

2009 – 2010 ST MARY'S PTO ACTIVITIES

Each year the St Mary's Grade School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) provides funding that directly supports the School. The funds raised by the PTO provide many things for the school including: updated technology & books, individual classroom learning items, educational programs such as the Cultural Kaleidoscope, and much more. To raise these funds, the PTO organizes a variety of fun events and activities throughout the year.

Each family is asked to sign up and help with at least three activities. You are welcome to sign up for more than three activities now or during the year, as extra help is always needed and appreciated. Please do not sign up for more activities than your schedule allows, as the event chairs count on those sign up for help. While participating in these activities helps our school it is also a fun way to learn more about the school and meet other parents.

You will be assigned to your chosen activities in the order the forms are turned in. If an activity you have signed up for is full, you will be asked to sign up for a different activity. During the year if you wish to help with additional activities, we encourage you to do so. If you have any questions please contact Lynn Burgard at 258-4267

POSITIONS FOR INVOLVEMENT

Activity Chair or Co-Chair: Your family involvement will be considered complete if you choose to chair an activity or co-chair a larger activity. Activity chairs & co-chairs are responsible for leading and coordinating the event and organizing and delegating duties to those who signed up to help. We are always in need of individuals to chair activities, so if you are interested please sign up.

Activity Helpers: Individuals are needed to help with each event. The duties performed will vary depending upon the activity. Please see the activity descriptions below for more information.

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS

McQuade Tournament June 26 & 27, 2010

Individuals are needed to help clean up at the Sam McQuade Sr. Softball Complex & parking lot (next to the YMCA) after the tournament games on Saturday & Sunday. This takes about an hour.

Football Pool – Beginning of School

Individuals are needed to help coordinate a regular season and a Super Bowl football pool.

Pizza Corner Pizza Sales – Beginning of School

We will be selling Pizza Corner Pizza. Order forms will be sent home with the students. Individuals are needed to help organize the orders and dispense the presorted pizzas when they are delivered to the school. The pizzas will be distributed after school.

Applefest – September 26 & 27, 2009

Applefest is an annual event sponsored by the Bismarck Cancer Center Foundation to raise money that supports cancer patients and their families. The event is held at Buckstop Junction. We have a booth selling drinks at this event.

Pumpkin Patch – September/October 2009

Individuals are needed to help at the Pumpkin Patch with "Poppy's Express" by driving a garden tractor with wagons attached, giving the younger children safe, fun ride around the Pumpkin Patch. One person is needed to drive the tractor (this person should have a driver's license). Another person is needed to collect money and help children in & out of the wagons. This is a good opportunity for those who need community service hours. Generally 2-2 ½ hr shifts.

Fall Rummage Sale – September 12 & 13, 2009

Individuals are needed to set-up for the rummage sale by organizing donated items. Help is also needed for sales and clean-up.

Fall Dance – October 30, 2009

This costumed dance for the entire family is usually held on a weekend around Halloween. Individuals are needed to set-up & decorate, sell concessions, and clean-up.

Light For the Future – November/December 2009

Special candles can be purchased which are then lit at the Christmas Eve Mass in honor, or in memory, of a loved one. Individuals are needed to mail brochures and write out thank you cards.

Santa Store & Breakfast with Santa – December 4-6, 2009

St Mary's holds a "Santa Store" in early December where Christmas presents can be purchased for family and friends at a discounted price. It is open for children of the school, preschool & daycare on Friday afternoon and to the public during the weekend. Children will have the opportunity to meet and have their pictures taken with Santa. Individuals are needed to set-up, help the children shop, cashier, wrap presents and clean-up.

Barnes & Noble Fundraiser December 12, 2009

Barnes & Noble will give the school a portion of the profits from books sold on a specific day. Come enjoy story time with a special guest, listen to the children sing Christmas songs, and pick up some books for your children's classroom, yourself, and for Christmas gifts. Individuals are needed to help at the store.

Christmas Bake Sale – December 12 & 13, 2009: The Christmas bake sale is held at St Mary's Church to benefit a special need of the school. A Chair is needed for this event and help is needed before/after all Masses. All parents are asked to donate baked goods.

