



ST. ALOYSIUS ELEMENTARY ACADEMY

721 Westside Avenue
Jersey City, New Jersey 07306

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Rev. Juancho De Leon
Pastor

santalloysius@verizon.net

Mr. Jorge L. Rivera
Principal

jrivera@stalselem.org

Mrs. Guadalupe Pineda
Principal's Assistant

gpineda@stalselem.org

Mrs. Inez Pena
Tuition Specialist

icastillopena@stalselem.org

Mr. Rhoderik Villaver
Dir. of Technology

rvillaver@stalselem.org

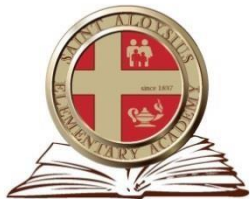
From the Principal's Desk

Welcome and welcome back, St. Aloysius Families!

May the Peace of the Lord be with you.

On behalf of Fr. Juancho, faculty, staff, and myself, we hope that you have enjoyed a restful and relaxing summer! As I begin my second year at St. Aloysius, I am particularly grateful for the blessing of this community of staff, students, and families in my life. I am eager to finally see all of you on your first day of school, please see below for your child's start date. During the summer we have worked on making sure the school was cleaned and disinfected in anticipation for God's little ones to return. This school year we have acquired more Chromebooks to use in conjunction with instruction throughout the year. We have also acquired the IXL, Spellodrome, and Mathletics programs, which are great educational tools for our students, more information will follow in the near future mailings. We are so happy to have all these new programs at our school as they will bridge any gaps in academics. Throughout the year we will be introducing other academic tools to enhance our academic programs. We are currently interviewing for the following positions: Second Grade teacher, Art, and Music. I have some good candidates lined up. I will update you as soon as I have the positions filled. We are proud and excited to launch the 2021-2022 school year with incredibly talented and dedicated teaching staff and your ongoing support and partnership!

As most of you know, I am quick to respond to emails and am very approachable. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me or schedule an appointment with Mrs. Pineda, the principal's secretary. I'm a firm believer in an open-door policy.



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Let us begin this school year the same way we begin every day with our students, grounded in the mission of St. Aloysius Elementary Academy.

Below please find some important information and reminders about the start of the school year. Along with this letter will be our tentative calendar for the 2021-2022 school year. Thank you in advance for your attention to the many details.

- **COVID-19:** The safety of our students and staff is paramount. We will continue to practice most of the protocols we did from our previous school year. Please see below some of the protocols and procedures we will continue to follow until further notice:
 - At the present time there will be no virtual option offered to students. (Remote instruction will be an option only in cases of required quarantine) All registered students to Saint Aloysius Academy will be expected to attend face-to-face instruction Monday through Friday.
 - Visitors and volunteers will be limited to those necessary to assist in the operation of the school (Masks will be required for all visitors).
 - Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting practices will continue.
 - Upon arrival to the school building, student temperatures will be taken at their designated entrance and students will use hand sanitizer before proceeding to their homeroom. Students will also sanitize their hands prior to entering their classroom.
 - Governor Murphy signed Executive Order No. 251 on August 6, 2021, making mask wearing mandatory indoors for staff, students, and visitors. Masks are required to be worn throughout the day and appropriate mask breaks will be given in a safe designated area. During excessive heat, eating, and drinking students will not be required to wear a mask given proper distance from each other. We have improved the ventilation system with air purifiers to ensure clean air.



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- - Children will continue to practice social distancing throughout the day per CDC guidelines.
 - As of this moment breakfast will be a grab n' go and taken up to the classrooms until further notice. Lunch will continue to be served in the classrooms.
 - Specials will be done in their assigned rooms or Gymnasium but will be sanitized after each use.
 - "If sick, stay home" policy will continue. All faculty, staff, and students will be expected to stay home if sick. Student must be fever-free and symptom free for 24 hours before returning to school without any fever reducing medication. Students will be sent home from school if showing any symptom of illness and timely pick-up is required.

As all of you are aware we at Saint Aloysius ensures that everyone stays safe as the cases are fluctuating throughout New Jersey, we will continue to update you as we receive more information.

I am in hopes this will only be temporary, and we will be able to get back some sense of normalcy in the very near future.

