



ST PATRICK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

701 S Church Street, Wentzville, MO 63385
Phone: 636-332-9913

Dear St. Patrick School Family,

The school year is about to unfold, and while there are some uncertainties that are beyond our control, it is also full of hope and promise and we are excited to get started!

We'd like to welcome our new students and families! We are very excited to have you join the St. Patrick family and are looking forward to getting to know each of you. Each family will be assigned a "Buddy Family" who will help with your transition to St. Patrick.

As we reach the cusp of a new year, we look forward with happy expectation to all that it will be. Our classrooms are staffed with exceptionally qualified and creative teachers and support staff. They are ready to welcome your children and form a strong partnership with you this academic year.

We celebrate our theme this year using the theological virtues of Faith, Hope and Love and call it "*Stronger United*". These virtues were freely given to us by God in order to direct His children toward the fullness of life. During these current times the St. Patrick School family joins together to lift up the gifts of the virtues and use them to strengthen our personal and community relationship with God.



Introducing

Mrs. Maria Maloney – Mrs. Maloney will be our new preschool teacher on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Her classroom will be in the primary hall. She is very excited and looking forward to meeting her new students.

Mrs. Dana Blessing – formerly one of our intermediate aides, Mrs. Blessing will be one of our pre-kindergarten teachers. She is anxious to get the school year started!

Mrs. Christine McKenzie – formerly our pre-kindergarten teacher, Mrs. McKenzie will be teaching one of our first grade classes. She is very happy about the new position and can't wait to begin!

Mrs. Madison Balint – joining us this year as our new music teacher is Mrs. Madison Balint! She is very excited about joining our St. Patrick School family! Welcome!

Mrs. Jodi Martinez – will be taking on two roles this year, Mrs. Martinez will be teaching Spanish to grades 2 through 8 on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and will be the preschool aide for Mrs. Maloney on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She has devoted much of her summer to planning for her new teaching position and looks forward to getting to know her students!

Mrs. Jill Leutkenhaus – some of you had the opportunity to work with Mrs. Leutkenhaus last year when she volunteered as an assistant to Mrs. Harr and worked with students in the area of reading. I'm happy to say she is returning as a resource teacher and can't wait to start working with the students again!

Mr. Mike Doyel – Mr. Doyel is our new maintenance supervisor. He has already been working hard around our campus helping us get ready for the new school year!

PS/PK Aide

We are blessed to be adding another preschool program and because of this, are in need of an aide for our preschool/pre-kindergarten class. If you know of someone, please have them reach out to me as soon as possible. Thank you!

Early Childhood Aide description

St. Patrick School Early Childhood program seeks a full-time early childhood aide. Candidate must be nurturing, support the teachings of the Catholic Church, and physically able to work with 3 and 4-year-old children. Preference will be given to candidates with education and experience, and have a love of working with young children. Must also be compliant with the Safe Environment Program before starting the position. Interested candidates should send resume and cover letter to principal@stpatsch.org.

Improvements

We've made some improvements over the summer!

- ♣ **Makerspace Grant** – We received a Beyond Sunday grant from the Roman Catholic Foundation for \$45,000! This grant has given us the opportunity to transform the lower level of the school into a Makerspace! Mr. Morrison has worked all summer creating this space for our students to learn in a whole new environment. What is it? A makerspace is a collaborative work space combined with our library for making, learning, exploring and sharing, that uses high tech to no tech tools. Students will work with a large variety of equipment from battery-operated tools to Legos and art supplies. It is more of the maker mindset of creating something out of nothing and exploring students' personal interests that's at the core of a makerspace. With the current guidelines, we are exploring ways to get to use this new space. In the meantime, Mrs. Palitzsch and Mrs. Edwards will be bringing Makerspace projects to the students.

- ♣ **Preschool Room** – Because we were able to add a second preschool class, we have converted the classroom next to the art room back into a preschool room!
- ♣ **Resource Room** – We have transformed the library into a large resource room! By moving to a bigger area, Mrs. Harr and Mrs. Luetkenhaus will be able to better meet the needs of the students they serve.
- ♣ **Mrs. Alsmeyer's Room** – We gave Mrs. Alsmeyer's room a facelift. The carpet was removed and new flooring installed. The roof repaired and it's ready to go!
- ♣ **Floor** – The floor in front of the Mrs. Gould's and Mr. Morrison's office has been repaired and replaced.



