

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School



August 7, 2020

I know I just sent out a note on Monday, but don't want anyone panicking. I've received a ton of emails/texts, so want to try to help ease some anxiety.

- No bus times yet, but they have told me to expect 10 minutes earlier for pick-up than last year. Hopefully we'll be able to be more specific early next week. Most drivers will be the same, with a few exceptions. If you see any of those bus garage employees, give them a big, THANKS!
- I am looking for someone to be our Boxtop coordinator. Currently we still have some that need clipped, organized, and sent off, but not a lot. This person would keep an eye on when everything is due and get them mailed off for us. Parent volunteers can organize them into baggies. Let me know if you are interested. Amy Tarr graduated her youngest this year, but would be willing to help you get started.
- I'm attaching the volunteer list (please check for errors or anything else and let me know) and the August menu/calendar (could change).
 - We will not be having mass the first week of school. The first all-school mass will be Wednesday (we've changed these from Fridays to Wednesdays) August, 19th. No one except students and staff can attend these until state mandates change. I hate this, but it's how it has to be. Class masses will be on Fridays now. The public may attend these. K-2 will be the 1st Friday of the month, 3-5 the 2nd Friday, and 6-8 the 3rd Friday. Just keep an eye on the parent letter for any changes.
 - If you are planning to fill out the free/reduced lunch application, please do so as soon as possible. You can drop it in the box outside of church or send it Wednesday.
 - Unfortunately working ahead has not paid off this time – the bus slips we gave you will not be used. Jasper Unit #1 is working on an app we can use to put in our kids' health checks each morning. There will also be a paper slip option that the bus garage has supplied us that you can use. The teachers will hand those out at your parent meetings Monday night since we aren't sure if the app will be ready when school starts. Sorry for the confusion.
 - You will need to call the bus garage and let them know your plans for the mornings at the beginning of each week. You can go ahead and call now for the first week. If you don't plan to ride the bus in the mornings, for the most part, you can just tell them that as well. Your child must wear a mask on the bus.
- Just a reminder that the kids will need to bring their face covering and a water bottle to school each day. We have extra masks if they forget, but would like to do our best to bring them from home. They do need to be washed or a new one worn each day.

- Parent meetings and buddy night is Monday! If you have questions, feel free to let me know or email your child(ren)'s teacher. One parent is plenty and face coverings are encouraged. Some of our teachers want you to wear them in their room. They have to stay healthy to teach our kids, so thank you for being supportive. If you want to bring the larger items from the supply list, feel free to do that. It's totally up to you.
- Kindergarten students and their buddies will need to have a mask with them for Buddy Night on Monday. Hopefully there will be a lot of outside time!
- Congratulations to our JCJH softball players: Marli Michl, Hydi Bierman, Megan Miller, and Morgan Schafer. Congratulations to our JCJH cross country runners: Shay Bennett, Haley Ochs, Adam Weber, and Elias Weber. GO SAINTS/EAGLES! We appreciate their parents and coaches who make it possible for them to participate.
- Baseball practice is underway. Our team consists of: Carter Barthelme, Beau Bennett, Quincy Fulton, Drake Herdes, Gavin Meinhart, Grady Michl, Jarrett Pitcher, Carson Barthelme, Alex Gier, Wade Ochs, Landen Blake, and Drew Earnest. Thanks coaches for your time and patience. GO SAINTS!!
 - Baseball parents – we will be looking for drivers to away games. Check out that August calendar and start emailing if you can drive and how many boys you can take. I'm still available for running them to practice, but if anyone else can at 3:15 on those days with me, just holler. Should only need two to three vehicles with 12 players.
- We start school on Wednesday. I will need all volunteers who are signed up for Wednesday to be here. Notice that morning and lunch duty start earlier than last year, but end at the same time. I am so thankful to all of you! If you feel like you can help out and didn't sign up, please let me know.
- Late stay will also start on Wednesday. You'll need to either send a note or call Lori by 9:00 a.m. to let her know if your child(ren) are staying and what time they will be picked up. As I sent out Monday, no charge until 4:00 p.m. The kids can stay until 5:30.
- A huge thank you to Cheryl Michl at the Newton Aquatic Center for these swim parties. It was so good to see everyone in 3rd-5th grades tonight! Can't wait to see our big kids tomorrow. Cheryl definitely made it special for our kids!

I know things will be a little crazy at first, but we can do this. We're only being asked to do our best, and that's what we'll do. But, Saints are known for doing great things, so let's be
AWESOME!!