

Nova Mariana

A Newsletter for the Stakeholders of
St. Mary's High School



August 2017
Issue #1

Principal: Mr. Luigi Fortini

CATHOLICITY

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

LIFELONG LEARNING

Administration News

Welcome to the 2017-18 school year to St. Mary's High School. We are anticipating another great year at St. Mary's - full of exciting activities, enriched learning opportunities, renewing former friendships and making new acquaintances.

The staff has been working diligently to ensure that our school opening is smooth and that we begin our year-long journey focused on excellence in teaching and quality student learning. I would like to give a special welcome to our incoming grade tens and also to all families new to St. Mary's Family! As well, I look forward to working with all staff at St. Mary's.

The information outlined in this newsletter should clarify School Opening Procedures as well as give you information regarding registration changes and important events throughout September.

I would like to encourage parents to attend the St. Mary's School Council Meeting on Tuesday, September 19th at 5:00 pm. The School Council is a tremendous forum for parents to become informed about school events, activities and programs throughout the year and I look forward to seeing you there.

Luigi Fortini
Principal

School office will be open beginning Wednesday, August 16th, 2017. Registrations for New Students to the District will be processed beginning Monday, August 21st, 2017. Contact the reception desk for an appointment.

Early Bird Course Change Requests

We encourage all students to take advantage of these opportunities. Early Bird course change requests in the gym are scheduled as follows:

Grade 12 - Monday, August 21 (9:00 to 11:30 am)

Grade 11 - Tuesday, August 22 (9:00 to 11:30 am)

Grade 10 - Wednesday, August 23 (9:00 to 11:30 am)

Drop-Ins (all grades) - Ongoing Monday to Wednesday morning

* Appointments are not pre-scheduled. You may come anytime between the hours indicated to make schedule changes.

Opening Day

Tuesday, September 5th, 2017

Grade 10 Students (all must attend): 9:00 - 12:00 pm TA & 4 shortened classes;

9:00 - 9:47 am TA

9:50 - 10:05 am P1

10:08 - 10:23 am P2

10:26 - 10:41 am P3

10:44 - 10:59 am P4

11:02 - 11:17 am Scavenger Hunt

11:20 - 12:00 Welcome Lunch in the Cafeteria

*Grade 10 students will have the opportunity to have ID/Yearbook pictures taken during the morning.

St. Mary's High School

Phone: 403.500.2024

Email: stmarys@cssd.ab.ca /

111 - 18th Avenue S.W.

Fax: 403.500.2224

luigi.fortini@cssd.ab.ca

Calgary, Alberta T2S 0B8

www.cssd.ab.ca/schools/stmarys/

Grade 11 & 12 Students (all must attend):

12:30 - 1:00 pm Welcome Lunch in Cafeteria

1:00 - 3:25 pm TA & 4 shortened classes

Important Information for Parents and Students**Visible Student ID**

Students and staff at St. Mary's must have in their possession an I.D. Card. Lost or damaged I.D. must be replaced. Students may get a replacement ID card for \$1.00, a plastic pocket for \$2.00 and a lock for \$7.50. General school fees cover the cost of the first V.I.D. card issued at the start of the school year.

Bus Passes

Senior high students residing more than 2.4 kilometers from the school they are directed to attend by the District are eligible for a rebate. In order to receive a rebate on the purchase of a monthly youth Calgary Transit pass for September 2017 to June 2018, students must meet the eligibility criteria. For further information, refer to www.cssd.ab.ca and follow the Transportation link.

School Fees

Calgary Catholic School District uses an Online Fee Payment System for school fees. The fee payments program is accessible via the school website <https://www.cssd.ab.ca/schools/stmarys/> (home page, click on the "Online Fee Payment" tab) or at <https://www.studentquickpay.com/cssd/>. We encourage everyone to use the online system, however, payments will be accepted at the school for those parents who do not have computer access, or parents paying IB Fees.

The 2017-2018 school fees can be viewed on our St. Mary's home page.

