

What's Inside:

| | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|
| Musical Ticket Information p. D1 | Take Me to Church p. F1 | Faculty-Staff Basketball Game Recap p. F4 |
|---|--------------------------------|--|

Lancer Gala Is Huge Success

The Lancer Gala combines delicious food, stellar auction items, and no shortage of fun, all while raising money to benefit St. Mary's students.

Guests have the opportunity to place bids on the silent and special auction items and enjoy various raffles throughout the night. During the live auction, attendees can bid on fabulous prizes, including vacations, sporting event tickets, golf packages, college tuition waivers and much more.



This year's live auction items featured the chance to watch a Bills game with Thurman Thomas in a suite, a Caribbean Cruise, a new backyard patio, trips to Ellicottville, and a week stay in a beach house in Myrtle Beach.

Thank you to the record number of guests we had attend this year's Gala. We are already looking forward to next year's big event!



School News... A

The Arts... D

Photo Pages... G

Faculty Spotlight... B

Alumni News & Updates... E

Sports... C

Student Beat... F

A1

Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

It never ceases to amaze me that my time as *The Marian Gazette* editor and a St. Mary's student is dwindling down rapidly. I'm beyond thankful for the plethora of wonderful opportunities and experiences that writing as the editor has brought me, but I'll preserve my final thank-yous and goodbyes for the last edition of this year's *Gazette*. For now, however, I'd like to focus on another chapter of my life that will be coming to an end incredibly shortly: performing in St. Mary's musicals.

As I spend a copious amount of time with my fellow cast members in polishing each scene from this year's musical, *The Addams Family* (which opens Thursday, March 14th at 7:30 pm!), I've taken a few moments to reflect back on my early thespianic days of pure bliss, excitement, and naivety. Although it's incredibly sad to think that I'll be taking my final bow on the St. Mary's stage later this week, I can't help but feel a plethora of gratitude for the welcoming and memorable experiences that occurred on and off of that same stage, as well as my early performing days in elementary school (in which my love for theatre was first uncovered).

From the moment I first stepped onto my elementary school's stage as a knife in *Beauty and the Beast Jr.*, I became completely enamored with every aspect of theatre. Between spending time after school to rehearse with friends and fellow cast members, growing closer to those I might've not initially imagined myself bonding with, and, of course, the thrill I received while performing in front of an audience for the first time, I knew I had stumbled upon a gem of a hobby. It's become a moment trapped in time for me, to be completely honest, because it partially feels as if opening night of *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* was ages ago—which it was, rightfully so—yet I can still vividly recall each pulsating heartbeat and nervous feeling that twinged inside of my body as if opening night had occurred yesterday.

During the years, the mere excitement I received from experiencing my hard work pay off while performing a number that the entire cast and I had rehearsed for months on end had morphed into a more mature and passionate love for the craft of acting itself. Needless to say, the adoration that formed for theatre during these impressionable years of my life led me to pursue any and all performing arts/acting opportunities at St. Mary's.

I'm blessed to be able to say that I've received the opportunity to perform in the fall plays and spring musicals every year of my high school career—and my senior year was no exception. After nearly 10 years of creating magical moments with those I've been lucky enough to refer to as my cast members, I can certainly attest to the fact that some memories in life constantly linger to provide us with both a dose of nostalgia and childlike wonder, while simultaneously reminding us of the moments that truly shaped us into the persons we've grown into today.

"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."

- Dr. Seuss

Sincerely yours,
Brianna Propis

Calling all writers!

Do you like to write? Are you passionate about St. Mary's? Do you have a particular interest you'd like to share with an audience?

If you answered yes to any of the above, then come join us at *The Marian Gazette*! We are currently looking for student writers for all of our news sections. If you are interested, please contact Student Editor Brianna Propis, Mrs. Roberson, or Miss Kawa.

