

August 2016

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A few important links to our school website:

[Dress Code](#)

[Volunteering](#)

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[Early Childhood Calendar](#)

[Lunch Menu](#)

[Forms](#)

[SCRIP](#)

Keep In Touch With Us!

["Like"](#) us on Facebook

[Follow](#) us on Twitter

Email Us at:

Lead Secretary: Teri Reyhons

teri.reyhons@lourdes.pvt.k12.ia.us

Secretary: Elaine Quinn

Elaine.quinn@lourdes.pvt.k12.ia.us

Principal: Jennifer Alongi

jennifer.alongi@lourdes.pvt.k12.ia.us

563-359-3466

School Website

<http://www.lourdescatholic.org>

Or just stop by!

1453 Mississippi Blvd., Bettendorf

Lourdes Catholic School

H & S Newsletter

A Message from our Principal—Ms. Alongi

Greetings, Families!

WELCOME to another fantastic year at Lourdes Catholic School! I believe I speak for the entire staff when I say that we feel blessed and honored that you are entrusting your precious children to us. In case you missed it, Lourdes Catholic School was again voted by Quad Citizens to be the best preschool in the Quad Cities! We have so much to be proud of and to share with the community.

Please plan to join us for **Unpack the Backpack night from 4-6 PM on Monday, August 22nd**. You can purchase used uniforms, check out volunteer opportunities, deposit money into your lunch account, visit your child's classroom, and much more.

Traditionally, every year Fr. Jason designated a Mass for "**Blessing of the Backpacks**" near the start of school. This year, he has designated ALL weekend masses at OLOL on **August 20th and August 21st** as "Back to School Blessing of All Students." Please plan to join us Saturday evening or at any of the Sunday masses on August 20th or 21st.

Please feel free to stop by my office or call me anytime with questions. Thank you!

May God Bless You,

Ms. Jennifer Alongi, Principal



Please share your photos from Lourdes activities and events. We would love to post them on our Facebook page, in the newsletter or in the yearbook! Email your photos to kriseanderson@hotmail.com Thank you!

A message from our Faith Formation Board President—Mike Puthoff

On behalf of the Faith Formation Board, welcome to the start of a new school year. Whether you are a returning family or this is your first year at Lourdes Catholic School, I wanted to share with you the top five questions about the Faith Formation Board (FFB).

What is the Faith Formation Board? – We are basically the school board. We oversee the administration, budget, and operation of the school. The board does not handle the day to day operation of the school, rather this is the job of the principal, staff, and teachers. In addition to the school, we also oversee the religious education programs for the Our Lady of Lourdes parish.

Who is on the Faith Formation Board? – The voting members of the board are eleven individuals who represent all children attending educational programming at Our Lady of Lourdes. Any Parish member 18 years or older or parent/guardian of a child attending LCS is allowed to serve as a board member. There are a range of ex-officio members of our board too. Our current membership can be found on the LCS website.

When does the Faith Formation Board meet? – We typically meet on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM, but see the website for the specific dates. We send our agenda out to the community at least two days before the meeting. We hold open meetings and anyone can attend. Occasionally we do go into closed session and only elected members participate in this part of our meeting. We usually post our minutes on the website within 2 weeks of our meeting.

Do I have to be on the Faith Formation to assist? – The board has subcommittees that work on marketing, grant writing, policies, and the budget. We welcome people who are not on the board to assist on these subcommittees. If you have an interest, reach out to the board president or principal.

What if I have an issue for the Faith Formation? – Parents should feel comfortable asking questions and sharing input with any board member. We also hold open forums at the start of our meetings to hear from members of our community. Based on the situation we may refer you to speak to a teacher, the principal, or someone else at the school. If you have questions about what the board does and does not handle you can speak to the board president and he or she can help guide you in the right direction.

More information about the Faith Formation Board can be found on the school website under *Organizations* and then the [Faith Formation Board](#) section. We hope you have a wonderful school year!

