

The BIRD WORD

Monthly Newsletter



Pastor: Rev. Clement Niggel
Principal: Melodie Good



SEPTEMBER 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS

Early Release	1st
Volley Ball	6th
SMPA Meeting	11th
Volley Ball	13th
Grandparents lunch	15th
Early Release	15th
Tea Party	17th
ATV tickets incentive for jeans	20th
Noon Release	21st
All X Country meets are on Wednesdays	

Vintage Tea Party
Sunday, September 17th
2 PM-5 PM

Adults \$20

Children 4-14 \$10

Proceeds go to St. Mary's Building Fund
Get your tickets at the school or Hair Innovations



101 N Tenth Street
Belen, NM 87002
505.864.0484
stmarysbelen.com

BACK TO SCHOOL AT ST. MARY'S

For the first time in 20 years, St. Mary's is nearly full. Families in the county are beginning to see that our school is a hidden gem. Our students are excelling in math and science like never before. The athletic program is a force to be reckoned with in the track and field events and cross country. Our reading and math scores are at or above grade level for 90% of our students and prayers are always welcome in our classrooms. St. Mary's school has established a consistent excellent program with a core staff who are only here for the love of God and their students.

Students at St. Mary's will be enjoying

music, art, technology, PE and Spanish along with their religion and core classes this year. In addition to having a well rounded curriculum, our 5th grade works with La Luz Academy on Mission to Mars for a link up in March.

Fourth grade will be working on the Belen Community Garden and Whitfield Nature Center. Second and third graders will be making tray favors for Meals On Wheels and shoebox packages for veterans.

With the new science lab, all students are getting hands on lab experiences each week with university grade science equipment. The hot topic at the staff retreat was how can we add a Maker Space to our growing STREAM curriculum?



Students working on the Community Garden in the spring.

SPONSORS NEEDED FOR FALL FEST

October 21st is the date of our annual Fall Fest Fundraiser this year. The school relies on this money to keep tuition cost affordable while trying to put some aside for upgrades to the school. Last year we purchased our science lab and this year we would like to upgrade our computer lab with new technology. We are looking for sponsors. Would you like to help put new technology in our lab? We have sponsorship forms available at the school. Please call today or come by and pick up a form. Parents who find sponsors are able to trade a sponsorship for volunteer hours. Let's make this another great Fall Fest.

WELCOME NEW STAFF!

New staff this year include Sister Mary Katherine Malmros, Elena Padilla and Mary Sanchez. Sister Mary Katherine comes to us most recently from Beliz and England. Sister has three Masters degrees. She is teaching middle school social studies and 1st through 8th grade Spanish.

Ms. Elena Padilla, our new kindergarten teacher, comes to St. Mary's from Jaramillo Elementary. She was a mentor for new teachers in Belen Schools and an awesome first grade teacher.

Ms. Mary Sanchez replaces Mrs. Lucille Zamora as our bookkeeper. Mary has a degree in Business Management and comes to us from the Belen Water Department.

We are excited to have these new staff member on our team!



It was decided at the staff retreat that our goal this year would be to get behind our building campaign and make sure a new school is on the horizon for St. Mary's.

TEACHERS DO WILD GOOSE STUDY ON FORMED

Teachers will begin a 14 segment study of the works of the Holy Spirit. This program is available on Formed. The first segment was introduced at their retreat with weekly study sessions scheduled after school. The study will continue through March.

St. Mary's Students View the Eclipse

Third grade through 8th grade made pin hole viewers to see the eclipse on the 21st of August. While this was a great way to view the coverage of the moon in front of the sun, many students brought the approved glasses to watch what was happening on this historic event.



ST. MARY'S RECEIVES ANOTHER GRANT

Besides being the featured school at the Catholic Foundation Awards luncheon on September 21st, Saint Mary's will be receiving a Foundation Grant sponsored by the Lambda Theta TKE Endowment that will be used to purchase Stora, the school's on-line library. Students can listen and /or read their library books or do research from informational texts.



Staff Retreat 2017-2018

SMPA Meeting 9/11 5:30 PM

Get involved in your child's life a little more with the St. Mary's Parents Association. Parents help plan family activities as well as the awards programs and Christmas shop.

Grand Parents Luncheon

Don't forget to sign up for the luncheon to honor our grandparents on September 15th. Deadline for reservations is September 13th.

