

St. Mark School Assessment Information

As part of your tuition obligation at St. Mark School, every family is charged a family assessment each year. The assessment amount for the 2010/2011 school year is \$350.00. Unlike the traditional tuition bill, the assessment is not due until the end of the school year. The reason for this is because in an effort to ease the financial burden of this assessment, families have the opportunity to “work off” this assessment by participation in various fundraisers throughout the year.

Here’s how the assessment program works:

During the year, various fundraisers are held for the school. Participation in these fundraisers is optional and there is no obligation to participate. Families that do choose to participate help the school earn money for various needs such as technology upgrades and as an added benefit they earn credit towards their assessment obligation.

Our current assessment fundraisers are Innisbrook (wrapping paper and other gift items), Yankee Candle, and Munson’s Chocolate. When you participate in these fundraisers by selling these products to your friends and family, a portion of the sales from these fundraisers is applied to your assessment. The percentages vary depending on the fundraiser. This is explained in more detail below.

In addition to these fundraisers, the school also offers a gift certificate program known as Online Scrip. With the online scrip program, you can purchase gift cards for hundreds of area retailers, service providers and restaurants at face value, and for each card purchased you earn a certain percent back which is applied toward your assessment. As an example, if you do your grocery shopping at Stop and Shop, for every \$100.00 gift card purchased for Stop and Shop, you earn \$4.00 towards your assessment. There is no added cost for you because you paid \$100 for the card and the card is worth \$100.00. This is a very easy way to work off your assessment. To participate in the online scrip program, you must have internet access, an email account, and payments are made via an ACH withdrawal from your checking account. See the attached page for instructions on how to enroll.

Following is an example of how a family can work off their annual assessment:

The Smith Family has a \$350 assessment obligation to St. Mark School. They work this assessment off by doing the following:

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| Yankee Candle | Sells \$300 of Yankee Candle to family and friends | \$180 goes to Yankee Candle to pay for the product, 20%, or \$60, is applied to assessment, and 20%, or \$60, is kept by the school for technology needs |
| Innisbrook | Sells \$500 of Innisbrook to family and friends | \$250 goes to Innisbrook to pay for the product, 25%, or \$125, is applied to assessment, and the remaining \$125 is kept by the school for technology needs. |
| Munson Chocolates | Sells \$350 of Munsons to family and friends | \$210 goes to Munsons to pay for the product, 20%, or \$70, is applied to assessment, and 20%, or \$70, is kept by the school for technology needs |
| SCRIP | Buys \$2,375 worth of Stop and Shop cards which give a 4% rebate, earning the family \$95.00 towards their assessment | The full \$95 is applied to their assessment |
| TOTALS | A total of \$350 has been earned for this family's assessment. | If a family were to exceed the \$350.00 50% of the overage remains with the school for technology needs, and 50% is credited towards the following year's tuition. |

How to Enroll in the Online Scrip Program:

1. visit www.shopwithscrip.com
2. Under the Family Sign Up Section, select Create Account
3. You must select a user name which should be your email address
4. Create and confirm a password and enter the other required information
5. Provide answers to 2 challenge questions which will be used to log you into your account if you forget your password
6. Proceed to the next screen and enter the following enrollment code:
2F21E87B4999
7. Click "Join"
8. Click on the Tab for My Account, and choose Presto Pay to activate your account
9. Enter your bank account information, choose a 4 digit PIN
10. You will then be notified about 2 random amounts of money that will be deposited into your checking account in about 2 days. As soon as you see the deposits in your account, make a note of the amounts. Then return to this area of the website to verify the set up of your account by entering these two deposit amounts
11. After successfully verifying your presto pay account, you will be sent an approval code via email. Contact the scrip program coordinator Miriam Costa at mgcosta@optonline.net to give her this code. Miriam will then complete the enrollment process.
12. Then you are ready to start making online scrip purchases.

Online orders are processed at 9am on Mondays. Any orders in the system at that time and paid for with presto pay will be processed and you will receive your cards by the following Friday. All purchases must be made with Presto Pay so you must complete the activation process before you can start making online purchases.

If you have any questions regarding the online scrip program, please contact the program administrator, Miriam Costa at 380-8583.