



Sept 1 Virtual Back to School Night Grade 3
Sept 2 Virtual Back to School Night Grade 4 & 5
Sept 3 Virtual Back to School Night Grade K-2
Sept 7 Labor Day Holiday—NO SCHOOL
Sept 8 Hot and Cold Lunch Program Opens
Oct 12 Columbus Day Holiday—NO SCHOOL

St. Francis of Assisi School News

Principal's Corner

Dr. Tricia Barber, Principal

Thank you for the support of all of our families as SFS launched our first three days on campus! A courtesy reminder to please send an umbrella/raingear on days of potential rain. Parents in the carpool should continue to seek out your child as the students exit the building.

Let's Go Band! Mr. Evans, SFS Band Director, has designed virtual band lessons for interested students. Mr. Evans is an employee of Garwood Whaley Music Company which places band directors in our Diocesan Schools. Mr. Evans will be providing a band demonstration for our teachers to show this week. Mr. Evans will host a Parent Band Back-to-School Zoom meet next week and packets will be available to send home. Band is available for students in grades 4-8.

Father John would like to express his appreciation to our families who continue to support the food pantry at St. Francis House. Food donations may be placed in the vestibule of the church.

The Catholic Virtue for the month of September is Respect/Responsibility. Respect often determines what we refrain from doing. Responsibility determines what we do. Students respect for others includes: listen when others speak, greet others cheerfully by name, and include others in activities.

"You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore." Psalm 16

Health Clinic News

Parents need to have available space in their cell phone to accept a message from the school. We cannot accept "the mailbox is full".

Lunch Program News

Welcome Back and Welcome New Families and Students!

My name is Ashleigh Coons and I have been part of the St. Francis of Assisi family since forever. Darlene Dowdy is the owner and operator of Catering by Darlene and had started the lunch program at St. Francis over 25 years ago. Together we produce variety of food items.

As stated in the previous email that was sent out, following the CDC regulations and Virginia Department of Health guidelines all staff members will have daily health screenings as well as temperature checks. Along with face coverings, gloves, and hand washing stations. All the food will be properly stored in disposable containers, individually wrapped utensils, napkins & condiments to reduce exposure. All lunches will be delivered directly to the classrooms.

I must say this again, due to support of the parents last school year we are happy and able to start up the 2020-2021 lunch program. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 we are operating on a smaller scale. To new and returning families I would like to explain how the lunch program will operate this September.

When ordering lunch online (like years past you must order the night before the following school day) the report that is printed out early AM will have your child's name, grade, teacher, and lunch order. The staff member will deliver the lunch to your child's classroom then promptly leave. With not having the lunchroom this year, parents need to be cautious in ordering ALL of your child's food related needs (chips, fruit, treat, etc). Also, in ordering the specialty lunches for example, cheeseburger meal, make sure to select lettuce and/or tomato if desired. Previously children had the luxury of adding or removing food items while in lunch line, and for obvious reasons they do not have that capability this year.

Let us move onto the September Menu that is posted. Due to the current global pandemic, individual personal beliefs, and uncertainty, Catering by Darlene is hesitant to acquire such strong inventory to start off. Once we see an interest in ordering lunches, we will revisit the menu come October. Catering by Darlene will still offer a hot specialty lunch every Monday and Wednesday but have eliminated Friday. Also, some daily food items (offered everyday) have been removed for the time being.

We would like to express our gratitude in being able to come back. We know these are uncertain times and are here to answer any of your questions or concerns. We are parents just like you and want to make sure our children are safe, which is our number one priority. Please feel free to email, call or text Darlene or myself.

Ashleigh Coons- Event Coordinator
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Darlene Dowdy-President
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darlene@cateringbydarlene.com

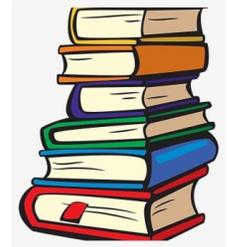
Art News

Please be sure students bring their personal kits to school on Art class days. If you have any financial concerns with purchasing supplies, please send a message to Mrs. Hess at hessl.sfas@gmail.com.



Library News

Reminder for students that have checked out books from last year—please bring those checked out books back to school and return to the school library. Thank you!



PE/Health 2020-2021

Social Distancing and Personal Health Safety Tips:

- Everyone should **practice safe social distancing by staying at least 6 feet apart**.
- It is important that we **frequently wash our hands for at least 20 seconds**.
- **Avoid touching your face**. Keep your hands away from your EYES, NOSE, and MOUTH.
- If you must cough/sneeze, **cough/sneeze into your elbow or a tissue out of the direction of others**. Immediately discard your tissue appropriately and sanitize your hands.
- Wear a mask that **covers your nose and mouth**.

Carpool Reminders

AM CARPOOL:

- Students 1st-8th must be dropped off in carpool line from 7:45am-8:05am.
- **Students should exit from the passenger side only**. This may require rearrangement of car seats, but it is necessary for the safety of our students.
- Be a courteous driver at all times. Watch your speed and **pull all the way forward**. **Please do not pass any cars that are dropping off students**.
- **Follow the directions of our safety monitors** as they are trying to keep all our students safe.
- Do not leave your car or your child unattended in the carpool during drop-off and pick-up hours.



DAILY HOME HEALTH SCREENING FOR STUDENTS

Dear Parents,

Screening, monitoring and testing are essential components of limiting the spread of COVID-19. An important aspect of keeping our school community safe is actively encouraging sick staff and students to stay home if they are ill and emphasizing to all the importance of knowing the symptoms of COVID-19. Parents should assess all students for symptoms of COVID-19 daily before reporting to school.

Parents of all students are required to assess symptoms of their children daily for risk of spreading COVID-19 illness to others, before arriving at school.

“YES or NO, since my child’s/children’s last day in the building, have they experienced any of the following symptoms:”

- *Temperature 100.4 degrees or higher, chills?
- *Muscle/body aches?
- *Sore throat?
- *New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing?
- *Diarrhea, vomiting or abdominal pain?
- *New onset of severe headache, especially with fever?
- *New loss of taste or smell?
- *Had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with a person with confirmed COVID-19?
- *Travelled internationally or to a high-risk area?

If a parent answers YES to any of the screening questions before arriving at school, they should stay home and not enter the building. Parents are required to notify Anne Young R.N., Director of Health Services.

Your strict adherence to this daily requirement is greatly appreciated, in our efforts to maintain safety and well-being for our parish and school community.