Silent Auction – January 30, 2010

This is one of our larger fundraisers which is held in conjunction with the Family Fun Night Carnival. Individuals are needed to call businesses for donations, pick up donations, write thank you notes, set-up for the auction, cashier and monitor during the auction, and clean-up after the auction. Many individuals are needed to help with this activity. If you own a business, know of a business that would like to donate items to the auction, or if you have a special talent you would like to add to the auction block please let us know. Some ideas include babysitting for a night out, baking goodies, dinner at your house with a theme, a singing telegram, running errands for someone, etc.

Family Fun Night Carnival – January 30, 2010

This is one of our larger fundraisers. Many individuals are needed to help with this activity. Family Fun Night is a fun carnival with midway games, food, bingo, a cakewalk and more

Concessions: Individuals are needed to help set-up, sell concessions and clean-up.

Midway: Individuals are needed to set-up the midway games & activities, ensure things are running smoothly during the carnival, and clean-up afterwards.

* Each class will also have a midway game at Family Fun Night where parents & their children will help in ½ hour shifts. This is in addition to other activities you may volunteer for at Family Fun Night and Does Not count towards fulfilling your family involvement obligation.

Braided Bread Sale – February/March, 2010

Butter Braids are frozen pastries with a variety of fillings. Order forms are sent home with the students. A Chairperson is needed for this event and individuals are needed to help organize and dispense the presorted pastries when they are delivered to the school. This will generally be done during the afternoon so they can be distributed when school is dismissed at 3:00 pm. The product will be delivered at the school the week before Easter.

Palm Sunday Bake Sale – March 27 & 28, 2010

The Palm Sunday Bake Sale is held at St Mary's Church to benefit a special need of the school. Help is needed before and after all Masses. All parents are asked to donate baked goods.

Spring Rummage Sale – April 10 & 11, 2010

Individuals are needed to set-up for the rummage sale by organizing donated items. Help is also needed for sales and clean-up.

Spring Showcase – May, 2010 (TBD)

This is our end of the year showcase to celebrate all the children have done throughout the year and to welcome new families to the school. Individuals are needed to serve and clean-up.

SCRIP: SCRIP is gift certificates to various local businesses. When sold the school receives a percentage of the value. Scrip is sold at the school office, at school events, and after Masses at St Mary's church. Individuals are needed to order, pickup, inventory and sell these certificates throughout the year.

Campbell Soup Labels / Box Tops: The UPC's and box tops from various products can be returned to school. They can then be redeemed for needed classroom educational items. Individuals are needed to organize and bundle labels & box tops throughout the year

Everyone can sign-up on at www.boxtopsforeducation.com and put St. Mary's Elementary as your school of choice – this gives us more opportunities to earn extra points, which means more free educational items for the school. Find additional information on the Campbell's program and earn bonus points at <http://www.labelsforeducation.com>. We appreciate you sharing this information with your friends and family.

Other Fundraisers

Target: Target will give a percentage of your sale to the school. For the school to receive this percentage you must use your Target card and have St Mary's Elementary listed as your designated school. Anyone may participate. Make sure to tell friends and family. To designate the school go to <http://www.target.com>

Central Market: Turn in your stamped Central Market grocery receipt to the school and they will donate a percentage of your total sale back to the school. For more information go to <http://www.thefreshplace.com/WeCare.aspx>

French Toast: French Toast specializes in selling high quality school uniforms. In addition, they will donate a percentage of your total purchase price back to the school when you order using the school source code **QS45EKT**. Check them out at <http://frenchtoast.com>

PTO Meetings

The monthly PTO meetings alternate between evenings and afternoons to meet a variety of schedule needs. Evenings meetings are held on Wednesday from 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm in the school library with childcare in the music room. Afternoon meetings are held Friday around lunch time (feel free to bring your lunch) from 12:15 pm - 1:15 pm in the north multipurpose room. You are also welcome to bring your young children.

Wednesdays from 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm in the Library with daycare available in the music room.

- **September 16, 2009**
- **November 18, 2009**
- **January 13, 2010**
- **March 3, 2010**
- **May 5, 2010**

Fridays from 12:15– 1:15 pm in the north multipurpose room.

- **October 9, 2009**
- **December 11, 2009**
- **February 5, 2010**
- **April 9, 2010**