- **New Faculty and Staff:** I would like to welcome the new member of our St. Aloysius faculty. Our new Fourth Grade teacher is Mrs. Stella-Sender. She comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and experience. Please help me welcome her to the St. Aloysius family. Second Grade, Music, and Art TBA.
- **Current Faculty and Staff Changes:** We are saddened to have to announce the retirement of Mrs. Mulrooney and the resignation of Ms. Salazar. They will be greatly missed. Our other changes are as follows:
 - Mr. Villaver – Student Services and Technology Coordinator.
 - Mrs. Shivas – First Grade teacher ○ Ms. Castillo – Physical Education ○ Mrs. Pineda – Principal Secretary
 - Mrs. Pena – Tuition Specialist/Bursar



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- **Morning Procedures:** Doors open at 8:10 AM for students who will be partaking in our free breakfast program. As of this moment breakfast will be a grab n' go and taken up to the classrooms until further notice. Prayers and the instructional day will begin at 8:40 AM in the classrooms. Children will be using the same entrance guidelines that we had implemented last year. For the new parents the guidelines for entrance and dismissal are as follows:
 - Grades Pre-K 3 and 4 will use the Convent Courtyard doors
 - Grades K, 1, 2, and 6 will use Kensington Ave. doors
 - Grades 4 and 5 will use Main entrance
 - Grades 3, 7, and 8 will use the Annex entrance.
- **Afternoon Procedures:** We will continue to have a staggered dismissal, students will use the same doors they used for entrance. Any students that will be staying for our ExCeL program will be escorted to the cafeteria and dropped off to the teacher in charge of the program.
 - Grades Pre-K 3 and 4 Dismissal 2:50pm Convent Courtyard doors
 - Grades K, 1, 2, and 6 Dismissal 2:50 pm Kensington Ave. doors
 - Grades 4 and 5 Dismissal 3:00pm Main entrance doors
 - Grades 3, 7 and 8 3:00pm Annex doors
- **First Day of School:** The first day of school is Thursday, September 9th for grades 1-8 and Friday, September 10th for all grades including Pre-K. Please remember that these two days are half days of instruction.
- **Back to School Night:** Is on Wednesday, September 22nd for grades 1-8 at 6PM. We encourage all parents to come and meet your classroom teacher and staff members. Depending on the development of the COVID-19 cases we may do this a little differently this year. I will keep you posted as we get closer to the beginning of school.
- **Kindergarten and Pre-K Orientation:** Will be on Thursday, September 2nd beginning at 1PM. We ask that all parents with a child entering Pre-K or Kindergarten to please attend. Location of the meeting will be sent by the classroom teacher.



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- **School Handbook:** A copy of the handbook is posted on the website. An acknowledgement form will be sent the first week of school, please sign and return the form back to the school no later than Monday, September 20th.
- **Website:** Our website is being updated, please stay tuned and thank you for your patience while our website is under construction.
- **Drills:** During the first week of school St. Al's will be practicing our safety drills. Teachers will be practicing and discussing our fire and lockdown drill and other emergency drills. This will occur throughout the year to ensure that all students and staff are prepared in the event we need to use them. Please remind your children these drills are for practice only.
- **Student Information:** Please ensure that all information regarding your child is updated in the school office if you have not done so already. Please make sure we have a valid email on file as most of our correspondence this year will be through email. There will be an option to receive hard copies of any letters sent out. Most of this information can be updated on the packet given to the parents. If you need a packet, please stop by the main office to update any information needed. Additional information such as restricted dismissals and new or updated custody agreements should be sent directly to the principal in a sealed envelope labeled confidential.
- **Tuition Reminders:** Please remember the first payment was due July 15th through FactsManagement.com. Please remember to have your payment submitted in a timely fashion to avoid any additional fees. If you have any questions or concerns regarding tuition, please contact Mrs. Pena via email at icastillopena@stalselem.org or by phone to 201-433-4270.
Teacher Corner – Our teachers regularly update their corner on the website. Please check this frequently for any updates.
- **School Supplies:** All grade appropriate supplies will be provided by the school such as: notebooks, assignment pads, folders, pencils, pens, crayons, glue sticks, and pencil cases (soft). Any additional supplies will be requested by the teacher by the first week of school. Please always check the teacher corner for any updates.



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- **Fundraisers:** We will have fundraisers throughout the school year. We are kindly asking that all parents participate to help the school with fundraising. All monies are used for educational purposes. Please remember that every family has a fundraising obligation of \$500 for the year. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Pineda via email at gpineda@stalselem.org or by phone at 201433-4270. Last year's fundraisers were successful. The following are the tentative start dates for the fundraisers for the 2021-2022 school year:
 - 1st Fundraiser World's Finest Chocolates from 9/30-10/15 (Chocolate Bars)
 - 2nd Fundraiser Perfect Presents from 11/3-11/17 (Brochure)
 - 3rd Spring Fundraiser TBA
- **Parent Guild:** Unfortunately, last year due to the pandemic we were not able to fully utilize the Parent Guild. This year my hopes are to have this organization up and running as soon as possible. Working together as a team will ensure success of our school. More information will follow regarding meetings and other information in the near future.
- **Childcare- ExCeL-Extended Center for Learning Program:** I am pleased to announce that we will be upgrading our aftercare program. Our new program is called ExCeL. Extended Center for Learning provides a safe and nurturing learning environment that extends beyond the regular school day. ExCeL offers supervised homework plus fun learning activities to help students relax and play in a Godcentered environment. Our program serves as a reinforcement of the overall development of each student while supporting the mission of Saint Aloysius Elementary Academy. We offer developmentally and age-appropriate activities, projects, tutoring, enrichment opportunities, as well as homework support. We will also offer the use of all our new programs such as IXL, Mathletics, and Spellodrome. This program will enhance the student's academic achievement and progress throughout the year. More information will follow shortly. Please check our website stalselem.org regularly.

