

St. Anthony School
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Dear Parents,

Greetings and I wish you a warm welcome back to a new school year and a special welcome to all the new families joining the St. Anthony Community. I hope you continue to enjoy the remaining beautiful days of summer and will be ready to begin the new school year with excitement and enthusiasm.

This year, many opportunities for parental involvement will be scheduled both by the school and the Home School Association. During this summer, the H.S.A. Committee has been planning a schedule of events to help build a strong sense of community. I ask you to become an active participant, so we may celebrate the accomplishments of your children together.

Please encourage your child/ children to complete the summer packet that was given out in June. Summer is a time to relax and have fun; however, preparing for the new academic year is a wise decision. It is important that together faculty and parents support our children by working together as partners in the education process.

The following are some "business items" that are important for you to review before the first day of school:

The first day of school for Grades K-8 is Thursday, Sept. 7th. The school day begins at 7:50am with a full day. Pre-K will begin Monday, Sept. 11th.

BUS TRANSPORTATION: It is important for each child and parent to know the name of his/her bus company, bus route and bus number to and from school. Sometimes the bus number changes from morning to afternoon. For the younger children, please pin this information to their uniform.

If you intend to pick up your child on the first day of school, this information is still needed for the first time he/she rides the bus home. The bus company mails bus passes to all students and they should have them with them each day. It is best to have your child go on the bus the first day of school so he/she becomes familiar with the routine for arrival and dismissal.

***Please make sure that you register with the transportation office even if your child/children will be car and walkers.**

SCHOOL DAY AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES:

Each school day begins at 7:50am and dismissal for a full day begins at 2:30pm. On half days, dismissal begins at 11:00am. This is early dismissal.

- Children riding the bus will be dismissed first.
- "Cars and Walkers" - a note is to be given to the classroom teacher. The child's name **will not** be announced at dismissal. Your child will meet you in the cafeteria. If your child will be a permanent "car and/or walker", only one note stating that may be given to your child's teacher. In families with multiple children, **each child's teacher must be given a note.**
- Early dismissal - if your child has an appointment and needs to be dismissed early, you should be here by **2:00pm** to sign them out. Children are responsible for obtaining any work that they might have missed when leaving early. (Appointments should be made after **3:00pm** when possible to minimize the disruptions to the classroom. If students have a doctor's appointment, a note from the doctor must be given to the teacher when they come into school the next day.) Please send in a note to the teacher for early dismissal. **On half days**, when the students are dismissed at 11:00am, **there is no early dismissal.** If you are picking up your child, you should be here by **11:10am and wait for them in the cafeteria.**
- It is imperative to notify the school office if someone other than yourself will be picking up your child.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS: Please have your children come to school with their complete uniform each and every day. **It is imperative that you enforce the school uniform policy at home as we do in school.** The policy is clearly defined in the Parent/Student Handbook.

DRESS DOWN DAY: Dress down days will be given periodically as a reward. Each month there will be a scheduled dress down day for students who donate \$1.00 or more. That money will be added to our monthly mission collection. Once again, your support in enforcing appropriate attire for these days is greatly appreciated. Please note sandals of any kind and "short shorts" are always prohibited.

MISSION DAY: The purpose of Mission Day is to teach your child the importance of "giving rather than receiving". The values of giving to others and compassion for others are found in our school pledge and are two of the many values we emphasize throughout the year.

LUNCH PROGRAM: Enclosed please find the lunch fee schedule.

LUNCH DUTY PROGRAM: Many things in life are negotiable; however, there is one mandatory request for the safety of your child/children. Each family is requested to work lunch duty 3 times a year. I want to thank Mrs. Sue Tyler for coordinating the lunch duty program this past year. Mrs. Evelyn Bautista-Miller will coordinate the program for 2017-2018 school year. I appreciate your cooperation in advance. You will receive a calendar of lunch duty dates.

SNACK AND BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS:

Pre-K only may bring a healthy snack to school. Due to dietary issues and loss of instructional time, we no longer permit birthday celebrations during the school day. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT - September 21, 2017 @ 7:00PM: This evening meeting is very important to attend. You will have the opportunity to meet the teachers, and a Home School Representative will speak to you about upcoming events to build school community. Parents will go to the classrooms to receive an academic overview including your child's responsibilities and expectations for this new school year.

The **PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK** will be available online in September. This handbook is a comprehensive guide to all the policies and rules of St. Anthony School. The forms that must be signed and returned to school will be given out at Back to School Night.

MONTHLY CALENDAR: This informs you of the activities for each given month.

MORNING & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS: If you are interested for the 2017/2018 school year, and have not already done so, please contact the school office for an application and fee schedule before August 29, 2017. These fees will be billed through your Smart Tuition Account.

IRIS ALERT: This instant alert system allows fast, effective communication with our parents regarding school closures, early dismissals, etc. This will be the only alert system we use this year. Please be sure to update your information with the main office, only if you have any changes from last year.

Good communication between parents and faculty members is essential for your child's education and his/her growth and development. I look forward to working with you and let us continue to build the community of St. Anthony together.

May our good and gracious God fill you with abundant blessings and graces as we begin the new school year.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SR', written in a cursive style.

Sr. Pat Howell