

Volume 6, Issue 13— November 12, 2021



St. Mark's Catholic School Vision

St Mark's Catholic School is dedicated to educating student disciples in body, mind and spirit, through the collaboration of families, community and the Church.

Our Mission

St. Mark's Catholic School is a ministry of St. Mark's Catholic Community that fosters academic excellence, rooted in the Catholic faith, and Christian values.



Please continue to keep Fr. Ben's recovery in your daily prayers.

Letter from our Principal

Dear St. Mark's Families,

Today marks the halfway point of the 2nd quarter. Please check your PlusPortals account for your child's current grades. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.



Thank you to the 98 families for taking the time to fill out the **Parent Survey** that was sent out last week. We are close to 50% participation and pray to be at 100% by November 30th. Students and staff will participate in a survey next week.

Last week, our visit from Officer Mika to review emergency procedures was postponed. We hope to reschedule him for next week. Once he reviews our procedures and makes recommendations, we will practice Shelter in Place and Lock Down drills with our staff and students. We are hoping to have this completed before December.

Tomorrow, we will "rake up" our school and parish beginning at 9:00 am. It is a wonderful way to meet new families, beautify our campus, and earn volunteer hours! On Sunday, our 6th graders will be hosting the 8:30 am Mass. I hope to see you there.

Next Wednesday, our student body Mass will be held in appreciation to all those who have participated in the Journey with Us Phase II Campaign. We are truly grateful to be in our new classrooms and for the generous support from our community. Since 2019, we have raised 2.3 million dollars towards improving our facility for our current

and future students. We are two-thirds of the way to completing the entire project! With 1.5 million dollars still needed, please prayerfully consider joining the campaign if you have not had the opportunity to do so.

Have a blessed weekend and thank you so much for choosing St. Mark's.

Blessings,
Donna Gordon

THIS NEWSLETTER CONTAINS A LOT OF INFORMATION, AND THE LENGTH OF THE NEWSLETTER CAUSES IT TO BE TRUNCATED.

LOOK FOR THE LINK AT THE BOTTOM OF THE EMAIL THAT SAYS "VIEW ENTIRE MESSAGE" TO EXPAND THE EMAIL, OR **CLICK HERE** TO VIEW NEWSLETTER ON OUR WEBSITE.

Revitalization News

REVITALIZING OUR PARISH SCHOOL *Journey with Us* PHASE II

YOU'RE INVITED TO A

Mass of Thanksgiving

NOVEMBER 17, 2021 | 8:30 AM
ST. MARK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
FOLLOWED BY A RECEPTION AT SCHOOL



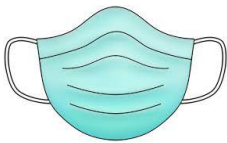
IN APPRECIATION OF YOUR SUPPORT

**For more information about how to participate in the
Journey with Us campaign,
please contact Kathleen Brinegar in the
School Office at 208-375-6654.**

COVID News

Let's all continue to practice the 3 W's

wash your hands, watch your distance, and wear your mask



Please make sure that your student brings a couple of masks to school each day in case the elastic breaks or one gets dirty. The extra mask should be in a ziploc bag and placed in their backpack.

If your child is wearing a fabric mask, please make sure that you are washing it at least a couple of times per week to kill bacteria and germs that may be present.



We are partnering with the Central District Health to provide free COVID-19 testing for all of our students, faculty and staff. The COVID-19 test is comprised of a saliva based PCR test supplied by VAULT. If you have questions about this test, please contact the School Office @ 208-375-6654 or email schooloffice@stmarksschoolboise.com.

We have created a spreadsheet with weekly updates of COVID information for St. Mark's School, which will be updated automatically with new information. [Click here](#) to view the spreadsheet. It is also available for viewing on our website under the COVID Updates/Resources tab.

Please check your children for COVID symptoms before bringing them to school in the morning. [Click here for Checklist](#).

