

J.M.J.

September 5, 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardians,

As the summer winds down and we anxiously prepare to adjust to a school year like no other, we welcome you back physically and virtually. We are sharing the following reminders that should get us through the beginning days of school. Any adjustments along the way will be duly noted on the daily "Announcement" portion of the school website.

General Information for all families:

1. The opening Mass on "Patriot Day" will be live-streamed at 9:00 A.M. to the classrooms and families at home. Grades 7 & 8 will be in attendance. Religion books will be blessed including those being picked up for our virtual students. Student Council and safety Installation will take place at the October 2<sup>nd</sup> First Friday Mass. This will give the students and their teachers ample time to renew friendships and consider their choices for Student Council Officers, Class Representatives and the Safety Patrol from their interested/dedicated classmates.
2. Taking place in the New Year: School Pictures, Universal "Birthday" Celebration Day (since bringing/sending treats to school is not permitted) Ice cream orders with lunches (Both "Sweet sticky situations will be better enjoyed after the COVID restrictions are relaxed.)

Virtual Families:

1. School supplies for virtual students must be picked up at the School Faculty Room between 12:30 and 5:00 P.M. on Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. If you are in need of a device for your child(ren) please email Mrs. Costello [j.costello@olcalvaryschool.org](mailto:j.costello@olcalvaryschool.org) by Noon on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Virtual classes will begin on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. Specific information from teachers will be available on 9/8/20 by 4:00 P.M.

On-Site Families:

1. New directives from the Philadelphia Health Department stress the importance of wearing face masks in order to protect ourselves and others from COVID-19. (Please read attachment: "Archdiocese of Philadelphia Risk and Insurance Program.")
2. Every On-Site student must have the attached Archdiocesan Waiver Form completed and e-mailed to Mrs. Costello by 9/8/20. TY!
3. COVID-19 outbreaks in various situations, especially among returning college/university students that have necessitated all-virtual learning, Labor Day Weekend, the last hurrah of the summer, etc. have made us very aware of how challenging the days ahead remain.
4. As we plan to follow these directives regarding face masks, it is important to remember the health concerns of your children if they are unable to wear the mask. That is why we provided free Face Shields for those children. For further protection, our Home & School purchased 3-sided desk shields for every student and teacher. In addition to that, we have also received 4' by 6' protective plexiglass barriers, on wheels, for each teacher in Grades 1 through 8. Also, every teacher has a case of disposable face masks in the event that a mask gets de-looped, shelters a sneeze, etc. and the masks that Father ordered will be distributed when they arrive. Finally, there will be a 10 minute mask or shield break permitted every hour, as well as no mask/shield during recess and lunch. (Mrs. Costello and I were very impressed by the children of all ages, who wore masks so comfortably while accompanying their parents to the Faculty Room to pick up their Parent Communication Folders these past two weeks.) This requirement by the Archdiocese, in conjunction with the Philadelphia Board of Health, and extending to the counties, challenges us to step up and resolve to use this mask directive to protect ourselves and each other.

Adjusting to the above will be very much appreciated by the messengers (Team OLC)! Take care, stay safe, and let us continue praying for God's help in handling all that lies ahead...

With warm regards,

Sister Mildred

