



# SAINTS WEEKLY

St. Augustine School spreads the good news by Navigating a Christian course, Educating body, mind, and spirit, Worshipping the Lord, and Serving others.

## Back To School Edition 2018-19

### Principal's Message

-Mrs. Lenn

It is an exciting time of year as we all anticipate the first day of school. Here are some details that I would like you to be aware of:

#### STAFF CHANGES:

As you are already aware, Mrs. Alayne Waterstraat will be our Technology/Library/Reading Support teacher this year. We are currently searching for a first grade teacher. I will keep you updated regarding our progress. Ms. Emily Malburg has taken a position at Richmond Community Schools; therefore, Mrs. Heather Cattivera will be teaching both 3 and 4 year old preschool classes. Mrs. Jennifer Patyi will be our new Latchkey director, replacing Mrs. Dolly Bertossi. Mrs. Patyi will be at school for both morning and afternoon latchkey.

#### STUDENT DROP OFF PROCEDURE:

We will follow the same drop off procedure as last year; however, I will monitor and make changes if necessary. As a reminder, when dropping off students, please enter the far driveway nearest the basketball court (disregard the exit only sign). When you pull in, turn left, following the perimeter of the drive around to the playground gate. Our Gracious Greeters will be waiting near the gate to greet students. Once you drop your children off, drive forward, and proceed directly to the exit near the rectory or you may exit behind the church. Please do not cut across the parking lot. It is

VERY IMPORTANT for the safety of our students that we have traffic flowing in ONE direction only. It is vital that we all cooperate to keep our kids safe.

Students may be dropped off in the morning no earlier than 7:40 am, and should wait at the entrance nearest the playground. In case of inclement weather, students will enter the doors nearest the playground and wait in the hallway. There is no supervision for students who arrive before 7:40. At 7:55, students will enter the building, and we will begin our morning prayer by 8:05.

## **LATCHKEY:**

Latchkey will begin after Labor Day, on September 4. Students must be registered for Latchkey prior to September 4. Information will be distributed on Meet the Teacher Night. Mrs. Patyi will be available that evening to answer your questions.

## **ATTENDANCE:**

Please call the office between 7:45 am and 8:30 am to report your child's absence. Your child's record will indicate an unexcused absence if you do not notify the office. Remember that if your child has had a fever, they need to be fever free without medication for 24 hours before they can return to school.

## **MEDICATION:**

A medication form is required for any over the counter medication as well as prescription. A medication request form must be on file permitting school personnel to dispense any medication. The form requires both physician and parent signatures. Medication forms will be available at Meet the Teacher Night.

## **LUNCH PROGRAM:**

We have formed a partnership with Anchor Bay Schools to provide a hot lunch program for our students. Hot lunch will be available each day for \$3.00 (hot lunch includes milk). If purchasing milk only, it is available for \$.40. Daily lunch orders will be taken by the teachers during morning attendance. Students will have 3 lunch options to choose from on Monday-Thursday. They can choose a hot lunch option, a yogurt lunch option, or a salad lunch option. On Fridays, we will continue our PTC Pizza lunches. Hot lunch money can be sent to school daily, or you can send a check to load on your child's Meal Magic account (preferred method), and you will be able to monitor the balance online. Snacks will also be available for purchase, but on a cash only basis. Students will not be able to purchase snacks using their Meal Magic account, in an effort to prevent students from buying snacks rather than eating their lunch. Please see the lunch program welcome letter and menu included with this newsletter for more details.

## **FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH APPLICATIONS:**

Free and reduced lunch forms will be provided for each household. Please complete one application per family and return to the school office. Applications can also be completed online [here](#). Enter “Anchor Bay Schools” and follow the prompts. You can also find the link on our website.

## **SCHOOL UNIFORMS:**

There have been a few minor updates to our uniform policy: Students will be allowed to wear ALL BLACK athletic shoes, instead of dress shoes. Also, there will be an option for gym shorts, a tech wear style t-shirt, and different gym pants. These items will be ordered locally, through J’s Silk Screen. As soon as the online store is ready, you will be sent a link to place your orders. For now, if the weather is warm, students may wear their uniform shorts on gym days.

## **BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS:**

Our school will be working toward implementing PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support). The goal of PBIS is to teach and reinforce desired behaviors. PBIS focuses on recognizing students who are behaving as they should be, which in turn, naturally discourages undesirable behavior. We will be using the behavior matrix that you are familiar with from last year, but teachers will be explicitly teaching the matrix to our students with ongoing re-teaching throughout the year. We will continue recognizing our students using our Student of the Month program, and will also be recognizing them in other ways, which you will hear more about in September.

