

April 2, 2008

## ***From the Principal's Desk***

St. Mark School Parents,

St. Mark School's uniform policy will experience some changes next year. The changes have been finalized after discussions with our School Advisory Committee (SAC), school faculty and the input of student representatives. These changes are part of an ongoing effort to dignify our students and strengthen/clarify our policy.

Highlights of the major changes are below. Please review the full policy carefully for final details.

### **1. Middle School Uniform (grades 6 – 8 only):**

- **In order to further dignify our middle school students, we are planning for them to have new uniform shirts / sweatshirts / outerwear.**
- The **short sleeve uniform shirt** will be green with a white trim on the collar and sleeve. The shirt logo will be embroidered in white thread, and will read 'SMCS Middle School'.
- **Long sleeve uniform shirts, sweatshirts, hooded jackets and fleece jackets** – will be embroidered in white thread, and will read 'SMCS Middle School'.
- The **middle school uniform will not include white shirts.**
- 2008-2009 **eighth graders** will be allowed to wear the current **green** uniform shirts and outerwear, given they only have one more year of school remaining.
- As communicated last year, **shorts will be discontinued for girls at St. Mark.**
- **All green outerwear will be discontinued in 2009-2010. Only blue outerwear will be permitted.** Please plan your purchases accordingly!!

### **3. Elementary School Uniform changes**

- As communicated last year, **shorts will be discontinued for girls at St. Mark.**
- Children in **K and 1<sup>st</sup> grade will not be required to wear a belt.**
- **All green outerwear will be discontinued in 2009-2010. Only blue outerwear will be permitted.** Please plan your purchases accordingly!!

### **4. Clarification on use of cold weather attire (sweatshirts, jackets, fleece jackets, cardigans)**

- St. Mark children may **only** use the following cold weather attire during school hours (**including Mass, PE, recess, arrival and dismissal**): green (discontinued in 2009-2010) or navy blue sweatshirts, cardigans, hooded jackets, or fleece zip-ups with St. Mark School logo.
- The only exception to the outerwear policy is when we experience very cold temperatures in the area (under 40° F), and the children need to wear a **heavy winter coat while outside.**

We appreciate your support of this new policy!