

Dear Parents:

We will be hosting a Hats on Day event on Friday, Oct. 23 Please don't let your child leave without his/her hat and a nominal donation. Let them become part of a unique and exciting way to help children with cancer and their families

**What is Hats on Day:**

Hats on Day is a nationwide event where students pay a nominal fee for the privilege of wearing a hat of their choice to school to help raise cancer awareness. Why hats? Many times, students battling pediatric cancer must wear hats to school following chemotherapy or radiation treatments that cause hair loss.

**The History of Hats On Day:**

The Foundation for Children with Cancer (FCC)'s Hats On Day was founded in 1995 by four sixth-graders in St. Louis, Missouri when their friend and classmate was diagnosed with cancer. Their idea was to have all students wear hats on a designated day as a sign of compassion and a way to raise understanding and awareness for their friend and other children who loose their hair during treatment. Unfortunately, he passed away only days before and did not live to see the first Hats On Day event.

**Hats On Day Today:**

Hats On Day has grown to be one of the most influential awareness and fundraising campaign among school age children. Since taking Hats on Day to a national level it has raised over \$700,000 allowing us to assist approximately 1500 families. Funds raised from Hats On Day are dedicated to supporting the mission of the Foundation for Children with Cancer, which is to financially assist the families of children with cancer. By providing tangible and direct financial support, such as mortgage payments, insurance premiums and utility bills, families are given a greater opportunity to focus on their child's treatment and recovery.

**Why Participate In Hats On Day?**

By participating in Hats On Day, you are helping to make life a little bit easier for these children and their families in addition to raising awareness for childhood cancer, which is the leading cause of death (excluding accidents) for children under the age of 20; furthermore, Hats On Day encourages the students to gain more understanding for the estimated 12,400 children under the age of 20, who are diagnosed with cancer every year.

Thank you,

The Student Council  
of  
Saints Mary and Elizabeth Academy