## **MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT:**

Meet the Teacher Night will be held on Wednesday, August 29, from 6:00-7:30. This year, we invite our Transitional Kindergarten and Regular Kindergarten parents to visit their classrooms at 5:00. Mrs. Blissett and Mrs. Perry will conduct their first informational session starting at 5, and then release parents to the cafeteria. For all other grades, we will meet first in the cafeteria/parish hall at 6:00, and then parents will be released to the classrooms to talk with the teachers. Meet the Teacher Night is an opportunity for parents to get the information they need regarding classroom expectations for the year. It is not an “open house” for students. Please make arrangements for your children so that you can be as attentive as possible during this important evening full of information.

## **COMMUNICATION:**

St. Augustine School understands the importance of communicating with our families. You will be kept informed of important information through our weekly newsletter via email. Please make sure we have your current email on file and that it is an email that you check regularly so that you can

remain informed. You are also encouraged to like our school on Facebook and utilize our website to stay up to date. It is also important that you join school messenger to receive important reminders and information about winter school closings. To join school messenger, stop by the school office.

## **VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS:**

All school volunteers must take Protecting God's Children. Please see [this link](#) to register for sessions. There will upcoming sessions locally in September, so don't delay. If you want to attend a field trip, you must have this training. All volunteers will also need to fill out a background check form. A packet of information will distributed on Meet the Teacher Night.

## **DRESS UP DAY GUIDELINES- AUGUST 27:**

Students are invited to dress up for the first day of school, or wear their uniforms if they prefer. According to our school handbook policy for dress up days, **"Clothing should be neat, modest, conservative, and appropriate. Jeans, shorts, sweats, T-shirts, and play clothes are not considered appropriate "Dress-Up" Day attire. Skirts must be no shorter than two inches above the knee. Low-rise slacks, low cut tops and bare midriffs are not allowed. Dress or casual boots are allowed as long as heels are no higher than two inches. No sandals, flip flops, or any type of open toe or open back shoes are permitted."**

## **STUDENT PICK UP PROCEDURE:**

Students are released at 3:00. Grades 1-8 students will exit the main doors (door #1) of the school and be released to you. Please stay in your vehicle, and allow your child to walk to the car. Cars will be released from the lot once students have entered all vehicles. If you need to enter the school for some reason, PLEASE park on the street to help with traffic flow. Transitional and Traditional Kindergarten students will be released at the playground doors. Mrs. Blissett and Mrs. Perry need to see the parent in order to release the child, so TK and K parents will need to exit their vehicles.

I always welcome your questions, comments, and suggestions. Please make sure to direct classroom related questions to your child's teacher, who can best address your classroom concerns. We are looking forward to a great school year! May God bless you and enjoy the rest of summer.

Sincerely,

Emily Lenn

St. Augustine School Principal

## A Parent's Prayer for Students

Dear Lord,  
As my children leave for school,  
I pray you keep them in your care.  
Send your Spirit to open their minds  
to all that's true and beautiful and good.  
Help them see the gifts and talents  
you have given them  
and teach them to use them well.  
Help them to grow in knowledge and wisdom.  
Help them to be kind to others  
and lead others to be kind to them.  
Give their teachers patience and understanding  
and help them teach what's just and true.  
Send your angels to guide and guard my children  
and to keep them safe from all harm.  
Open their young hearts to your presence  
and enfold them in your peace and protection.  
Hold them in the palm of your hand, Lord,  
and at day's end, bring them safely home.  
Amen.



## Upcoming dates to know:

- August 27- First Day of School (TK & K- half day)
- August 28- K of C Corn Roast- 4-7pm (a fun evening if you don't feel like cooking)
- August 29- 4 Year Old Preschool Orientation 10:00 (See Preschool letter for details)
- August 29- Meet The Teacher Night 6:00-7:30 (TK & K- 5:00-5:55 session first)
- August 30- 3 Year Old Preschool Orientation 10:00 (See Preschool letter for details)
- August 31-Sept. 3- Labor Day Break
- Sept. 4- School resumes, Latch key begins, 3 Year Old Preschool begins
- Sept. 5- 4 Year Old Preschool begins/ first all school Mass
- Sept. 9- Backpack blessing at all Sunday masses- bring backpacks to mass
- Sept. 9- Good Old Days Parade- report at 12:45 (8th graders & parents only)
- Sept. 15- Back to School Picnic 12-3 pm (K of C sponsored)