



St. George School

133 W. Fourth St.

Hermann, MO 65041

www.stgeorgeschool-hermann.com

Dear Families,



Our theme is a mystery! I will give you a clue though it will reflect the purpose of our new **VIRTUE-BASED RESTORATIVE DISCIPLINE PROGRAM**. As you know, the faculty and staff were afforded the opportunity to attend training on this unique Catholic approach to discipline this summer. This approach to disciplining cultivates virtue and provides a rich foundation for fostering faith, both at home and at school. The entire school community will work together to learn and integrate virtue into our everyday lives, which will help us to form a moral intelligence as a way to shape who we ARE rather than what we Do in a particular circumstance. We will learn about virtue and practice it, and in doing so it will help us to make our mistakes right again. This way of life leads us to the understanding of prudence in choosing words carefully and refraining from cruelty as a choice to imitate God in our words, deeds and actions.

As the children begin to learn more about the Guiding Principles for VBRD; which are:

1. We will dedicate ourselves living virtuo
2. We will support others in living virtue
3. We will commit to constructive thoughts, words and deeds
4. When faced with challenges or conflict, we will find solutions that cultivate virtue for ourselves and for one another

You, the parents, will learn and work together at the Home & School meetings.

Lynne Lang, creator of VBRD says in her book, *Virtue-Based Restorative Discipline*, “Bullying is an adult problem because children live in the world we have created- all of us. We hold the solution – and that solution can be found at your fingertips in Colossians 3:12-15”

Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience,
Bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do
And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection.
And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful.

Working together at home, in school, and in our parishes we can create a consistent message of hope by actively cultivating virtue and holding relationships as the highest priority. Please pray the Colossians scripture passage daily with your family.

FACULTY AND STAFF: We would like to welcome Mrs. Jamie Epple as our 2nd gr. teacher among her many accomplishments, she is a St. George graduate –class of 1998! Mrs. Stacie Newbanks will be our 5th gr. homeroom teacher and teach science to grades 4-8 and 5th grade religion. She is a 12 year veteran teacher with majority of those years teaching at St. Gerturde School in Krakow, MO. Although many of

our staff members are the same, the staff roster has a different look. Our returning teachers and staff members are: Mrs. Robbin Lewis, Prekindergarten-3 year olds; Ms. Karen Mazzocchio Prekindergarten-4 year olds; Mrs. Megan Manning, Kindergarten; Mrs. Bobbie Mundwiller, First Grade; Mrs. Gina Crabtree, Third Grade; Mrs. Alyson Garner, Fourth Grade Homeroom, 4th & 5th grade Language Arts, 4th grade Religion and Math; Ms. Missie McDonald, Sixth Grade Homeroom, 6th, 7th, & 8th grade Language Arts; Mr. Ricky Vise, Seventh Grade Homeroom, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th Grade Social Studies, and 7th Grade Religion; and Mrs. Kim Hoemann, Eighth Grade Homeroom, 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th Math/Algebra, 8th Grade Religion and technology. Our Part-time teachers for the 2018-2019 school year are Susan Chorley, Art; Melanie Bush, Music and Mrs. Lolly Rogers, Student Success Services.

We do welcome back Mrs. Jesse Bolte, Administrative Assistant; Mrs. Robbin Lewis, After School Supervisor; Mrs. Mary Steiner, Pre-Kindergarten Aide; Mrs. Colleen Gann, Teacher's Aide, Mrs. Darlene Aubuchon, Head Cook; Mrs. Anna Mae Hackman, Mrs. Jovita Klott, Mrs. Jennifer Elsenraat, and Mrs. Pat Grzeskowiak, Assistant School Cooks; Ms. Allison Grzeskowiak, custodian; Mrs. Bernice Jacquin, Parish Secretary; and Rev. Msgr. Greg Higley, Pastor.

WEEKEND MASS MINISTRY: The Children Liturgies have been so well received we will continue to host a Children's Liturgy once a month. As in the past, we will be rotating Masses and the children will be in charge of the Ministries. Each family is expected to sign your student(s) up to help with the ministries during these weekend Masses. If you fail to sign-up for a Mass time, a Mass time will be assigned to your family. A list of dates will be available at the BACK-TO-SCHOOL night. The school will plan the Masses and send home a reminder along with the ministry your child will be responsible for at the Mass. We will need help from parents at each Mass, please consider helping if asked. Parents who volunteer will assist the children who are in the offertory procession and other small tasks during Mass.

