

St. Mary's School is home to 318 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 2016-17 school year had a preK-12 enrollment of 318.

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

A. PreK-5 students will be able to go straight to their classroom. (Preschool is located in the convent building, west of the school.) Middle and high school students (6-12) will go to the gym where they will receive their schedules.

Q. What's my lunch balance?

A. You may check your lunch account 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. Your password can be set up in the school office. Lunch payments can be made at the school office, or with the option of paying automatically by ACH – see Finance Office.

Q. May I have lunch with my child?

A. Yes, you can eat lunch with your child. Be sure to give the office at least a 24-hour notice. Guest lunch fee is \$3.55. 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 – 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. Guidelines and FAQ to the dress code may be found on our website under Admissions, called Uniform Guidelines. Uniforms are acceptable every day of the school year.

Q. What are the dates for warm weather wear/cool 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. Cool weather wear is from November 2- March 19. Specifics for each season are included in the school handbook, located on our website.

Q. Will there be days students won't wear uniforms?

A. Certain days will be designated and planned for in advance as 'Out of Uniform' Day by administration. Students who join in the spirit of an 'out of uniform' day may be assessed \$.50 (K-5) or \$1.00 (6-12) for designated fund raising events. 'Out of Uniform' specifics can be found in the school handbook, located on our school website.

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, sign the folders, 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 posted on 92.9 FM KKIA/101.7 FM KAYL, our school website, and News on the Run. You may select to receive updates online from Iowa School Alerts through Iowa School Alerts .

Q. How can I stay informed about calendar events, including updates & changes?

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. You may print from the calendar. Sign up for [News on the Run](#), to receive email updates.

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.

Q. When can my child be on Crossing Guard Patrol?

A. The sixth grade students are in charge of Safety Patrol. Students must have their parents sign a permission slip before they are able to participate. A rotating schedule is then made and sent home with the students for their parents to approve. Students go to their post at 3:20 and return to the school building around 3:35. Mrs. Kestel supervises this duty.

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@stormlakecatholic.com or 6-12 Principal Cindy Cone at ccone@stormlakecatholic.com.