



Hawk Herald

St. Mary Magdalen School to Home Communication

2021 ~ 2022

Academically Excellent and Passionately Catholic



† *“Preach the Gospels, when necessary use words”.* † (St. Francis of Assisi)

August 15, 2021

Hopefully you are enjoying your summer! In a few weeks the doors of SMM will again open to our children for them to receive an Academically Excellent and Passionately Catholic education. We welcome 30 new families to our school and 4 new teachers to SMM. Blessings on all as we begin to gear up for the new school year. Just a few reminders:

- ✚ Summer Reading assignments and Simple Solutions Math books are due on September 10th.
- ✚ Stationery Supply List is posted on the school website.
- ✚ The master school year calendar is posted on the website.
- ✚ Updated Handbooks and Technology Policies are on the website.

NEW PARENT ORIENTATION NIGHT

Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at 6:30pm in the gym.

Enter through the gym door entrance, please wear a mask.

Thank you to all those that volunteered to be ambassadors to our new families. Hopefully you have touched base with them already.



PROTOCOLS and GUIDELINES for Covid 19



As previously mentioned we will be returning to **full in-person learning** this fall. **Virtual learning will only be offered out of necessity, not convenience.** That being said, we continue to get information from the PA Department of Health as well as the Archdiocese as to what it will look like in our schools this upcoming year. It is a fluid situation that will continue to change as the month of August passes by. Our SMM COVID Task Force has met and developed a plan for our school, awaiting approval.

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia will also be issuing its recommendations and guidelines this coming week. They too are awaiting approval from the Archbishop and necessary legal parties.

It is our hope to send you these documents as soon as they are available. As we reflect back on all the mitigations, restrictions and procedures from last year, we feel that much was learned and we hope this coming year will be and look much different as we move toward a more normal environment, but still focused on what is best for the well-being and health of the **entire school community**.

It should be noted that the wearing of masks **WILL BE** part of our mitigation efforts this upcoming school year. We have all intentions of remaining open for the 2021-2022 school year and the wearing of masks will help us in seeing that through. We are excited to get back to some normalcy in the building.

NEW LUNCH PROGRAM AT SMM

Attached are two memos giving details about our new lunch program. The link to set up an account has been posted on the Parent Portal on the SMM website. It appears to be very user friendly.

YAY
LUNCH!

- ✚ The lunch program will **start** on **Monday, September 27, 2021**.
- ✚ The SMM **menu** will be available on **September 23, 2021**.
- ✚ We will be making lunches available Monday through Thursday.
- ✚ You will be able to order by the week, month or longer.
- ✚ Orders **MUST** be placed by **midnight the Saturday before the week starts**. (Saturday, Sept. 25th)
- ✚ **Orders can NOT be placed once the week opens, however, if your child(ren) is/are absent, you will be able to cancel their lunch by 9:00am and not be charged for it.**

We have hired a point person to organize the delivery of the Yay Lunches each day. Two of our parents have offered to volunteer to assist her on two of the days (Mondays and Wednesdays). It would be great if we could have two other parents volunteer for Tuesday or Thursday. Contact Ms. Winterberger if interested. This would cover your recess duty obligation.

OTHER LUNCHES ~ The ordering of these lunches will be SEPARATE from Yay Lunches.

- ✚ The **8th grade** will again be offering **PIZZA Lunch** every Friday, starting October 1st. Ordering will be done through the On-Line payment system on the Parent Portal.
- ✚ **STEWARDSHIP LUNCHES ~** We will also be offering **3 Stewardship Lunches** this year. The monies made from these lunches will be used to support some of our scheduled stewardship projects. YAY lunch has blacked out ordering on those dates. The ordering of these lunches will also be done through the On-Line payment system.

- **September 24th ~ Chicken Nugget Lunch**
- **December 16th ~ Hot Dog Lunch**
- **March 31st ~ Chicken Nugget Lunch**



HOMEROOM PARENTS

- ✚ We will be putting the role of Homeroom Parent back into place for this coming school year as long as there are no restrictions set for having volunteers in the building.
- ✚ Homeroom parents have been essential with assisting the school, homeroom teachers and the parents of our school when coordinating activities and events throughout the school year.
- ✚ If you are interested in becoming a Homeroom Parent, please complete the attached form and scan it back to Ms. Winterberger.
- ✚ Our hope is to select two parents for each homeroom to collaborate with the Home & School Association.
- ✚ Often there are more than two who wish to participate; fear-not you can always help out if not selected.
- ✚ **ALL homeroom parents MUST have all clearances for volunteers.**

HIGH SCHOOL PREP CLASSES



- ✚ Mrs. Gosseaux and Ms. Logan will be offering the afterschool prep classes for 8th graders to prepare them for their high school entrance test. See attached flyer.

- ✚ Please email Mrs. Gosseaux directly if you are interested in attending. Materials need to be ordered.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

- ✚ All **volunteers, coaches, and employees** must have the required **CLEARANCES** in-order to work with our children.
- ✚ See attached information about the Protecting God's Children workshop being offered on September 28, 2021.
- ✚ All other required document details and links can be found in the Parent Portal>Volunteer Requirements on the website.

IMPORTANT DATES

August 27th ~ Parent Access will be opened on Monday, August 27th for parents to access your child(ren)'s homeroom assignments. **All placements are final.** Much thought and planning went into placing the children. New families received your Usernames and Passwords in the August mailing. If current families have forgotten your passwords, you need to request a new one from Option C, we do NOT have access to your passwords.

September 8th ~ Open Day for Grades 1-8 (12:00 dismissal)

Kindergarten Meet & Greet (9:30am to 11:30am)

September 9th ~ Full Day of School for grades K-8 (8:00am to 3:00pm)

PreK 3 and PreK 4 Meet and Greet (9:00am to 11:00am)

September 10th ~ Full Day for all students grades PreK to 8

September 13th ~ C.A.R.E.S. begins ~ information will be sent out soon to those that have registered. If you have not registered for CARES please see the attached form.

September 14th ~ BACK-to-SCHOOL NIGHT PreK 3, PreK 4, and Kindergarten 6:30pm

September 16th ~ BACK-to-SCHOOL NIGHT Grades 1-5 6:30pm

September 17th ~ Opening School Mass 8:30am

September 18th ~ Family Mass and Social Gathering 4:30pm Mass (More info to follow!)

September 21st ~ BACK-to-SCHOOL NIGHT Grades 6,7,8 6:30pm



STRIKE UP THE BAND



It's time to strike up the band once again! **SMM Hawk Bands** will resume in school band lessons and rehearsals for all interested students in Grades 4-8, for all Concert Band instruments: brass, woodwinds, and percussion. In addition, we will also be offering Modern Band for students in Grades 6-8, which includes guitar, piano, bass, drums, and vocals; other instruments like ukulele, strings, and horns will also be welcome! Students of all abilities and experience are invited to join in these exciting band opportunities. Music ensembles and performances have been eagerly awaited for in our school again after a long delay, so please be assured all band instruction will be utilizing the most current protocols as part of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) "Return to Music Guidance: Phase III" to ensure that music education is available to all students and provided safely. Be sure to check the upcoming Highlights and SMM website for more information to come via **Mr. Michael Norton**, SMM Hawk Band director: smmhawkband@gmail.com