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From the Principal's Desk

August 25, 2016



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Holy Spirit School

*Celebrating 50 Years of Inspiring Minds and Igniting Hearts
1966 - 2016*

Open House tomorrow!

The annual Open House for students and families to visit and find out which homeroom they are in is tomorrow, Friday, August 26th from 1:00 - 2:30 pm. We certainly look forward to seeing everyone!

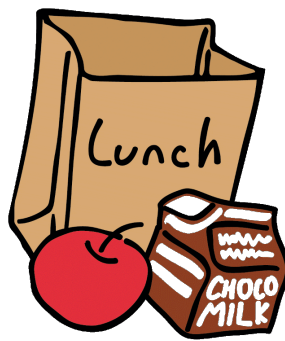
Please be sure to scroll down for new information regarding the automating of payments for milk/bottled water and semester lunches. Information will also come home in the family packets.

See you tomorrow!

-Maureen Ashby

Principal

*"The future starts today, not tomorrow." - Pope John Paul II
Holy Spirit School Class of 2015*



Milk/Water Order Semester Lunch Order

As we continue to look for avenues by which we can streamline payments to the school, we are launching for the start of the year the ordering of milk/water and semester lunches via online payments. Information regarding the school lunch program will also be sent to families via the Family Packet.

For those families who would like to order milk and/or bottled water for their student(s) for the year, **this will only be possible via an online payment** through the school's Stripe account. Under the *Current Families* tab click on the button "Milk/Water Order Form". Once there, please enter all requested information for both the family and the individual students. A total cost will be calculated at the bottom of the form. Credit card information will need to be entered and then click "Submit". The cafeteria staff will receive notification of the order. (The cost for the year is \$55.00/student for either milk OR bottled water. The cost for the year is \$110/student for both products.)

For those families who would like to order hot lunches for the ENTIRE SEMESTER, **this will only be possible via an online payment** through the school's Stripe account. Under the *Current Families* tab click on the button "Semester Lunch Form" to complete that process. (The cost for a full semester of hot lunches is \$350.00/student and does not include beverages.)

For families whose student(s) only order hot lunch intermittently - the traditional process is still in place for now. Please print the September lunch calendar, circle the days on which your student would like hot lunch, and return the calendar and a check with full payment to the school. We hope to transition to the monthly calendar being online in the near future.

[September Lunch Menu](#)

First Week of School!
August 29 - September 2, 2016

Schedule for Grades 1-8

Monday, August 29th:

- First day of school
- 11:30 am dismissal
- Morning Care Opens (please enter via Exit 11)
- Extended Day Opens (please pick up in the cafeteria)

Tuesday, August 30th - Thursday, September 1st:

- Regular 3:15 pm dismissal
- NO hot lunches served; all students must have a brown bag lunch

Friday, September 2nd:

- 9:00 am Mass
- 11:30 am dismissal
- NO afternoon Extended Day

Schedule for Kindergarten

Monday, August 29th:

- **8:30 am Parent only meeting**

Tuesday, August 30th:

- **First day for kindergarten students**
- **Morning Care available (drop off via Exit 11)**
- **11:30 am dismissal**
- **No afternoon Extended Day**

Wednesday, August 31st and Thursday, September 1st:

- **Full days - regular 3:15 pm dismissal**
- **Morning Care available (drop off via Exit 11)**
- **NO hot lunches served - all students must have a brown bag lunch**
- **Extended Day available (pick up via Exit 11)**

Friday, September 2nd:

- **9:00 am Mass**
- **11:30 am dismissal**
- **NO afternoon extended day**

Schedule for PreKindergarten

Monday, August 29th:

- **9:30 am Parent only meeting**

Tuesday, August 30th:

- **Parent and student orientation**
- **9:00 - 9:45 am Students with last name A-L**
- **10:00 - 10:45 am Students with last name M-Z**

Wednesday, August 31st:

- **First day for Prekindergarten**
- **Morning Care available (drop off via Exit 11)**
- **11:30 am dismissal for ALL students**
- **No afternoon Extended Day available**

Thursday, September 1st:

- **Full day with regular 3:15 pm dismissal**
- **Morning Care available**
- **NO hot lunches served - all students must have a brown bag lunch**
- **Afternoon Extended Day available (pickup via Exit 11)**

Friday, September 2nd:

- **11:30 am dismissal for all students**
- **NO afternoon extended day**



Back to School Family Packet

A reminder that the Back to School packet with all of the beginning of the year forms will be available for pickup on Friday, August 26th during the Open House from 1:00 - 2:30 pm.

It is important that all forms be returned promptly so that the school has current contact and emergency information for all students.

If you are unable to attend the Open House on the 26th, the packet will be sent home with your child on the first day of school.



Carpool

Carpool is always a challenge the first few days of school but it does get better quickly. If everyone could please follow the below reminders it would be a great help:

During morning drop-off, no students should be dropped off prior to 7:45 am. Teachers do not go on duty outside until 7:45 am (please note we work by the bell/clock within the school). No students should be dropped off in the upper parking lot and allowed to walk down the sidewalk to the front of the school. I know everyone is busy and has somewhere to be but for the safety of everyone involved all cars should come through the front car line. (This excludes Prekindergarten families who drop-off in the rear of the school.)

The drop-off line moves much faster if students are ready to go when you reach the sidewalk. Parents should stay in the car and allow teachers to assist the students. All students must exit on the right side of the car so they step immediately onto the sidewalk. Regardless of where your child's class lines-up, please have your child get out of the car at the first spot at which you stop along the sidewalk; do not make multiple drop-offs or stops.

In the afternoon, please be sure that you are filling in one line at a time and I ask that you be cognizant of not cutting into a line in front of others who have been patiently waiting.

Parents may not park in the upper lot and walk down to retrieve students from the front of the school. Again, I understand that many are in a hurry and have places to be but for safety and out of fairness all should wait in the carpool line.

As after school activities begin and more children begin attending Extended Day, the carpool line will return to its usual 10-15 minute "event".

Thank you for your cooperation!



Vanpool

Information regarding vanpool sign-up is included in the Back to School Family Packet.

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.

The new vanpool slots will be sent home on Friday, September 2nd. Current kindergarten families will receive their slot during kindergarten orientation.



Back to School Nights

For Grades 1-5, Back to School Night is scheduled for Tuesday, September 6th.

For Middle School, Back to School Night is scheduled for Wednesday, September 7th.

Both nights will begin promptly at 7:00 pm.

(Prekindergarten and kindergarten will have their "Back to School Night" orientation on Monday, August 29th in the morning; please see school calendar for times.)

Please remember that this is an evening for teachers to present general information regarding the classroom and curriculum. This is not an opportunity for individual conferences. If you have concerns or questions that are specific to your child, please contact the teacher directly and privately.



Family Folder Flyers

The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labeled "August 25,2016" (or follow the links here) For your convenience, some flyers are repeated with the newest flyers at the top:

School Flyers:

1. [September Lunch Menu](#)
 2. [Beginning of the Year Letter 2016](#)
 3. [A Parent's Guide to Performance Series](#)
 4. [Fall Chess Club Sign-Up](#)
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