August 2, 2018

Dear Holy Spirit Families,

Happy Feast of St. Eusebius of Vercelli!

Can you believe in just a few short weeks we will launch our 2018/2019 school year? I pray you are enjoying the time away from school and that you and your students are ready to embrace the new school year and all of the excitement that it holds. We have many new families joining our community this year and we look forward to getting to know all of those children.

The faculty has chosen the theme of "Let us love one another because love is from God" as we highlight throughout the year the Catholic Social Teaching of the life and dignity of the human person. We look forward to continuing to provide opportunities for the students both in and out of classroom to live the Catholic Faith.

We have several new faculty members with us this year. We welcome Mrs. Jill Hoagland to 2nd grade; Ms. Katherine Arciniega to 3rd grade; Mr. Frank Arnold to 5th grade; Mr. Michael Thieman to Middle School Science; Ms. Alice Rowley to the library and Ms. Lois Hatchett to the Resource team.

If, by chance, your student has not completed his/her summer work, now would be great time to be sure students are on track to have everything finished as most everything is due either the first day or first week of school.

**If you have a rising kindergartener or sixth grader or are a new family to the school, all required medical forms must be returned as soon as possible. School law prohibits school attendance without the required documentation. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Wild.**

If you are interested in either Morning Care or Extended Day, the registration document is available on the website and you may send that in now with the registration fee.

On August 22nd at 7:00 pm the NEW family ice cream social sponsored by the PTO will be held in the school cafeteria. We invite all new families (parents and children) to join us. There will be an opportunity for new families to purchase used uniforms.

On August 24th there will be an opportunity to meet the teachers, find out homeroom assignments and take a peek at the classrooms. Please join us at school from 1:00-2:30 pm. We look forward to seeing all of you then and ask that you please not come to school for an extra early sneak peek prior during the week of August 20th as the teachers and administration will be very busy with meetings and classroom set-up.

Paperwork needed for the start of the school year will be available for pickup during the August 24th Open House in order to give families the weekend to fill out the many required forms. Please return all forms on Monday, August 27th.

For **Grades 1-8** Monday, August 27th is an 11:30 am dismissal; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday are 3:15 pm dismissals and Friday, August 31st is an 11:30 am dismissal with no Extended Day Care. School lunches will begin on September 4th. Please pack a lunch for your child the first week.

A **kindergarten parent meeting** is scheduled for Monday, August 27th at 8:30 am. Kindergartners’ first day will be Tuesday, August 28th, from 8:00 – 11:30 am (with no afternoon Extended Day for them this first day). Both Wednesday, August 29th and Thursday, August 30th are full days for kindergarten. Friday, August 31st is a half day for all students.

The **prekindergarten parent meeting** (no students) is at 9:30 am on Monday, August 27th. The preschool orientation for the students and parents is on August 28th. Students with last names beginning A through L are asked to come from 9:00 – 9:45 am and students with last names beginning with M through Z are asked to come from 10:00 – 10:45 am. Classes begin for prekindergarten on August 29th; this is a half day for all PreK students with dismissal at 11:30am (there is no afternoon Extended Day for PreK this first day). Thursday, August 30th is a full day for those PreK students enrolled as full day students. Friday, August 31st is a half day dismissal for all students.

**Morning Care** will be open at 7:00 am on the first day of school. Morning care is located in Room 4. Please use the western set of doors (Exit 11). Grade levels may begin using Morning Care on the following dates:

Grades 1-8 – may begin using Morning Care on Monday, August 27th

Kindergarten – may begin using Morning Care on Tuesday, August 28th

PreKindergarten – may begin using Morning Care on Wednesday, August 29th

**Afternoon Extended Care** for Grades 1-8 will be in the cafeteria. Afternoon Care for PreKindergarten and Kindergarten will be in Room 2. Grade levels may begin using Afternoon Extended Care on the following dates:

Grades 1-8 – may begin using Extended Day on Monday, August 27th

Kindergarten – may begin using Extended Day on Wednesday, August 29th

PreKindergarten – may begin using Extended Day on Thursday, August 30th

Afternoon Extended Day is closed completely on Friday, August 31st due to the early dismissal.

Information regarding the calendar, uniforms, supplies and reading lists can all be found on the webpage [www.holyspiritflames.org](http://www.holyspiritflames.org).

I am looking forward to the start of the new school year. Thank you allowing us to be a partner in the education of your children.

Blessings always,

Maureen C. Ashby

Principal