Staying home when sick or awaiting COVID-19 test results - Please keep your child home should they exhibit any symptoms - cough, sore throat, fever, stuffiness, etc. Wait 24 hours to see if the symptoms persist and then have them tested for COVID-19 if your medical provider recommends it. We have convenient FREE Vault PCR Covid tests available to all who wish them in the School Office. Turn around time is 48-72 hours, shorter than many local testing sites today. If your child has been tested and is awaiting results, keep them home AND **NOTIFY THE SCHOOL OFFICE THAT YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN TESTED.**

Decision Making Trees - What if I'm Exposed to COVID

Parents please read and become familiar with the links below to evaluate if you should send your child to school:

1. **Guidance on COVID Exposure** - NEWLY UPDATED for schools
2. **Illness Decision Tree for Students** - NEW UPDATED for Schools

Student Spotlight



Girl Scout troop 435 creatively built a fall themed fairy scarecrow that was on display all of October at the Idaho Botanical Gardens. Great job bringing joy to lots of people who visited the gardens for the Harvest festival!

Lion Pride Recognition

|  LionPRIDE | | Practice <small>MAKES</small> Saints | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|
| | CLASSROOM | HALLWAYS | LUNCH ROOM | PLAYGROUND | BATHROOMS | CHURCH |
| PERSEVERANCE <i>Every Day - Every Time</i> | Be Prepared Be On Time Be On Task Be Present | Be Timely Be Courteous Model Good Behavior Walk Slowly | Use Your Manners Be Patient Wait to be Excused | Be Safe Obey the Rules Play Fair Share Space & Equipment Be a Good Sport | Throw Away Trash Keep it Clean Flush Toilet Wash Hands | Be Engaged Pray, Not Play Behave Appropriately |
| RESPECT <i>Others, Self & Property</i> | Be Positive Listen to Others Be Prompt Follow Dress Code Care for School Property | Be Quiet Keep Your Hands to Yourself Keep Clean | Clean up Messes Share Space Eat Only Your Food Keep Voices Low Keep your Hands to Yourself | Use Kind Words Use Equipment as Intended Keep Your Hands to Yourself | Give Others Privacy Use Appropriate Volume | Listen Attentively Enter and Leave Quietly Treat Church Materials with Care |
| INTEGRITY <i>Honesty in All You Do</i> | Be Honest Be Accountable Do Your Own Work Set & Meet Goals Honor Due Dates | Do the Right Thing Respect Posters & Displays | Use Manners Don't Be Wasteful Pay for Purchases | Notify Staff if Problems Arise Follow Staff Directions | Return to Class Promptly & Quietly Report any Inappropriate Behavior Use at Appropriate Times | Be Kind Be on Time |
| DISCIPLESHIP <i>Following Jesus' Example</i> | Support Others Cooperate with Others Be Honest Share Christ's Love | Help Others in Need Say Thank You to Our Custodians | Sit by Those Sitting Alone Engage in Appropriate Conversations | Encourage Others to be Kind Be Inclusive Lead by Example Help Others When Needed | Use Only as Needed Report Supply Shortages Clean Up After Yourself | Be Receptive Actively Participate Be Involved Show Appreciation |
| EXCELLENCE <i>Striving for Success</i> | Do Your Very Best Work Challenge Yourself Learn Beyond the Classroom Ask Questions | Set a Good Example Greet People Politely | Follow Cafeteria Rules Use an Inside Voice | Solve Issues in a Peaceful Manner Line Up on Time Stay in Assigned Areas | Use During Non-Instructional Times Report Problems to an Adult | Be the Best Version of Yourself Follow Dress Code for Mass |

SAINT MARK'S
—CATHOLIC SCHOOLS—

Congratulations to this week's winners:

Layton S, GiGi M, Henry W, George W, Ashley H, Chloe C, Patrick N, Maika P

Saturday, November 13

Rake Up St. Mark's

Sunday, November 14

School Sponsored Mass & Coffee Hour hosted by 6th grade

Wednesday, November 17

8:30 am. Student Body Mass - 2 Mullin

Thursday, November 18

Catholic Schools Principal Appreciation Day

Friday, November 19

Optional \$1 Spirit Day

Upcoming Events

Monday, November 22-Friday, November 26

Thanksgiving Break

Monday, November 22

Ms. Jen's Birthday

Thursday, November 25

Thanksgiving Day

Home & School



**Saturday, February 26
St. Mark's Dinner Auction**



BET ON A SURE THING!

