



August 17, 2018

Dear Parents and Families:

“Clear and cool means back to school.” I hope you are still enjoying what is left of this beautiful summer, though I’m not sure that saying applies on this hot and steamy August afternoon. I am looking forward to those clear and cool autumn days and I look forward to meeting you and your children in the months ahead. Our enrollment for the 2018-2019 school year is very healthy and I believe that is due to the high quality instruction from our faculty, and the outstanding achievement of our students. We can all be thankful for that.

On the enrollment front, I wanted to let all of you know that we continue to offer a \$250.00 tuition credit to any enrolled family who refers a new student to our school. If that student successfully completes the school year in its entirety, a \$250.00 credit will be issued for the next school year. Let's hope more families will continue to look at **Catholic Education** in the future as the best alternative for their children's education and welfare. After all, students who attend Catholic Schools today reap the benefits of a Catholic education, from whatever background, culture or religion they come from. Our Catholic Schools today provide students with a sense of **Community**-a true spirit of belonging to a community life that is united in close bonds of friendship, faith and mutual respect for one another.

CHANGES & MOVES

If you hadn't heard by now, **Mrs. Blessing** has decided to take a leave of absence from her 4th grade teaching position. I ask that our entire community pray for her and wish her a very successful year. “**Thank You for all of your contributions Mrs. Blessing!**” Replacing Mrs. Blessing as the 4th grade teacher is our very own **Ms. Joan Frederick**. Ms. Frederick has extensive experience as a teacher at Blessed Sacrament School. She spent many years as a Title I tutor and served on our middle school team last year. I believe we are blessed to have Ms. Frederick, and know that she will serve our students well.

Replacing Ms. Frederick as our middle school science and technology teacher will be **Mr. Scott Burns**. Mr. Burns is a fully certified middle school educator and earned the highest praise from his most recent principal at St. Pius X School in Westerly. A graduate of Providence College, Mr. Burns has served as a high school biology teacher, and as a technology advisor at St. Pius X. I am confident that we are very lucky to have Mr. Burns joining our team.

Middle School Lockers: Parents of students entering grade 6, 7, and 8: Please be aware that I have moved the lockers from the lower floor to the 3rd floor, so please be sure to send your student to school with a combination lock on the first day of school. Thank you for your cooperation.

SCHOOL DAY BEGINS AT 8:15

Our school day begins at 8:15AM. Students can arrive as early 8:00AM. Students arriving earlier than 8:00AM will be directed to Daycare and billed for a minimum of ½-hour=(\$3.00). For new families, as well as a reminder to everyone, please remember the school day ends at 2:30PM for all grades. **Please make sure to pick-up your child by 2:40PM. All students remaining in line after 2:40PM will be admitted to daycare. Thank you for your cooperation!**

Student Handbook

Most of you should have reviewed the Blessed Sacrament Student Handbook last year on our website, www.blessedschoolpvd.com. There have been some new additions/revisions to the Student Handbook so please be on the lookout for it on our website. Both parents and students must sign off on the Handbook highlights form, which will be sent home on the first day of school. Please return the signed form during the first week of school. Please be aware that the Student Handbook is enforced throughout the year.

Students should be in summer gym uniforms on the first day of school. The uniform requirements are clearly stated in the Student Handbook; please do not make any substitutions. **Please be aware, our uniform policy will be strictly enforced this year.**

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Lunch Program

Sodexo will continue to provide the National School Lunch Program in the year ahead. If you wish to utilize this service, please make sure to keep your account current. It will help us make the program run smoothly. Many families may qualify for free or reduced price lunch and breakfast. **Please be sure to return the completed application during the first week of school.** Students who have not returned their applications will be charged full price for breakfast and lunch. Thank you for your cooperation.

Breakfast = \$1.80 (\$.30 Reduced)

Lunch = \$3.00 (\$.40 Reduced)

Ice cream will be available for \$1.00

Emergency Care Cards-Most Important for All Students!

New Emergency Care cards will be sent home on the first day of school. Please complete and **return them ASAP-especially if you plan to have your child in our daycare program, which will begin on Wednesday, August 29th.** *Please make certain to supply us with a current e-mail address on this card.* This will be of great assistance to us in our efforts to “go green”, and to help us keep you informed in a more timely fashion.

School Bus Transportation

First Student provides bus transportation for Providence residents. Mrs. Fioravanti will mail all bus students their bus passes by the first day of school. Please make sure your student has his or her bus pass with them on the first day. Bus drivers are required to collect that pass in order to transport your student. If you live outside of Providence, it is your responsibility to contact your local bus company to arrange transportation to Blessed Sacrament.

Daycare Program

Our Daycare Program is offered every day from 7:00AM-8:00AM and 2:30-5:30PM. All students from Blessed Sacrament are eligible to attend. Please remember, **you will be billed weekly**. If payment is 30 days in arrears, your child will not be able to continue the program.

The cost of this program will be **\$6.00 per hour**. This program offers snacks, supervised homework/study, and play. **The After-School Program begins on Wednesday, August 29th as long as you have provided the necessary paperwork.**

Morning Care Program

We will offer once again the opportunity for parents to drop off their child before school begins at 8:00AM. From **7:00-8:00AM** parents can drop off their child to be escorted to our pre-k room where Mrs. Cole will be to greet and watch over them. **The price for this program is \$6.00 per hour** (*Mrs. Cole has volunteered once again to be here at school earlier than usual*).

The School Day

Students who arrive before 8:15AM will wait in the school yard or classrooms (bad weather). We **do not have staff coverage before 8:00AM**, so for the safety of your child, please do not arrive before that time unless your child will be in the morning daycare program. Students will be escorted to their lockers and classrooms for Morning Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance at 8:15AM. Students who arrive after 8:25AM should report to the secretary's office to sign in so as not to be marked absent. Students are expected to be on time. **Habitual tardiness will be brought to the attention of the parents by the principal** (*Please see Student/Parent Handbook on this issue*). Poor attendance and tardiness directly affect a child's success in numerous ways; emotionally as well as scholastically. If your child will be absent, please call the school (401-831-3993) to let us know.

Enjoy what is left of summer! I hope you will join me in looking forward to a great year ahead. See you on either **Wednesday August 29th (Middle School), or Thursday, August 30th (Preschool through grade 5)** for the **1st day of school**. All students will report on Friday, August 31st.

Mr. Weber

PS: We will be looking for some parent volunteers throughout the year. Please see Mrs. Fioravanti if you can assist us.