Mike Puthoff
 2016-2017 Faith Formation Board President
 563-505-2731
 puthoffmichaell@gmail.com



<p>Are you in charge of a club or group at Lourdes? Do you need to reserve a classroom or meeting space? Please call Carolyn in the church office to get on the church/school calendar and reserve your space!</p> <p>563-359-0345</p>	<p>Do you have something to add to the church bulletin? Email your photos and announcements to lourdesbulletin@gmail.com</p>
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Introducing our 2016/2017 Home & School President—Nicki Johnson

Summer is ending and school is here already! I hope everyone enjoyed their summer with vacations, outdoor activities and fun. My daughters and I had a great summer, but we are definitely ready to start the school year. (The girls miss their friends and their mom misses regular bed times.)

I am looking forward to this school year especially with the honor of being the Home & School Board President. Last year was my 1st year on the board and I thoroughly enjoyed it. It gave me an abundance of opportunities to meet new parents, faculty and staff and to be able to contribute to our school community. Our family has been a part of the Lourdes family for the last 8 years and we truly see it as a family, not just a parish and school. My oldest daughter, Skylar, will be in 7th grade this year and my youngest daughter, Jada, will be in 4th grade. Every year they tell me their teacher that year was “the best” and their favorite and then somehow their new teacher becomes “the best” and their new favorite. I see this as a tribute to all the teachers. Each one has been right for that particular time in my daughters’ lives.

My main goal this year is to work with the H&S Board to promote volunteerism, communication and positivity among parents, staff and the board and to make every family PreK-8 feel welcomed to the LCS community. We are busy planning our upcoming events (and have some new ones in the works)! There are many opportunities to volunteer at LCS. I encourage you to consider volunteering in some capacity – it is a GREAT way to meet others and get connected. We will have sign-up sheets available on the school website and at Unpack Your Backpack.

Wishing you a wonderful start to the 2016/2017 school year.

Nicki Johnson

563-424-0858

Johnson.nichollette@gmail.com



What is Home & School (H&S)?

H&S is basically our version of PTA. We work with the teachers to organize events, fundraisers and activities, throughout the school-year. The Home and School Members are in charge of their committee and specific activities. When you attend Unpack the Backpack, you will have an opportunity to sign up, under these committees. You can get involved and help out with H&S activities throughout the year, without being in charge of any one thing.

President—Nicki Johnson

President-Elect—Ann Hartman

Ex-Officio—Jenny Grobstich

Treasurer—Karen Moldt

Treasurer-Elect—Dawn Lehnert

Secretary—Jessica Stubbs

Room Parent Coordinators Co-Chairs—Meghan Cornish and Amber Edwards

Hospitality Coordinator Co-Chairs—Shannon Cramblit and Lindsey Jennings

Volunteer Coordinator Co-Chairs—Linda Mosher and Gail Nikulski

Family Ambassador Co-Chairs—Chrissy Hayes and Sarah Leinart

Publicity Chair—Kristine Girskis

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Aug 20th 9-11am - Lourdes Little Lancer Center-Open House
- Aug 22nd - No LLL Extended Care-Closed No Before/After School Care-Closed
- Aug 22nd 4-6pm-Unpack the Backpack Gym & Classrooms
- Aug 23rd-LLL Extended Care Begins Before/After School Care Begins
- Aug 23rd - First day of school, K-8
- Aug 23rd 8:30am Welcome Back Coffee - Church Gathering Space
- Aug 24th - 9am - All School Mass (parents welcome)
- Aug 31st - 9am - All School Mass (parents welcome)
- Sep 5th - No School - Labor Day All Grades
- Sep 6th - 1st Day of 2 Day Preschool
- Sep 7th - 1st Day of 3 Day Preschool
- Sep 7th - 9am - All School Mass (parents welcome)
- Sep 7th - 1:10pm - Early Dismissal K-8th Grades
- Sep 8th - 6:30pm FFB meeting LCS Library
- Sep 12th - 6:30-7:30 LCS Open House (parents only) Gym and classrooms
- Sep 14th - 9am All School Mass (parents welcome)

[See Full School Calendar](#)

We love Lourdes because...

"I love the community in it. You always feel welcomed and loved. And the lunches are great!" ~ Clare, 7th grade

"What I love about Lourdes is we go to church every Wednesday." -Zachary, 3rd grade

"I love how easy it is to make new friends." -5th grader

Our School Day.....

School starts at 8:30 AM for K-8 students. However, students may be dropped off as early as 8:00 AM. Dismissal is at 3:20 PM (except on Early-Out Wednesdays 14 times a year, when dismissal is at 1:10 PM).

AM preschool and prekindergarten is from 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM, and PM prekindergarten is from 12:20-3:20 PM.

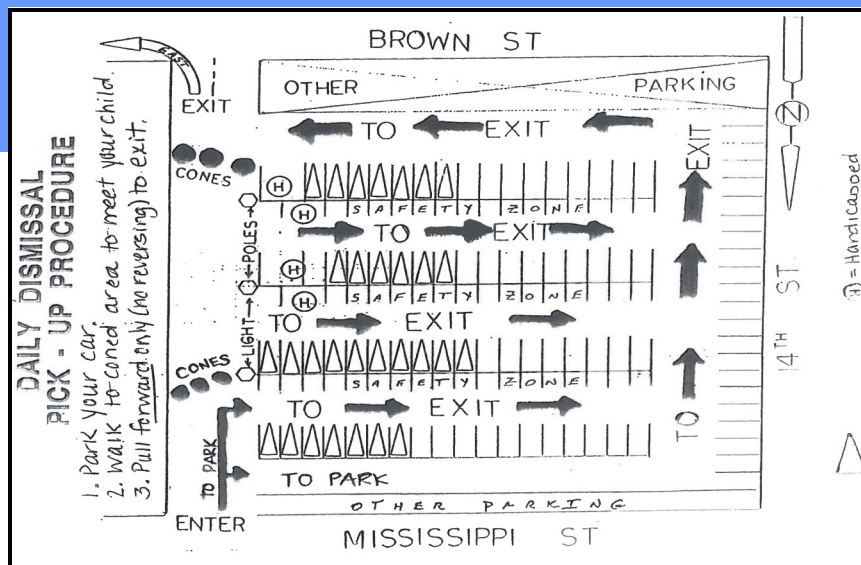
Drop off and pick up of students can sometimes be confusing, especially if you are new to Lourdes. Here is my attempt to summarize it for all of you, based on our handbook:

Drop off:

- * K-8 students should be dropped off between 8:00 and 8:20 AM.
- * Enter the church/school parking lot via Brown Street and stay in the car line along the curb.
- * When it is your turn, a greeter will assist in getting your child out of the car and off to their designated area of the courtyard.
- * Staff supervisors are on duty from 8:00 until 8:20 for each designated area.
- * Morning preschool and prekindergarten students should arrive between 8:30 and 8:40 AM. Afternoon prekindergarten students should arrive between 12:20 and 12:30 PM.
- * Parents pull vehicles up on Mississippi Blvd.
- * Greeters will assist in getting your child out of the car and up the steps into the school.

Pick up:

- * K-8 students and afternoon prekindergarten students are dismissed at 3:20.
 - * Students exit into the courtyard and are instructed to wait for their parents.
 - * Parents are to enter the parking lot via Mississippi Blvd. between 3:00 and 3:20 PM.
 - * Park your vehicle in a space, pulling all the way through.
 - * Parents walk up to the coned-off area and escort students by the hand to their vehicle.
 - * When leaving, do not reverse; pull straight ahead and exit the parking lot into Brown Street.
- ** If you are interested in helping out with the morning drop-off procedure, consider being a [Morning Greeter](#).



