



Holy Spirit
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Inspiring Minds | Igniting Hearts

Mrs. Maureen Ashby,
Principal

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August 3, 2023

Dear Holy Spirit Families,

Wow! Where have the weeks of Summer gone?

It is hard to believe in just the blink of an eye we will gather back together and begin the 2023/2024 academic year. I pray you are enjoying the time away from school and that you and your children are ready to embrace the new school year and all the excitement that it holds. We welcome back our returning Holy Spirit families and all those who are new to our community – we look forward to getting to know everyone.

The faculty has chosen the theme of "Faithfulness" as we continue to highlight the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. We look forward to continuing to provide opportunities for the students both in and out of the classrooms to live the Catholic Faith and to grow in their service to others.

We have a couple of new teaching assignments for the year. Mrs. Cheryl Lencz is taking on the challenge of new curriculum by moving into the 3rd grade and Mrs. Kalyani Rathod is taking her skills to a different floor of the building and joining the Middle School Department as an 8th grade homeroom teacher and math instructor. Mrs. Jenny Mouton is launching her teacher career as a 4th grade teacher. And Ms. Caroline Cahill will be concentrating on using her degree in Special Education by being a part of the Resource Department.

We also have new faculty and staff members with us this year. In the primary grades the following folks are joining us: Mrs. Mary Wilkinson as a prekindergarten aide; Mrs. Sherry Paulson in Kindergarten along with her new aide Mrs. Elizabeth Ortiz; Mrs. Shannon Long in 1st grade; Ms. Claire Sague in 2nd grade; Ms. Christina d'Alelio in 3rd grade; and Mrs. Dannielle Billeaud in 4th grade. Mrs. Jean Black returns to Holy Spirit in the Middle School as a 6th grade homeroom teacher with teaching responsibilities in Language Arts and Religion. Mrs. Aneliz Sipe joins us as the School Counselor.

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 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. Forrer, School Nurse at sforrer@holyspiritflames.org.

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

Paperwork needed for the start of the school year will be available for pickup during the August 23rd Meet Your Teacher events. I know it is a quick turn-around, but please return all forms on Thursday, August 24th.



Holy Spirit School inspires life-long learners and ignites servant-leaders through a program of academic excellence grounded in the traditions and values of the Holy Catholic Church.

On August 17th at 6:00 pm the NEW family social sponsored by the PTO will be held on the lawn out in front of the school. We invite all new families (parents and children) to join us.

That night, the PTO is also sponsoring the food truck, Jay's Eats; see the PTO section of the newsletter for details.

On August 23rd there will be an opportunity to meet the teachers, find out homeroom assignments and take a peek at the classrooms. Arrival times are split up to give students a bit more time to really see their teacher. Families with last names from A-M are invited to come by the school between 11:00 am – 12:00 pm. Families with last names from N-Z are invited between 1:00-2:00 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 as the teachers and administrators will be very busy with meetings and classroom set-up.

For **Grades 1-8** Thursday, August 24th is an 11:30 am dismissal; Friday is a full day. No School lunches will be provided on August 25th.

School begins at 8:00 am. Please make every effort to begin the good habit of arriving on time. Drop off begins at 7:40 am; I will see you in the parking lot! Teachers will meet the students outside and escort them to their classrooms. Parents are asked to say their goodbyes as they drop their children off in the carline. (If you want to park and watch from the upper lot after you drop off your children you are welcome to.) Please refer to the handbook that will be posted on the school website for complete directions on arrival and pickup procedures. During the first week of school the vanpool slots for last year will be used with the EXCEPTION of kindergarteners who are now first graders. These students will be dismissed with the regular carpool unless they are in a group vanpool that used a non-kindergarten slot. Applications for vanpool slots will be sent home in the beginning of the year packet.

A **kindergarten parent meeting** (no students) is scheduled for Thursday, August 24th at 8:30 am. Kindergartners' first day will be Friday, August 25th, from 8:00 – 11:30 am (with no afternoon Extended Day for them this first day).

The **prekindergarten parent meeting** (no students) is at 9:30 am on Thursday, August 24th. The prekindergarten orientation for the students and parents is on Friday, August 25th. 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 Monday, August 28th; this is a full day for all PreK students except for those who are registered as half-day students.

Morning Care will be open at 7:00 am on the first day of school. Morning care is located in the cafeteria. Families should park in the rear of the building and access the cafeteria via the back doors. Grade levels may begin using Morning Care on the following dates:

Grades 1-8 – may begin using Morning Care on Thursday, August 24th
Kindergarten – may begin using Morning Care on Friday, August 25th
PreKindergarten – may begin using Morning Care on Monday, August 28th

Afternoon Extended Care for all grades will begin in the cafeteria. Grade levels may begin using Afternoon Extended Care on the following dates:

Grades 1-8 – may begin using Extended Day on Thursday, August 24th
Kindergarten – may begin using Extended Day on Monday, August 28th
PreKindergarten – may begin using Extended Day on Monday, August 28th

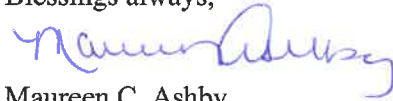
Afternoon Extended Day is closed completely on Friday, September 1st due to the early dismissal prior to the Labor Day weekend.

There is NO school for students on Monday, September 4th (Labor Day) and Tuesday, September 5th (Teacher Professional Development).

Information regarding the calendar, supplies and reading lists can all be found on the webpage www.holyspiritflames.org.

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

Blessings always,



Maureen C. Ashby
Principal