

Principal's Post August 22, 2023

Dear Lourdes Catholic School Families,

Welcome to the start of the new school year!

We launched this exciting week with a picnic on Sunday evening hosted by our incredible Home and School. With over 250 reservations, the Knights of Columbus grilled hot dogs and hamburgers while the students ran around the playground, drew with sidewalk chalk, blew bubbles, and played a pretty intense game of football! I heard a lot of positive feedback and hope this helped many of our new families feel welcome.

Tonight is Unpack the Backpack. Please join us at school between 4 and 6pm. This is when you will find out homeroom placement and meet teachers, pickup any Spiritwear you have ordered, visit the classrooms, turn in any remaining paperwork, ask questions and find answers regarding tuition statements and more! Plan to start in the gym and then follow the crowds towards the classrooms.

Tomorrow is the 1st day of school! K-8 students may start to arrive as early as 8:00 to walk under the Giving Tree (space between the church and the school). At 8:20, the 1st bell will ring and the teachers will take the students into the school. Parents are invited to a "Back to School Coffee" hosted by Home and School in the PAC (Parish Activity Center). Mass begins at 9 am. Please join us in church as grades 3-8 will attend mass to start the new school year. Dismissal on the 1st day of school is at 2:30. Regular dismissal time of 3:20 will start on Thursday.

It is an understatement to say it is HOT this week. Please send your child to school with a water bottle. Wednesday and Thursday we will keep the students inside for recess and keep a close eye on the temperature of the building. If you are unfamiliar with the building, we have a mix of central air conditioning and in-window units. It does stay quite comfortable. Still, the safety of your child is our focus and if an adjustment to our schedule needs to be made due to the extreme heat, I will be in touch.

Please review the <u>Dress Code</u>. There will be a "Dress Code Check" at the start of each school day after morning prayer and we will be working very hard to be consistent with enforcing the dress code standards. With the many new students joining our school we will give gentle reminders the first few days of school. We do not want the students to feel uncomfortable if they are wearing the wrong color socks or shoes that aren't approved. So please understand that if a note comes home or a teacher mentions an adjustment that needs to be made, this is with the intent to uphold clear expectations from the start.

Thank you for your continued prayers for our students as they start their new school year. Fr. Ben shared in our staff retreat this week our need to "keep our eyes on Jesus". This already is a theme we feel fits perfectly with our growing community. Thank you for supporting Catholic education.

Sincerely, Mrs. Katie Selden

Schedule:

**Tuesday, August 22** 4-6pm Unpack the Backpack

## Wednesday, August 23 8:20 First Day of School!

8:20 Back to School Coffee for Parents

9:00 Mass

2:30 Wednesday Early Out

Thursday, August 24

Regular school day 8:20-3:20

Friday, August 25

Regular school day 8:20-3:20