in the classroom that had these characteristics. We love our hands on science program!

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Jesus, I believe in your love for me!

Greetings in Christ!

October is here already! In the Catholic tradition, this month is dedicated to Mary, under the title of Our Lady of the Rosary and to respecting human life in all stages from conception to natural death. We have begun our custom of praying a decade of the Rosary after morning prayers together, outside by the Mary statue near the gym. This Friday, we will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in our school chapel.

During September, students in grades 2-8 took the **Performance Series** Assessments in the areas of math and reading. The student Score Report is being sent home in the folder today. The fall assessments provide baseline skill development data. The students will also be assessed in the winter and spring.

As an instructional tool, teachers use this information to help them guide instruction in the classroom and track progress and growth in basic skills. Specifically, teachers will be monitoring the scaled score for growth throughout the year and looking at skill attainment to identify areas of instructional strength and opportunity. Moving forward, the winter assessments will act as a measure for student academic growth based on instructional practices, and the spring assessments will provide a snapshot of student performance over the course of the school year.

Like adults, students have good and bad days and their assessment performance can vary based on a variety of factors that day. It is important to remember that we are developing the whole child, and this is one source of data used throughout the school year to measure student learning and progress.

Please look closely at the glossary at the bottom of your child's report for information on each component. We realize you may have additional questions, and we encourage you to discuss this report with your child's classroom teacher.

Special thanks to Mr. Scott Glenn for organizing and planning the SMSS Golf Tournament which will take place this Saturday, October 6th. We look forward to seeing some of you on the golf course and ask for your prayers for good weather.

In Our Lady, Star of the Sea,
Sister Mary John, O.P., Principal

Out of Uniform Day Raises Funds to Help Victims of Hurricane Florence



In the picture: 2nd, 3rd & 4th grade students

UPCOMING!

- **Oct. 5:** First Friday Adoration
[Live Link: Sign Up to be an Adorer](#)
- **Oct. 6:** Golf Tournament, The Woodlands Golf Course, 8 a.m.
- **Oct. 8:** School Closed, Professional Development
- **Oct. 9:** Volleyball Away vs. OLMC, 4 p.m.
Little Flowers Club, 3:15 - 4:15 p.m.
- **Oct. 10:** Marine Science Club Meeting, 3:15 p.m.
Soccer Game vs. OLMC at PC, 4 p.m.

RESERVE & PAY ONLINE for Seafood Boil Volunteers Needed!

Saint Mary's
**LOW COUNTRY
BOIL & BBQ**

*Come on down to our Mill Creek shoreline for
friendship and feasting to benefit the scholarship
fund at Saint Mary Star of the Sea School!*

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 13**

APPETIZERS & CASH
BAR ON THE PIER AT
SIX O'CLOCK

DINNER UNDER
THE TENT AT
SEVEN O'CLOCK



\$65 PER PERSON

Join us at our Low Country Boil as we raise funds for scholarships and to recognize the following SMSS alumni and school supporters:

James Petrine

Alumni Lifetime Achievement

John Becouvarakis

Service to Saint Mary's

Gerardette Furlow

St. Therese of Lisieux Young Alumni

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help before, during & after the event!

[Live Link: Sign Up to Volunteer at Low Country Boil](#)

[Make your Reservations: Low Country Boil & BBQ](#)

Catered by: Harpoon Larry's

On the Menu: crab legs, shrimp, clams, sausage, bbq, coleslaw, beans, cornbread, dessert, wine & beer.

Pray with Us: School Wide Novena

Through Oct 5, 2018 (weekdays)

Prayers to our Patroness, the
Blessed Virgin Mary,

"Mary, Undoer of the Knots."

[Live Link to Prayers](#)



NEWS & INFORMATION!

All Volunteers Must be VIRTUS Trained: Session Offered Oct. 11

There will be a VIRTUS Training session on Thursday, October 11 at 5:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. To register for this session, please go to:

[Live link: virtusonline.org](http://virtusonline.org). There is no charge to attend the session. All parents must be VIRTUS trained to volunteer for school activities, chaperone on field trips, attend classroom parties, etc. If you are unable to attend this session, check other parishes for alternative sessions.

Can you Share a Dessert for Hispanic Heritage Festival?

Parents are invited to our Hispanic Heritage Celebration which will be held on Tuesday, October 23 at 1:30 p.m. This year, our students will be tasting desserts from various Latin American countries. If you can provide a traditional dessert from a Hispanic country, please email Maritza Davila at m.davila.smss@gmail.com

Grandparents' Day is Coming Up: Volunteer Form Going Home Today!

Invitations for grandparents and/or special friends have been mailed out. Be sure to tell grandparents to be on the lookout and to RSVP. Grandparents' Day is on Friday, Oct. 19. Due to limited space, we are unable to invite parents or siblings to the event. Please fill out the volunteer form going home today to let us know how you can help make the day a memorable one for our grandparents.

Turn in your PTO Volunteer Forms!

A reminder to turn in your volunteer forms that were sent home last month in the Parent/Teacher Organization Information Booklets. The school requires parents to complete 20 volunteer hours each year. We appreciate your help! The PTO will follow up and will contact you with volunteer details.

[Live Link: Volunteer Form and Parent Teacher Organization Booklet](#)

Picture Day is October 10

Lifetouch will be taking pictures on Wednesday, October 10. Pictures are pre-paid. To purchase pictures, please fill out the order that is coming home today and return it with payment prior to Picture Day. These pictures will be used in the year-book. Anyone who is not satisfied with the pictures will have the opportunity for re-takes or will get a refund from Lifetouch.

Please note that Picture Day is an optional out-of-uniform day. Students should wear their Sunday best or their uniform. Boys should wear collared shirts, and girls should wear appropriate tops in accordance with the Parent-Student handbook.

Process with Jesus on the Boardwalk on Sunday, October 14

Saint Mary's families have been invited to participate in the 7th Annual Eucharistic Procession on the Virginia Beach Boardwalk on Sunday, October 14 at 3 p.m. The procession will start at Star of the Sea Catholic Church located at 1404 Pacific Avenue. A sign up form is going home today or you can sign up at

[Live Link: Sign Up to Process with Jesus](#)

NEWS FROM YOUR PTO

Keep Selling your All Star Raffle Tickets!



We have 25 more days to sell our All Star Raffle tickets. As of today, 1st grade is in the lead for the Pizza Party on the Pier.

We need an effort from the entire school to sell as many books as possible! The more tickets we sell, the more funds available for your children. If you have sold one book of tickets, please consider requesting another one. You may sell them after Mass, at local businesses and restaurants you patronize, grandparents, friends, neighbors, etc. Each ticket is only \$10!

Congratulations to the 55 children who won the KONA Ice Party. Find their names in the link below: (If your child's name is missing e-mail: pto.smss@gmail.com)

[Live Link: Check the list of students who will participate in the KONA ICE Party!](#)

[Live Link: Request Form for Additional All Star Raffle Books](#)

Coming Home Today: Lifetouch Pictures Reminder, Grandparents' Day Volunteer Form, Process with Jesus on the Boardwalk Sign Up, Performance Series Report.