

Via Email

August 18, 2020

Dear Families,

Thank you to everyone who sent questions in for the FAQ. They are important to help us achieve clarity both in the process and in the communication to families. The first installment of compiled questions and answers has been posted on the school website. Click [here](#) to go directly to the document. I know that there is a lot of information for all of us to process. Please read the documents found on the website's dedicated **Opening 2020** page carefully as they do contain the answers to many questions. As soon as we get new information, it is posted to the website.

I know that you are all eager and anxious to know about the **first day of school!** We are going to work on a staggered reopening schedule. This will help us all to practice our new arrival and departure routines and protocols. This is also a lot of information to process. To help, I have organized it into a chart (see attached).

More specific details will be sent home regarding the start of school. This will include details of any virtual meetings that are scheduled. Please note that Grades 5, 6, 7 and 8 will have some remote learning time built in for ALL students during this first week. (This will afford us the opportunity for everyone to practice and be ready to pivot, should it become necessary).

For the **first drop off day** that is scheduled for your child, parents will be permitted to enter the building (through the assigned door), and to walk your child through the new entry protocol and escort them to their classroom. All persons entering the building must wear a mask and have their temperature checked. Please note, parents may enter the building on this first day only. We are working on a video that you can share with your children that will show them what they can expect when they return to school. We hope to have this ready for next week.

Students are to wear their summer uniforms on the first day of school. Please note: if your child does not have a summer uniform, then the regular school uniform should be worn with the exception that boys are not required to wear ties.

Students should be prepared to submit completed summer assignments and bring supplies for September only. (All other supplies are to be kept at home until they are needed).

We will be able to offer a **Before and After School Program** this year. Information will be posted on the website by the end of this week.

Finally, a request: Last Friday we were able to secure a vendor and order protective shield/barriers for student and teacher desks. The estimated delivery will be September 1-4. I'd like to ask for 26-30 parent volunteers to help me install the shields so that they are ready for our first day. (Installation requires affixing the supplied Velcro strips to the barrier for each desk.) As soon as I have more specific information about delivery, I will let the volunteers know. Please [click here to sign up to volunteer](#) for this (and thank you!)

Our first payment for **tuition** was due on July 1. I ask all families to please be as prompt as you can, adhering to the payment schedule. As you can imagine, our expenses have increased tremendously as we prepare for this unique school opening, and we rely on the timely payments to meet our obligations!

We are all working hard to ensure that this reopening is safe, secure and smooth. Let's continue to pray for each other in these difficult times of change and uncertainty!

I'd like to send many thanks and much gratitude to all of the teachers who have worked so hard and have been so willing to share their time and talents for this stage of the planning. We are all eager to welcome everyone back soon!

*Gracious God, we come to you at the beginning of this academic year
with our many feelings, expectations, fears and hopes.
Help us to remember, however, we have the comforting
assurance from you: "I will always be with you."*

*Faithful God, this beginning is totally new for some among us.
Turn the sadness to openness to new friends and opportunities.*

*Turn the anxiety to a quiet confidence in the way you have blessed us in the past.
Give us a new perspective to see persons, events, and academic work as an
invitation to develop the many gifts you have given us to be used in service for others.*

*Finally, God, give to each member of our OLV Community the seven
gifts of the Spirit: wisdom, understanding, right judgment, courage, knowledge,
reverence, and awe and wonder.*

Amen.

With God, all things are possible!

See you soon!

Peg Augello

Principal