

St. Augustine School
381 North Highland Avenue
Ossining, New York 10562

August 13, 2021

Dear Parents,

We are looking forward to the first day of school with eager anticipation. St. Augustine School will be in session five days for in-person learning. There will be no remote option.

Grades K-8 will begin on September 8 and our PreK program will begin on September 9.

Please read carefully the letter below filled with instructions and important details about arrival at school, lunch, dismissal, etc.

Arriving at School

Bus: All children coming to school by bus will enter the school through the second grade entrance. As they come through the entrance, each child will have their temperature checked using a Thermoscan wrist machine. If anyone has a temperature equal to or greater than 100 ° F, they will be confidentially escorted to the isolation room in the Nurse's office. Parents will be called and the student must be picked up within 30 minutes.

By Car: Students coming to school by car will go to the main entrance. When the car pulls up to the sidewalk, each student will get their temperature checked using a contactless digital thermometer before exiting the car. If a student has a temperature equal to or greater than 100 ° F, they will not be allowed to exit the car. Please keep in mind this a drop-off only. It is important to maintain traffic flowing, **so parents please do not get out of your car.**

No student can be dropped off at school before 7:40 AM. Students will not be allowed into the school building prior to this time. If you arrive early, the student must remain in their car until 7:40.

Parents are not allowed in the building without an appointment.

Parents should check for the following symptoms before sending their children to school.

- Fever of 100° or higher
- Cough
- Stuffy nose
- Chills
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- Loss of taste or smell
- Congestion/runny nose
- Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea
- Muscle/body aches

If your child is experiencing any of these symptoms, please keep your child home.

New Students

On the first day of school, NEW students will be met at the main entrance by Sister Mary Elizabeth, Mrs. Fessman, and a small group of teachers who will escort them to their classroom.

Current students should note their new classroom and room number. They may proceed directly to their new classroom.

Lunch Kdg-Gr 8

Our cafeteria will be in full operation on the first day of school. Students will be socially distanced while eating lunch and cohorts will be separated. Please make sure that if a student orders lunch, they must give an envelope to their homeroom teacher in the morning with the exact amount for the cost of the lunch. Prices and the monthly menu are posted on our website. During lunch, snacks and drinks will be available for purchase.

Hydration

Please be aware that the **water fountains will be closed**. Students may bring in a water bottle each day to keep at their desks.

Dismissal

Buses will be called by district and number and students will exit through the main front doors.

Pick-ups will exit through the rear door. **You are asked to get out of your car and stand socially distanced from other parents so that you may be identified more easily. Once you have secured your child/children you are asked to leave the property immediately. No playground.**

After-care program

Our after-care program will begin on September 8 and will be held in the Parish Hall. Students will be kept in cohorts and will be socially distanced as much as possible. Pickup will be at the Parish Hall and must be no later than 5:30 PM.

Miscellaneous

- All students will remain in “cohorts”. Students will not move between classes. Rather, teachers will move between classes. Lockers will be used only for the storage of coats and lunch. Students will bring all books and supplies into the classes where they will remain in their backpacks on the back of their chairs.

- There will be hand sanitizers throughout the school and students will be encouraged to use them often.
- Bathrooms will be monitored during the day. Only 2 students are allowed to be in the bathrooms at any time.
- On gym days, students should come to school in gym uniforms and will wear them all day. Again, gym will be done in cohorts and will consist of socially distant activities. Sneakers are only to be worn on gym days. Please honor this policy!
- Halls will be clearly marked with directional signs. Additionally, floors will be marked at 6-foot intervals.
- Stairs will be clearly marked for “up only” or “down only”.
- All desks in classrooms are distanced at a minimum of 3 feet apart.
- Classes will be cleaned and sanitized each day at the end of the day.
- The bathrooms, door handles, and other surfaces will be cleaned throughout the day.
- No afterschool extra-curricular activities for the time being are allowed.
- Students are required to wear a mask on the bus and when they are at school regardless of vaccination status. Each student should have 2-3 masks in his/her backpack as a backup. Cloth masks should be washed after a day’s use.
- Aides will be available to ensure the execution of all plans listed above.

Thank you for your cooperation as we strive to keep our school a safe and secure place for your children to learn.

Sister Mary Elizabeth Donoghue, O.P.

Mrs. Debbie Fessman