## Principal's Newsletter July 2019

Dear St. Patrick School Family,

On behalf of the entire faculty and staff, I hope that you have enjoyed a restful and relaxing summer! As I begin my second year at St. Patrick School, I am particularly grateful for the blessing of this community of staff, students, and families in my life, and I am eager to see you again on the first day of school, Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>.

All signs point to another incredible and productive school year. Our skilled and devoted staff is already planning and preparing for your child(ren). Our enthusiastic office team is registering new families, ordering needed materials and updating student files. Our hard working and conscientious maintenance staff and summer assistants have spent the entire summer thoroughly cleaning the facility. And, our much appreciated Home and School is gearing up to welcome families, provide volunteer opportunities and offer other exciting events and programs. We are indeed a joyous and caring community with the common goals of nurturing responsible, caring students and promoting high-level learning.

Now for some exciting news about our upcoming school year!

#### **New Staff**

Each year brings positive change. This includes a few additions to our staff. We are delighted to welcome the following to our St. Patrick School Family:

**Mr. Zachary Morrison, Assistant Principal** – Mr. Morrison joins us from Queen of All Saints Catholic School in Oakville where he taught middle school social studies and language arts and served as the administrator for the middle school. Mr. Morrison is incredibly excited and feels blessed to be joining our family.

**Miss Olivia Muegge, First Grade** – Miss Muegge has taught in the Hazelwood school district for the past three years in both kindergarten and the first grade. Miss Muegge is a St. Patrick School alum and is looking forward to returning as a teacher!

**Miss Danielle Farley, K-8 Music Teacher** – Miss Farley holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Education and did her student teaching at Epiphany Catholic School in Illinois. She is extremely excited to be joining the St. Patrick Family again! Yes, she, too, is an alum!

**Mrs. Dana Blessing, Grade 2-4 Teacher Aide** – Mrs. Blessing has been a member of the St. Patrick Family in many ways and now joins us full time as an aide for the second, third, and fourth grades. Mrs. Blessing will work closely with Mrs. Laws, the other aide for the three grades.

**Mrs. Lisa Kothe, Grade 1 Teacher Aide** – Mrs. Kothe is no stranger to St. Patrick School, as she was an aide a couple of years ago. We are looking forward to having her return as the first grade aide.

**Mrs. Holly Sanders, School Secretary** – Mrs. Sanders will be joining the school family two days a week, on Thursdays and Fridays, as one of our school secretaries. She will also be a wonderful addition to the St. Patrick School Family.

# Please join me in welcoming our new faculty and staff for the 2019-2020 school year!

Along with the above additions, we have made a few changes within our current faculty and staff and are excited to announce the following.

**Ms Kelli Prade** will have a 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Homeroom and teach grades 6-8 Science. She is so excited and looking forward to being back in a classroom full time.

**Mrs. Marie Alsmeyer** will move into the middle school resource position and work with students in the areas of math and reading. She will also work with students in the fifth grade. Mrs. Alsmeyer is looking forward to her new position!

**Mrs. Bridget Harr** will be our resource teacher for kindergarten through the fourth grade. Mrs. Harr has been busy all summer researching and preparing for the new school year. She can't wait to get started!

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.

#### **Facility Updates**

#### **Security Cameras**

The school building is being wired for the new security cameras which will be installed next week. If you stop into the school office, you will notice a large TV that will help us monitor the cameras. Another TV will be in placed in Mr. Morrison's office, and I will have a large monitor as well. I'd like to extend a HUGE thank you to Mr. Matt Rankey for coordinating all of this and to ALL of his volunteers who are sacrificing their time to make this happen!

#### **Painting**

On Wednesday, we have many parent volunteers along with some faculty and staff coming up to replace the sage green with the new Hills of Ireland green. I can't wait!! A HUGE thank to Kelly Redoutey for coordinating the volunteers and making our building look better and brighter!

#### **School-wide Theme**

This year our school-wide theme will be based on the virtue of LOVE(Charity)!

#### The year of Charity/Community



"I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you." - John 13:34

"Beloved, let us love one another... The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love." - John 4:7-8

CHARITY is loving God with all your heart, mind, and strength and your neighbor as yourself. Through the theological virtue of charity, we place God above all things and recognize that what we do to the least of our brothers, we do unto Him.

The year of Charity offers an opportunity to commit to making God our priority and to love not only people across the globe - but the people right next to us.

- Created by the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation of Nashville, TN

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Below please find some important notes and reminders about the start of the school year. Thank you in advance for your attention to the many details.