School News

Spirit Week Recap

By: Nicole Gorny

Spirit Week of 2019 was certainly interesting, convivial, and full of healthy class competitions, to say the least. As per the usual, the war between each class raged during this span of five days. With twists and turns at the end of every day, no one could have guessed the outcome of this year's Spirit Week.

Monday's dress code theme was "Animals in Movies." With impressive costumes around every corner, such as dinosaurs from *Jurassic Park* to Pandas from *Kung Fu Panda*, it definitely made for an unusual and exciting Bingo that morning.

Although the Sophomores prevailed at first in Bingo, the Seniors made a comeback after each of them were successfully in the allotted dresscode— earning them first place overall.

As the week carried on, the final competition of the "Lancer's Got Talent" show lingered above each class' head, since the winner of the talent show could easily win the entire week. As more and more talent show practices were taking place, tensions continued to rise between each class. Who would ultimately *bring it?*

Tuesday consisted of dressing as athletes from movies. The Juniors prevailed, as the majority of their class was in "proper" dress code. The challenges that follow involved having to name movies based on a still from a movie scene, finishing a movie's song lyric, and the infamous "Bird Box" challenge.

The Bird Box challenge revolved around having to locate fake birds in three inflatable pools— one was filled with plastic balls, one with noodles, and the last with whipped cream. By the end of the day, Seniors were in the lead followed closely by the Sophomores, while the Juniors and Freshmen were subsequently in third and fourth place.

Wednesday's challenge involved solving clues (given to each student by Mr. Junik via email) every period, as well as the interesting outfits that infiltrated the hallway as the dress code was "Animated Characters in Movies."

Unfortunately for the Seniors (who had predominantly led the boards during Spirit Week thus far), Sophomores correctly solved majority of the clues while the other classes struggled, earning them first place overall followed closely by the Seniors. At this point, Spirit Week then became a war between the Seniors and Sophomores.

Thursday was undoubtedly the favorite day amongst most students. The dress was Heroes vs. Villains, which Freshmen won. However, the relay races were undoubtedly the predominant factor in the day's overall popularity. Unfortunately for the Seniors, who were hopeful to win back their place as first overall, the Sophomores dominated most of the races.

Following the elaborate dress codes was a Lancer Pride Day for Friday. The long-awaited Talent Show, in which every class had been anxiously awaiting and fervently practicing for, had finally arrived— and it certainly did not disappoint.

Each class' performance was greatly entertaining. Film references and tributes were made throughout (funnily enough, every class made a reference to *Grease*), but only the Juniors had Mr. Ard lifting up "Simba" (portrayed by Daniel May) who made sure to mention that doing so requires "one monkey," since the Freshmen had two people lifting up their Simba.

Since the talent show was ultimately a winner-take-all, awaiting the results was an incredibly nerve-wracking and tense experience.

While one judge casted their vote for the Freshmen, the other two unsurprisingly voted for the Sophomore class— meaning they won the Talent Show and Spirit Week altogether! Quite the ending for such a tumultuous week, but, as I previously mentioned, twists and turns were at the end of every day.

Overall, Spirit Week of 2019 was the most stressful and simultaneously most enthralling week of the St. Mary's school year. Considering a day off was the ultimate prize for the winner, every class was racing— literally and figuratively— to be number one. In the end, one tends to ponder whether or not it was truly worth all of the hassle. For the Sophomores, it definitely was.



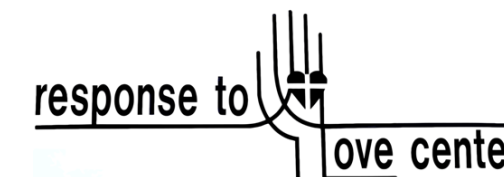
School News

Clothing Drive to Support Response to Love Center

The Marian Chapter of the National Honor Society will be hosting a clothing drive to support the Response to Love Center.

Going through March 15th, new and gently-used men's, women's, and children's clothing will be accepted in a bin in the front foyer. Kids' clothing is especially needed.

