



SAIN^T MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY

A guiding light for children today.

January 6, 2021

Dear Families:

Happy New Year! I know I speak for the entire SMCA community when I say how great it has been to see our school bustling with activity again! I thank everyone for their patience, understanding, and cooperation during our move to remote learning last month. With your continued support and assistance, we'll continue to work together to provide our children with a consistent education in the safest environment possible!

Speaking of remote learning, today is National Technology Day! Without question, technology has had an impact on almost every facet of our lives. Years ago, educational technology was a luxury. Now, of course, it has become a necessity. Most notably, it has allowed for teaching and learning to continue in the midst of a global pandemic. However, we must also realize that technology still has its limitations. Nothing can replace the social interaction students have with their classmates, and technology cannot replicate the one-on-one guidance and support teachers provide to their students. Bill Gates, founder of Microsoft, says it best, "Technology is just a tool. In terms of getting the kids working together and motivating them, the teacher is the most important."

A few reminders as we begin a new year and a new month...

- Because of our transition to distance learning last month, we had to postpone our December Dress Down Extravaganza. Please see the flyer in today's folder for more information about how and when these days will be rescheduled.
- Friday, January 15th is now an early dismissal day. Originally, this was scheduled as a day off for all students for teacher professional development. Since all in-person professional development has been postponed, class will be in session that day. **Please note Pre-K will still have the day off.**
- School is closed for all students on Monday, January 18th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Again, on behalf of our faculty and staff, best wishes for a happy, safe, and healthy New Year!

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Wilson
Principal

EARLY DISMISSAL

on Friday, January 15th

- Originally, school was scheduled to be closed on this date. This has been changed by the Office of the Superintendent.
- **PRE-K IS NOT IN SESSION. THEY HAVE THE DAY OFF.**
- Please continue to use your usual entrance/exit.
- The After-School Program will continue to be available for all students.

DISMISSAL TIMES FOR FRIDAY, JANUARY 15th

- Nursery A and Nursery B will dismiss at 12:15pm.
- Kindergarten A and Kindergarten B will dismiss at 12:30pm.
- Grades 1A, 1B, 1C, 2A, 2B, 3, and 4 will dismiss at 12:40pm.
- Grades 5, 6, 7, and 8 will dismiss at 12:30pm.

January!

RESCHEDULED!

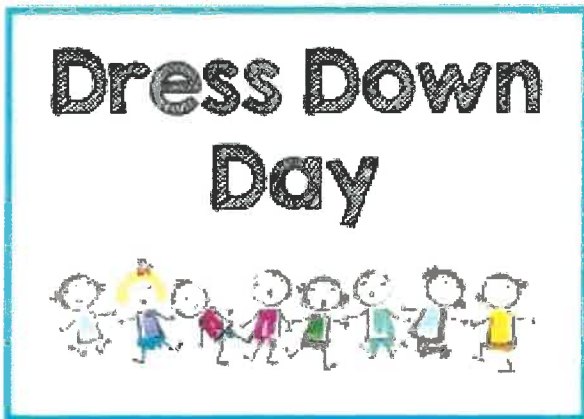
~~DECEMBER~~ DRESS DOWN EXTRAVAGANZA

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8; FRIDAY, JANUARY 15; FRIDAY JANUARY, 22

\$5

THREE DAYS OF DRESS DOWN DAYS FOR ONLY \$5!

If you paid for December, there is no need to pay again. If you didn't already pay, and would still like to participate, please submit \$5 in advance by Thursday, January 7th. Please send in dress down money in a clearly labeled envelope with your child's name and grade.






Although it is a dress down day, students are reminded to dress with modesty. Students should adhere to the following attire as described in the **Parent-Student Handbook**:

- Appropriate length skirt, shorts or dress – no shorter than 3" above the knees
- No torn or tight jeans or pants
- No spaghetti strap tanks, midribs, tube tops, etc.
- No logo type T-shirts
- No hats (unless specifically designated)
- No loose/baggy pants or shorts
- No make-up or nail polish (including gels/French manicures)
- No hoop earrings or excessive jewelry
- No jeggings, leggings or skinny jeans

Parents will be called to bring a change of clothes for students who do not adhere to these regulations.

January 2021

Saint Mark Catholic Academy

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|---|---------|-----------|----------|--|----------|
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| | Classes Resume  | | | | Dress Down  | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| | | | | | Dress Down ½ Day Dismissal All Grades Pre-K for All No School | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| | Martin Luther King Day School Closed | | | | Dress Down  | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | | | | | | |