

August
2014



St. Joseph School

A Note from the Principal

I hope you have all enjoyed the carefree days of summer, and taken the time for some valuable, quality family time. It is hard to believe, but it is nearly time for the start of another school year.

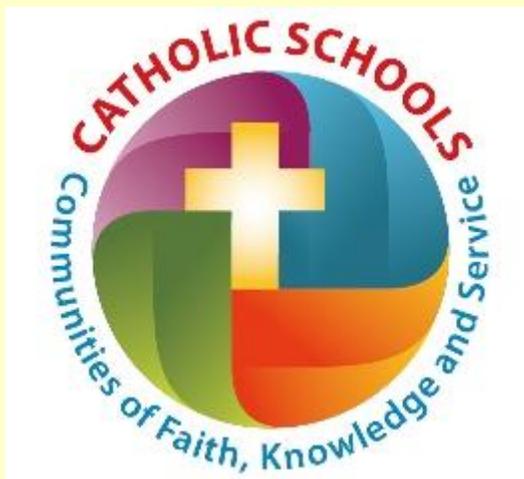
This year's theme for Catholic Schools continues to be "Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service." The theme encompasses several concepts that are at the heart of a Catholic education. Schools are communities—small families in their own right, but also members of the larger community of home, church, city and nation. Faith, knowledge and service are three measures by which any Catholic school can and should be judged.

On behalf of all of us at St. Joseph School, we look forward to another successful school year as we work together to build our "community of faith, knowledge and service."

Sincerely in Christ,

Mrs. Karen Green

Principal



Arrival and Dismissal

School opens on Wednesday, September 3rd with full-day sessions for Kindergarten through 8th grades. Students should be in their classrooms by 8:00 a.m.; dismissal is at 2:20 p.m. for bus students; 2:40 p.m. for walkers and parent pick-up. All students, including Kindergarten, should report directly to their classrooms. **Grades 1-8 will be in the main building, while Kindergarten, Pre-K and Wrap-Around-Care will be housed in the Annex Building.**

Beginning at 2:20 p.m. our bus students will be dismissed as their appropriate bus arrives. At approximately 2:35 p.m. after the bus traffic has ended, teachers will escort those students who are walking or being transported by private vehicles to the parking lot. Vehicles may be waiting in the Church parking lot. No vehicles will be allowed near the school building past the barriers. They should not enter or exit Summit St. as the students are crossing the parking lot. Please be patient at dismissal and do not attempt to move your vehicle while children are still walking out to their cars. Please help to keep our children safe! **We ask that walkers and riders not request earlier dismissals due to safety concerns with the bus traffic.**

Tuition Statements

Tuition Statements for the 2014-2015 school year were sent to each family in July. If you have not returned your signed statement, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation!



Parent/Student Handbook

The **revised** Handbook and School Calendar will be handed out to all families during the first few days of school. Thank you to our Home School Association--SOS (Supporters of St. Joseph School) for providing the funds for printing these handbooks. Parents should read the handbook with your child(ren) and discuss school policies. **All parents and students must sign and return the agreement found at the end of the handbook.**

Students in grades 3-8 will receive a school assignment book. It is **mandatory** that they have this throughout the school year. Please assist us in teaching our students that personal organization is a life skill. If your child loses this, we have limited replacements available for \$7.00.

Parent Volunteers

As always, we depend considerably upon the generosity and good will of you, our families, for assistance with so many school functions. Volunteers are needed in the following areas:

- To assist in our cafeteria during lunch periods
- To assist classroom teachers with special projects whenever needed
- To assist in our Pre-K program

A volunteer sign-up sheet will be sent home the 1st week of school. Your help, no matter how small you may think it is, is greatly appreciated.

Material Fee

Each family is required to pay a \$100 Material Fee. This fee was included in your tuition statement for the 2014-2015 school year. The Material Fee helps us meet the cost of copy paper, construction paper, art supplies, report cards, assignment books, etc. This fee has been included in all FACTS tuition management accounts.

Faculty & Staff 2013-14

Wrap Around Care Teacher:	Mrs. Jill Kratz
Wrap Around Care Teacher:	Mrs. Stephanie King
Pre-K:	Mrs. Sue Neer
Pre-K Aide:	Mrs. Joyce Gahr
Kindergarten:	Mrs. Beth Hofmaster
Kindergarten Aide:	Mrs. Barbara Paserk
1 st Grade:	Mrs. Mary Case
1 st Grade Aide:	Mrs. Bridget DelPlato
2 nd Grade:	Mrs. Anna Perl
2 nd Grade Aide:	Mrs. Flo Ventola
3 rd Grade:	Mrs. Marianne Clattenburg
3 rd Grade Aide:	Mrs. Mary Zehler
4 th Grade:	Mrs. Sharon Fischer
4 th Grade Aide:	Mrs. Diane Fraser
5 th Grade:	Mr. Todd Bowman
5 th Grade Aide:	Mrs. Nancy Hardie
6/7/8 Grade Science:	Mrs. Alana Caprio
6/7/8 Grade Religion:	Miss Nikki Zambito
6/7/8 Grade English:	Mrs. Alicia Palmer
6/7/8 Grade Social Studies:	Ms. Elaina Freeman
6/7/8 Math:	Mrs. Amy Cifelli
8 th Grade Earth Science:	Mr. Timothy Stringham
Spanish:	Mrs. Gina Bergman
Art and Computers:	Miss Molly McQuillen
Music:	Mrs. Lauren Hoerbelt
Instrumental:	Mrs. Kae Wilbert
Physical Education:	Mrs. Mary Wright
AIS (Reading) Teacher:	Mrs. Donna Carey
Resource Room Teacher:	Mrs. Kate Winters
Counselor:	Mrs. Liz Calarco-Smith
Nurse:	Mrs. Shari Ange
Cafeteria:	Mrs. Maria Streefer
Secretary:	Mrs. Dawn Norton
Director of Student Services:	Mrs. Nora O'Neill
Principal:	Mrs. Karen Green

Piano Lessons

Once again, Mr. Geoff Clough will be teaching piano and keyboard at St. Joseph School on Thursdays starting on September 11th. Lessons are ½ hour once a week, during regular school hours with a rotating schedule; therefore no student misses the same class each week. Lesson commitment runs from September through May. For fees or further information, please contact Mr. Clough at 585-732-6732.

Lunches

Hot lunches will be available starting on Wednesday, Sept. 3rd. The lunch menus as well as the meals are prepared by Notre Dame High School. Cost of the hot lunch for grades K-8 is \$2.00 which includes milk or juice. Extras are available for \$1.00. Milk at **\$0.50** will be available for students who wish to pack a lunch. **Families under the free and reduced plan last year will still be eligible for the month of September until the new applications are filed.** New applications will be sent home the first week of school.

Hot dogs, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, deli sandwiches, and salads are also available each day. **All Kindergarten Students will receive a "free lunch" on the first day of school!!!**

The Healthy Hunger-Free Act requires that school lunches offer a balanced meal of nutrient-rich foods-emphasizing lean-protein, fruits, veggies, and whole grains. Also, under the new regulations, we still will be offering snacks but the selection will fall under the nutrient guidelines. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Shannon Plath (Notre Dame Nutritional Services Cafeteria Manager) at 585-343-2783 ext. 106 or by e-mail shannon.plath@ndhsbatavia.com

Kitchen volunteers are still needed to help with serving and clean-up Monday through Friday, 10:45 am - 1pm, beginning Wednesday September 3rd. Please contact Maria Streeter at 297-2094 if you are able to help for a full or partial time slot.

The September lunch menu is available on our website at www.sjsbatavia.org.

Lunch Tickets

Lunch tickets for all grades will be sold for \$40.00, which is good for 21 lunches. We strongly encourage every family to purchase a lunch ticket to cut down on the times that children forget to bring in their lunch money. Lunch tickets may be purchased anytime in the main office.

*****Checks** for lunch tickets should be made to **"Notre Dame Nutritional Services"*****

Pre-K Program

There are still a few spaces available for 4 year olds in our Monday/ Wednesday/Friday classes in the afternoons, and there is limited space available in our 3 year old Tuesday/Thursday programs in the mornings and afternoons. If you know of anyone who may wish to send their children to a quality Pre-K program, we ask that you share the information about St. Joe's with them. Please have them call the school office at 343-6154.

NO Monday Early-Release

To allow time for our STREAM K-8 initiative, our younger children will **NOT** be released early on **Mondays**. We are excited to begin working with the children and eager to include all grades from Kindergarten through the 8th grade.



BINGO

A few bingo positions are still available! Save money on next year's tuition by signing up before Sept 30th. Work one Friday night from 6-10 pm every six weeks. Please contact the main office if you would like additional information.

Big G Box Tops & Campbell Labels

Please continue to save Big G Box Tops and Campbell Labels and send them into school with your children. We are also collecting Tyson chicken labels and manufacturer's coupons. Please make sure your child's name is written on the bag or envelope when you send them to school.