We appreciate any and all support are St. Mary's families are willing to give!



Donate Life Club Sponsors Blood Drive



St. Mary's Donate Life Club held a blood drive to support UN-YTS on Friday, March 8th.

Students must be 16 years or older and have parent consent to donate. They must also get paperwork signed by the teachers whose classes they will be missing in order to donate.

Thank you to all of those who participated! We had over 30 donors throughout the day, saving over 100 lives!

Yearbook Orders Due

The end of the year will be here before you know it! Order your yearbook today so you can remember all of the great times the 2018-19 school year had to offer! All yearbook orders must be made by mid-March.

All yearbook orders must be made online at <https://www.yearbookordercenter.com/?event=general.displayLanding&jobnumber=13751>. If prompted, the job number is 13751.

Thank you!

Faculty Spotlight

Q & A with Ms. Jackson

Last month's "Guess the Teacher" featured a few facts about Ms. Jackson, so here's a deeper interview with one of SMH's favorite teachers...

Q: When did you start teaching at St. Mary's and what has been your fondest memory?

A: I started in 2010. My fondest memory was accompanying students on the service trips to area nursing homes and seeing the students "adjust" and relate to them. I've also derived a great deal of satisfaction from co-directing the fall play the last years. It's so great to see students come out of their "shell" and shine!

Q: Where did you attend high school?

A: Newfane High School

Q: Who is your personal hero and why?

A: So many women who show us how to exercise power with little help from the "establishment." Susan B. Anthony, Harriet Tubman, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and let's not forget that "little woman," as Lincoln called her, who "wrote the book that started this [Civil] War," Harriet Beecher Stowe.

Q: What inspired you to become a teacher?

A: I had the best teachers at Newfane! Mr. Marchione was the English

teacher who inspired me the greatest because of his passion for the written word and for the enjoyment he displayed while sharing it with his students.

Q: Knowing all that you do now, if you could give your high school students any words of wisdom, what would you say?

A: Live to please yourself, but to serve others. We have plenty of martyrs. We need more happy people who engage in service to others.

Q: Any piece of advice for students struggling to decide on a college or major?

A: Discover what you love to do and find a way to make money at it. Someone else said that... And don't think a four-year education is the only way to get that. Trades and skills are greatly needed in our economy today.

Q: Anything else you'd like to share with *The Marian Gazette* readers?

A: Your teachers care about you more than you think. They want you to succeed. They think about you during dinner, over the weekend, first thing in the morning. Your teachers care!

Mr. Fay's Corner

Welcome to March and greetings to the Lenten season.. During this time the Church challenges us to be more attentive to our faith and how we practice it. 'Tis the season of praying, fasting and almsgiving. We are encouraged to speak to God, sacrifice and share. Jesus tells us to "die to self". The liturgy for Ash Wednesday reminds us of our own mortality, "Dust to dust" as the saying goes. Have a plan for this time remembering that Lent is a time to make an "Ash" of oneself. Benedicat vos omnipotens Deus. twf+.

Guess the Teacher/Staff Member

Each month, *The Marian Gazette* will feature a different person in our "Guess the Teacher" section. If you think you know who this month's teacher is, submit your guess to Student Editor Brianna Propis at 19bpropis@student.smhlancers.org. *Limit one guess per student and the first to submit the correct answer wins. The winner will receive a Tim Horton's gift card!*

- I've been to Disney 9 times in my life.
- You can find or hear me at many SMH sporting events.
- I've been a volunteer firefighter for the past 4 years, and it's been an incredible experience thus far.
- My nickname is actually my last name..
- I'm a big aviation enthusiast but do not want to get my pilot's license because it's too expensive.

Sports

Women's Basketball Loses in Championship

The Lady Lancers Basketball Team couldn't quite cap off a season for the record books, after a loss to Cardinal O'Hara in the AA Championship Game at Villa Maria on Friday, March 1st.

