



Holy Rosary School

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August 14, 2020

Dear Holy Rosary School Families,

I pray all is well with you and your family and that everyone is staying safe and healthy. In just a few short weeks, we will begin the 2020-2021 academic school year and we are currently reviewing and finalizing our reopening plans.

The faculty and staff join me in thanking our returning families for your continued commitment to our school community and extend a warm welcome to our new students and families. We have been sending emails with information as it has become available and I will continue to keep you updated on weekly basis. We are planning virtual and phone conversations to help answer any questions you may have regarding our reopening in September. Holy Rosary School has been open for in person visits, Monday-Friday from 8:00AM-2:00PM, if you would like to stop by or if you need any assistance.

As we prepare for the first day of school I wanted to share some of the guidelines for the start of the school year. We have received the official Archdiocese of NY Northeast Bronx calendar template yesterday to complete for the upcoming school year. At this time that the first two days of school will be September 9th and September 10th. These two dates are listed as "Staggered Opening Day #1" and "Staggered Opening Day #2." We have a meeting this Monday regarding the opening and I will update you on the specific schedule at that time. If we are able to, I would anticipate a full day of school for our students. As noted in the official Archdiocese re-opening plans, Early Morning Dropoff and After School will not be available at the start of the school year. On Friday, September 11th, all schools in the Archdiocese will be closed in order for school faculty and staff to reassess the first two days of school and make any adjustments. Students will not attend school, in person or virtually, on September 11th and will return on Monday, September 14th.

Our reopening plan features the following restrictions and changes:

- All students K-8 and staff will be required to wear masks while indoors. Masks may only be removed during designated activities (such as lunch)
- Students will be assigned to a "Family" which will correspond to their homeroom class and they will remain with those same classmates throughout the day.

- We will provide new pick-up and drop-off procedures, walking routes within the buildings and other measures to limit the physical interaction of students. Classroom layouts will be modified to facilitate social distancing.
- Parents will be asked to take their children's temperatures daily. Temperature checks will also occur as students enter the school building every day.
- We will adhere to infection protocols, requiring any student who presents symptoms of COVID-19 and/or tests positive for the virus to quarantine and seek medical attention before returning to class.
- Water fountains will be turned off; students are permitted to bring their own water bottle for the day.
- Lunch will be in the classroom; school lunch will be provided (individually packed) or students may bring a lunch from home. Hand washing/sanitizing will take place before and after lunch.
- Bathroom breaks will be scheduled throughout the day adhering to social distancing. Bathrooms and common spaces will be properly sanitized on a frequent and regular basis.
- Finally, families who are not ready for their children to return to classrooms have the option for online learning. Your survey responses are currently being sorted.
- Remote Learning will involve "live stream" from the classroom through an interactive platform so that students at home will interact live with their teacher and classmates. Remote learning hours will mirror the regular school day - students will have to sign on at 7:45 and remain "in class" virtually all day until 2:30pm

I know that these are challenging and unsettling times. Please know that we are here to support our families in any way to help make this transition back to learning, whether in person or remote, as smooth and successful as possible. As always, please let me know if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. You may reach me through email, Class DoJo or our school phone at any time. I am more than happy to have a phone conversation to help answer any questions you may.

Stay safe and God Bless,

Mrs. Fusco
Principal