St. Mark's School *2022 Auction*

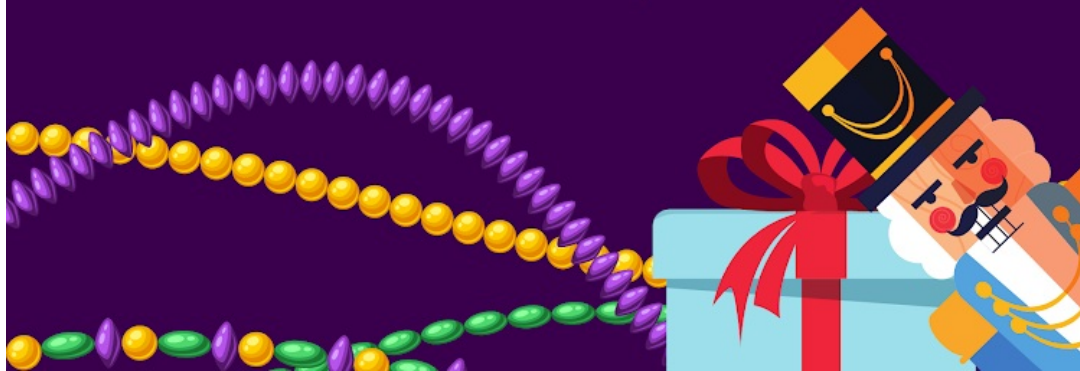
Buy your St. Mark's School Auction
tickets **before**

November 19th



and get entered to win two tickets to the
Nutcracker at the Morrison Center

Showtime: November 27th at 2pm



DONATIONS NEEDED FOR DINNER AUCTION:

playing cards (does not have to be full decks)

dices

beads

Donations can be left in box by School Office



Attention all St. Mark's Students!!!

The Home and School Association needs help creating their Christmas card. Three winning pieces of art will be featured on the Home and School Christmas cards to be sent to school patrons this Christmas. Please join in! Create your masterpiece and have a chance to see your artwork in print.

CONTEST RULES:

- ★ Artwork must be 8.5" x 11 (standard size sheet of white paper) and must be original (no tracing, copying or adult help).
- ★ Artwork should be religious in theme.
- ★ All flat artwork accepted, including crayons, markers, pencil and paints. (Hint: Bold colors or pictures with lots of contrast copy onto cards the best).
- ★ Include the artist's (student) name and grade on the back.
- ★ Each student may submit only one entry.
- ★ Artwork must be turned in to the School Office by 3:00 p.m. Monday, December 6.
- ★ Entries will be judged on content and artistry by the Home & School Board.
- ★ A winner will be chosen from each of the following three age groups: K-2, 3rd-5th and 6th-8th.
- ★ Contest winners will be announced in December.
- ★ All artwork submitted will be displayed at school during December.
- ★ The three winners will receive 12 Christmas cards with their own artwork on it to send to their families this Christmas.

Students don't miss your chance to represent St. Mark's School with your artistic talents! Start on your Christmas card picture right away, and be sure to turn it in by December 6.

Volunteer Opportunities



Extra help is needed for the Thanksgiving Lunch served to students on Thursday, November 18.

The following additional help is needed:

- 10:00 a.m. - 4 volunteers
- 10:30 a.m. - 2 volunteers
- 11:00 a.m. - 2 volunteers

Please contact the school office at 208-375-6654 or email schooloffice@stmarksschoolboise.com to volunteer.

You've Been Dealt In!!

We are looking for more volunteers for our 2021 Dinner Dance Auction - Bet On A Sure Thing! Thank you to everyone who has signed up so far. Your support is invaluable.

We have added more volunteer spots as we continue to identify new needs. Please use the link below to sign up for a role in making this auction one to remember.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b044eaca62baafd0-stmarks1>

Thank you for all your support!
Jay & Emily

Rake Up St. Mark's Grounds is Saturday, November 13

Parents earn Volunteer Hours and Students earn Community Service Hours

Click here to sign up your family. MAKE SURE TO BRING YOUR RAKES, GLOVES AND OTHER YARD EQUIPMENT (blowers are great) and make sure to wear cold weather clothing to stay warm and dry. We have such a great turnout of volunteers that we will be raking the parish grounds after we have completed the school grounds.

ADULT VOLUNTEERS MUST HAVE TAKEN SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING TO PARTICIPATE.

