

Saint Michael's School

www.saint-michaels-school.org

301-872-5454



2020 - 2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Saint Michael's School

Welcome back

to a new school year. Our first day of school is August 25th. It is a half day with a 12:30 dismissal.

Enclosed you will find information needed for a smooth transition into the new school year. Please review the uniform regulations before spending *any* money with Land's End. We have a wonderful uniform exchange with many school uniform pieces available in the attic. Students will need to have a PE shirt (\$10.00) & dark navy blue mesh shorts available from Land's End or retail stores.

We welcome back our SMS families, and we extend a warm welcome to new families. We eagerly look forward to seeing you at the scheduled **Back to School meetings for K—8th grade on August 19th & 20th.**



DRESS FOR SUCCESS

UNIFORM

Students wear the school uniform the first day of school. We require uniforms for **Pre-K students.** **Pre K & Kindergarten students** wear the green polo shirt with school insignia and **pull-on** navy shorts/pants with socks and black athletic shoes. (Velcro is wonderful!). **Please, no lights in the shoes.**

Uniform skirts, jumpers shirts and "dress" items i.e. ties, blazer, vest must be purchased from Land's End. Uniform orders can be placed by using our **school code #900160789** by phone, or online at www.landsend.com.

Boys' and Girls' Fall uniform grade 1-8:

Green polo shirt with school insignia; navy blue walking shorts with a dark solid black, brown or navy belt; socks may be white, black or navy; The socks may have a white or black symbol only.

Shoes are solid dark black, black laces and black soles with no colored markings. Shoes may have white symbols only. For safety reasons, the heel should be no higher than 1 ½ inches suitable for playground activity.

Boys' and Girls' P.E. Uniform Grades 1-8:

Green **spirit shirt**; micro-mesh **shorts**.

Blue PE shorts can be purchased at school for \$20.00. All students must dress for PE.

White, black or navy blue socks for PE with athletic shoes.



PE classes will be held outside whenever possible.



In the silence of the heart God speaks

Mother Teresa

GOOD DAYS & BAD DAYS

There will be an adjustment period for your children, despite your work and support. New beginnings are filled with great expectations and maybe a few disappointments. Children may be nervous, complain, and even seem moody and frustrated. Remember that children often put on their best face at school but then let out their tensions at home.

PRAY, LEARN & PRAY

Our staff will strive to incorporate elements of fun into learning. We all be outside in designated areas and learn to be together again in a safe way. We will be using all the safety protocols and teaching your child how to keep themselves safe during this time. Please help us by reinforcing mask wearing, hand washing and social distancing.

HELP YOUR CHILDREN GET ORGANIZED.

Use a family calendar to help everyone remember important dates. All children can use some help getting organized. Younger children can fill their backpacks with school supplies and lay out their uniform the night before. (Don't forget a belt) If older children keep papers in order and post project due dates, it can help them stay

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

HALF DAYS: TUESDAY, August 25TH -WEDNESDAY, August 26th -THURSDAY, August 27th, FRIDAY, August 28th. We will continue with half days the next week 8/31—9/4.

Our first full day of school is on TUESDAY, September 8th.

Masks must be worn to be picked up by the bus. The bus driver should call you with a pick up time. Transportation Office encourages those who are able to drive your children to school.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ONE PARENT ATTEND the “**Back-to-School**” meeting.

Parents will meet the teachers and obtain important information on curriculum, online learning, classroom procedures, and homework expectations. The teachers will advise parents regarding the best way to contact them throughout the year. The “**Back-to-School**” packets will be distributed at this time. The materials in the packet are informative. Many items will need to be returned to the office.

The packet includes: Technology Permission Form; Milk Order Form; Hot Lunch form; Catholic School Calendar; **Physician's Authorization Form *(for prescription and over-the-counter medications).** Please hand deliver medication to the office.

FORMS to complete online Family Survey Request, Free & Reduced lunch application, Publicity Release Form, **one for each child**



We can't wait to see you!

KEEP COMMUNICATING

Talk with Other Parents

Parents can be a good source of information on dealing with back-to-school transitions and other parenting issues.

