

## St. Mary's Welcomes...

**Andrew Sosa** as our new Wheelchair Technician. Andrew comes to St. Mary's with nine years of experience working with durable medical equipment.

Andrew will be working closely with the rehab staff to keep your children on the move.



**Melissa Smith** as our Occupational Therapy team supervisor. Melissa comes to St. Mary's with 20 years of experience in the field of rehabilitation.

at 718-281-8802.



Dear Parents, Families and Children:

In the past 18 years, I have seen many wonders at St. Mary's. Miracles truly happen here every day; either for residents, families or staff. It's amazing to see how we all work together as a team. It always brings me pride to hear about the great work done here; more importantly when it comes from families or from visitors.

It is said that, "People come into your life for a reason, a season, or a lifetime." I have been the Administrator of St. Mary's for the past six years and my season will soon come to an end. I will be retiring from St. Mary's on December 1, 2017. I leave St. Mary's in the very dedicated hands of the next generation who will continue to grow, exceed expectations and be #1.

Best wishes to you all. Viv

Regards,



# stmary'skids

Where big hearts help little patients

Fall 2017

## Party Time!

St. Mary's kids know how to have fun! Whether at Family Fun Day, St. Mary's Kids Rock Star Pageant, Autumn Festival or Trick or Treating, the families at St. Mary's come out in force. Here are some family highlights from the last few months. (Continue on pg. 2)

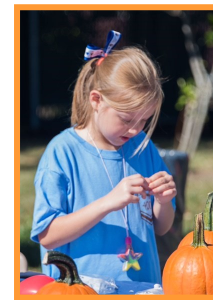
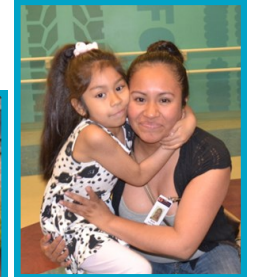


## Family Fun Day

at the CARNIVAL



## AUTUMN FESTIVAL



## We Are Prepared

St. Mary's has begun to prepare early with preventative measures to protect your child this flu season - every eligible child has received the flu vaccine. You and other family members can help protect your child by receiving the flu vaccine. St. Mary's will be offering the flu vaccine at no cost to parents/guardians of children admitted to St. Mary's on the following dates:

December 4th, 9:00am - 5:00pm  
 December 13th, 9:00am - 2:00pm  
 December 15th, 9:00am - 2:00pm  
 December 27th 9:00am - 5:00pm

\*Location: Employee Health

See Attached CDC Info Sheet

## Contact Us...

<b>Ombudsman</b> 800.342.9871	<b>Main Lobby</b> 718.281.8800
<b>Nursery Unit</b> Nurses Station: 718.281.8730 Vanessa White, Social Worker: 718.281.8530 Eileen Alvarez, Nurse Manager: 718.281.8808	<b>Toddlers Unit</b> Nurses Station: 718.281.8740 Sheena Mathew, Social Worker: 718.281.8805 Eileen Alvarez, Nurse Manager: 718.281.8808
<b>Children's Unit 3</b> Nurses Station: 718.281.5820 Desiree Borre, Social Work Supervisor: 718.281.3985 Nurse Manager: 718.819.2752	<b>Children's Unit 4</b> Nurses Station: 718.281.5830 Katie Haas, Social Worker: 718.281.8921 Nurse Manager: 718.819.2752
<b>Brenda Mamber</b> Director, Patient & Family Services 718.281.8952 bmamber@stmaryskids.org	<b>Kristen Lopez</b> Patient- and Family-Centered Care Coordinator 718.281.8826 klopez@stmaryskids.org
<b>Therapeutic Activities Team Leads</b> Nursery/Toddler: Jessica O'Hagan, 718.281.8859 Children's 3 & 4: Kristy McGregor, 718-281-8765 recreationtherapy@stmaryskids.org	<b>Tiffany Damers</b> Director, Rehabilitation Services 718.819.2854 tdamers@stmaryskids.org

St. Mary's Healthcare System For Children  
 29-01 216th Street | Bayside, NY 11360  
 www.stmaryskids.org

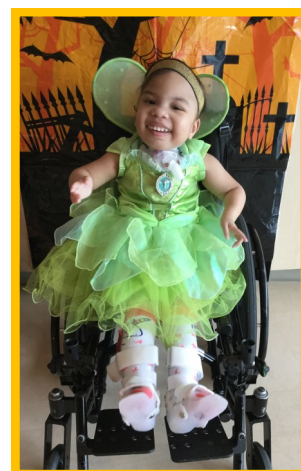
## Next Family Day at St. Mary's is Sunday, January 14th!

2:00 - 3:30 Family Advisory Council & Sibling Hour (RSVP Required)  
 3:30 - 5:00 Family Fun Day

For more information and to RSVP contact Kristen Lopez at 718.281.8826 or klopez@stmaryskids.org



# Where big hearts help little patients



TRICK  
OR  
TREAT

## Our Commitment to Patient- and Family-Centered Care



Over the course of 2017 the staff at St. Mary's have remained committed to creating a more patient and family centered culture here at St. Mary's. The year started off with building partnerships between staff and families through the simple yet meaningful act of learning each others names. The next initiative focused on our communication - specifically our ability to listen.

Staff had to opportunity to listen to family's experiences of having a child with complex medical needs. As the year comes to a close we will all be focused on the concept of mindfulness.

Holidays can often be a time of increased stress for parents and families. This holiday season we will be focusing on self-care, stress reduction, and resilience through the practice of mindfulness.

**All Parents and Adult Caregivers are invited to join us for a mindfulness based stress reduction/relaxation workshop**

**Thursday, December 28th at 11:30 am  
First Floor Meditation Room.**

**Space is limited, please RSVP to Kristen Lopez at 718.281.8826 or klopez@stmaryskids.org.**

## What's New at St. Mary's

Thanks to a generous grant from the New York City Council, we are pleased to announce the addition of a C-Arm, a piece of medical equipment that is used to complete modified barium swallow (MBS) studies. A MBS is an X-ray video that shows how a child swallows various foods and liquids. The study provides detailed information on how safely a child can eat and drink. If your child's medical team or speech language pathologist wants a better understanding of how your child swallows foods and liquids they may recommend this test. St. Mary's is thrilled to be able to add this service to the comprehensive feeding and swallowing program so we can continue to help your child reach their feeding goals. For more information please contact Jessica Shaw, Assistant Director of Rehab, at (718)281-8738.



## A Friendly Reminder

**For Your Child's Safety... Everyone entering St. Mary's is required to show ID.**



Parents and Guardians with a Family ID must wear their badge at all times while in the building. If you do not have your Family Badge you MUST show photo ID and sign in at the reception desk.

**For Your Child's Comfort... Please exchange any summer clothing for clothing more appropriate for the colder months.**

Please bring all new items directly to the nursing station so we can add them to your child's Personal Belongings Inventory and have them labeled with your child's name. To prevent items from being misplaced or lost, please do not put items directly into your child's drawers without them being inventoried and labeled.

## Team Based Approach to Care

This past August the Rehabilitation and Creative Arts staff adopted a team based approach to providing care. This change mimics the team structure already in place for the RN, CNA and Restorative Technician staff. We remain committed to providing your child with the best care possible. For more information about the changes in Rehab or Creative Arts Departments contact:

**Tiffany Damers,**  
Director, Rehabilitation Services

**Allison McGeough**  
Assistant Director, PDHC & Creative Arts Therapies