

January







Referral Discount for Kindergarten and Catholic Schools Week



Mrs. Molly Bushman **MACS President**

January is here and that means two things at MACS: The start of enrollment for 2022-23 and Catholic Schools Week!

Enrollment will open for all grades at the end of January. We strive, through the grace of God, to provide an excellent Catholic education for your children to grow in mind, body, spirit, and community. Please enroll early and tell your friends, especially those with incoming kindergarteners. I know from experience with my own children that the best way to get the most out of MACS education, both academically and socially, is to start them here in kindergarten! Current families, you can earn 10% off your student's tuition next year by referring a new kindergarten family to our schools! The new family will receive 10% off for three years. See the website for the kindergarten referral details and form. Thank you for being our best cheerleaders!

Catholic Schools Week is January 29 through February 5, and will include many activities for our students and community, including Mass with Bishop Callahan on Wednesday, February 2, and the annual musical Cinderella the weekend of Feb 4 -6. Watch your emails and the MACS website for more information as details are set. Many thanks to our Catholic Schools Week committee for your work in planning.

Parenting with the heart of Christ. Resources for parents with children of all ages.

TWL Blog - twl4parents.com

Details on the Teaching the Way of Love (TWL) program

http://www.twl4parents.com/

Happy New Year

The month of January derives its name from the Roman god Janus, who was the god of doorways (janua in Latin), transitions, and the rising and setting of the sun. He had a face on both the front and back of his head Fr. Ethan HoKamp



to show how he looks to the past and to the future. He was a doorkeeper (janitor in Latin), watching both those who were coming and those who were leaving.

As we begin this new year, we, like Janus, look both to the future and to the past. We recall the blessings of the past year, and perhaps the hardships as well, but we also look with hope to the year that lies ahead, and we might also be making a few resolutions for the new year too.

The Romans had a different goddess, named Fortuna, who ultimately was in charge of how time played out. The problem was that she was blind, and so fate was often tragic for the Romans. How comforting for us Christians, to have an all-knowing, all-powerful God, a God "who ord'rst all things far and nigh." a God to whom all time and ages belong. a God whose name is praised "from the rising of the sun to its setting" (Psalm 113:3). As we begin this new year of 2022, we do so with the understanding that our lives are in His hands, and, as we were reminded at Christmas, He truly is Emmanuel, God

Mass Intentions Would you like an intention said during Mass at the high school? It could be in memory/ honor of a friend, family member or a celebration such as an anniversary or birthday. Contact Fr. Hokamp at e.hokamp@macs.k12.wi.us. Mass stipend is \$10.

January EVENTS Full listing on website.

Jan 1	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God		
	Welcome to 2022		
Jan 3	Return from Christmas Break		
Jan 10	Begin Jump Rope for Heart SC/HG		
Jan 14	End of 2nd Quarter		
Jan 17	3rd Quarter Begins		
Jan 21	Teachers In-Service		
Jan 30	Begin Catholic Schools Week!		
	Potential On-Line Trivia Contest for ND		

Education Technology & Media



Josh McCormick IT Coordinator J.mccormick@macs.k12.wi.us

After several months of being backordered and dealing with shipping delays, our 9

Mr. Josh McCormick
Panels have finally arrived! We have been



Mr. Cameron Fahrman

getting great feedback from the teachers, this is a big improvement from our current projector smart boards. We are moving forward with purchasing 36 more Promethean Interactive Panels for the next school year. This will provide a new panel in every classroom K-12. This project was part of our 5 year goal, that has been accelerated utilizing funding that became available to us.

We are still working to find the best solution to replace our Main Server. We just finished running a Collector on our network to analyze our network traffic and resources. We will use these results to get an updated proposal for a new server.

Winter sports and activities have been keeping Val Knobloch and the xStream Team busy. They have been doing a great job streaming the Boys and Girls Basketball games. The IT department had the pleasure of assisting with the live stream of the St. Charles and the Holy Ghost Christmas concerts. If you missed it and would like to watch them, they can be found on our Facebook page or on our website.