In front of a nearly sell-out crowd, the Lancers could never really gain traction from the tip-off, as nerves on the big stage and a rowdy crowd made for a tough game-time atmosphere.

The Lancers put up a great fight, and only graduating four seniors—Caitlin Bish, Tori Wipperman, Emily Molnar, and 1,000-point scorer Carline Zanghi—the Lancers are poised for another run at the title next season.



Zanghi Joins 1,000 Point Club

Senior forward Caroline Zanghi reached quite the milestone on February 19, 2019. On this date against #5 Frontier, Caroline scored her 1,000th career point at St. Mary's High School, becoming just the fifth player to accomplish this feat.

Caroline joins Mary (Helak) Johnston, Kathy (Over) Henneberger, Raeann Stilwell, and Vica Fontana in the exclusive 1,000 point club.

St. Mary's also put on quite the show that night, taking down a tough Frontier team 61-51.

Congratulations, Caroline, and thank you for a wonderful four-year career from everyone in Lancerville!



Sports

Lancer Hockey Sends Three Teams to Championships

St. Mary's Hockey has come quite a long way in just five years. From not even having a team, to winning a league title, to having enough interested and capable players to form not just one, or two, but three separate hockey teams is just remarkable.

Each of those three hockey teams had such successful seasons that all three ended up in their respective championship games.

The Junior Varsity Team faced off against St. Francis on Sunday, February 24th and won 3-2 in a thrilling overtime victory to capture the league title. The future sure is bright for this hockey program.

After what was supposed to be "Championship Sunday" was postponed because of the massive wind storm Buffalo experienced, Championship Monday brought its fair share of hockey thrillers.

The Varsity Club Team took their turn at a title against traditional powerhouse East Aurora but came up just short of capturing that elusive championship.

The ultimate show and Federation Hockey Championship involved a rematch of last year's championship matchup: St. Mary's vs. St. Joe's. After St. Mary's won a thriller in last year's title game, St. Joe's looked to get their revenge after a year of hard work and motivation.

The first period saw lots of back and forth action, and St. Mary's found the back of the net first in the period, looking like the Lancers were well on their way to a repeat.

St. Joe's, however, quickly found the equalizer and then went back to work, scoring three more times in periods one and two to take a 4-1 lead into the third period. Unfortunately, the Lancers could never really get anything going in the offensive end, and that three-goal deficit remained as such for the rest of the night.



Despite the loss, three championship games for three teams within the same program is an amazing feat. Thank you to the boys and Coach Dantonio for a great year! Can't wait to do it all again in 2019-20!

Attention Spring Sport Athletes

All St. Mary's students should have received an email with a sign-up form for Spring sports as well as an attached copy of the Interval Health History (IHH) form. Please, fill out the form if you intend on trying out for a sport and fill out, sign, and return the IHH to the Health Office in the coming weeks.

Go Lancers!

The Arts

St. Mary's High School

Theater Department

presents:

The Addams Family

A New Musical Comedy



March 14-16 2019

Kenny Award Finalist

**Tickets On Sale Now in the Main Office!
\$15 for Adults and \$13 for Students/Seniors**

Events

Mother-Son Dance & Father-Daughter Dances

Please stay tuned to St. Mary's social media accounts and announcements for more information!
March 22nd and 23rd, 2019

Alumni Updates

Know any alumni who have moved, had a baby, celebrated an engagement, just got a promotion, or experienced another exciting life event?

Let us know at smhlancers.org or by contacting Dean of Advancement & Alumni Relations Amanda Rebeck at arebeck@smhlancer.org or 716-683-4824 ext. 237.