We are looking donations of paper leaf bags for this project. You can either purchase bags to donate to the school or send in a cash donation to cover the cost of bags. Every \$20 of bags you donate counts toward 1 hour of Volunteer Time.



Lunch Room Volunteers

NEXT WEEK'S LUNCH HELPERS

Monday (15)—Corcoran, Bresina, Johnson, Fagerson
Tuesday (16)—Webster, Dunlap, Hudspeth, Johnson
Wednesday (17)—LaMott, Anderson, Wilsey (2)
Thursday (18)—Barton, Storli, Dunlap, Wilsey (2)
Friday (19)—Duggan, Paz

St. Mark's offers a healthy, delicious hot lunch to students and staff EVERY FULL DAY OF SCHOOL!

4 LUNCHROOM HELPERS ARE NEEDED EACH DAY from 10:45-12:30 to load lunches on to trays and deliver the trays to the classrooms. Volunteers are given a free lunch.

Please call (208) 375-6654 or email the School Office to volunteer.

Daily Lunch Schedule: 11:15 a.m. (PS-2); 11:35 a.m. (3-5); 12:00 p.m. (6-8)

News

New Pick-Up/Drop-off Procedures Starting Monday

- Starting Monday, November 15th ALL students, preK – 8th grades, will be picked up at the school.
- Please review the attached parking lot maps for more details on class pick-up

locations and on how to proceed through the pick-up areas.

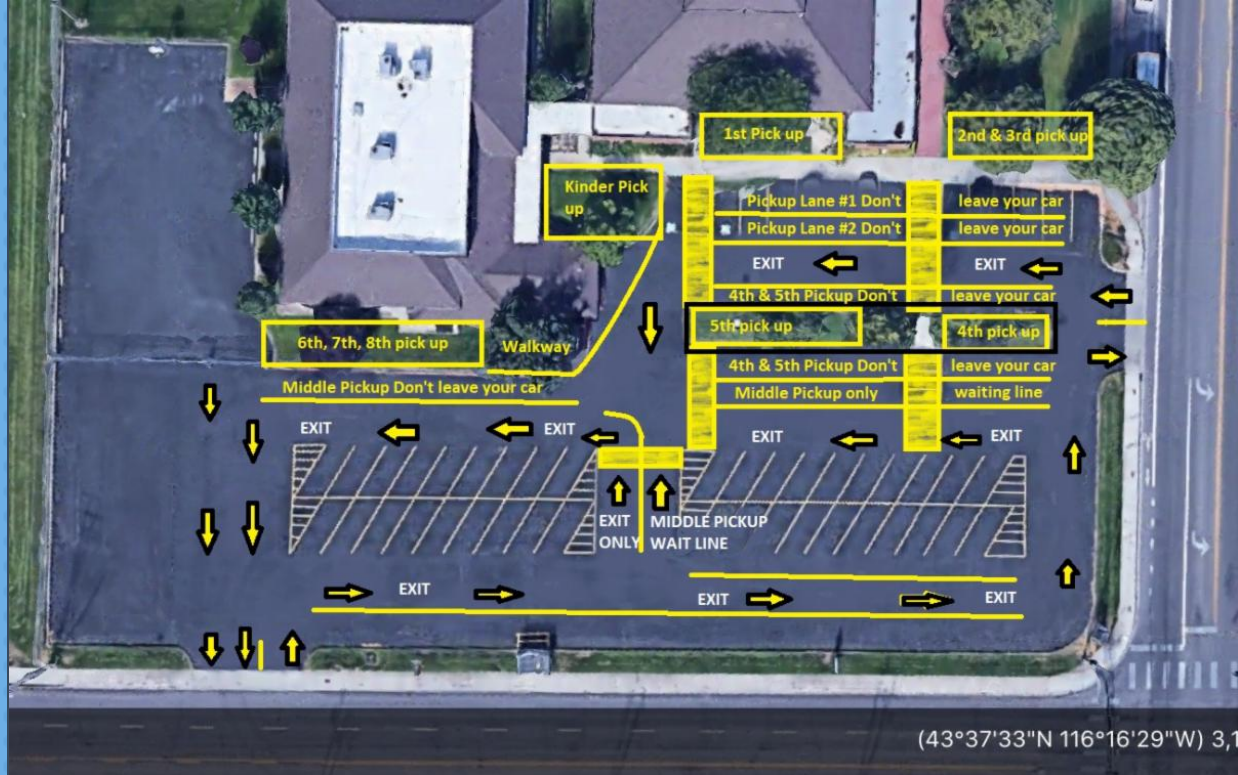
- All middle school students with younger siblings will stand with their youngest sibling's class. Fifth grade will now stand on the island with 4th grade.
- It is important that you don't exit your vehicle when in the pick-up lanes. If you need to leave your vehicle please park in a parking spot to do so.
- Parents who choose to park and walk to pick up areas should be mindful not to stand on the sidewalk to allow students to get to their locations. Please wait in the grassy areas.
- Please review the morning drop-off map as more lanes will now be available. Again please don't leave your vehicle unattended.
- Cars will not be able to park in front of the school between 7:30 and 8:05 and 2:30 and 3:15.