SCRIP GIFT CARD NEWS



Ms. Kathleen

Kathleen Adams, Executive Administrative Assistant, Enrollment & Scrip Coordinator 715.723.0538 ext. 3301 or k.adams@macs.k12.wi.us.

MACS would like to thank everyone that has supported us with your purchases of Scrip in 2021. Scrip continues to be a top fundraiser and we depend on each of you to make it a success.! If you have never used Scrip,

please consider purchasing in the new year. With every Scrip card purchased MACS receives a rebate, with 50% of the rebate going to your tuition and the remaining to MACS. You may also select the remaining 50% to go to your local parish or another family if your student is graduating in the spring. Please contact 715.723.0538 or k.adams@macs.k12.wi.us for any questions. The Central Office sells Scrip Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and Thursdays also 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. or you may send your Scrip order into any school office with your child any day of the week for same-day turn around. A friendly reminder that enrollment for the 2022-23 school year begins Sunday, January 30, 2022. Watch for more details to come

May God continue to bless you and your family abundantly through the new year!



Home and School Association (HandS)

Email: macshomeschool@macs.k12.wi.us

Hello MACS families!

We are hoping everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a relaxing New Year! It was great to see all of the families at the Christmas concerts in person celebrating the holiday season.

Thank you to everyone who came to our craft night and helped make the "Bridge to Wonderland" float a success! The kids had fun making gnome hats.



Please mark your calendars for the following dates:

- January 19 at 6:00 p.m. is our next HandS meeting
- February 4 is the Snowflake Dance at St. Charles
- February 6 will be our winter sledding party

We will send home more information as the events get closer- so be on the lookout :)!

As always, please let us know if you have any ideas or questions! Uniforms are at both Holy Ghost and St. Charles if your child is in need of more.

MACS Music Boosters

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped set up our schools' Christmas concerts this year. We hope you

Happy New Year,

HandS Committee



Email: macsmusic@macs.k12.wi.us

enjoyed them as much as we did!







MACS Athletic Booster Club - Grades 5-12

mcdathboosters@macs.k12.wi.us

The winter sports season is in full swing and we are excited to see our athletes back on the court and ice. We love seeing packed stands cheering on our student athletes so come early, cheer loud and proud and don't forget to enjoy some delicious snacks from our concession stand. This year seniors will be working the stands earning money towards their class trip in the spring.



Mr. Greg Misfeldt **President**

Schedules to Mack's boys and girls basketball games as, well as our boys and girls hockey co-op teams, can be found on our school website. Make sure to watch for the February newsletter as we will have some exciting news about our new Mack's wrestling program starting this year here at McDonell.

GO MACKS!!!



MACS Faith Booster Club

Email: faith@macs.k12.wi.us

MACS Faith Boosters held our first "Pancakes with Santa" event on December 4. It was a great first year

serving over 200 people and many kids enjoyed talking to "Santa". Thank you to all the volunteers that helped make this day special. Next up, Faith Boosters have another



Mr. Rolly Enderes President

event scheduled for right around the corner. We will be holding our 2nd Winter Kids Carnival to help kick off Catholics Schools week January 29 from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at St Charles cafeteria and ovm. Mayor Hoffman with be there at 12:00 p.m. for the official proclamation to commend Catholic Schools Week. Come join in the games, bouncy house, food, face painting, fun and more. Keep an eye out for parents and students volunteer opportunities for this fun event. We look forward to seeing all the families again at our first 2022 event.









Notre Dame Middle School | McDonell Central Catholic High School

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER



Brian Schulner, NDMS & MCCHS Principal b.schulner@macs.k12.wi.us
715.723.9126 ext. 3309

Time to Make Some Changes

Even with the pandemic, the past two years have been good to us at McDonell and Notre Dame. We have an increase in students at both the middle and high school, and in fact needed to add an additional section for the 9th graders this past year to accommodate the largest freshman class we have had in over a decade. We are forecasting the same for the 2022-23 school year as the numbers

again look promising.