Grade 10 Welcome Music Camp - for all incoming grade 10 Band and Choir students*

Friday, June 1st, 2017 - 1:00 - 3:00 pm in the Choir room (C098) - **All grade 10 music students are strongly encouraged to attend this fantastic welcome event!**

Photo Days

September 6th, 2017

Grade Level Assemblies

Thursday, September 7th, 2017 - Grade 11 & 12 during P3; Grade 10 during P4

Music Foundation Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, September 13th, 2017 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm (Gym) - for all Music Students

***It is critical that one or both parents/guardians attend this meeting along with the student.**

School Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 19th, 2017 at 5:00 pm (Learning Commons).

Grade 12 Information Night (Grad and Post Secondary)

Tuesday, September 19th, 2017 at 6:00 pm (Gym/Cafeteria):

1. Career planning and Exploration
2. Post secondary school: process for applying to universities, colleges and technical schools
3. Graduation rules, policies and activities

Volunteer Orientation Meeting

In order to volunteer in any capacity at St. Mary's, all new and returning volunteers must attend this orientation.

Tuesday, September 19th, 2017 from 6:30 to 7:00 pm (Learning Commons).

Grade 10 & 11 IB Parent Meeting

Tuesday, October 3rd, 2017 at 7:00 pm (Cafeteria/Learning Commons):

1. Course selections for options at University
2. Work experience (part time jobs, RAP)
3. Use of D2L Brightspace

Textbooks

All texts must be returned before the start of the new school year. They can be brought to the office in August or on September 5th. Parents able to volunteer with textbook distribution are asked to call the school at 403.500.2024 and leave their name with the receptionist.

Public Transit and Student Parking at St. Mary's

Parking at St. Mary's: It is recommended that students make use of the very convenient forms of public transit. CTrains, Bus 698 to and from West Side Rec Centre and other bus services provide excellent access to the school. Student parking availability at the school will be determined at the start of the school year. The City of Calgary Parking Authority will ticket any students in Visitor Stalls and any students parked without permission. Additional parking is available at the Talisman Centre. The Talisman Parking Agreement Forms are available at the Talisman Centre, once completed the forms and payment are to be returned to customer services at Repsol Centre. For more information call 403.233.8393.

PowerParent/Pearson Parent View

PowerParent is operated through PowerSchool, a web-based database application that facilitates student information management and communication among school administrators, teachers, parents and students. Parents have quick and easy access to view attendance records, marks, work habits and comments. You must have two pieces of information to create an account for your child(ren). Your child's Calgary Catholic School District ID number (6 or 7 digit number) and your child's birthday with month, day and year (example: Jan 8, 1996 must be typed as follows: 181996 (month/day/year)). Go to St. Mary's website <https://www.cssd.ab.ca/schools/stmarys/>, click on "Parent View" to log in or create your account. For more information please visit http://www.cssd.ab.ca/default.asp?V_ITEM_ID=2107.

Achievement Incentive

St. Mary's offers an Achievement Incentive. To qualify for the Academic Incentive, a student must obtain a cumulative grade of 70% in a course (which includes all coursework excluding the final exam and any other incentives). For more information visit <https://www.cssd.ab.ca/schools/stmarys/Students/Academics/>.

Student Timetable - 2017-2018

Monday to Thursday

8:25 - 9:00	Individual Learning Opportunity
9:01	Warning Bell
9:06 - 10:26	Period 1
10:29 - 10:39	TA
10:42 - 12:02	Period 2
12:02 - 12:37	Lunch
12:42 - 2:02	Period 3
2:05 - 3:25	Period 4

Friday

8:30 - 9:30	Student Assessment Opportunities
8:30 - 9:30	Learning Commons Student Support
9:35	Warning Bell
9:40 - 10:35	Period 1
10:38 - 11:33	Period 2
11:33 - 12:03	Lunch
12:08 - 1:03	Period 3
1:06 - 2:01	Period 4

Chaplain News

At St. Mary's, we are pleased to offer many opportunities for faith development for all of our students. The Grade Ten retreat (September 21) is a great chance for our Grade Ten students to explore the motto of our school—"Teach me Goodness, Discipline, Knowledge". The retreat also allows Grade 11 and 12 students to practice leadership skills and share their knowledge with the incoming students. Interested students should talk to Chaplain Dawna Richardson if they would like to help with the retreats. Later in the year, students who have not yet received their Sacraments of Initiation will be given the opportunity to be prepared for Baptism Confirmation and/or First Communion.