Uniforms: Please see below the uniform dress code. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to the main office. Any inquiries about the uniform, please visit the following store/website: www.lobels.net Fall/Spring Uniforms:



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• **Pre-K 4 to Grade 3**

Boys- red polo shirt with St. Aloysius emblem, black pants or short pants, white crew socks, solid white sneakers (Velcro sneakers for pre-k) * Black button-down sweater with St. Aloysius emblem

Girls- black polo shirt with St Aloysius emblem, red plaid skorts, white knee socks, solid white sneakers (Velcro sneakers for pre-k)

* Black button-down sweater with St. Aloysius emblem

Grades 4 - 8

Boys- red polo shirt with St. Aloysius emblem, black pants, white crew socks, solid white sneakers

* Black sweater vest or black pull-over sweater with St. Aloysius emblem (optional)

Girls- red polo shirt with St. Aloysius emblem, black skorts, white knee socks, solid white sneakers

* Black sweater vest or black pull-over sweater with St. Aloysius emblem (optional)

Winter Uniforms:

Pre-K 4 to Grade 3

Boys- white button-down shirt with red tie, black pants, black socks, solid black leather shoes (solid black Velcro sneakers or leather shoes for pre-k), black button-down sweater with St. Aloysius emblem

Girls- white peter pan collared shirt with red plaid crisscross tie, red plaid skorts or black pants (not leggings/jeggings), black knee socks/black socks for pants, black leather Mary Jane shoes (any solid black Velcro leather shoes or sneakers for pre-k), black button sweater with St Aloysius emblem.



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Grades 4 - 6

Boys- white button-down shirt with red tie, black pants, black socks, black leather tie shoes, black sweater vest with St. Aloysius emblem

Girls- white button-down blouse with solid red crisscross tie, black skorts or black pants (not leggings/jeggings), black knee socks for skorts or black socks for pants, black leather tie shoes, black sweater vest with St. Aloysius emblem.

Grades 7- 8

Boys- white button-down shirt with red tie, black pants, black socks, black leather tie shoes, black pull-over sweater with St. Aloysius emblem.

Girls- white button-down blouse with solid red crisscross tie, black skorts or black pants (not leggings/jeggings), black knee socks for skorts or black socks for pants, black leather tie shoes, black pull-over sweater with St. Aloysius emblem.



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Our Saint Aloysius Elementary Academy Homeroom and Staff list

Administrative Team

Faculty and Staff

Fr. Juancho, Pastor	Ms. Castillo – PE
Mr. J. Rivera, Principal	TBD – Art & Music
Mrs. Pineda, Assistant to the Principal	Mrs. Diaz – Spanish
Mrs. Pena, Tuition Specialist	Ms. Braga- Nurse
Mr. Villiver, Student Services and Technology Coordinator	Ms. Lucas- Guidance Counselor
Mrs. Santiago, Finance Manager	

Preschool Classes

Pre-K 3	Pre-K 4
TBA	Ms. Osi
TBA asst.	Mrs. Luchie assistant

Homerooms

Kindergarten	First Grade	Second Grade	Third Grade	Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade	Sixth Grade	Seventh Grade	Eighth Grade
Mrs. Helen	Mrs. Shivas	TBA	Ms. Bernatowicz	Mr. Kurt L. Dominguez	Ms. Class	Mrs. dela Cruz	Mr. Bonetti	Mrs. Knueppel
Ms. Serrano Teacher Aide								

Peace and Blessings,

Mr. Jorge L. Rivera



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Principal

A Student's Prayer at the Beginning of School Year

*We give you praise, O God, for everything that is
new and beautiful, for everything which holds
promise and brings us joy.*

*Bless us as we start this new year with
our friends and teachers
Help us to make the most of every chance we have to start
afresh.*

*May we show love to one another and to all.
May the new beginning of this school year remind
us that you give us chances to start over again
and again.*

*Help us to forgive others as we
receive your forgiveness.*

*Help us to learn and to work together.
Help us to listen when we should and to
know the best words when we speak and
when it is better not to speak.*

*We thank you for our friends Help
us to be good friends this year.
Help us to be patient with
ourselves and with others.*

*Bless our school and keep us safe.
Be with us as we travel each day.
Help us to be aware of your love shown
to us in the people around us.*

*Bless all those who care for us
In school and at home.
Help us show our care for them and
to say sorry when we need to.*

*May the Blessed Mother Mary protect us And
help us to live as well as we can
Giving thanks and glory to God as she did*