Thank you for making this a priority and allowing your child to minister to their parishes. We understand how hectic family life is and to add one more thing to the schedule sometimes is tricky but this teaches your child so much. First and foremost that attending Mass is important and a valued expectation of your family. It also teaches them to give of themselves while serving the parishioners who so generously support our school. They learn all this just by following the 3rd Commandment: Keep Holy the Lord's Day. We are so blessed to be a part of something so GREAT.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL – THURSDAY, AUG. 16, 2018: ***The first day of class will begin at 7:30 am with regular dismissal at 3:00.*** Please be aware that the children gather every morning in the gym and we begin our day in prayer, as a school. It is important that your children arrive in time for prayer.

If your child(ren) will be riding the bus during the school year, you will need to fill-out a bus registration form. PLEASE request a bus form at the registration table. This form is sent to us by Schwartz Busing. You may return this form the first day of school. The bus fee for St. George Parish students will be announced in the September Newsletter. This fee will be applicable regardless if your child rides the bus one way or just certain days. Please understand that if your child rides just one day, your family will be assessed for the entire year, regardless if your child never rides the bus again. IF you have any questions you may contact the school office. You may make your check payable to St. George Parish if you are a St. George parishioner, Immaculate Conception parishioner or a St. Paul parishioner. Church of the Risen Savior parishioners' assessment is made payable to their parish. Schwartz Bus does NOT charge if your child(ren) rides the bus to the public school after school, nor do you have to fill-out a busing forms.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL TIME: We will begin our day at 7:30 am and end it at 3:00 pm. If you pick up your child and cannot get here at 3:00, just as in the past, your child will be able to wait on the steps for 10 minutes after the dismissal bell. All children who are not picked-up by 3:10 will be sent to After School Care. The price for attending After School Care is \$7 for one child or \$10 per family per day.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT MONDAY, AUGUST 13TH: **BACK-TO- SCHOOL Night** is a night set aside so that families can turn in all forms, pay all fees, sign-up for volunteer opportunities and committees, meet with teachers, and have dinner hosted by the Home & School organization. Every family should make plans to attend!!! Registration will be held from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm in the gym.

ATHLETE PLAYER-PARENT NIGHT MONDAY, AUGUST 13TH @ 6:30 immediately following Open House

TAKE NOTE: The Athletic Committee has planned the **ATHLETE** player-parent night to coincide with the Back-to-School Night. Any **STUDENT** in grades 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th who wants to play on a St. George team is to make plans to attend this meeting. It will be held in the gym and begin promptly at 6:30 pm. A current physical and a sport emergency form must be on file before your child can begin practice.

FEES: This year your student's book/registration fee will be \$150.00 for each child in grades kindergarten thru eighth. The prekindergarten has paid a \$75 deposit, so therefore the balance of your fee is \$75.00. Homework assignment journals for students in grades 2nd through 8th may be purchased at the BACK-TO SCHOOL Night. The cost of the journal is \$4.00 and every child is expected to purchase one. First Graders will be expected to buy a word journal for \$4.00. Kindergartners and Pre-kindergartners will be expected to buy a writing journal for \$4.00. (PK & K teachers will keep these writing journals in their classroom).

There will also be a \$25 per family technology fee this year.

There will be an \$85.00 technology device fee for the 7th and 8th grade. More information on this will be given to the student on the first day of school.

There is an athletic fee of \$50 per family. This fee is refundable if the family works the required number of games and turns in the uniform in good condition.

DRESS CODE: The complete dress code is in your Parent/Student Handbook. However, please make note of the following items: Students are not to wear "cargo" style pants, have a distressed look, have external pockets, rivets or flaps on their pockets, or have frayed, pockets, or cuffs. All pants, shorts and skirts are to be hemmed. Knit pants are not acceptable.

Grades 6th thru 8th are allowed to wear khaki pants/shorts. If you are unsure of the color of khaki you may stop by the office for a color swatch. Please remember that the pants must be SOLID navy blue or khaki. If the pants/shorts have belt loops, a belt must be worn. Pants that have belt loops cut off will not be allowed. Pants/shorts should be loose-fitting but not baggy. Shorts should be appropriate length, which is mid-thigh to right below the knee.

Please make sure that your student is in compliance with these expectations. Girls especially will want to make sure that their shorts are the required length. If they are not appropriate length, a pair will be provided for her to wear for the rest of the day. Children are encouraged to wear tennis shoes when possible. We have a lot of steps and the children do run and play at recess. A shoe that is comfortable, flexible and can be tied is best. Platform shoes, strapless shoes /sandals or CROCS are not acceptable. All shoes must be worn with socks at all times. This includes out-of-uniform days.