Scripts/TRIP

(Tuition Reduction Incentive Plan)

Once again we are offering this program as a way of earning tuition credit purchasing items such as weekly groceries. For example, by purchasing Tops or many other gift cards or certificates from our school secretary Mrs. Norton, you can make purchases and earn tuition credit at the same time. Some people who purchase Scripts weekly have already earned several hundred dollars in tuition credit. We currently keep a number of cards such as Tops, WalMart, Wendy's, Arby's, and JCPenney in stock. A large variety of others can be ordered on Mondays by noon, for pick-up on Friday. Over \$15,000 was distributed among our families for tuition credit in 2013-2014. Think how much could be earned if every family participated in this worthwhile program!!

Opening Liturgy

Our Opening School Liturgy will be held on Friday, September 5th at the 11:00 a.m. Mass in the Church, for grades K-8. All families are encouraged to attend.

Special Area Subjects

Special area subjects including Spanish, Technology, Music, Art, and Physical Education will start on Wednesday, September 3rd for all grades.



School Supplies For Sale

Pens.....	\$0.50
Stretchable book covers	\$1.00
Cursive Tablet (Grade 3)	\$1.00
One-subject notebooks	\$1.00
Protractors/Rulers/Highlighters/Crayons/ Glue Sticks.....	\$0.50 each
Composition Notebook	\$1.00

* These items and many more are for sale in the school store located in the cafeteria*

Notre Dame Fall Modified Sports Program

7th and 8th grade students are eligible to participate in modified sports under the auspices of Notre Dame High School. The following is a list of Fall modified sports offerings. Please contact Notre Dame High School if your child is interested.

Cross Country (Boys and Girls)

Girls Volleyball

There is a \$40 fee for all students participating in a Modified Sports Program. This fee is paid to Notre Dame High School. Health forms also need to be turned in as soon as possible. These forms are available in ND's main office. For your convenience, the fee and health forms can be turned into St. Joseph School office; they will be forwarded to the Notre Dame Office.

After School Program

Mrs. Perl and Mrs. Zehler will continue to offer an After School Program again this year. The hours are from **2:45- 5:15 p.m.** each day that school is in session, **beginning Monday, September 8th.** The children will receive a daily snack, homework assistance, and have tons of fun together! If you are interested, enrollment forms are available in the main office. The cost of this program is \$4.00/hour.

10 Ways to Help Your Child Do Well in School

1. **Show you care.** Your child needs hugs and words of support. Ask your child about school each day.
2. **Read, read, read.** Read with your child or have him or her read every day. Make it fun- talk about what you've read.
3. **Make home a place for learning.** Help your child practice reading, writing, math, and science skills. Stimulate your child's creativity.
4. **Promote healthy habits.** Make sure your child gets plenty of sleep and exercise and eats balanced meals. Schedule regular check-ups.
5. **Be a role model.** Your child learns from you. Be positive about education and show you enjoy learning.
6. **Encourage independence.** Allow your child to make mistakes and learn to accept their consequences. Give your child responsibilities, such as household chores.
7. **Create a study routine.** Set a time and quiet place for your child to work every day. Go over homework together.
8. **Get involved.** Meet with your child's teacher, attend school events and help out at school if you can.
9. **Build success.** Help raise your child's self-esteem by setting reachable goals and praising your child's efforts, not just results.
10. **Make school important.** Insist on good attendance and punctuality.

Kindergarten Orientation

All Kindergarten students and their families are invited to a picnic on Tuesday, August 19th at 6:00 p.m. You will meet your teacher Mrs. Beth Hofmaster, hear about a typical day in kindergarten, and enjoy a picnic style dinner with your classmates and their families. Please be sure to call the school office and let us know how many people will be attending. If we do not have your immunization records and your physical forms, you must bring them with you to Orientation. Please remember that we cannot allow your child to start school without these forms on file. Also, feel free to bring your child's supplies with you that evening.

Website

The following is the address for our website:
www.sjsbatavia.org.

For your convenience our lunch menu and monthly newsletter will be available each month. Each month we will send an email to our families announcing that the newsletter and menu are available. If you have not already done so, please inform the school office if you wish to receive hard copies of these publications.

Be sure to also check in to the classroom news pages to see what is happening in your children's classrooms.