SCRIP Q & A:

Q: What is SCRIP?

A: SCRIP is a year-round fundraiser. You buy pre-paid cards for local and online stores, and the school gets a % of sales.

Q: I don't like giving gift cards as gifts, why should I buy SCRIP?

A: Don't think of SCRIP just for gift-giving. Purchase these cards for all of your regular shopping—Target, Starbucks, Friday night pizza, gas, etc..

Q: I do most of my shopping online, can I use SCRIP?

A: Absolutely! We have SCRIP cards for Amazon and so many other online retailers.

Q: Who runs the SCRIP program?

A: Parent volunteers—and we still need more! We are always looking for parents who can help fill orders or pick up the cards from the various stores. We are also looking for volunteers to sell after Mass at Lourdes and St. John Vianney. Email Ms. Alongi if you're interested in helping out!

Q: How do I purchase SCRIP?

A: The order form can be printed off of our school [website](#), or picked up in the school office. Send the completed form with cash or check in your child's backpack, the order will be filled on Tuesday or Friday morning, and sent home in your child's backpack! There are a few businesses that we don't keep in stock, those will be ordered and filled ASAP. SCRIP is also sold after Masses in the gathering space.

Q: Can only Lourdes parents order SCRIP?

A: No! Feel free to hand out order forms to grandma and grandpa, aunts and uncles. You can collect their money and turn it in with your own orders. We will even mail their SCRIP order back to them if you'd like!



What does SCRIP pay for?

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Classroom parties | Red Ribbon Week |
| Classroom supplies | Safety Patrol |
| Fieldtrip Fund | Student Council |
| Lego robotics | Unpack the Backpack |
| Bingo Night | Variety Show |
| Drama Club | Visiting Authors |
| Mock Trial | Yearbook Club |
| Battle Books | Career Fair |
| Field Day | Popsicles in the Park |
| Fine Arts Club | Spelling Bee |
| Chess Club | Catholic Schools Week |
| Brag Tags | Middle School Events |
| Fruit of the Spirit | Playground equipment |
| Reading Counts | 8th grade graduation |
| Prayer Buddies | Parish Contribution |



\$14,000 in SCRIP sold over the summer!

[SCRIP order form \(in stock\)](#)

[SCRIP order form \(need to order\)](#)

SHOP LOCAL!

K & K Hardware: Located in downtown Bettendorf at 1818 Grant Street, K & K Hardware will give 5% of your total purchase to Lourdes Catholic School if you mention it to the cashier upon check out. Sales items, net items and tax are not included.

Staff Spotlight—New Staff!

Abby Tumblin—Kindergarten Aide

What is your favorite part of the school day? This year will be my first year at Lourdes Catholic School as a kindergarten aide, so I haven't been able to experience what my favorite part of the school day is, but I am looking forward to meeting the families and students and watching them progress and grow throughout the year. Watching the students grow will be a huge accomplishment to see and I can tell it will be one of my favorite parts of the day.

Most interesting vacation you've been on? I haven't been on many vacations but the most interesting one I have been on was when I went to Atlanta, Georgia, for my brother's wedding in 2008. The airport and shuttle was very shocking to me because I am so used to the small, Quad Cities. It was a very fun vacation but our family ended up getting lost a couple of times.

Where did you grow up? I was born in Moline, Illinois and have stayed in the Quad Cities since I was a child. For most of my life, I resided in Bettendorf and Davenport but somehow made my way back to Moline! (The I-74 bridge has been quite the pleasure!)

What is something that you are afraid of? One of my biggest fears are rodents, especially mice. They appear cute and cuddly but I have never been a fan. If I ever encounter a mouse, I will most likely scream and jump!

What is your favorite restaurant? As I have mentioned previously, I love food! My favorite restaurant depends on the type of food I want to eat! To name a few, I love Los Amigos, Old Chicago and Osaka.