Maroon fleece jackets & sweatshirts (these may also be ¾ zip) with the school logo may be worn during the school day.

There will be a booth at the BACK-TO-SCHOOL evening for you to order any spirit-wear item such as jackets, sweatshirts, or polo shirts with logos.

YEAR MOTTO SHIRT: Students may wear their school year MOTTO shirt only on Thursdays. All previous motto shirts have been retired and can be worn on OOU days.

SPIRIT DAYS: On spirit days the student may wear a St. George T-shirt with their school pants. Watch for these days on the monthly calendar, athletic warm-up jackets maybe worn on Spirit days.

OUT-OF-UNIFORM DAYS: An OOU day is a day set aside for students not to come in uniform. The student council often puts a theme to the day such as "superhero day". Other times the day is a casual day and the choice of attire is left to the student.

On these days students' attire should be modest, clean and neat. No ragged, holey jeans or distressed clothing is acceptable. Shirts should be long enough that no mid-drifts show at any time, especially when the student raises their hand and loose enough that it is comfortable. Junior high girls should pay close attention to the neckline of their shirt. Young men should wear their pants at their waist.

The pants should not sit low on the hips to where their undergarments show. If a student continues to go against the guidelines set for out-of-uniform days, he/she will lose their privilege of participating in these special days. The teacher has a right to determine what is appropriate and what's inappropriate on both "normal" and out-of-uniform days.

One of the main reasons we have a dress code and set guidelines is to teach modesty and respect through appearance. Parents, please assist your child with their clothing choices. For the full dress code guidelines consult your Parent-Student Handbook.

CELL PHONES, I-POD, I-TOUCH, NINTENDO DS, ETC.: All cell phones, pagers, or any electronic device (ie: i-pods, Nintendo DS, etc.) should not be brought to school. However, the school understands the necessity of the child having the device for afterschool activities. IF the device is brought to school it should be turned off during the school day. Please note the school will not assume responsibility for any electronic device brought to school. *This includes the days the students participate in field trips.* If a child has any of these items on school property or out while participating in school sponsored activities, the item will be taken and placed in the school office where it can be claimed by a parent.

COMMUNICATION: 95% of ALL communication from the school office will be sent to you via email through School Messenger. These messages are usually sent to you at 6:00 pm.

The last day of the month the school offices publishes a monthly newsletter and calendar. These communications are the most up-to-date information on hand. Sometimes there are changes to the yearly calendar that will be noted in this communication. You should assume that the dates, times and events listed in these newsletters are correct. However, if you have any questions when reading these just call the school office. Sometimes we receive correspondence that cannot be emailed. In these cases we send you in your Family Folder. This folder must be returned to school after you have read the information inside. Please do so in a timely manner. These folders have been purchased by local businesses. Please thank these local businesses who so generously supported our schoolboy patronizing their business.

The office will keep the most recent newsletter posted on our website www.stgeorgeschool-hermann.com. The lunch menu is posted on www.teacherease.com.

VOLUNTEERS: Our school could not provide all it does without the willingness of the parents to do their part and volunteer. Again we need parents to help supervise the playground at recess, help in the lunch room, serve on committees, work functions and help the teachers in their classroom. Please consider helping in all areas of our school; if you or someone you know, (perhaps a grandparent), has an hour or more to give to our school, we would truly appreciate the generosity of your time. Use the enclosed volunteer sheet to let us know what you can help with.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES:

When you are dropping your child(ren) off at school in the morning:

ARRIVAL PROCEDURE

- Approach the school heading west UP Fourth Street; pull all the way to the stop sign at the corner of 4th and Mozart before stopping; this will allow any cars behind you to pull to the curve.
- Your student should exit the vehicle on the passenger side of the car, stepping out onto the sidewalk. **Never** allow your student to use the driver's side of the car to get out; this is dangerous.
- Never park in the crosswalk.
- Do not park in front of the main school building.
- If your child has to run into school because of a forgotten item, please park in the parking lot or on the south side of the street while waiting for them to return.
- Pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and any parent who walks their child into school -- please park on the church (south) side of the street or in the parking lot west of the church. Please use the crosswalk when crossing the street. Dodging traffic to cross the street is not a safe habit to teach our children.

- If you need to travel east on Fourth Street, then please drop your child(ren) off at the crosswalk closest to school, do not let them get out on the driver's side of the car and expect them to use the crosswalk in front of your car.
- Pre-K parents if you want to walk your child into school then please park in the church parking lot or across the street from the school. Do not park in front of school or convent. No child may enter the classroom until 7:45. If you need to drop your child off early please use the above arrival procedures.