#### **Morning Procedures**

#### Kdg through Grade 8:

- Morning Times for
  - Morning Care:
     Morning Drop off:
     6:45a.m. 7:15a.m. (additional charge)
     7:15a.m. 7:45a.m. (no additional charge)
- ♣ Kdg through Grade 8:
  - School Start Time 7:45a.m.
- ♣ PS/PK please see letter from Mrs. Niehaus
- Please see attached details for drop-off procedures <u>NOTE</u>: Procedures have changed for Kindergarten

Students in kindergarten through grade 8 will report directly to the gym where they will be greeted by aides/and or teachers each day. They will sit with their classmates until dismissed to their classrooms at 7:35a.m.

Students arriving after 7:45a.m. will be marked tardy. Excessive tardies will be addressed. Please see the Family Handbook for details.

#### **Afternoon Procedures**

- Afternoon Times
  - PS/PK will dismiss between 2:30p.m. 2:45p.m.
  - Kindergarten through Grade 8 will dismiss at 3:00p.m.
- Please see attached details for pick-up procedures.

Students not picked up by 3:20p.m. will be taken to Aftercare and charges will apply.

#### **Back to School Packets Pick-up**

Be sure to pick up your Back to School Packets in the back of church the weekends of August 3 & 4 and August 10 & 11. Please bring your completed packet to the supply drop-off the evening of August 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### School Supply Drop-Off, Mass & Fellowship:

Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, families are invited to check out the classrooms and drop off their school supplies in the respective classrooms between 4:00p.m. and 5:00p.m. Families can then join the St. Patrick Parish community for Mass in the gym at 5:00p.m. Finally, the St. Patrick Athletic Association is grilling brats and hotdogs following Mass. Please join us! Introduce yourself to an unfamiliar face, and help us welcome the new families.

## <u>Please remember to bring your COMPLETED Back to School Packet</u> to school that evening!

#### First Day of School:

The first day of school is Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 7:45a.m. Please feel free to join us in the gym for a special backpack blessing beginning at 11:30a.m. Also, please be reminded we will dismiss at noon on the first day of school!

#### Family Handbook:

With school safety, student learning, and teacher/family communication as our highest priorities, we have revised the St. Patrick Family Handbook so that it lays out the policies and procedures that we will follow during the 2019-2020 school year. You will find the handbook on the St. Patrick Parish website and on Renweb.

A few changes include:

♣ The Uniform guidelines have changed. Please be sure to read over all of them.

- Spirit Dress Out Days Students may wear pants according to the guidelines in the handbook. Regarding shorts, grades K through 5 may wear their school uniform navy blue shorts OR the spirit shorts only. The spirit shorts may be purchased through Sportsprint. The same guidelines apply to grades 6 through 8; however, their PE uniform shorts will be acceptable as well, as long as they fit appropriately.
- Birthday Celebrations Parents are welcome to have lunch with their children. A maximum of two are welcome. Parents are encouraged to purchase lunch through the cafeteria; however, if you choose to bring lunch in, we ask that a healthy lunch be provided. If purchasing through the cafeteria, please call the office no later than the morning of the visit to place the order. Please do not bring outside fast-food lunches to school for your child(ren). Parents may sit with their child and his/her class.

#### Please be sure to read over the entire handbook. Thank you!

#### Backpacks for Grade 6 - 8

Grades 6 through 8 are encouraged to use a backpack for carrying books to and from school. There will not be a need for students to use them during the day due to the students' schedules allowing them to return to their lockers more frequently during the day.

#### **Class Lists**

You will be able to check Renweb for your child(ren)'s teacher assignment this Friday, July 26<sup>th</sup>. Please note any unpaid balances must be paid in order to have access to this information.

#### **Home & School Association**

Please plan to attend the first Home & School meeting, <u>Thursday</u>, <u>August 22<sup>nd</sup></u> DATE CHANGE!! PLEASE NOTE! beginning at 6:00p.m. This is an evening planned for the parents (only, please) to meet their child's teachers and get to know more about what your child(ren) will be doing on a daily basis.

<u>Home & School Obligation</u> - Each school family in grades K through 8 has a Home & School obligation, which can be met by generating fundraising profit via school fundraisers or the SCRIP program. This obligation can also be fulfilled with a one-time payment. All Home & School obligation balances are due by the end of May. <u>Each family is responsible for a \$200 Home & School obligation</u>.

#### **Weekly Newsletter**

Please be sure to check your email for the weekly newsletter on Wednesday. This will keep you up to date on what is happening at St. Patrick School.