School Council News

The School Council of St. Mary's High School would like to take this opportunity to welcome all families, old and new, to the 2017-18 school year! Another year is about to begin and we look forward to all the excitement a new school year brings. The St. Mary's Council is made up of our Principal, Mr. Fortini, a teacher representative and parents like you and I, who value their children's education and want to play a role in their future.

Our meetings are excellent communication forums where ideas, suggestions and concerns can be raised and solutions arrived at together. You will be able to find out about things that are happening at our school, at the board level and provincially. They are generally an hour to an hour and a half in length. Meetings will be held in the Learning Commons at 5:00 pm on the following dates:

Tuesday, September 19, 2017	Tuesday, February 20, 2018
Tuesday, October 17, 2017	Tuesday, March 20, 2018
Tuesday, November 21, 2017	Tuesday, May 1, 2018
Tuesday, January 23, 2018	Tuesday, June 5, 2018 (Annual General Meeting)

We look forward to seeing you and wish you and your children all the best at St. Mary's High School in 2017-18!

Melina Tell
School Council Chair

Calendar of Events 2017-2018

AUGUST

- 21 Mon. Gr. 12 Course Change Requests 9-11:30 am
 22 Tues. Gr. 11 Course Change Requests 9-11:30 am
 23 Wed. Gr. 10 Course Change Requests 9-11:30 am
 21-23 Drop-In Course Change Requests 9-11:30 am

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Fri. Welcome Music Camp 1:00-3:00 pm
 4 Mon. Labour Day (no school)
 5 Tues. First day of Classes - Grade 10 inc. lunch 9:00-12:00 pm
 Grade 11 and 12 inc. lunch 12:30-3:25 pm
 6 Wed. Photos (all day)
 7 Thurs. Grade Level Assemblies
 13 Wed. Music Foundation AGM 7:00 pm
 19 Tues. **Parent Council Meeting 5:00 pm (Learning Commons)**
 Gr. 12 Post Secondary Planning 6:00 pm
 Volunteer Orientation 6:30 pm (Learning Commons)
 21 Thurs. Gr. 10 Retreat (all day)
 22 Fri. PD Day (no school)
 28 Thurs. School Opening Mass 10:40 am (Cathedral)
 Club and Sports Fair (Lunch/P3)

OCTOBER

- 3 Tues. Gr. 10/11 IB Information Night 7:00 pm (Cafe/LC)
 5 Thurs. Thanksgiving Liturgy (extended TA)
 6 Fri. PD Day (no school)
 9 Mon. Thanksgiving Day (no school)
 17 Tues. Photo Re-takes (morning)
 17 **Parent Council Meeting 5:00 pm (Learning Commons)**

NOVEMBER / NOVEMBER DIPLOMA EXAMS

- 1 Wed. Faith Day (no school)
 WE Day - All Day (Saddledome)
 1-8 Diploma Exams (ELA; Social; Math; Chem; Biology;
 Physics)
 2 Thurs. Quarter 1 Ends
 3 Fri. Quarter 2 Begins
 9 Thurs. Remembrance Day Ceremony (P2)
 Progress Report Distribution (end of day)
 16 Thurs. P/T Conferences 4:30 – 7:30 pm
 17 Tues. P/T Conferences 9 – 3:30 pm (no school)
 17 Thurs. In-Province Post-Secondary Fair 7:00-8:30 pm (Gym)
 18 Sat. Big Band Dinner Dance 6:00 pm (Gym)
 21 Tues. **Parent Council Meeting 5:00 pm (Learning Commons)**
 22 Wed. Open House 7:00 pm
 24 Fri. **Course Withdrawal Deadline (Sem 1)**
 28 Tues. St. Cecilia Festival 7:00 pm (Gym)

DECEMBER

- 1 Fri. Snow Ball Dance 6:00 pm (Gym)
 5 Tues. Advent Choral Concert 7:00 pm (Cathedral)
 7 Thurs. St. Mary's Day & Mass 10:40 am, lunch & P4
 8-9 Kris Kringle Basketball Tournament
 13-15 Drama Production & Art Exhibit 7:30 pm
 19 Tues. Advent Instrumental Concert 7:00 pm (Cathedral - evening)
 20 Wed. Cantabile Concert 7:00 pm (Cafeteria)
 21 Thurs. Last Day of Classes before Christmas Holidays (full day)
 22 Fri. Christmas Holidays begin

