



Saints Peter & Paul Catholic School

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September 8, 2020

Dear Families of SSPP,

Welcome to the 2020/2021 school year. We anticipate this year to be very unique, but it is not overshadowing the fact that we are **extremely excited to welcome our students back to school!**



We are grateful that you have entrusted our faculty, staff, cleaning preparations, and virtual platform. Now let's begin to teach our students!

Just a reminder that you have a two-week trial period to see how things go with both traditional and virtual learning. We do not anticipate any problems as long as we work together to keep our children safe. Let's communicate and be careful at all times!

As you are aware, we have had several **staff changes this year**. Mrs. Joseph relocated closer to home and Mrs. Bodimer has retired. Mrs. Lucci has moved up to 4th grade and Mrs. Miocic has joined us full time with the middle school. We will be sharing Mrs. Howells, our Music and Computer teacher, with Our Lady of Fatima. We also welcome Mrs. Kim Sabella as our new Pre School teacher.

Morning arrival: Mrs. Suarez and I will be taking each student's temperature during morning arrival. We will have both sides of the doors open for entering. As long as their temperature reading is 100 degrees or lower, they will proceed to their classroom. Teachers will be welcoming students at the homeroom door to ask a few questions pertaining to having their temperature taken and showing no other symptoms. We ask that you remind your child/ren of the importance of social distancing during the school day especially in areas of arrival/departure, bus, bathroom breaks, lunch, etc. We know they are excited to return to school to see their friends. Quite frankly we do not know how we are going to keep our young students from wanting to hug each other, but we will do our best to maintain our CDC guidelines. One of our goals this year is to make sure that if your child comes to school as Superman they do not go home as Batman!

Thursday packet: We will continue to send home school information on Thursdays (with the exception of today). Most information will also be posted on our website at beavercatholic.com. The last Thursday of each month you will receive a monthly calendar and a lunch calendar for the following month. Again, both will be posted online.

Parent Memorandum of Understanding: In this packet is an important document from the Diocese of Pittsburgh to move forward with the current COVID-19 situation involving expectations/guidelines if diagnosed with COVID and if an all virtual platform occurs. Please read the document thoroughly and sign it, and send it back to school as soon as possible. I realize this document may bring about questions and concerns and they can be addressed by calling the diocese. It is a vital piece of the ability to keep in check both COVID-19 outbreaks and the financial stability of Saints Peter & Paul School.

Standardized testing will not take place during September as in the past. The Diocese may decide to move this to the spring. Our Kindergarten through 3rd grade students will take the Dibels diagnostic tests in September to help our teachers plan for differentiated instruction.

OVER

Thank you for all that you do for Catholic education, for your cooperation and support and for promoting our school. It is invaluable to our success!

Our opening school liturgy will be this Friday for grades 1st through 8th at 9:00 A.M. Moving forward we will stagger our grade levels for attending Friday Mass with the option of viewing online.

Parent Lunch Volunteer: We are always looking for parents or grandparents to assist us serving lunch. This is a great opportunity to see your child during the school day and have lunch with him/her. Fill out the Volunteer Form and return to school, email Mrs. Runovitz at rrunovitz@comcast.net, or download the form from our website.



PTG: The PTG will continue to work on devising strategies and will be reaching out to you for feedback. Our Fall Festival is currently postponed until the spring for this very reason.

Emergency Form: Please fill out the attached Emergency Form with up-to-date information and send back to school tomorrow. This form is extremely important in case of any emergency with your child. Thank you.



Dismissal: Just a reminder that our dismissal is a very complex undertaking, especially the first few weeks. We take it very seriously to make sure our students get home safely. If you intend to pick your child up from school, please park in the church parking lot. When you see that the buses have departed that is a sign that our walkers will be next. Please wait across the street from the school doors (at the crosswalk) and I will personally cross all of the students at the same time (Social Distancing may take us a little longer!). They will be required to walk in front of me (while I stand in the middle of the road) so that I can see them to safety on the other side of East End Avenue. The cross walk is their designated path for crossing, no other place. Thank you for understanding our policy and your cooperation on this matter.

Blessings,

Cindy Baldrige