After-school dismissal begins at 2:55. Bus riders will be dismissed first and when the bus has left, then the remainder of the school will be dismissed.

DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

- IF your child normally is a bus rider and you are picking them up instead, please wait until the bus leaves to take your child to the car.
- No one is to cross the street before the bus leaves and EVERYONE MUST ALWAYS use the crosswalk at the corner of 4th St. and Mozart. Please do not use the crosswalk in middle of the street during regular dismissal.
- IF you are headed east on Fourth Street (during regular dismissal time) your child(ren) will be expected to use the crosswalk at 4th St. and Mozart.
- When picking up your child(ren) in the afternoon, approach the school heading west up Fourth Street; pull up to the stop sign at the corner of 4th St. and Mozart. Your child is not to get in the car until you have come to a complete stop; no child will be allowed to get into a car that is moving.
- We expect all children to wear a seat belt and be seated when pulling away from the curb, this is the law. Families need to follow the law concerning child safety seats.
- IF you are headed east on Fourth Street, please stop in front of the crosswalk closest to school. Your child(ren) will use this crosswalk, cross in front of your car, and get in from there.
- If you are waiting for a child(ren) be courteous and park in the parking lot or on the church (south) side of the street. Another option to parking is circling the block and come back around. We want to avoid anyone parking in front of the buildings during dismissal time.
- Be courteous to the other drivers when dropping off or picking up your child. If you need to speak with a teacher or need to go into school for a moment, park in the parking lot.

Dismissal and arrival times are hectic. Children are in a hurry to get where they want to go and do not always use their best judgment in situations. It is our responsibility to be conscious of this and always proceed with caution when dropping off or picking up a child.

AFTER SCHOOL CHILD CARE: St. George will again be offering After School Child Care for all St. George students. It will be held in the gym from 2:55-5:30 when school is in session. The cost will be \$7.00 for one child and \$10 per family. The program is open on a part-time and drop-in basis. Drop-in payment is expected on the day of service. For more information or to enroll your child in the program, see Mrs. Robbin Lewis; she will be at the After School Child Care Program Table during Registration Night.

A reminder to athlete parents: if your athlete goes to the gym at any time between 2:55 -4:45, (even if they report to the gym after walking to the convenience store to get a snack, which they must have a note to do) you will be charged the \$7.00 drop-in fee. This helps Mrs. Lewis manage her program and it also keeps the students accountable to her.

REMINDER: The door to After School Care remains locked during operational hours. Please ring the doorbell to gain entrance into the gym during this time.

STUDENT BANK: Peoples Savings Bank and St. George School will again be operating the student bank on school premises. Twice a month on designated mornings the student bank will be open for students to deposit their money.

The bank is a huge part of our school community because it helps our students learn the value of saving. It also helps our fifth graders learn responsibility and to begin to practice all those needed work skills. A representative from People Savings Bank will be available at the Back-to-School Open House to answer all your questions.

STUDENT COUNCIL STORE: The Student Council Store will be open during BACK-TO SCHOOL Night. If there are any school supplies that you can't find, you may purchase them here. Thank you in advance for your support of all the Student Council Activities.

Stop by their table at Back-to-School night
and register for the door-prize.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: For your convenience we posted the School Supply list on Facebook and have given a list to Dollar General, and the Owensville and Washington Wal-Marts. Please stick to the list. Items not specified will be sent back home unused. There are extra school supply lists in the back of St. George Church.

Don't forget to purchase SCRIP. The Profit from SCRIP last year was over \$13,000. Just think, if every school family bought \$500 worth of SCRIP each month for gas and groceries, the school would profit over \$25,000, not to mention each family would get money towards their tithing. See the calendar for the time the SCRIP store will be open. *Can't make it to the store ... buy online or come by the parish office during school hours ... there is always a way to buy SCRIP ☺*

Buying from our program before heading out to purchase items needed for school helps our school and your family financially.

In closing the first official communication for the 2018-2019 school year, I want to wish everyone an enjoyable continuation of their summer vacation, and ask that you pray daily the Colossian scripture verse for the students, faculty and staff of St. George School. Through your prayers and the intercession of our patron saint, St. George and under the mantle of protection from our Blessed Mother Mary, we will have a successful school year.

So ask the Lord to help each of us to grow in VIRTUE. Help us to build a life of grace.

God Bless,

Mrs. Julie Clingman