Student Beat

Take Me to Church

By: Alyssa LaMartina

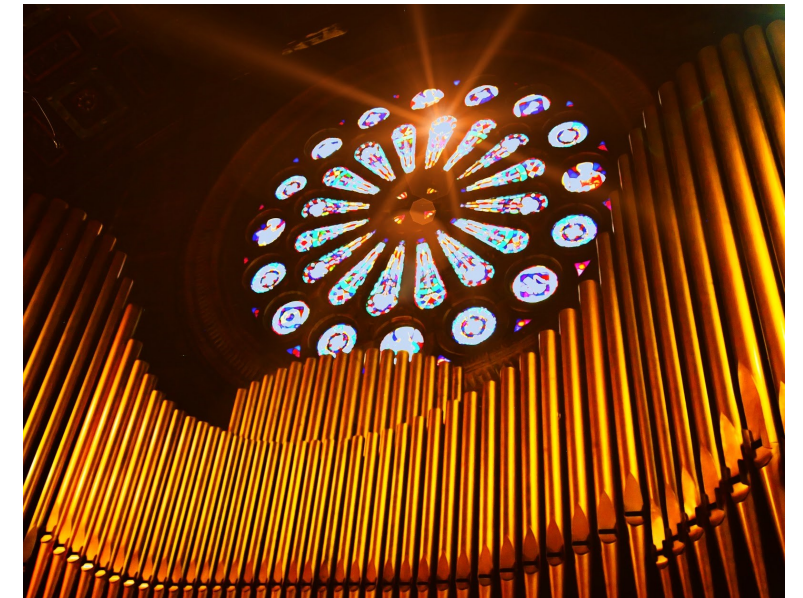
This month, photo journalist Alyssa LaMartina gives her take on a Buffalo's Blessed Trinity Church and what makes the architecture and atmosphere feel as though you stepped out of a time machine.

Blessed Trinity Church in Buffalo's Central Park area has been regarded as the epitome of Lombard-Romanesque Architecture in America. Ornate detailing, as well as unique features and attributes make it different than any other church in the area. This specific type of architecture was developed in the 12th century, in Lombardy, Italy.

It later found its place in the United States at the turn of the century. The Church itself was completed in the year 1928. In its beginnings the church harbored a large community of Irish-German immigrants. It has several unique characteristics that set it apart from all other area churches. This includes the wide use of terra cotta throughout, as well as the incorporation of extensive iconography and statues. Another unique feature is the brickwork laid on the church's exterior. Resembling medieval times, these bricks were handmade and placed in the cement wherever they fit. Italian masons used every brick that was made. This included large, small, and misshaped bricks, developing an original work. A massive dome sits on the top of the building. Beautiful ornate stained glass was later added to the skylight centering the dome. The skylight includes 20,000 pieces of stained glass. Among the other notable features is a large pipe organ with 26 individual sections of pipes.

Many of the features inside the church were handcrafted by local artists, making it a truly uniquely designed house of worship. I had the opportunity to tour it one-on-one. I would highly recommend seeing it close up for yourself. In fact be sure to visit the church either on May 18th or the 19th when there will be an open house open to the public. You will never forget Blessed Trinity Church!

Photos continue on p. F2



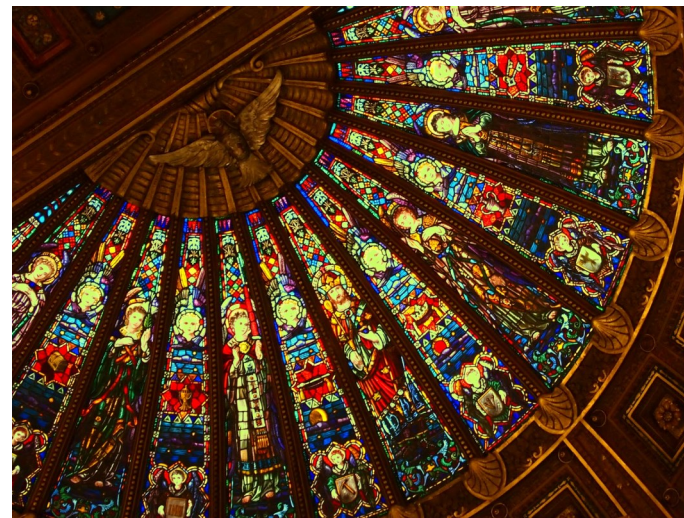
Sunlight shining through glass window and Pipe Organ

Student Beat

It's All in the Details at Blessed Trinity Church



Carved Angel Statues on the Pews



Dome Stained Glass



Elaborate Brickwork Blessed Trinity Church Exterior

Happy Birthday, George!