While growth is what we truly desire, it does come with adjustments in order that we can utilize the space and resources to best meet the needs of our students. We pride ourselves on high expectations, rigor, building relationships and promoting our faith.

McDonell High Schools has been utilizing a block schedule for more than 25 years. It has worked for us in that it allowed students to focus on specific courses in a smaller period of time and in some cases accelerate in specific courses. Block courses cover an entire year of material in a semester. Some students have trouble handling the increased pace along with long class periods. With only four blocks in a day, students sometimes have difficulty acquiring classes they requested due to the lack of available class periods.

After much research and discussion we have decided to switch over to a trimester based scheduling system at both the high and middle school. Trimesters are based on three twelve week periods of time compared to the traditional nine week four quarter system. A trimester schedule will offer six class periods in a day at the high school with the traditional resource time at the end of the school day.

Unlike our current schedule, the trimester schedule will have six- 60 minute blocks and a 45 minute resource time. Each trimester class is worth one half credit. Students will still have opportunity for nine or more credits per school year. Each class will still run the same amount of total hours, but will be spread over twelve weeks instead of nine. Trimester scheduling has more periods in the day and allows for less conflicts in the scheduling of required classes, especially AP classes. Trimester scheduling allows for more versatility in obtaining course sections especially second halves of one credit requirements. Trimesters allow for three grading periods instead of four and six days annually for final tests compared to eight days in our current system.

Example High School Time Schedule:

Block 1	Block 2	Block 3	Block 4/Lunch	Block 5	Block 6	Resource
7:50-8:52	8:55-9:55	9:58-10:58	11:00-12:39	12:41-1:41	1:44-2:44	2:47-3:30

Notre Dame Middle School will be seeing a new version of scheduling also that is based on a trimester system. Similar to the time schedule above, it features more time for added exploratory courses. As currently, the new schedule will still focus on English and Mathematics as a top priority. English and Math will have 70 minutes daily for three trimesters while Science, Religion and Social Studies will have 70 minutes daily for two trimesters.

The new schedule represents change and in education that isn't always accepted readily. Staff, have given input and asked numerous questions. There have been adjustments and we are going implement the schedule for the 2022-23 school year. Students are about to begin registering and the scheduling building process should be in full swing in the weeks to come. It is our goal that students will have their next year schedule in hand before the end of May.

Thank you for your comments and support.

Blessings to you all,

Mr. Schulner

Notre Dame Middle School | McDonell Central Catholic High School www.macs.k12.wi.us

SCHOOL COUNSELOR NEWS

Mrs. Ruthann Proue, School Counselor <u>r.proue@macs.k12.wi.us</u> 715.723.9126 ext. 3317

Greetings and Merry Christmas to the parents and guardians of our McDonell students! I hope you're enjoying this time

Mrs. Ruthann Prove of year; not only preparing for intimate family celebrations, but also preparing your heart for the birth of the Christ child.

I would like to share with you what has been happening in the school counseling department.

To the parents of:

Seniors

At this point in time, college applications should be complete and students should be thinking about scholarship opportunities. Two teacher letters of recommendation and one community member is typically needed for most scholarship applications. For a listing of scholarships, (*click here*). Check the site frequently as we will be updating it as soon as new scholarships are available. Also in this area is a handy checklist for seniors to review to make sure they are taking care of the necessary business that needs tending to.

Juniors, Sophomores, and Freshman

Registration Materials for the 2022-23 school year will be coming out soon. Please watch for a separate email with directions on how we will be distributing the materials.

Incoming Freshmen for 2022-2023 (Eighth Grade)

After Christmas break, watch your email for an informational meeting where registration materials will be handed out. These small group meetings will take place in the evenings for your convenience. Please watch your email for more information and an invite.

I am blessed to be here at McDonell. Everyday is a learning opportunity and working with your student(s) is truly a pleasure. I look forward to continuing to serve as your school counselor.

God's peace and joy to you all!

CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS



Rev. Ethan Hokamp, Chaplain e.hokamp@macs.k12.wi.us 715.723.9126 ext. 3319

Erica Boehm, Campus Ministry <u>e.boehm@macs.k12.wi.us</u> 715.723.9126 ext. 2210

Rev. Ethan Hokamp Ms. Erica Boehm

EDGE Middle School Youth Night

January 7, 2022, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Open to all middle school youth grades 6-8

McDonell High School

EDGE is a fun night for middle school students to gather together for fun, a talk, small group, and games.

Pilgrimage for Life

January 19-23, 2022

We will be taking several young people from our school and deanery to the March for Life in Washington, D.C. Please pray for our travels and witness.

Catholic Schools Week!

January 30-February 5

Be on the lookout for fun themes and activities all week. The week will begin with the annual Kids Winter Carnival hosted by Faith Boosters.

The Carnival will take place at St. Charles on January 30,

from 1:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m..



Haverim Tea Society

The Haverim Tea Society is a monthly meeting of high school women to gather together as friends who are striving for sainthood. "Haverim" is a Hebrew word for friends. This gathering is for young women to gather together to walk the path of discipleship together, wherever they may be, to challenge, to discuss, to support, and to encourage one another. Tea and light snacks will be served. It will consist of a short talk, fellowship, and discussion.

Meets at McDonell HS in the Student Lounge (Room 216) 7:00-8:30 p.m. on January 10 and February 14

ENROLLMENT NEWS



SAVE THE DATE

Monday, January 31 is set for the 2022-23 MACS enrollment.

Please watch for more details coming in January on enrollment.

Steubenville 2022

July 15-17, 2022

Save the Date for our Steubenville Conference trip to Rochester, MN

For students entering 9th grade-current

high school seniors

Cost: Estimated \$300

Contact faith@macs.k12.wi.us if you're interested in attending!

Notre Dame Middle School | McDonell Central Catholic High School www.macs.k12.wi.us

STUDENT AMBASSADOR NEWS



Mary Jacobson Student Ambassador Coordinator 715.723.9126

December is filled with a variety of service opportunities for the MACS Student Ambassadors.

Mrs. Mary Jacobson

A number of them assisted with the *Pancake Breakfast with Santa* on Saturday, Dec. 4. I

have some signed up to ring bells for the Salvation Army. We continue to provide newsletters for the nursing homes, so students are providing articles, games, and jokes. I have some students doing some tutoring. We have a plan for staff appreciation for this month that we hope brings them joy.



The ambassador leaders do a great job planning and organizing the nursing home monthly newsletters, and planning staff appreciation projects, as well as other projects. These creative and dedicated students are Fred Blair, Olivia Clark, Aubrey Dorn, Sammy Vallejos-Duque, Lily Edison, Sydney Flanagan, Ben Goebel, Maria



Herron, Kiara Leinekugel, Lauren Misfeldt, Kaitlyn Ortmann, Katie Ruf, Sophie Schmidgall, Paige Smiskey, Emma Stelter, and Greta Thornton. I am very grateful for the extra time they provide to keep our ongoing projects up to date.

NOTRE DAME STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS



Peter Thoma, NDMS Student Council Advisor p.thoma@macs.k12.wi us 715.723.4777 ext. 1109

"Student council has focused on bringing all of the classes together in the middle school through our annual volleyball tournament, pumpkin decorating contest,

Mr. Peter Thoma and pep rallies. We have also encouraged

students to keep their grades. All of our student council members have worked hard to create fun activities and build relationships with all grade levels. We are looking forward to the rest of the school year!"

NDMS Student Council President, Delaney Smiskey

MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS



Sean Hanson, Band Director s.hanson@macs.k12.wi.us 715.723.9126 ext. 1114

Mark Neppl, Choral Director m.neppl@macs.k12.wi.us 715.723.9126 ext. 2216

Mr. Sean Hanson

Mr. Mark Neppl

Congratulations to all students in grades 7-12 nominated for honor choirs for Middle School Honor Choir UWEC, for Dorian at Luther College, and All Conference in Fall Creek: Megan Hanson, Ezekiel Murphy, Karley Ferguson, Helen Bullard, Maria Herron, Harrison Bullard, Angelo Enderes, Ella Rubenzer, Evelyn Doyle, Delaney Smiskey, and Elyse Bushman.

