

St. Mary's School is home to 314 preK-12 students at 312 Seneca Street in Storm Lake, Iowa. Our mission is to be a Christ-centered family devoted to the development of the mind, body, and spirit of our students.

Students at St. Mary's who have taken the ACT have consistently, over the 5-year trend, scored higher than the state averages in subject areas of English, Math, Reading, and Science.

We pride ourselves upon offering a rigorous academic curriculum with a faith base. In addition, our students and parents tell us that St. Mary's has a family feel due to our small size.

FAQ

Q. What is your enrollment?

A. The 2017-18 school year had a preK-12 enrollment of 314.

Q. It's the first day of school - where do I take my child?

A. PreK-5 students will go to the lunchroom. Middle and high school students (6-12) will go to the gym where they will receive their schedules.

Q. May I monitor my child's meal balance?

A. You may check your child's meal balance on-line. (See Parent Grade/Lunch Access under Parent Tab on the homepage.) You will need to enter your username & password to access your family account. Contact the school office if you need assistance. Meal payments can be made at the school and parish offices, or with the option of paying automatically by ACH – see Finance Office.

Q. May I have lunch with my child?

A. Yes, you may eat lunch with your child. Be sure to give the office at least a 24-hour notice. Guest lunch fee is \$3.65. Please pay in the office prior to eating lunch.

Q. Does St. Mary's offer preschool or pre-kindergarten programs?

A. Two preschool programs are offered:

1. Three-Year-Old All Day Program: M/W/Th ~ 8:15 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
2. Four-Year-Old All Day Program: Monday-Friday ~ 8:15 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Q. Do St. Mary's students wear uniforms?

A. Yes. Our uniforms are more of a dress code—uniform style with designated color of shirts, pants, skirts and shorts. Dresscode and Grooming Guidelines can be found on our website under the Admissions tab. Uniforms are acceptable every day of the school year.

Q. What are the dates for warmer weather wear?

A. Students may wear shorts, skirts (appropriate length) or capri pants from the beginning of the school year through November 1, then again March 20 to the end of the school year.

Q. Will there be days students can choose to not wear uniforms?

A. Certain days will be designated and planned for in advance as ‘Out of Uniform’ Days by administration. Students who join in the spirit of an ‘out of uniform’ day will be assessed \$.50 (K-5) or \$1.00 (6-12) on days designated for fund raising events. Some of the ‘Out of Uniform’ days will be designated as “free”. ‘Out of Uniform’ specifics can be found in the Uniform Guidelines.

Q. What is a Panther Pack?

A. A Panther Pack is a folder handed out weekly to the PreK-6 students as a form of communication to the parents. Folders are handed out on Fridays. Students are to have their parents go through the information, and return them to their classroom the following Monday.

Q. Is there an after school program?

A. Yes, for your convenience and the safety of your child, we offer a preK-4 After Care Program until 5:30 p.m. on regular school days. Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

Q. What do I do if my child is absent from school or has an appointment?

A. Contact the school office by calling 712-732-4166. Please inform the office by 8:30 a.m. if your child is sick or has an appointment that day.

Q. How will I know if school will dismiss early or be closed due to bad weather?

A. Cancellations & postponements will be announced through local radio stations-92.9 FM KKIA/101.7 FM KAYL, our school website, and News on the Run. You may select to receive text notifications (see Communications under Parent webpage), and also updates online through Iowa School Alerts.

Q. Where can I find our school calendar?

A. Our school calendar is kept current and found on our school website at stormlakecatholic.com. It is located at the top of the Quicklinks section of the homepage.

Q. Is there a sign-in/sign-out procedure for parents and students outside the normal arrival & departure times?

A. If students are entering the building after the start of the school day, they must first stop in the office for a pass to class. If you are removing your child from school for an appointment or other reason, you must sign your child out in the office. Students need to check back in the office upon returning. Students old enough to drive themselves may do so as long as parents inform the office and the student signs themselves out.

Q. Should I mark my child’s clothes?

A. Yes, even if it is just initials. Since everyone wears the same type of clothing, it is hard to identify lost items. The lost and found container is located in the hall near the NE Gym entrance.

Experience the difference at St. Mary’s School where God is in the classroom!

Let us know what questions we missed! Contact the school at 732-4166 or e-mail PreK-5 Principal Diane Jones at djones@stmarys-storm.pvt.k12.ia.us or 6-12 Principal Ryan Berg at rberg@stmarys-storm.pvt.k12.ia.us.