Please be patient and expect the process to take 10 – 15 minutes until the new routine is established.

Before School Parking Lot Map



After School Parking Lot Map



Max Barela, a member of our maintenance department, is a veteran (who was not mentioned in last week's Friday Facts) and we honored him and all active, inactive and retired service members this week on Veteran's Day.



Congratulations to Ken & Bobbi Rivas, who won the Eagle Mirror raffle drawing. So appropriate as their son Steven, a St. Mark's and BK graduate, is in Marine boot camp.

Our 6th grade will host the 8:30 a.m. School Sponsored Mass this Sunday, November 14th. This Mass has been moved from November 28 due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Please mark your calendar -- the the 8th gradewreaths will be available for pickup on **Nov 18**, 1-4pm at Donoghue Hall at St Mark's Church. If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Horton at andreaorton@live.com.



Mark your Calendars:

Christmas Music Program

When: **Monday, December 13th, 7pm**

Where: **St. Marks Church.**

Includes: K-5, Orchestra and Choir

More information on attire to follow

We will have collection bins at school starting on Monday, November 29th-Friday, December 10th to collect new toys for the St. Vincent de Paul Toy Store. Families in need who cannot afford to purchase Christmas gifts for their children can visit the store to pick out gifts. It is open to families with children ages 0-18. This year, the greatest need is boys/girls ages 10-18. All gifts are welcome--however, they have plenty of clothing and stuffed animals. Please bring new toys/gifts in original packaging. No need to gift wrap. Suggested price range of \$10-\$50. Thank you!

The Nurse's Office is in need of donations of children's acetaminophen chewable tablets and children's liquid ibuprofen. Please send your donations to the School Office.



Our annual Shop with Scrip gift card Christmas sale starts now through Monday, November 29. This is our yearly order of physical cards that arrive the first of December just in time for Christmas giving/shipping. **Extra bonuses are earned for the school on orders placed on Thursday, November 18 and Friday, November 19 (see the flyer below).** Set up an account at **shopwithscrip.com**, use the enrollment code **3F76DEEB22554** and start shopping.



THANK SCRIPING DAY

NOV 18 & 19

Shop 105+ bonuses with earnings up to 20%

EGIFT CARDS AND RELOADED GIFT CARDS ONLY

Take advantage of this event to raise more money and make a bigger impact on your organization. It's a great opportunity to earn during the busiest shopping season of the year. Get gift cards for gifts, decorations, party preparations, special outfits, and so much more.

SNEAK PEEK

See all bonuses on
Wednesday, Nov 17—only in
the RaiseRight™ mobile app.



"During the holiday season, I like to surprise teachers and bus drivers with a small gift. They love receiving gift cards so they can treat themselves to a nice candle or coffee or something else they enjoy—and it makes me feel good to spread holiday cheer."

Carrie J., earns for tuition

You need an online account to participate. If you haven't already, create one today.

1. Enroll in the [RaiseRight](#) mobile app or on [ShopWithScrip.com](#) with our enrollment code: 3F76DEEB22554
2. Seamlessly check out and get eGift cards and use reloaded money faster by securely paying online with a bank account or credit card.