Carpool Sign up for Dismissal Kdg - 8

In order to help assure the safety of our students, our dismissal procedures have changed just a bit. **The actual dismissal of vehicles will remain the same; however, parents picking up will need to sign up for a specific carpool (#1, #2, or #3).**

The dismissal bell for carpool #1 will ring at 3:00p.m. and students for Carpool #1 will go to the safety box and then to the vehicles. Once carpool #1 has exited and carpool #2 has entered, students for carpool #2 will go to the safety box. Once this carpool has exited, carpool #3 will follow in the same manner. Please note we have not given specific times after the first carpool, simply because we are not quite sure what those times will be and know they will vary. If you are in carpool #1, you will need to make sure you are able to arrive early. The parking lot opens at 2:30p.m. Please see more information in the Back-to-School packets.

THE SIGN-UP FOR CARPOOL WILL BE SENT IN A SEPARATE EMAIL TO THE PARENTS IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

Dismissal for Preschool/Pre-kindergarten

Only parents with children in grades Kdg – 8 will need to sign up for a carpool. Parents with preschool/pre-kindergarten students only will pick up their child(ren) from the lower level entrance. More information is in your Back-to-School Packet.

Back-to-School Packets

Every school family, preschool through grade 8 will need to pick up their Back-to-School packet, complete the paperwork enclosed and **return by the first day of school.** Back-to-School packets will be in the back of church this weekend, August 8 & 9 and the following weekend, August 15 & 16. Back-to-School packets will also be at the School Supply Drop-Off next week.

2019-2020 Yearbooks

If you purchased a yearbook(s), it will be in your Back-to-School packet.

School Supply Drop-Off

Due to our guidelines, we are unable to have a Back to School Mass and School Supply Drop-off event; however, we want to give parents an opportunity to drop off school supplies prior to the first day of school. Note: Parents will not be allowed to enter the school building on the first day of school with the exception of preschool, pre-kindergarten, and kindergarten. Parents of kindergarten, preschool and pre-kindergarten will be allowed to walk their child to the door of the classroom. They must wear a face covering and may not go into the classroom.

Below is a sign-up genius for parents to sign up for a time to drop off their child(ren)'s school supplies. They will enter through the right side of the gym doors and exit through the left side (facing the gym entrance).

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805084BAEAD2EA2FD0-school>

If for some reason these times do not work, you may drop off supplies at the school office during office hours (8:00am-3:00pm).

Middle School PE: For the beginning of the school year, the middle school students will not be dressing out for PE. To give you a little more information, the students will be going outside for PE as much as possible and weather permitting.

PLEASE ADD TO THE SUPPLY LIST:

2 – Face Coverings (1 will be a backup to be kept in a Ziploc bag in backpack)

The covering should meet the guidelines from the health department. Masks, shields and gaiters are acceptable. We ask that they be appropriate for school (not a distraction). There is a YouTube video by Bill Nye the Science Guy that has a fairly good explanation regarding how to know if it is an effective mask.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EV4IcXlpxcM>

Disinfectant Spray / Wipes – if you are able to locate either of these two items, we would appreciate having each family donate at least one of each.

Water Bottle: Water bottles are optional; however, please note we will not have drinking fountains. We will have two water bottle filling stations. Therefore, the water bottle should have a large enough mouth for easy filling. Also, the water bottle must be CLEAR. We do have some St. Patrick water bottles in the office for sale for \$5.00.

NOTE: Please be sure to put your child's name on the water bottles.

AUGUST CALENDAR:

- ♣ August 3rd – Deadline for Virtual Learning Option
- ♣ August 8/9– Back to School Packets in the back of church for pick-up after Mass
- ♣ August 10 – 8:00am – 5:00pm School Supply Drop-off
- ♣ August 11 – Faculty Professional Development
- ♣ August 11 – 1:00pm – 5:00pm School Supply Drop-off
- ♣ August 12 – Faculty & Staff Meeting & Retreat
- ♣ August 12 – 3:00pm – 5:00pm School Supply Drop-off
- ♣ August 13 – Faculty & Staff Meeting & Professional Development
- ♣ August 15/16 – Back School Packets in the back of church for pick-up after Mass
- ♣ August 17 – 1st Day of School, K-8 – Noon Dismissal
 - No Before or After Care
- ♣ August 18 – 1st FULL day of School
 - Before & After Care offered
- ♣ August 24 – Pre-Kindergarten begins
- ♣ August 25 – Preschool begins

I can't express my excitement for the upcoming school year! This year marks 112 years for St. Patrick School, and it is alive with energy, enthusiasm, and a high standard for excellence. With St. Patrick as our guide, let us stand together and continue to grow through God's love. As we are fond of saying, "St. Patrick, pray for us!"

Yours in Christ,



Mrs. Jill Gould
Principal