

Happy Labor Day, families!

I hope everyone is enjoying the holiday weekend!

This past Sunday we celebrated the life of one of the great 20th century Catholics, St. Mother Teresa. Mother Teresa did incredible good in the world, but she also said 'do small things with great love.' We all might not be capable of doing the great deeds she did, but we're all capable of doing whatever we do with great love. Earlier this year, Pope Francis called on ordinary people to live holy lives, to be 'saints next door.' The parents who lovingly raise their child, the teachers who give their time and talents to their students- these people live their lives exceptionally and teach us about Christ! As we celebrate the life of St. Mother Teresa, let us pray to her for the strength to all we do with great love, to be next door saints!

We had a wonderful first week back at school, albeit a short one. It was so uplifting to see the students in the building ready to learn!

As a reminder, our preschool and kindergarten students will have their first day of classes on **Tuesday, September 7.** Welcome and welcome back!

A note on dismissal. We will continue staggered dismissal times to limit the flow of students through the building at once. Those times are as follows:

- 2:45 - Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten
- 2:50 - 1st, 2nd, and 3rd
- 2:55 - 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th

Any student with a sibling will be dismissed with the youngest sibling.

I am excited to announce that we are partnering with Northeastern Music Programs again to offer instrumental music lessons to interested students who are enrolled in grades 3-8. If you'd like to learn more about the program or to sign your child up, visit this link. Mr. Morrisette, our instructor will be at school on Wednesday, September 8th, to offer a tutorial to the students regarding the program. He will be at school on **Thursday, September 9th at 7:00** offering an information session for parents.

To reiterate, parents are our greatest partners in preventing the spread of COVID-19. We ask that all parents administer a daily health screening, checking for the following symptoms:

- Temperature of 100.4 or higher, cough, muscle or body aches, headaches, loss of taste or smell, shaking and chills, shortness of breath or fast breathing.

If any of these symptoms are present, please keep your child home until they are symptom-free for 24 hours without the use of medication.

Students should have received a COVID-19 waiver from their homeroom teachers this past week. Please return those to teachers no later than Friday, September 10th.

I am attaching a form from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for those families who are seeking a medical exemption to mask wearing. The following form must be completed by a parent and a medical doctor (M.D. or D.O.). While we seek to make all reasonable accommodations, it may not be possible for Our Lady of Grace to honor all exemptions.

We are still looking for parents or grandparents to help supervise during lunch from 12:00-1:15. If you're interested, please email Sue Herbert at sherbert@olg1.org.

Please respond or call the office with any questions or concerns.

Go Gators!

In Christ,
Mr. Harper