



# Annunciation Newsletter

Updates for school families from the desk of :

Principal Beth Cunningham

August 19, 2021

## REMINDERS

- Aug 23** First Day of School
- Aug 31** Chipotle Dining for Dollars
- Sept 3** Dress Down Day
- Sept 6** NO SCHOOL- Labor Day
- Sept 8** Curriculum Night
- Sept 15** School Picture Day



## Curriculum Night

Curriculum Night will be held for parents on September 8th at 6:30 p.m. beginning in the gym. Please note that all faculty and staff will be in the gym at this time and classroom visits will not begin until after the presentation by the principal. The schedule for this evening is as follows:

- 6:30 p.m. Welcome from Principal, Mrs. Cunningham
- 7:00 & 7:15 p.m. Classroom Visits begin for PS-Gr 5
- 7:00-7:30 p.m. Info Session for Junior high Parents (gym)
- 7:45 p.m. Final Session of Classroom Visits continue
- 8:00 p.m. Evening concludes

## Dismissal Procedures

Please see additional information in this packet in regards to the changes to our Dismissal Procedures. Thank you for your cooperation during this busy time of the school day to keep our students safe.

## Grandparents Day

Out of safety concern for both our students and our loving grandparents, we have made the decision to postpone Grandparents Day until Spring of 2022. Grandparents Day will be held on Friday, March 25. We will still dismiss at 11:55 a.m. on September 17th. Dismissal will also be at 11:55 a.m. on March 25th. Please mark your calendars!

## Prevention Strategies for COVID-19 Continue

Following the August 4th announcement on the rising of COVID-19 Delta variant cases, the State of Illinois has mandated the wearing of masks indoors for all school personnel, visitors, and Pre-K through 12th grade students regardless of vaccination status. Although we will be trying to operate at near normal operations we will continue with masking, 3-foot social distancing when possible, cohorts as much as possible, and disinfecting. Please see additional flyer for detailed information and take the time to familiarize your children with these safety measures.

## All School Mass

Coming together as a Catholic family to celebrate the Mass is one of the foundations of our school. Although we will not be able to hold All School Mass in the church due to social distancing guidelines, we do have the space in the school gymnasium. Fr. Patrick has offered this option so that we can all be together as a school family. Students will be able to be lectors, gift bearers, and altar servers for the All School Mass. There will be no Tuesday or Thursday School Masses at this time. Amen!

Meet Your  
**TEACHERS**

**Tonight, Aug 19th**  
**4:00-5:30 p.m. (K- Gr 8)**  
**6:00 p.m. (Preschool)**

## Faculty and Staff 2021 - 2022

**Mrs. Mazur - 8th Grade Teacher**  
**Mrs. L. Brouch - 7th Grade Teacher**  
**Mrs. Herrmann - 6th Grade Teacher**  
**Miss Decker - 5th Grade Teacher &  
After Care Supervisor**  
**Mrs. Nies - 4th Grade Teacher**  
**Mrs. Ruffalo - 3rd Grade Teacher &  
Assistant Principal**  
**Mrs. Lund - 2nd Grade Teacher**  
**Mrs. Rizzo - 1st Grade Teacher**  
**Mrs. Kopin - Kindergarten Teacher**  
**Mrs. Mattas - Preschool Teacher**  
**Mrs. Kozak - P.E. Teacher**  
**Mrs. Mancini - Music Teacher**  
**Mrs. Reyna - Art Teacher**  
**Mrs. Brabeck - Tech Teacher &  
STEM Aide**  
**Mrs. Vogt - STEM & Tech Teacher**  
**Mrs. Winkel - Tech Coordinator**  
**Mrs. Woodworth - Librarian**  
**Mrs. Sojka - Librarian & Preschool Aide**  
**Mrs. Jungels - Kindergarten Aide**  
**Mrs. Sweet - Primary Aide**  
**Mrs. Brown - Primary Aide**  
**Mrs. Unruh - Aide (Gr 4-8)**  
**Mrs. Hinterlong - Aide (Gr 4-5) &  
Before Care Supervisor**  
**Mrs. Frieders - Before Care Supervisor**  
**Mrs. Fata - After Care Supervisor**  
**Mrs. Genovese - After Care Supervisor**  
**Sr. Jackie - After Care Supervisor**  
**Mrs. Brouch - Administrative Assistant**  
**Mrs. Becker - Office Assistant**



## Prevention Strategies for COVID-19 and Variants 2021 – 2022

Following the August 4<sup>th</sup> announcement on the rising of COVID-19 Delta variant cases, the State of Illinois has mandated the wearing of masks indoors for all school personnel, visitors, and Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students regardless of vaccination status.

### **Masking- 3ft Social Distancing when possible- Cohorts as much as possible- Disinfecting**

#### **Returning to Pre-Pandemic Operations**

- No masks required outside, regardless of vaccination status
- Restrooms
- Locker use
- Locker Room use for changing for P.E. (Grades 4-8)
- All extracurricular activities
- Sharing of materials
- Use of soft materials (rugs, carpets, beanbags, etc.)
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Limited School volunteers following mask guidelines
- Parents and visitors may enter the building for office business and scheduled appointments
- All instruction will be in-person and remote learning will only be implemented if mitigation calls for an adjustment to protocols
- Before and After Care
- Arrival/Dismissal Procedures

#### **Positive Cases and Quarantine**

- We will follow the quarantine guidelines as directed by the local health department. These guidelines may change depending on the number of positive COVID cases and the rate of transmission. As guidelines shift we will update and inform you of these changes.
  1. Vaccinated individuals who have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 and are asymptomatic, are not required to quarantine
  2. All symptomatic individuals must remain home, regardless of vaccination status
  3. Students, faculty, and staff who are masked and maintain three feet of physical distancing from the positive individual do not need to quarantine

4. Unvaccinated students, faculty, and staff who are in close contact to positive household members, including siblings, must quarantine
- Currently, students, faculty, and staff who experience illness or symptoms must stay home and/or will be sent home. If symptoms last longer than 24 hours, an individual must receive a negative COVID-19 test or alternative medical diagnosis prior to returning to school.
  - Positive COVID-19 cases must be reported to the school principal

#### **Continued Protocols**

- Drinking fountains should only be used for refillable water bottles
- Maximize ventilation
- Sanitize hands upon arrival and throughout the day
- Wipe down desks and high traffic areas at least once per day
- Before and After Care will follow the same protocols as the regular school day
- Maintain 3 feet social distancing in classrooms between students
  1. There is no longer a requirement that students must face the same direction
  2. Every class must maintain the same assigned seating chart so that any quarantines will be limited to only the students in closest proximity to a positive COVID-19 individual (front, back, left, and right)
- We will hold an All School Mass on Wednesday mornings in the gym while practicing social distancing. There will be no Tuesday or Thursday Masses for students at this time.

## **New Dismissal Procedures**

We are trying to make our dismissal procedures safer for all our students. The upper building parking lot is very busy, and our younger students may be hard to see as they move through the parking lot to their cars. **We will no longer have a crossing guard at the intersection of Molitor and Church Road. The city of Aurora has discontinued providing crossing guards.**

### **Primary Building:**

- Preschool dismissal is remaining the same – an adult must meet the student in front of the Primary Building at 2:55.
- Grades Kindergarten through Third will dismiss at 3:00.
- All students will remain inside the gated area with a teacher until their adult is seen. You do NOT need to be waiting in the Primary parking lot.
- At 3:03, the remaining students will be walked by a teacher to the Mary Grotto where an adult or older sibling will meet them and walk them safely to the car.
- Any student not picked up at the Grotto by 3:10 will be walked to After Care in the Primary Building by the teacher on duty.

### **Upper Building:**

- Grades Four through Eight will be dismissing at 3:00.
- If you have children only in the Upper Building, we encourage you to use the horseshoe drive for pick up. Please make sure that as a car leaves the drive, you pull ahead as far as you can so people trying to turn into the drive from Church Road are not backing up traffic.
- There will be 2 teachers on duty at the Upper Building to help ensure students are safely reaching their vehicles.
- Any student not picked up by 3:10 will be sent to After Care in the Primary Building. They will be walked there by the After Care supervisor.

### **Parking Spaces:**

- If possible, we would like people to pull through the parking spaces to limit the amount of cars backing up. We understand that this is not always going to be possible.

**Please be patient as we try this new system. Remember we are doing this for the safety of all the children and not to inconvenience anyone. Thank you for your help in this important matter.**