



January 2, 2025

Hello Saint Gregory Families,

I hope all of you had an amazing, healthy, wonderful Christmas and a Safe New Year's Eve. We are really starting off the school year with some good snow! Let's hope old man winter takes it a bit easier on us. Just a letter to keep everyone up on what's going on in PTO.

In September it was a beautiful blessing to have our grandparents join us on Grandparents day so many people showed up! We loved sharing a sweet treat and being able to color or read with them sharing fun moments. We hope to tweak a few things for the next one. We realize it can be quite loud in the gym with so many kids versus older adults. We hope to have some new fresh ideas to take the tone down a bit. We also had a fun family feast dinner. The food was certainly delicious. Maybe we will try to move the date more towards November so more families can join! We understand the beginning of the school year in September is tough.

We made our way in October where our Fall Fest seemed to be a haunting success with good weather for trunk & treats, and cute costumes! I can't thank all my parent volunteers enough—you know who you are!!! I appreciated everyone who showed up to help with setting up/tearing down and also running different work stations. You all amaze me with the quickness in getting things organized and such great ideas in tight spots. We were told it was a little noisy with the spooky music and the bounce houses so we will try to make something work out a little better for next year.

November always seems to be a little slower in activity but we decided to ask the teachers what we could help with in the classroom. A small fund was voted on to give to each teacher some items to be bought or used within their classroom. One amazing thing was Mrs. Helffrich had signed up for an app called FORMED for religion class grades 1st to 8th. I can't wait to hear all the exciting things to come from this. It's a fabulous app that helps with programs, books, and kid shows. This is just one more way to help our kids learn just a little more on their journey with God.

December always is the busiest time of the school year and the winter snow was really trying to put an icicle in our plans, but in true blue and gold fashion our St. Greg families pulled together. Our Santa's secret shop was a fantastic success- making it one of our best years. We can't thank families enough for the beautiful donations that were utilized at the Santa's secret shop! We have a few Christmas knots to work out for next year with the wrapping department but the kids really enjoyed it! We also have plans for the raised money, but that's a fun surprise for the next letter. Our favorite event of December is of course Pizza with Santa! Even with a few

changes to dates and times due to weather we had a decent turnout. We made a few changes for how the flow would go for the night to make it less stressful for families. We hope it worked, there was only one small complaint that the music was a little somber. We tried this year not to be too loud being that the acoustics are a bit much for the amount of people. We will try to make it a little more merry and bright for next year music wise.

Within the next few upcoming months, we are excited to make Catholic schools week, Disney Bingo, Mardi Gras, and Open house to be fun experiences. The next few meetings we will also be talking about the different experiences to bring to the school and where we can also send the kids to enrich their minds.

We really can't wait to get back into full swing and start the new year off on the right foot. If there are any questions, concerns, or ideas please feel free to bring them to attention. Either at a PTO meeting, call, text or email. We can all make the events go smoothly working together. I want to thank PTO Team Members and St. Gregory staff for doing a fabulous job making every minute count for our kids. Also to our SGS parents your support backs us up to no end without you the fundraisers and fun festivities could not happen. Thank you all!!

**Sincerely,
Kayla Engesser**

PTO MEETING SCHEDULE: Monday's at 6:30 in the SGS Library

- Jan 13
- Feb 10
- Mar 10
- April 14
- May 12
- June 9

PTO Team Members

Mrs. Schoenfeldt -School Representative

Kayla Engesser - Chairman call 814) 323-0365 or Email akengesser@gmail.com

Jennifer Nikolishen- Co Chairman/ Organization

Richard Mielnik - Treasure

Jennifer Marshall- Secretary/ Connections

Jim Marshall - Connections Representative

Kathryn Barnes- Inventory Secretary

Michelle Lewis- Organization, Volunteer Coordinator

Stephanie Quigley- Social NetWorking

Brianne Seth -Organization / Volunteer Coordinator

Katie Confer- Organization/ Volunteer Coordinator

Mrs. Hurrell- Teacher Representative

Miss Stocker -Teacher Representative

Miss Rogus - Teacher Representative

