SAINT MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY

A Guiding Light in Sheepshead Bay

May 1, 2024

Dear Families:

As we turn the calendar to May, we begin to look forward to many year-end events, most especially our eighth-grade graduation. This past Thursday, the Class of 2024 celebrated "the beginning of the end" of their time at Saint Mark Catholic Academy with their Ring Day Mass and Ceremony. We were especially grateful to have Superintendent of Schools Deacon Kevin McCormack and Deputy Superintendent Mrs. Joan McMaster join us for the special celebration. Thank you to Father Bob for a beautiful Mass and congratulations once again to our students and their families! Today, I'd like to share with you the remarks I made to our students on that special day.

Sincerely. k Wilsa Mr. Mark Wilson

Mr. Mark Wilso Principal

For a variety of reasons, this graduating class is special. There's not enough time to list all the ways you are unique, but I would like to point out one reason in particular. There are some who have called our school home since you were three or four years old, which means a few of you were part of Saint Mark's first Pre-K for All class just about 10 years ago.

Whether it was here at Saint Mark or at another school or daycare center, most, if not all of you, attended preschool somewhere. This year, the Pre-K for All curriculum changed, the program's first major adjustment in many, many years, and-since the two most important academic administrators in the Diocese are here-let me say for all to hear, our teachers absolutely love it!

The new curriculum breaks up the year into month-long units, some of which include community, clothes, recycling, wheels; the list goes on.

Since this curriculum is new this year, none of you ever got to experience it, so I'm bringing one of those units to you now, a pre-k unit for eighth graders. The one that stood out to me the most was...trees!

Despite being a topic for toddlers, trees are serious business. For example, trees are ever-present in literature. A Tree Grows in Brooklyn... The Giving Tree... Just to name a few... Boo Radley uses a tree in To Kill a Mockingbird to discreetly offer gifts to the Finch children... Without question trees are also prominent in the most published book in the world, The Bible. Sin, established when Adam and Eve eat the forbidden fruit of the tree, is conquered when Jesus himself is nailed to a tree.

Perhaps trees were chosen as a unit of pre-k study and are used as symbols throughout literature because they represent life itself. More specifically, it is the rings of the tree that can provide great insight into its life. In fact, there's a specific field of science devoted to tree ring study. Dendrochronology is the professional study of a tree over time and is achieved by taking core samples from the tree trunk.

The older a tree is, the wider it can become and the more it can tell us about the environment around it. Trees are even providing insights on global warming.

Although some of us tend to grow a bit wider as we get older, human beings don't have rings that reveal the storied history of our past. Or do we? While we may not have a ring for each year of our lives, we do have rings that mark important times in our lives...engagement rings, wedding rings, college rings, friendship rings...the list goes on... and, of course, the rings you receive today.

Sometimes, a black ring, or dark ring, is visible when a tree is chopped down. This usually signifies that the tree survived a forest fire, infestation of insects, or some type of fungus. But the dark ring is never the final one. More often than not, healthy rings surround this dark ring. You don't need to be a dendrochronologist to figure this one out. Despite facing adversity or hardship, the tree grew.

The rings you receive today commemorate a good time, but we have all faced adversity, and we will continue to do so throughout our lives. We may not have a ring on our finger to symbolize it. After all, who wears a ring to remember a bad time, and you can't bore a hole through us to see any dark rings. But, we know they're there. The important thing is to keep growing, to not only survive, but to thrive!

Today is the beginning of the end of your time at Saint Mark Catholic Academy. You have many milestones ahead of you, but your days here are coming to a close. When you wear these rings, remember how much you have grown, from those little kids in pre-k to the young men and women you are now.

Look at all of these trees that have grown in Brooklyn.

Wear these rings and remember the faith that has been instilled in you. Remember the support you were given, the love you were shown. Most of all, remember to keep growing.

And never forget: Your roots are here at Saint Mark.

Continuing the tradition of faith, service, and education. 2602 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11235 | (718) 332-9304 | smcaonthebay.org



ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

Our Summer Academic and Extended Day programs are focused on creating an engaging and fun learning culture.

Our Academic program focuses on Math and ELA and Educational Enrichment opportunities for our Summer Program participants.

Our Extended Day Program participants will have the opportunity to participate in outdoor activities as well as a wide variety of physical education classes and fun activities.

Our students will have educational and fun experiences in a summer to remember!

Early morning drop off !



718-332-9304

2602 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11235 WWW.SMCAONTHEBAY.ORG FUN & ACTIVITIES

Critical Thinking Activities
 Sports
 Movies
 Games

YS AND GIRLS

3-K TO 8th GRADE



TO REGISTER

SAINT MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY SUMMER ACADEMIC AND EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM 2024

June 26th – August 9th 2024

REGISTER HERE: https://tinyurl.com/yxdc47xj



Academic Program: St. Mark Catholic Academy is currently planning for the School's Summer Academic Program and the Summer Extended Day Program. The Academic Program provides our students with the essential or enriched coursework for greater success next school year. If you have questions about the summer academic program and/or its importance for your child, please contact Mr. Mark Wilson (Principal) or Mrs. Lisa Rizzo (Assistant Principal) (718)-332-9304.