Dates to Remember in September

- 3th First Day of School
- 4th Magazine Sale Kick-Off
- 5th Opening School Mass at 11:00 AM
- 8th Pre-K Orientation for M/W/F classes
- 9th Pre-K Orientation for T/TH classes
- 10th Pre-K begins for M/W/F classes
- 11th Pre-K begins for T/TH classes
- 12th Mass at 11:00 A.M.
- 14th Family Mass at 11:30 A.M. followed by Family Picnic
- 19th Mass at 11:00 A.M.
- 24th Grandparent's Day Celebration in Grades K-2
- 26th Mass at 11:00 A.M.
- 29th Parents Meet the Teacher Night at 7:00 PM

VIRTUS Training

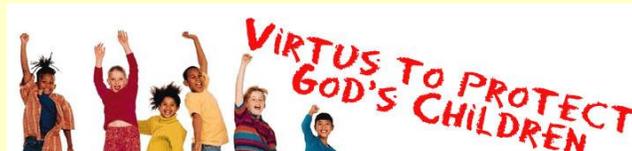
It is a Diocesan policy that anyone who works with children in any capacity must attend a "Protecting God's Children" workshop. If you plan to volunteer in your child's classroom, work in the cafeteria, coach basketball, or even accompany your child's class on a field trip, **this workshop is mandatory**. Those who participated in the workshop previously are not required to attend again, however you need to maintain your status by reading the monthly training bulletins online and completing re-certifications.

St. Joseph School will be hosting a "Protecting God's Children" workshop on **Tuesday, October 28th** beginning at 6:00 PM.

The workshop will also be offered at:

- St. Benedict, Eggertsville on September 16th at 6:00 PM
- The Catholic Center, Buffalo on September 25th at 1:00 PM
- Queen of Heaven, West Seneca on September 30th at 6:30 PM
- St. Michael, Warsaw on October 26th at 5:30 PM

You can register online at www.virtus.org or by calling 716-847-5532.



Dress Code

Personal appearance is taken very seriously at St. Joseph School. We require a uniform dress code for both boys and girls. It helps in fostering a Christian educational environment. In addition to the uniform dress code, all students' hair must be clean and well-groomed with no wild styles (including colored or dyed hair) or shaved heads. Boy's hair must not be below their eyebrows or shirt collars. Pierced earrings are not acceptable for boys; hats or caps are not allowed in the building. No excessive jewelry or dangling earrings are allowed for girls. One post style earring per ear lobe only. Make-up is not acceptable for girls. No artificial nails, only clear or light colored nail polish. Uniforms for Grades K-8 are to be worn starting the first day of school. The Principal reserves the right to decide if a student is dressed in compliance with the dress code.

BOYS:

- Navy blue uniform dress pants
- White long or short sleeved oxford cloth shirt
- Monogrammed navy or green V-neck or cardigan sweater (optional)
- Sneakers or shoes
- Black or white ankle socks without logos. Knee socks are not allowed.
- Blue ties for grades K-5 (can be purchased from the main office for \$8.00) Any style tie may be worn in grades 6-8

GIRLS:

- Plaid uniform jumper in Grades K-5 (must touch knees)
- Plaid or navy blue uniform skirt in Grades 6-8 (must touch knees)
- White long or short sleeved oxford shirt or blouse
- Monogrammed navy or green V-neck or cardigan sweater (optional)
- White turtlenecks
- Navy blue dress pants may be worn from Nov. 1st- March 31st.
- Navy, green, or white tights, knee socks, or ankle socks

BOYS AND GIRLS:

- White polo monogrammed shirts may be worn during the months of September, October, April, May, and June.
- White long-sleeved banded bottom monogrammed shirts may be worn in grades K-5 throughout the school year. ****THESE SHIRTS MUST BE BANDED ON THE BOTTOM****
- School sweatshirts or navy blue fleeces may also be worn in place of the school sweater. The fleece is available from Flynn & O'Hara.

****Khaki uniform shorts** may be worn during the months of **September, October, April, May and June**. Shorts may be purchased through Flynn & O'Hara, Target, or JCPenney. Bermuda style shorts only should be worn.**

USED UNIFORMS:

We have a good selection of used uniforms in a variety of sizes available outside of the girl's bathroom in the cafeteria. These are free to anyone who can use them. If anyone has used uniforms that they no longer need, please donate them to our collection. Many families take advantage of this wonderful service.

****PLEASE READ THE PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL'S DRESS CODE****



Flynn & O'Hara Uniforms
5225 Sheridan Drive
(Georgetown Square)
Williamsville, NY 14221
(716) 632-6581