What is one thing about you that will surprise your students/co-workers? One thing that might surprise my co-workers and students is that I love to SMILE and LAUGH. A lot. :)

What is your favorite food? I absolutely love all different types of food and I am always willing to try something new! As for my all-time favorite food, it is definitely fried chicken strips and has always been since a young child.

Leah Hahn—Kindergarten Aide

What is your favorite part of the school day? I would have to say my favorite part of the day is when the kids have free time in the classroom. That is when I think you get a real sense of who each child is, when they're free to draw or play with anything, and really have a chance to express themselves. I think that is the best way to get to know each student, and gives you a sense on how to relate with them when they struggle with something during class time.

Most interesting vacation you've been on? The most interesting vacation I've been on would be last winter when my family and I went to Cancun, Mexico. It was the first time my daughter and I had traveled outside of the U.S. and we had a wonderful time exploring.

Where did you grow up? I grew up in McCausland, IA.

What is something that you are afraid of? I am afraid of fish (or anything else for that matter) touching me while I'm swimming in a lake or on the river.

What is your favorite restaurant? My favorite restaurant is Los Agaves. I also really like Riverside, when I am not in the mood for tacos.

What is one thing about you that will surprise your students/co-workers? I am a very big fan of fantasy/science fiction, and will read just about any book I can get my hands on. I have gone to multiple comic con conventions, and will be going to the Harry Potter convention in Wisconsin about two months from now.

What is your favorite food? I would have to say my favorite food is tacos. I could eat them just about every day.

What is Unpack the Backpack? 8/22/16

Students can:

- Drops off their school supplies
- See their classroom
- Meets their teacher and other classmates
- Sign-up for clubs and activities

Parents can:

- Sign-up for committees
- Add money to lunch accounts
- Buy spirit-wear
- Buy used uniforms
- Meet the staff
- Turn in required forms
- Pay tuition
- Set-up auto-withdrawl for tuition/tithing



There are many other ways to get involved and spend some time at school. At Unpack the Backpack, you will have an opportunity to sign-up to help out during your child’s library time, lunchroom duty and many others. We encourage you to check out our [Volunteer](#) page, on the school website for more information. * **Please note, there ARE opportunities to help out at school, even with younger siblings!**

You will have an opportunity to set-up and add money to your child’s lunch account, at Unpack the Backpack.

You can check your [lunch account](#) balance online, throughout the year.

Student Pricing:
 Student Lunch (Includes Milk) \$3.15
 Milk Only \$.45
 Extra Entrée \$1.50

Please check the school website for details on school [uniform](#) rules and spirit wear. You will have an opportunity to purchase uniform polos, spiritwear and used uniforms at Unpack the Backpack.

The online [Spirit wear](#) and [Uniform polo](#) store will be open August 22-September 4th.

What is LCS Open House? 9/12/16

LCS Open House is a chance for parents to hear from the Staff and H&S about important plans and procedures for the school year. You will hear from the principal, H&S President, Faith Formation Board President, and Father Jason. We will introduce new staff members and members of the Home & School Board. You will also get a chance to visit your student’s classroom and get specific details from the teacher, about the year ahead. This is a parent-only event.

Athletics—Mr. Clark is working hard to plan some great athletics programs this year. More info will be available at Unpack the Backpack and during the first week of school.

K-4 Intramurals

5-8 Intramurals

6-8 Interparish leagues in Girls Basketball, Boys Basketball, Girls Volleyball



Scouts

Cub Scout and Girl Scouts is continuing to grow, at Lourdes. Stop by the Scout table at Unpack the Backpack to sign up! Girl Scouts starts in Kindergarten and Cub Scouts starts in 1st Grade. The first Cub Scout Pack meeting (all boys) is Tuesday, August 30th at 6:30, in the school parking lot. Email jessiern@mchsi.com for info about Girl Scouts and kriseanderson@hotmail.com for Cub Scouts.