Extended Day Program: Once again, this summer, we are offering an "extended day " program after morning classes five days a week. Enrichment and recreational activities, as well as breakfast, lunch, and an afternoon snack/beverage, are included. *Mr. Michael Davis is coordinating this Extended Day program. To learn more about the program, please contact Mr. Michael Davis (347)-574-1828.*

	TION FEE: REGISTRATION	FEE END	S MAY 17 th 2024	EARLY MORNING DROP OFF: (7:30 AM - 8:30 AM) Includes Breakfast						
-AFTER MAY	/ 17 th , 2024, REG IDABLE	ISTRATI	ON FEE IS \$250-	 1 Child=\$200 2 Children=\$350 3 Children=\$500 						
TUITION	& PAYMENT	SCHED	ULE							
PROG	MER ACADEMI RAM [morning ri 8:30am – 12:00	s]	SUMMER ACA AND EXT Mon – Fri 8:	ENDED DA	EXTENDED DAY ONLY Mon – Fri 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm					
	JITION (1 CHILD)	\$1,100		ON (1 CHILD)	TUITION (1 CHILD) \$2,300					
Payment Due June 7 th & Jul			Payment Due dates: June 7 th & July 7 th 20		Payment Due dates: June 7 th & July 7 th 2024					
TUITION (2 CHILDREN) \$1,980			TUITION (2	CHILDREN)	TUITION (2 CHILDREN) \$4,140					
Installment P June 7 th & Ju	ayment Due dates ly 7 th 2024	:	Installment Payment June 7 th & July 7 th 20		Installment Payment Due dates: June 7 th & July 7 th 2024					
τυιτια	DN (3 CHILDREN)	\$2,805	TUITION (3	CHILDREN)	\$7,013	TL	UTION (3 CHILDREN)	\$5,865		
Installment P June 7 th & Ju	ayment Due dates ly 7 th 2024	:	Installment Payment June 7 th & July 7 th 20		Installment Payment Due dates: June 7 th & July 7 th 2024					
• IND	IVIDUAL WEEKS	\$500 p	DED DAY PROGRA er week must be pre II Day Session only (paid at the b	peginning o			M)		
CONTACT:	·Mrs. Lori Ryan		(718)-332-9304	SUMMER PR	OGRAM		SCAN QR CODE TO R	GISTER		
CONTACT:	Mr. Michael D	avis	(347)-574-1828	CADEMIC PROGRAM						
	Mr. Mark Wils		(718)-332-9304							

 Grades 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, and 4 will dismiss at 12pm. Grades 5, 6, 7, and 8 will also dismiss at 12pm.
 Kindergarten A and Kindergarten B will dismiss at 11:50am.
 Pre-K A, Pre-K B, and Pre-K C will dismiss at 12:30pm.
• 3K-A and 3K-B will dismiss at 12:30pm.
 NO MORNING OR AFTERNOON BUS SERVICE.
 The after-school program will continue to be available for all students.
 Please continue to use your usual entrance/exit.
on Friday, May 3
EARLY DISMISSAL

	26		19	1/apper	12		5		28	Sunday	Saint Ma
SCHOOL CLOSED: Memorial Day	27	After-school Chess Class 3:15PM - 4:15PM	20	Title 1 Zoom Parent Meeting (for students in Title 1 program) After-school Chess Class 3:15PM - 4:15PM	13	After-school Chess Class 3:15PM - 4:15PM	6	After-school Chess Classes Begin 3:15PM - 4:15PM	29	Monday	Saint Mark Catholic Academy May 2024
	28		21		14	New York State Testing Program NYS Math Test Grades 4, 6, and 7 Mother's Day Sale	7		30	Tuesday	olic Acad
	29	Spring Show: Grades 1-8 6:15pm in Gym SPRING SHOW	22		15	New York State Testing Program NYS Math Test Grade 4, 6, and 7	8		4	Wednesday	demy Ma
	30		23		16	Ascension Thursday 10am Mass	9	Evening Progress Report Conferences • 5pm to 7pm • Zoom or Phone Call Only	2	Thursday	iy 2024
Early Dismissal Day for Kindergarten – Grade 8 NO BUS SERVICE Full Day for 3K and Pre-K WALK-A-THON	31	Pizza-Dress Down (\$5) Confirmation 4pm	24		17	MUFFINS	10	Early Dismissal Day for All Classes Afternoon Progress Report Conferences • 12:30pm to 3pm • In-school only NO BUS SERVICE First Friday Mass 8:30am	3	Friday	
	1		25	Armed Forces	18	First Holy Communion	11		4	Saturday	

Fettuccine Alfredo with Chicken will be served Fettuccine Alfredo with Chicken will be served Fettuccine Alfredo with Chicken will be served

ALAN PIXAR

thers

MAY 7th

The Sale Will Be On The STAGE IN THE GYM Items will range \$3 and Up

Based on availability, items will also be available for purchase by parents at dismissal

MAY 17TH, 2024

St. Mark Spring

Jairy Tale

Formal

Grades 4 through 8 S20 per person Doors WIII Be Opened From 630 to 9:00 Must Be Formal Attire: No Leggings — No Sweatpants No Sneakers — No Logo Shirts



Small Steps, **Bold Strides**



LUNG FORCE Walk New York City

St. Mark Catholic Academy

Team Captain: Mark Wilson

Register to walk: https://action.lung.org/goto/StMarkCatholicAcademy24



Saturday, May 18, 2024

Pier 16, South Street Seaport | New York, NY | 9:30 a.m.

National Corporate Team Partner:



Contact NYCWalk@Lung.org or 917-210-5649 for more information.

Join us for...

Muffins

with

Friday, May 10th

MOM

3K and Pre-K: 8:30am to 9:15am

Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2: 9:45am to 10:30am

Students will join their moms in the cafeteria, where they will have muffins and drinks. They will work on a small project together and moms will take home a gift of marigold seeds for Mother's Day!

Grades 3-8: 11:00am to 12:00pm

Muffins and drinks will be set up in the main hallway. Moms can pick up a muffin and a drink and visit their children's classrooms. Students will proceed with their day as usual, with moms "stopping in" to see

them in action!