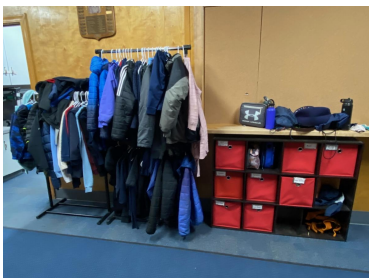
ShopWithScrip®



Get the app
www.RaiseRight.com/app



© 2021 ShopWithScrip



Lost & Found is overflowing. If you recognize any of your belongings from the photo, please stop by and collect your items or send your student to retrieve them.

GIRLS 8th BASKETBALL

(A) 11/15/21 5:15 PM vs Emmett Middle School

(H) 11/17/21 4:15 PM vs Summitvue Middle School @ St. Ignatius

COED MS A WRESTLING

(A) 11/13/21 TBA vs Multiple Opponents Boise Team Duals ...

(A) 11/16/21 4:15 PM vs Emmett Middle School

(A) 11/20/21 TBA vs Multiple Opponents Treasure Valley City...

Preschool Happenings



We were blessed to have a Navy Veteran (and preschool dad) speak to the class about what it means to serve our country. We practiced marching, saluting and got to sing a popular song, "I'm in the Lord's Army" we even added a Navy version to it! Thank you to Mr. Packard and a big thank you to all of our other school family veterans. God bless you and God bless the USA.



Church Connection

If you would like to receive the Parish Newsletter [text](#) BOISESTMARKSNEWS to 42828 to sign up **OR** [Click here](#) to sign up.



We are excited to announce that Catholic JR HI Rally 2021: Among Us is coming up Saturday, Dec. 4th, 2021 at Bishop Kelly High School in Boise! This day-long event will feature upbeat and exciting performances from Joe Melendrez, moving and powerful messages from Sr. Joesphine Garrett CSFN, and inspiring worship and music from the Alex Street Band! Throughout the day youth will participate in games, have opportunities to encounter Jesus in the Mass and Reconciliation, while witnessing the joy of the Christ through others in the middle school community gathered together.

When? 10am-9pm on Saturday December 4th

Where? Bishop Kelly High School

Cost: \$60 (includes registration fee, meals, and a Rally shirt)

Notes from the Nurse

It is so important to focus on hand washing, because we are now in the midst of cold and flu season. Did you know that handwashing is the number one way to stop the spread of germs? We encourage parents to watch their children wash their hands in order to see if they are missing anything (Soap? Water? Rub those hands for at least twenty seconds!).



Some of our schools have had Speech and Hearing Screenings this fall. The Saint Alphonsus School Health Program organizes a free speech screening at each of our schools with a certified Speech and Language Pathologist to screen kindergarten students as well as any other students that teachers refer for screening. This is a basic screening that can help point parents to resources that will lead to speech success. Thank you to our Speech and Language Pathologists who volunteered their time for this service!

Saint Alphonsus School Health Program

Through the St. Alphonsus School Health Program, Mrs. Fuch, our school nurse, is at St. Mark's on Thursdays and Mrs. Placido, CNA, SASHP Assistant is here on Tuesdays.

Notes from the Counselor

How do you want to shift the holidays to a time of connection and peace? There are a few routines that help shift the family to a common orientation to caring for others. These involve noticing what is going well. There are several times a day when you complete a task. Take a few seconds to notice that job is done. Now part two is to attribute it to you as "care." For example, "I washed the dishes because I care about the family." Or "I put the clean laundry away because I care about me." Take the 6 seconds or more to say this to yourself. When you settle into that routine your general mood will calm down. It is easy to notice I care because I am inside me and obviously I am doing good and trying to help. Take a time each day to intentionally insert this into your routine. It will help you set the tone for your mood in a more positive place for the Holiday seasons. The third part of this exercise is to then start saying this out loud to your kids. They don't know what you are thinking if you don't say it to them so this helps them see you are calm and in a grateful mood. That will start calming your kids down too. When you are ready you add the fourth step of stating that about the kids motivation. "I saw you did the dishes for us because you are helping the family, Thank you." Things like catching the kids doing well or doing behaviors right is a good way to catch the virtue being lived. That builds strong disciples in a good way for your family.

Joe Lipetzky Psy.D.
Ms. Jen Boehm. LCPC

Dr. Joe Lipetzky, our school psychologist, is at St. Mark's on Monday and Friday mornings.
Mrs. Jen Boehm, our school counselor, is at St. Mark's on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.