



March Edition 2016



Pastor: Ft. Clement Niggel
Principal: Melodie Good

Saint Mary's Catholic School Belen, N.M

At Saint Mary's School, we are committed to the growth of our Catholic identity, academic potential, and community involvement.

IMPORTANT EVENTS	
Accreditation visit	29-2
Stations 1:30	4-11
Adoration 6 PM	15
Living Stations 5:30	18
Parent Conferences	23
Early Release	23-24
Good Friday No School	25
Easter Sunday	27
Spring Break	28-1st

Saint Mary's Families Get Excited About Science!

The staff at Saint Mary's is looking into the purchase of a Pre-K through 8th grade lab science program. The focus of this program is teaching science by doing science. Each class would have a weekly laboratory experience with daily classroom experiments conducted by the classroom teacher. The program offers laboratory set up, curriculum integration and teacher training as part of the process of making Saint Mary's science classes meaningful and enjoyable. All the equipment is research grade which is designed to acclimate the students to university level concepts and skills which can be built upon through high school. The company installs all furniture, science equipment and storage necessary to run the lab. The program insures that all teachers have everything they need to teach with hundreds of supplies, materials and equipment selected for its quality and application to the curriculum. All curriculum is supplied to teachers which supports immersion in a seamless process of learning science.

The Fall Fest committee at Saint Mary's is committing the proceeds of next year's event to funding this awesome program. The school has taken on the goal of incorporating STREAM (science, technology, religion, engineering, art and math) programming to encourage more students to take higher level science and math classes at the high school level and eventually think of STREAM careers at the college level. Full STREAM ahead!



The Bird Word
Monthly Newsletter

Student Council Visits Legislature



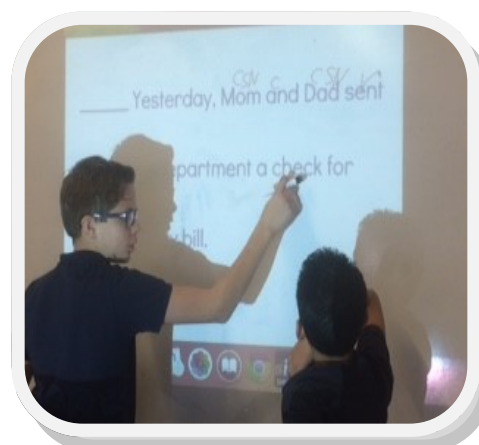
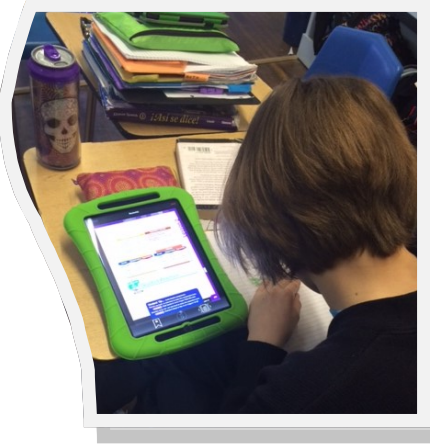
The day started at 6:30 AM on the New Mexico Railrunner. Students went first to the Roundhouse and took a tour, stopping at a committee room where an explanation of passing a bill was given. From there the students met with Senator Michael Sanchez and were recognized as his special guests while they paged for him. After a lunch and tour of the Cathedral and Plaza, they returned home at 6PM.

ACCREDITATION TEAM WILL BE ON CAMPUS FOR FINAL VISIT

Beginning on Monday, February 29th and ending Wednesday, March 2nd, St. Mary's will be showing the things that we do best: our strong Catholic identity, our excellent academics and our community involvement. The hope is that the school will get an effective rating from the Western Catholic Education Association.

2015 Innovations in Catholic Education Award Winner

Ipads, Chromebooks and Digital Technology Deliver Content

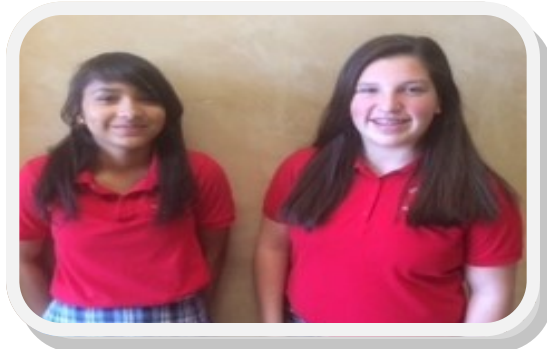


In the last two years, Saint Mary's has had fiber installed for the wifi at the gym, Parish Center and school. That made the use of digital text books and other technology applications possible. We are utilizing several digital forms of curriculum, and we are awaiting the arrival of a SMART table for kinder and first grade and information response systems for the classrooms. Students code in the computer lab and are using google classroom for submitting their papers in middle school.



Two 8th Graders place first and second in Optimists Essay Contest

"Lead by example-fact or fiction" was the topic for the Optimist's essay contest this year. Placing first with her winning essay was Ms. Kaeley Chavez and second place was Alia Rodriguez. Both girls were recognized by the Sunport Optimists. Kaeley's essay will go on to regional competition.



Saint Mary's Boys Basketball Having a Good Season All three basketball teams are celebrating some wins this season. Beginning March 1st, they will head into the tournament games in a very good standing. The coaches, Jared Schmock, Varsity and JV and Mark Garcia with C team have done an outstanding job of getting the best out of our 5th -8th graders.

Family Faith Formation



Saint Mary's Parents: We need you! Deacon Michael Montoya has posted another Blog on Sycamore for families to read and use for reflection. There is also a wonderful opportunity to increase your prayer life through Adoration on March 15th. Deacon Michael will offer another beautiful and quiet time of prayer on Tuesday, March 15th, at Our Lady of Belen. This is the best hour you could spend during the Lenten season to get closer to God. Coming up this spring, Deacon Michael is planning a movie night for the whole family complete with popcorn and drinks. Please take advantage of these opportunities to help Saint Mary's support our families in strengthening Catholic identity.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY