

St. Mary's Catholic School

Summer Mailing

8/15/19

Dear St. Mary's families,

Summer is flying by! I hope everyone is enjoying the warm weather, vacations, and some rest and relaxation before we start school in just a few weeks! I am very much looking forward to our 2019-2020 school year. I have been very much enjoying this summer, as Mrs. Bourque and I welcomed our new baby into the world! Evelyn Marie Bourque was born on June 27th and is a happy, healthy, future SMCS student! Thank you so very much to all the parents, families, and students who gave such thoughtful gifts for Evelyn - we are doing our best to read to her every night from her well-stocked library in the nursery! I am sure she will make an appearance at SMCS sometime in the fall to say hello to everyone!

The gym floor was finished in late July and looks great! We are excited for our students to get great use out of it for many years. Thank you to all who had given in support of this project. We could not have done it without your support!

We have a few personnel announcements at this time:

- Mrs. Michele Boen, a member of St. Mary's Parish, has joined us as our Preschool Teacher. We are thrilled to welcome Mrs. Boen to SMCS - she brings with her a wealth of experience working in early childhood education and will be a wonderful fit for our Preschool program.
- Mrs. Janice Cole will be joining our Extended Day staff. Mrs. Cole comes with experience in Catholic education in physical education and after school care, and will be an asset to our Extended Day program in the afternoon.
- Last Friday, Ms. Caitlyn Alexander agreed to take an Art Teacher position in Warwick, RI. Ms. Alexander will be missed. We are currently working to fill the Art Teacher position, and we will share news of an appointment when the process is complete.
- On Tuesday, Mrs. Kathy Palomo informed me that she must resign to care for her father. We offer Mrs. Palomo our prayers and support and thank her for teaching Spanish at SMCS since 2005. We are searching for a middle school Spanish Teacher at this time.
- Mrs. Julie Kennedy will be stepping into the middle school Math and Science Teacher role this fall. We are grateful to Mrs. Kennedy for her willingness to take on this new role. We are finalizing the search for a middle school Math and Resource Teacher. News of an appointment will be shared as soon as the process is complete.

The Teacher Welcome Letters for all students and the Middle School Math Placement Letters should be arriving to your homes via US mail shortly.

Our **Kindergarten Screenings** are scheduled for Wednesday, Sept 4, Thursday, Sept 5, & Friday, Sept 6. Please sign up for your appointment via this link: [Kindergarten Screening Sign Up](#).

In order to expedite the logistics for the start of the new school year, **we do ask you to complete the following required steps (1-4) and family preferences steps (5-9) in a timely manner.** If at any point, you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call or email our office with any questions.

REQUIRED BEFORE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

- 1.** Please review the following link: [Student Parent Handbook](#). Please complete **all** forms within [Family Demographic Form found on ParentsWeb under the Web Forms section](#). The Family Demographic Form contains: a.) Student Demographic, b.) Student Medical, c.) Custodial Parent, d.) Emergency Contacts, e.) Transportation, f.) Grandparents, g.) Contact and Photo Release Waiver, h.) Student Parent Handbook Acknowledgement.
- 2.** [Field Trip Medical Form](#) - must be completed for all students for this year's field trips - complete one form for the year.
- 3.** [Student Dismissal Routine Form](#) - Please indicate your preference for your student's daily dismissal routine for each day of the week. The options are Car Line, Bus, and Extended Day.
- 4.** Requirement for students in **Grades K, 4, & 7 only**, please send in a copy of a current Physical Health Form from your doctor's office.

In addition to the above 3 steps, we do ask you to review and complete steps (5-9) according to your family's preferences.

- 5.** [Hot Lunch Trimester 1 Order Form](#) (Google Form due 9/9) - hot lunch begins Monday September 16th
- 6.** [Milk Trimester 1 Order Form](#) (Google Form due 9/9) - milk begins Monday September 16th
- 7.** [Extended Day Registration Sign-Up Form](#) (Google Form due 9/4) - [Extended Day Handbook](#) to be reviewed. Please fill out the form whether you intend to use all the time, intermittent times, or no time.
- 8.** [Athletes Participation Form](#) (Google Form due 9/4) Cross Country athletes must have all forms in by the first week of school! Please note that the form requires you to complete additional paperwork for the Catholic Athletic League, which can be found on our website. *Thank you to Mr. Brian Johnson and Mr. Matt Gaudette for coaching this year!*
- 9.** [Volunteer Opportunities Sign-Up Form](#) (Google Form due 9/4) We appreciate all of our volunteers! Thank you for your time and dedication! Please note that the form requires you to complete additional paperwork for the Diocese of Fall River Safe Environment Office (CORI), which can be found on our website.

Other Helpful Links to Review

[Opening Week Memo](#)

[Summer Reading and Supply Lists](#)

[2019-2020 School Calendar](#)

[Uniform Information](#)

[Bus Information](#)

[SMCS Birthday Book Club](#)

A great start to our year relies on clear communication and cooperation between faculty, staff, parents, and students - thanks in advance for doing your part to get this school year off and running. We are very excited to begin this new school year, and we hope you are too! Our prayers are with you and your family over next few weeks - back to school time can be a time of excitement, nervousness, anticipation, joy, or all of the above! There are some nice tips for families from NCEA for starting the school year right - [check them out here](#). We will do our best to ensure that your child has a faithful, fun, challenging, and rewarding experience this year at SMCS.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer and we will see you all very soon!

Matthew Bourque
Principal