One of the most integral parts of the Lancer Family celebrated his 55th birthday a couple of weeks ago. Happy belated birthday to Mr. George Morgan. George does a little bit of everything around the hallways of St. Mary's, and we could not be more fortunate to have him as a part of Lancerville!

Here's to 55 more years, George! Thank you for all you do for our school!



Student Beat

7 Reasons to Watch... The How to Train Your Dragons Movies

The newest installment to the *How To Train Your Dragon* movies hit theaters last week, and senior contributor Nicole Gorny is back with her take on why these films are such box office smashes!

By: Nicole Gorny

1. Animation

If there's one aspect of Dreamworks Animation Studios that any ordinary person can agree on, it's that they are talented in the concept of bringing characters and concepts to life through their style in animation. As I've mentioned in previous articles, Dreamworks has spectacular and breathtaking forms of artistry that enables them to connect with their audience's emotions. It is evident throughout all three of the *How To Train Your Dragon* films that the shots of the characters flying on their dragons with clouds swirling around them (with a combination of composer John Powell's music) makes for moments truly encapsulated in the essence of time, in which there's nothing but open skies for miles and miles. 'Tis movies like this where Dreamworks undoubtedly proves their ability to capture their audience's heart and immerse them within their films— even allowing them to feel like they can fly.



In *How To Train Your Dragon 2*, there's a scene where Hiccup and Toothless are met by Astrid and her dragon, Stormfly. It's here that director Dean DeBlois says:

"They're 5 years in, so the butterflies are gone. It's nice to see a comfortable relationship where affectionate little touches or the way they sit together has a comfort level to it..."

2. Character Development Between Movies

A remarkable change takes place between the first and second film. In *How To Train Your Dragon*, the people of Berk prize themselves on their ability to kill dragons— even Hiccup intended on killing one before he met Toothless.

After Toothless and Hiccup team up to take down the "Red Death" dragon in the climax scene of the first film, the people of Berk come to accept the dragons and decide to accommodate their

presence with a water system to extinguish any fires that the dragons accidentally create. In *How To Train Your Dragon 2*, the people of Berk are heartbroken when their dragons are temporarily taken away. After years of having these lovable beasts among them, they can't imagine living life without the loyal and kind-hearted dragons.

3. Astrid and Hiccup

Hiccup and Astrid's romantic relationship took an extended period of time and a copious amount of development to fully reach its peak. Those unfamiliar with the franchise might find themselves confused as to how Hiccup and Astrid went from a small kiss at the end of the first movie to being engaged in the second (which takes place five years later). In the television show, *Dragons: Race To the Edge*, the final assessment that leads to their romantic relationship takes place during Season Four. This amount of time allotted room for character development and growth on both ends; thus furthering their understanding of one another before they could commit to a romantic relationship and, later, a betrothal.

4. Toothless and Hiccup

Anyone who has a pet can easily parallel their relationship with the owner/pet relationship found within *How To Train Your Dragon*'s protagonist, Hiccup, and his Night Fury, Toothless. Even though Toothless is a dragon— which differs from the typical pet of a dog or cat— their relationship certainly contains many relatable and common bonding elements (with a twist!). As seen in the trailer for the third film, *How To Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World*, Hiccup takes his prosthetic leg and throws it for Toothless to catch.

Hiccup and Toothless truly have a mutual respect unlike any other characters in the films. The formulation and exploration of their friendship takes place throughout the entire franchise, and I believe the third and final installment delivers the strongest portrayal of their friendship that proves itself to be more than just a pet/owner relationship.