JANUARY / JANUARY DIPLOMA EXAMS

- 8 Mon. School Re-opens
 11 Thurs. English 30-1, 30-2 Part A
 12 Fri. Social Studies 30-1, 30-2 Part A
 15 Mon. FLA 30-1 Part A
 19 Fri. Last Day of Classes (Semester 1)
 22-30 Diploma Exams Continue & School Exams Begin
 22 Mon. FLA 30-1 Part B
 23 Tues. English 30-1, 30-2 Part B
Parent Council Meeting 5:00 pm (Learning Commons)
 24 Wed. Social Studies 30-1, 30-2 Part B
 25 Thurs. Math 30-1 and 30-2
 26 Fri. Biology 30

- 29 Mon. Chemistry 30
 30 Tues. Physics 30 & Science 30
 Quarter 2 Semester 1 Ends
 31 Weds. Quarter 3 Semester 2 Begins

FEBRUARY

- 1-3 Saints Sr. BB Tournament
 7 Wed. Open House 7-9:00 pm
 8 Thurs. Progress Report Distribution (end of day)
 14 Wed. Ash Wednesday Liturgy (Cathedral)
 15 Thurs. Teacher's Convention ATA (no school)
 16 Fri. Teacher's Convention ATA (no school)
 19 Mon. Family Day (no school)
 20 Tues. **Parent Council Meeting 5:00 pm (Learning Commons)**

MARCH

- 5-9 Graduation Photos by appointment
 14-16 Theatre 35 IB Production 7:30 pm (Theatre)
 20 Tues. **Parent Council Meeting 5:00 pm (Learning Commons)**
 23 Fri. PD Day (no school)
 29 Thurs. Last Day of Classes before Spring Break (full day)
 30 Fri. Spring Break begins

APRIL / APRIL DIPLOMA EXAMS

- 9 Mon. School Re-Opens
 9-17 Diploma Exams (ELA; Social; Math, Chem., Bio., Science,
 Physics)
 11 Wed. Easter Mass 10:40 am (Cathedral)
 End Quarter 3
 12 Thurs. Start Quarter 4
 17 Tues. Spring Choral Concert 7:00 pm (First Church of the
 Nazarene)
 19 Thurs. Progress Reports Distribution (end of day)
 20 Fri. PD Day (no school)
 23 Mon. P/T Conferences 9:00 - 3:30 pm (no school)
 21 Fri. P/T Conferences 4:30 - 7:30 pm
 27 Fri. **Course Withdrawal Deadline (Sem 2)**

MAY

- 1 Tues. **Parent Council Meeting 5:00 pm (Learning Commons)**
 2-18 IB Exams
 18 Fri. PD Day (no school)
 22 Mon. Victoria Day (no school)
 24 Thurs. Grade 12 Retreat (all day)
 26 Sat. Graduation Banquet 6:30 pm (BMO Centre)
 28 Mon. Principal's Address to Graduates (P4)
 Graduation Rehearsal & Gown Pick up
 29 Tues. Graduation Day - No School
 Graduation Mass 9:30 am (Cathedral)
 Graduation Ceremonies 2:30 pm (Jubilee)
 31 Thurs. Meet Your TA Night 7:00 pm

JUNE / JUNE DIPLOMA EXAMS

- 5 Tues. **Parent Council AGM Mtg 5:00 pm (Learning Commons)**
 6 Wed. Athletic Banquet 4:00 pm (Gym/Cafeteria)
 7 Thurs. Academic Awards 6:30 pm (Gym)
 8 Fri. French Graduation
 Fine Arts Light Night
 12 Tues. Last Day of Classes (Semester 2)
 13 Wed. Diploma & School Exams Begin
 English 30-1, 30-2 Part A
 14 Thurs. Social Studies 30-1, 30-2 Part A
 18 Mon. FLA 30-1 Part A
 19 Tues. FLA 30-1 Part B
 20 Wed. English 30-1, 30-2 Part B
 21 Thurs. Aboriginal Day (no exams)
 22 Fri. Social Studies 30-1, 30-2 Part B
 25 Mon. Math 30-1, 30-2
 26 Tues. Chemistry 30
 27 Wed. Biology 30
 28 Thurs. Physics 30 & Science 30
 29 Fri. Teacher Organization (am)