#### Playground Equipment – Request!

Recess is a necessary break in the day for optimizing a child's social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development. With that thought in mind, we are adding two more basketball backstops, thanks to a parent donation and the Athletic Association. We'd also like to add a few sets of corn hole and other outdoor activities. If you would like to donate a corn hole set or any other items, please feel free to contact me.

#### In Search Of

We are in search of a refrigerator to replace an older one in our science lab. It no longer remains cold, and we could use one for science materials. If you have one you'd like to donate, please contact me. Thank you!

Thank you to all who are helping prepare for the new school year. Your commitment to insuring that St. Patrick School remains a celebrated and successful school is aweinspiring. I eagerly look forward to greeting students and families again. It remains an honor and privilege to serve as your principal. Please stop by and say hello. Together, I know we will make this school year one of growth and achievement for all children.

Many Blessings,

Mrs. Jill Gould Principal

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

- July/August/September Calendar
- School Supply Drop-Off & Back to School Mass
- Morning Drop-off Procedures
- Afternoon Pick-up Procedures



## July and August Calendar

July 26	Class Lists Open on FACTS/Renweb
August	
3	Kindergarten & New Family Welcome
3-4	Back-to-school Packets in Church
6	Faculty Meeting
7	Region Faculty Retreat
8	Faculty Meeting
10-11	Back-to-school Packets in Church
11	Supply drop PS/PK- Gr 8 4:00pm – 5:00pm
	Mass in the gym – 5:00pm
	Home & School Event $-6:00-7:30$ pm
13	Preschool – "Meet the Teacher"
14	First Day of School Grades Kdg – 8
	Noon Dismissal
	Pre-kindergarten – "Meet the Teacher"
	No Morning or After Care
	"Boo Hoo" Breakfast – Kindergarten Parents
	8:00am in the cafeteria
15	First FULL day of school
	Feast of the Assumption
	All School Mass – 9:30am
19	Pre-Kindergarten Begins (4 years old)
20	Preschool Begins (3 years old)
22	Home & School Meeting 6:00pm
	Meet the Teacher (parents only, please)
25	GRASP begins
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September	II D NOGI I
2	Labor Day – NO School
9	Picture day, Pre-Kdg – Gr 8
10	Picture day, Preschool
12	SPIRIT DAY!
10	Noon Dismissal – Fall Festival Set-up
13	FALL FESTIVAL – No School
14	FALL FESTIVAL
19	Grade 8 – Right START parent meeting 6:30pm @ ICOM
16-20	IA Assessment
26 TDD	Board of Education meeting – 6:00pm
TBD	Grade 8 – Confirmation meeting 7:00pm Social Hall



