



## Principal's Post

September 16, 2022

Good afternoon St. Margaret School families,

Each Friday afternoon you will receive this "Principal's Post" highlighting important SMS information. Please take the time to read these weekly posts (including any attachments) and use the information for your planning purposes throughout the year.

This week we celebrated our Opening Liturgy with our students in grades K-8 along with many parents! We also had our first visit with our Prayer Partners! Parents, you did a wonderful job with our first MS drop off to the ES campus!

Our amazing **Fall Festival** is right around the corner, September 23 and 24! The Committees have put together a **wish list** - every item donated helps to make St. Margaret's Fall Festival a huge success! Please follow this link to get to the SignUpGenius:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B44A8AF28A7F58-fall1>

The Fall Festival rides are being delivered this weekend! Please be patient with arrival and dismissal on both campuses next week as the rides will take up some space on the school parking lots. It will be well worth it to watch the student's faces light up when they see the rides! Thank you for your cooperation!

**Fall Festival Volunteers!** The biggest area that is short on volunteers is Saturday evening. Please, if you are available, we would love to not have to close a booth due to not having enough volunteers to run it. [SMS Community: Saturday Fall Festival \(signupgenius.com\)](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B44A8AF28A7F58-fall1)

### NEW INFORMATION:

**MAP Testing** - During the weeks of September 12th-30th your child will take our MAP® Growth™ test. MAP Growth is designed to measure how well a student is learning critical skills. It gives teachers detailed, actionable information they can use to guide instruction and better support students. It measures progress over the school year and across school years in Reading and Math. Testing will take place again in the winter and spring. Please see the **attached** MAP Testing letter for more information.

**CYO Basketball** - St. Margaret School students/parishioners are invited to participate in the Archdiocese of Baltimore's CYO basketball program for 2022-2023. Please see the

**attached** letter for more information. The program runs from October 1<sup>st</sup> through February 1<sup>st</sup> and is open to grade levels 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Save the Date - Used Uniform Drop Off!** On Sept. 28, bring your used uniforms and spirit wear to drop off at both schools. Middle School drop box will be at the front door of the school. Elementary School will have volunteers that will be located by the car drop off loop, between the brick and white buildings, to collect donations. EDC will have a collection box as well.

**Next Used Uniform Sale** - October 6 - more details to come!

### **IMPORTANT REMINDERS:**

**September outreach** assists the *Choose Hope Women's Center* in Bel Air. The most needed items are: baby lotion, wash, shampoo, diaper cream, socks, towels, blankets, pacifiers, small sleepers and onesies, 18-24 mo. clothing, large diapers, and Pull-ups. Donating to our monthly outreach is optional. Please offer your prayers to those in need in our Harford County community.

### **Dress Code and Uniform Policies - (Handbook pages 20-23)**

Please be sure your child is following the uniform (including hair) guidelines in our handbook (pages 20-23). Uniform slips will be given for not following the school uniform guidelines.

Parent/Student Handbook link: <https://smsch.org/assets/imgs/featured/Handbook-St.-Margaret-School-2022-2023.pdf>

**Arrival Reminders** - Students may not exit vehicles prior to 7:20am at the Middle School campus and 7:45am at the Elementary School campus.

**Campus Safety** - Please be aware that students should not remain outside on the campuses after school (on playgrounds, etc.). Students should not be returning into the buildings to use the bathrooms or water fountains after school. We all love our pets, however dogs should not be outside of vehicles on the campuses. Students should not be petting or playing with pets for safety reasons. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Parish Cub Scouts** - Please see the **attached** flyer for more information on Cub Scouts (for boys and girls Kindergarten-5th grade)

**Lunch Duty PreK 4 - Grade 5** Lunch duty parent helpers will begin in October! Each homeroom will receive a Sign Up Genius from the school. Please look for an email to be sent at the end of September.

**Volunteer Compliance VIRTUS** - Please review the VIRTUS requirements for volunteering. All those who wish to volunteer in our school must be appropriately screened and provide three written references to the school. Parents may not volunteer without completing this mandatory screening. <https://smsch.org/giving/volunteer/virtus>

**Looking ahead!**

**Sept. 23: School Closed - Faculty Retreat**

**Sept. 23-24: FALL FESTIVAL!**

**Oct. 7: School Closed - AOB Professional Development Day**

**Oct. 15: HSA Trunk or Treat (rain date Oct. 22)**

**Oct. 31: Early Dismissal Day**

Have a wonderful weekend!

Blessings,  
Mrs. Anna Shanahan  
Principal