



## School News for Parents April 17, 2018

While they were still speaking about this,  
he stood in their midst and said to them,  
"Peace be with you."  
But they were startled and terrified  
and thought that they were seeing a ghost.  
Then he said to them, "Why are you troubled?  
And why do questions arise in your hearts?  
Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself.  
Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones  
as you can see I have."  
And as he said this,  
he showed them his hands and his feet.  
While they were still incredulous for joy and were amazed,  
he asked them, "Have you anything here to eat?"  
They gave him a piece of baked fish;  
he took it and ate it in front of them. Luke 24: 36-43

### **Snow Make Up Days**

We have received permission to make up the snow days by calculating academic hours. This is good news for St. Max! The state of Pennsylvania requires 180 days of school or 900 academic hours for grades K to 5 and 990 academic hours for grades 6,7 & 8. It is because St. Max students have longer class periods for all subjects that we can make up hours instead of days.

The snow days were February 7, March 7 and March 14, 2018. One snow day was made up on Wednesday, March 28, 2018. So 178 days represent the number of school days for 2017-18.

To determine if St. Max meets the academic hours requirement, the calculation is done by multiplying the actual number of days in school (178) times the number of academic hours in the school day after excluding homeroom, lunch and recess.

**Elementary academic hours -  $5.25 \times 178 = 934.5$  (required = 900)**

**Grades 6, 7 & 8 academic hours -  $5.5 \times 178 = 979$  (required = 990)**

The elementary grades meet the required hours but the 6,7 & 8 grades need 11 hours to meet the requirement. For these grades to make up the 11 hours, a half hour of academic time will be added each day beginning on **April 17, 2018** and continuing to **May 18, 2018**. The following schedule adjustments will be made:

- Homeroom business will be conducted between 7:50 and 8:00am
- First period class will begin at 8:00am sharp
- Afternoon classes will begin at 12:45pm instead of 1:00pm
- This will add 11.5 academic hours
- Friday, May 25 and Wednesday, June 13 will be scheduled days off

Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Respectfully,  
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### **Kimmel Center Concert April 17,2018**

*Reverend Monsignor Louis A. D'Addezio Concert of Excellence* at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts.

St. Max can boast that 9 of our students will be performing at the Kimmel Center. These students auditioned with students from the entire Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Musicians and Singers from 450 students who attend Catholic elementary schools, high schools, and schools of special education in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

**Our Musicians** are:

Avery Fetchko  
Grace Della Porta  
Arden Dougherty  
Lunden Melton

**Our Singers** are:

Rachel Kealey  
Samantha Blumenthal  
Abbie Wolfe  
Katie Stewart  
Mary Kate Vink

### Teaching Touching Safety Lessons

In accordance with Safe Environment policies, Teaching Touching Safety Lessons, are mandated by the Archdiocesan Office of Children and Youth Protection, to be taught twice a year. These lessons were taught during November and must be taught on April 24 & 25.

You are welcome to view the lessons taught for each grade at the following site:

<http://www.aopcatholicschools.org/about/programs/>

Parents are free to opt out of the lessons. If you would prefer that your child NOT take part in the Teaching Touching Safety lessons, *please send a note to your child's teacher specifically stating your decision to opt out.* There are no repercussions for opting out of the lessons

Writers! Winners Rachel Watmuff received first prize in the Patriots Pen Essay Contest sponsored by the Butler, O'Connor, McCormick VFW Post # 106 & Auxiliary. Elie Udo and Mia Sucher were also winners. Congratulations!

Support 8th Grade @ PJ WHELIHAN'S on Thursday, April 19 from 5:00- 9:00pm

6th graders to Shanahan **May 12, 9AM - 1PM** All area 6th graders are invited to a free, fun and faith filled festival at Bishop Shanahan High School! Check out the video and learn more at [shanahan.org/seek](http://shanahan.org/seek).

### Spread St. Max Pride

Do you know someone who is considering St. Max? We can work together to spread the good news of St. Max. You have two tasks: first, tell them how much you *love our school*. In conversations with people who are considering St. Max, YOU are a tremendous influence. And then, tell me. I will give them a call. I love telling people about our great school.

Our Friends and Family Plan- If you refer a family that registers for the 2018-19 school year, you get a gift card It's win/ win! We increase our enrollment & you get a gift card in addition to a new friendship! Go for it!

### Foundation Grant for Teachers

St. Max Teachers have received a \$3000 grant from the Foundation for Catholic Education. The grant will fund a workshop facilitated by the Chester County Intermediate Unit for 20 of our teachers to learn how to use all the resources and technologies available through the *Innovation Lending Library*. At every grade level, our students are engaged in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) projects. The materials are very expensive to purchase. With training through the

CCIU, all teachers are eligible to borrow a wide variety of STEAM materials for use in their classrooms.

The grant also gives all teachers a gift card for *Teachers Pay Teachers*. This is an online site where teachers develop, make and sell curricular materials and resources for classroom use. Teachers can purchase ready made activities and materials for math and science projects, reading, English language arts, and social studies as well as centers, stations, book talks, art projects, etc. Many of St. Max's teachers use it regularly because they are able to purchase the materials at a reasonable price. It saves them hours of time designing and making their own materials.