BBQ (dogs & brats provided) | 6-7:30

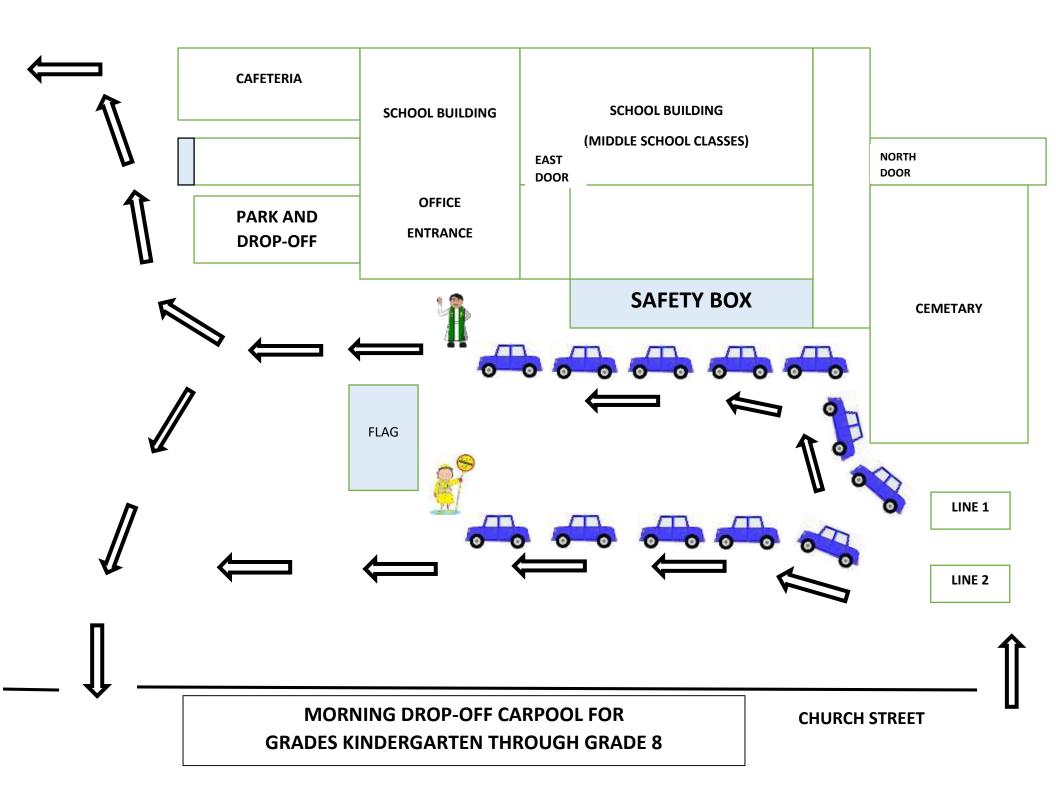
RSVP ONLINE AT http://bit.ly/2Gp3HLJ



### **MORNING DROP-OFF PROCEDURES**

(PLEASE REFER TO DIAGRAM)

- Beginning at 7:15a.m. cars may drop-off students using Line #1 in front of the Safety Box or Line #2 in which students will walk to safety box via the crosswalk.
- Please be sure your child is ready to exit your car immediately upon reaching the drop-off point.
- When your child needs extra time to exit, please pull into a parking space to the south of the school entrance and walk your child to the safety box.
- **NEW! Kindergarten** students should be dropped off at the upper level carpool. They should no longer use the lower level entrance for drop-off.
- Upon arrival kindergarten through grade 8 students will report to the gym and sit with his/her class until they are dismissed to the classrooms.
- All students arriving after 7:45a.m. will be counted tardy, (K-8) and must be signed in by the parent through the front entrance at the school office.
- SAFETY IS OUR GOAL! Exercising caution when entering any of the school parking areas is extremely important. The highest level of caution requires your undivided attention. PLEASE NO CELL PHONE USAGE DURING CARPOOL.





# AFTERNOON CARPOOL PROCEDURES Kindergarten through Grade 8

(PLEASE REFER TO DIAGRAM ON REVERSE SIDE)

- The parking lot will open for carpool at 2:30p.m. and will close at 3:00p.m. No other cars will be allowed into the parking lot for the first carpool.
- The first dismissal bell rings at 3:00p.m. for grades K-3, the second bell rings at 3:01p.m. for grade 4-8.
- Cars **MUST** fill the parking lot starting in Row 1, fill all 16 spaces and then begin filling Row 2, then Row 3 and so on. Cars MUST fill the parking lot in order. Any car parked in Rows 3 through 6 with open spaces in Rows 1 and 2 will be required to move to the open spaces.
- Rows 1 and 3 will be dismissed from the parking lot at the same time, providing an efficient carpool. Cars in Rows 1 & 2 will exit to the west of the school and use either exit, NO EXCEPTIONS. Cars in Rows 3 through 6 will exit Southbound.
- All cars MUST leave the parking lot in order. Any car waiting for students can
  pull into designated waiting spaces (see diagram). No cars will be allowed to
  wait in Rows 1 through 6, due to the second round of car pool, NO
  EXCEPTIONS.
- **NEW!** Parents waiting for students working patrol may park in one of the two wait spaces. If you have other children, you are asked to escort them from the safety box to your car and wait for your student working patrol.
- ONLY PARENTS HOLDING A <u>SHAMROCK PARKING PASS</u> MAY PARK TO THE SOUTH OF THE OFFICE. NO EXCEPTIONS!

- The entrance will close at 3:00p.m. and no other cars will be allowed into the parking lot for the first carpool.
- NO STUDENTS WILL BE ALLOWED PAST THE PARKING LOT TO CARS AT THE
  ENTRANCE OR THE UPPER CHURCH PARKING LOT. This is a safety issue and
  should you try to take your children past the parking lot, the parking lot patrol
  persons will ask the student to return to the safety box. Your cooperation with
  this issue is greatly appreciated.
- When the first rows of cars have been dismissed from the parking lot, the second carpool will begin to fill Rows 1 and 2. When Rows 3 through 6 begin to fill the second carpool, the attendants will have these cars pull in parallel to Church Street and NOT INTO THE PARKING SPACES. The second carpool will dismiss the same way as the first. These steps will be repeated for the third carpool.
- Should your child have an early appointment, you will need to sign your child out in the office before 2:45p.m. and park in the Church parking lot.
- Our joint goal is the SAFETY of all students! We ask you to be courteous and patient with the Safety Patrol, Faculty, and volunteers that implement the afternoon carpool procedures.