Ask Children Questions

Find out how your children are doing in their new routine by asking thoughtful questions that require answers other than yes, no or fine. *What did you learn today? What was the best or worst thing that happened today?*

Discuss Daily Experiences

Try to set aside time for your family to discuss highs and lows of the day. If you can't find time at home, try talking during car trips to and from activities. Your older children still need you to

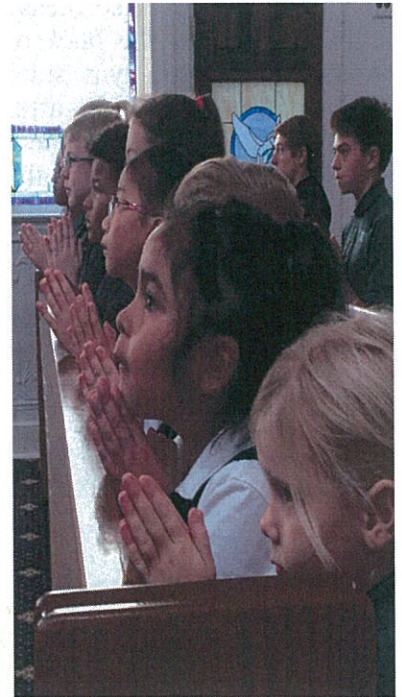
be involved in all aspects of their lives. They may resent your continued supervision but keeping close tabs on them now, makes it easier as they get older. Continue to look over their homework and projects. Monitor their time spent on the computer and check the sites they visit. Always know who their friends are and where they spend their time.

Get to Know Teachers and School Staff

Meet with your children's teachers to find out what they will be teaching in class and how you can help your child succeed. Remember that we are always here to help you and your children! You are welcome to call the school.

Visitors are not permitted at this time in the school building. It is our

prayer that your child has a successful year at St. Michael's School.



EACH FAMILY MAY PAY \$2000 OR WORK 8 SERVICE HOUR SHIFTS

AUGUST 25th IS THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Students may bring a lunch everyday for the first **two** weeks. **Dismissal is at 12:30 .** We look forward to having the Blessing of the Backpacks on the first day of school by Fr. Peter in each class . No milk will be served the first week so please include a drink. Children may bring juice or water for snack and lunch.

Soda and caffeinated drinks are not permitted.

MASS will be celebrated each Friday at 9:00AM except for designated Holy Days.

SMS IS THE BEST

Please feel free to attend our weekly celebration of the **Eucharist.**

Students will sit as a class and be socially distanced at church. Seating for our students begins in the front pews of the church!

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Every year there are a few items that are requested to be purchased through the school. Please put cash or check in an envelope with the student's name. Bring the envelope to the school when you meet the teachers. These materials are due no

later than Friday, September 9th. Teachers will distribute the items to the students.

Pre-K – K

Nap Mat— \$22.00

(washable & yours to keep in June)

Grades 4-8

Homework Planner-\$5.00

All School

Seat bin-\$5.00



TRANSPORTATION

OUR DRIVERS KEEP US SAFE

All students should know the mode of transportation for coming to school and going home. Our car line has grown so please align the first car to the *back* of the school building. (gym side) Students exit the car only after their temperature has been taken. There is limited access to the school building. All people must wear a mask and have their temperature taken. In an emergency please park in a spot and bring your child into school using the front entrance.



When parking please be mindful of buses that may be entering the parking lot. No one may park in the back of the school; this is where the buses park. When leaving, cars must exit using God's Way (the road in front of the rectory) and Freeman's Road at the north end of lot in front of the church. Beginning on September 8th regular dismissal starts at 2:45 pm following prayers. Buses will be boarded and on their way by 3:00 pm. **Please notify your after-care or babysitters of this so they know what to expect.**

GRADES PRE-K-8 STUDENTS begin on Tuesday, August 25th

There is early dismissal on the first 9 days of school.

Car riders may enter the building at 7:50 am and students are discharged from the buses at 7:50. Half day dismissal begins with the first bell at 12:20 pm; prayers at 12:25 pm. Car riders are dismissed first, and then bus riders board. Everyone should be on the way home by 12:45 pm for each half day.



PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

The Archdiocese requires a fingerprinting for all volunteers. If you wish to accompany your child's class on a field trip you must complete this process and view the **Protecting God's Children Workshop** inclusive of submitting page fifty-nine of the Child Protection Policy book. **The necessary volunteer application forms are available in the school office.**

Faith
makes all things Possible
not Easy



Covid19

Teachers will provide information for each type of learning to you at the parent meeting. The meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, August 19th & Thursday August 20th. You must be prompt for your meeting. There will be no gathering in the hall and no overlap of meetings. Cleaning will take place between meetings.

The beginning of **In School learning** during the first two weeks will encompass many procedures regarding being in the building safely. These will not be necessary for distance learners but we want our distance learners to be involved in all the **"Getting to know you"** activities. We want them to feel like members of their class and **build a connection** with other students and their teachers. This process will be an adjustment and we are doing the best we can in all aspects of learning. Our web cameras are backordered but we are hopeful they will arrive soon and we will be able to live stream many instructional classes for your child. We will Zoom and connect in that way.

We are a phone call away and you may call during the school day if a need arises. 301-872-5454