Congratulations to the following for representing McDonell Band at All Conference in Fall Creek on Saturday, January 15, 2022:

Jena Geist—clarinet; Christie Abbe—clarinet, Megan Hanson—French Horn, Leopold Schulte—Trumpet, Beth Gilbertson—Bass, and Brendan Bresina—Percussion







Mr. Eric Wedemeyer, Principal St. Charles/Holy Ghost Schools

With the busy Advent and Christmas season in full swing, I have often found myself needing to search for time to reflect on the blessings God has given me. I believe He has placed me in this position to serve the families of the McDonell Area Catholic Schools . It is a responsibility that I do not take for granted and I am so thankful for the support. As we continue to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus, both schools have taken part in the lighting of our Advent candle each Monday morning at our Merry Monday virtual assembly.

The students and staff worked very hard this past month preparing for our Advent programs and performances. I'm always amazed at how those events come together to showcase the talents of our students. The shows were so amazing and it was so nice to have our families be able to watch the performances in person. Thank you all for making the performances unforgettable!

As the Christmas break approaches, we near the midway point of the school year. I think it is important to renew our commitment as partners in our students' education. Please continue to stay actively invested in the physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual growth of our kids. As always, please feel free to contact me with any concerns or questions. May God's peace be with all of you and your family during this Christmas time.

I pray that Christmas morning and the coming New Year bring all of you good health!



A second grade girl (above) finished her first Module of Wit & Wisdom called A Season of Change. The students learned to draw a chameleon, tried homemade applesauce and explored leaf chromatography.



UPCOMING EVENTS

St. Charles and Holy Ghost Schools - January 2022

January 3	School Resumes			
January 5	SC Mass at 8:30 a.m. HG Mass at 8:30 a.m.			
January 10	MACS Music Boosters Mtg. MACS Faith Booster Mtg.			
January 12	SC Mass at 8:30 a.m. HG Mass at 8:30 a.m.			
January 13	Jump Rope Competition at St. Charles			
January 14	Jump Rope Competition at Holy Ghost End of 2nd Quarter			
January 17	3rd Quarter Begins			
January 19	SC Mass at 8:30 a.m. HG Mass at 8:30 a.m.			
January 20	MACS Education Commission Meeting			
January 21	NO SCHOOL - Teacher In-Service			
January 25	Report Cards go home			
January 26	SC Mass at 8:30 a.m. HG Mass at 8:30 a.m.			



January 30 - February 5 Catholic Schools Week



After making a donation, second grade girls (left) and a pair of third grade girls (right) each select an ornament as a thank you gift off the trees at St. Charles and Holy **Ghost Schools.**





Christmas Giving Tree gives students a chance to help others

Again this year, our MACS schools were involved in the Christmas Giving Tree Project. This time around, all the funds collected will go to the to help the needy and homeless members of our Chippewa community. All of our MACS Schools together were able to raise over \$2,000,00 for this important and urgent need! Thank you to all our MACS families for their generosity in helping to improve the lives of our less fortunate neighbors in Chippewa County. Together, we can make a difference and keep the Christmas Spirit alive!

Second grade students learn about American West

St. Charles second grade boys and girls were introduced to their new Wit & Wisdom Module about the American West with a Book Tasting. Students had the opportunity to explore the new texts and participate in a fun snack or craft (right).





Holy Ghost and St. Charles hold Christmas Programs



A pair of fifth grade girls at the Holy Ghost **Christmas Program** (left) are beautifully dressed as angels.

A fifth grade boy and girl play Joseph and Mary in the Christmas **Program at Holy Ghost** on December 9th (right).