5. Not Your Average Lead

Hiccup is by no means a typical hero— he has his faults and he's not perfect. Rather, he's a relatable character that experiences a change in every film in the same manner that any strong protagonist does.

In the first film, Hiccup is an awkward, insecure fourteen-year-old who's different from others his own age and older. Although he undergoes character development throughout the films, certain aspects of this original personality remain consistent.

An excellent point made in the third film surrounds the fact that Hiccup has always been a leader— even before joining forces with Toothless— but he only felt like one once a strong dragon was by his side. When Toothless was gone, he felt weak once again. However, these feelings were undoubtedly caused at the hands of his own insecurities since he wasn't used to being a leader on his own. *Continued p. F4*

The Latest How To Train Your Dragon Film Is Now In Theaters

6. Evolution of Parents

Hiccup is often seen by the people of Berk in *How To Train Your Dragon* as an unworthy heir to his father, “Stoick the Vast.” As Hiccup mentions in the first film, when Stoick was a baby, he popped a dragon’s head clean off while in the cradle (to which Hiccup even says he believes this old rumor.) Stoick is seen as the “strongest of the strong” per se, while Hiccup, on the other hand, is seen as the “weakest of the weak.” It’s even said by the antagonist of the third installment, Grimmel the Grisly, that he admired Stoick for his brutality and skill when it came to killing dragons.

However, at the end of the first film, his father (notably stubborn and set in his ways) comes to accept that the dragons can be tamed and valuable additions to Berk. Through his son, Stoick realizes that not all problems can be solved with violence, and that some conflicts require a greater understanding of both parties. Parents who see these films with their children should be aware that sometimes the greatest lessons a parent can learn are from their children.

7. The Last Installment Just Hit Theaters

If you ever find yourself stuck on which movie to see in theaters, I highly recommend *How To Train Your Dragon 3: The Hidden World* that was released February 22nd of this year. It is the last installment of this trilogy, so you have to catch it while you can!

I saw it the day after it was released and I can certainly attest to the facts that it holds up extremely well to its predecessors, delivers well as a stand-alone film, and includes a bittersweet ending— but I won’t spoil anything.

I recommend watching the first two films (*How To Train Your Dragon* and *How To Train Your Dragon 2*) before watching the third, considering there are many throwbacks from the other two previous films that fans will adore.



Faculty-Staff Basketball Game Raises Money for Roswell Park

Junior Kayla Sterner put together a faculty-staff basketball game in order to raise money for her Roswell Street Team.

The game included some of everyone’s favorite St. Mary’s personalities and pitted them against each other on the court.

Rez vs. Mrs. Tytla, Mr. Derri-co vs. Mr. Puzan, Mrs. Roberson vs. Mr. Meyerhofer, Coach Rosati vs. Coach Weiss, and several

other epic battles took shape, as Team Bish and Team O’Brien battled it out. When the final buzzer sounded, Team Bish ended up taking the victory.

Thank you to all of the students who came out to support the event and their teachers!



School Calendar—March 2019



March 2019



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------------------------|--|---|----------------------|--|----------------------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 Spring Sports Begin | 5 | 6 Extended Homeroom & PM Lit Sched. Class Meetings & Ash Wednesday Lit | 7 Junior Retreat | 8 UNYTS Blood Drive | 9 SAT Exam |
| 10 Mother-Daughter Communion Breakfast 10am | 11 | 12 Lancer Parent Partnership Meeting 6:30pm | 13 School-Day Performance of Musical 10am | 14 Musical 7:30pm | 15 NO SCHOOL Faculty and Staff Day of Caring | 16 Musical 7:30pm |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 College Fair at Buffalo Convention Center (Juniors only) 9:30 am – 11:30 am | 21 | 22 Father-Daughter Dance 7pm | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |

For the latest school calendar updates, please visit smblanders.org.