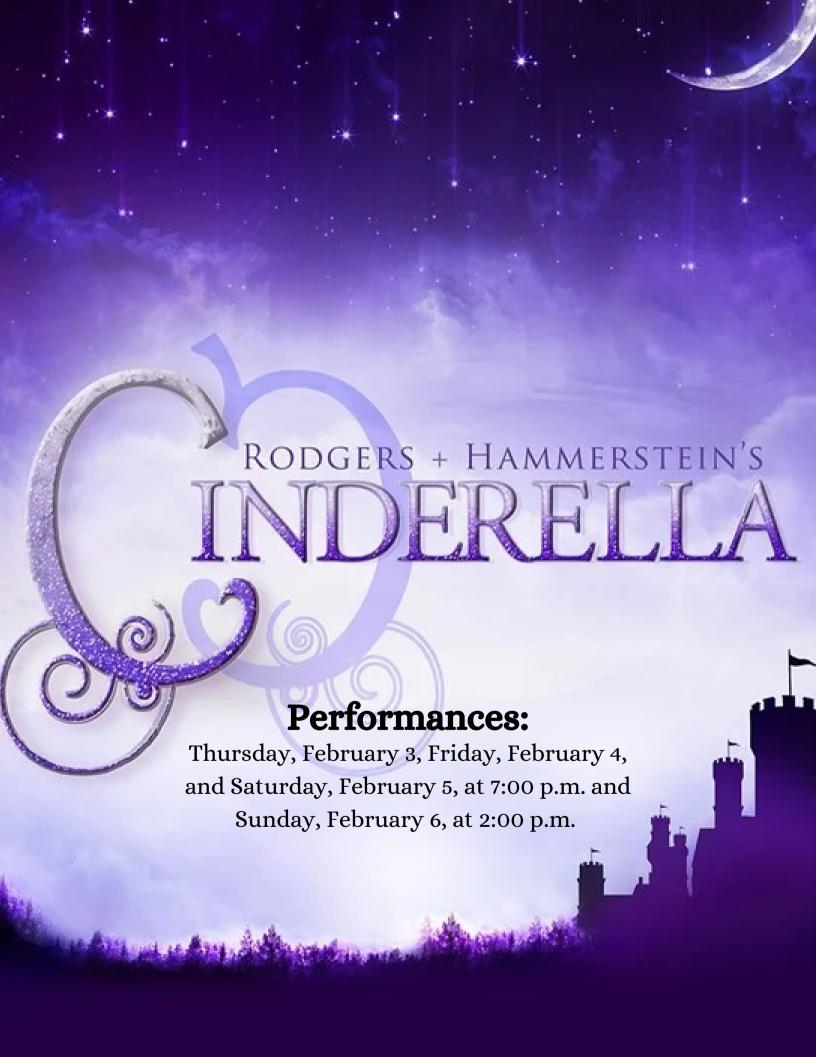
A first grade boy (above left) proudly announces his class at the St. Charles Christmas program on December 7th.

Nothing expresses the true story of Christmas like the sound of melodious children's voices. Kindergarten children at St. Charles are all dressed up and excited to sing some Christmas songs to their families. (above right).



erry Christmas





13th Annual



food | beverages casino & carnival style games raffles | live music

FEBRUARY 12, 2022

100% of proceeds from this event go to support our students & staff at McDonell Area Catholic Schools.



Mid-Winter Mardi Gras

Dinner Packages

\$165 <i>Couple</i> Raffle & Dinner Package
(Includes two cash raffle tickets, two dinner tickets, play money & unlimited drinks)
\$85 Single Raffle & Dinner Package
(Includes one cash raffle ticket, one dinner ticket, play money & unlimited drinks)
Raffle Tickets Only
Single Tickets \$25 each
or
5 Tickets for \$100 (equal to one ticket free!)
Name:
Address:
E-Mail:
Phone:

Please make checks payable to MACS & mail to: Kathleen Adams at McDonell Area Catholic Schools, 1316 Bel Air Blvd; Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

We would like to say THANK YOU to our corporate sponsors: