



# Our Lady Star of the Sea School

*An Island of Learning... A Sea of Faith*

**Newsletter: August 26, 2016**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the start of the 2016-17 school year! I am excited to be here and to have the opportunity to serve you all as Principal of the school.

I would like to thank all our new families who attended the New Parents Meeting on Aug. 25, and the Open Classrooms on Aug. 26. I look forward to meeting all the parents and children when school starts on Monday. If any parents would like to schedule a meeting with me, please call the School Office. You may also email me directly at [principalm@olsss.org](mailto:principalm@olsss.org). I look forward to a great year ahead with the OLSS community!

## TEACHERS & STAFF:

We are pleased to announce our teachers and staff for the 2016-17 school year. Please visit the "Staff" page of our school website to learn more about our teachers' educational and professional backgrounds.

- Pastor: Monsignor Michael Wilson
- Principal : Mrs. Mary Bartsch
- Pre-K Director/Teacher: Mrs. Katrina Wagner
- Pre-K Assistants: Mrs. Terri Yates, Mrs. Amy Quade
- Kindergarten: Mrs. Cheri Shaw
- Grade 1: Mrs. Peggy Waldheim
- Grade 2: Mrs. Carmen Norris
- Grade 3: Ms. Maggie Quade
- Grade 4: Mrs. Kimberly Weber
- Grade 5: Mrs. Kanawha Mack
- Grade 6: Ms. Sharon Cheseldine
- Grade 7: Mrs. Patti Edwards
- Grade 8: Mrs. Jennifer Thompson
- Art: Ms. Heidi Thompson
- Music : Mrs. Debbie Smedley
- Library: Mrs. Angela Ingelido
- Physical Education: Mrs. Cindy Grater
- Instructional Technology: Mrs. Cindy Grater
- Spanish: Mrs. Dawn Skeith-Baughner
- Tutor/Handwriting Instruction: Sr. Ruth Parent
- School Secretaries/Admin Assistants: Mrs. Colleen Muldoon, Mrs. Cindy Gross, Mrs. Amber Tamburri
- Catechesis Coordinator: Mrs. Joanne Pensensstadler
- Aftercare (Younger): Mrs. Amy Quade
- Aftercare (Older): Mrs. Heidi Trice
- Facilities Manager: Mr. Ron Yates

## NEWS:

**New Playground Equipment:** We are excited to have new playground equipment in the Pre-K playground and our main playground, donated to us by Calvert Memorial Hospital. Thank you to all those involved in the delivery and set up of the play structures.

**Playground Fence:** Many thanks to Josh DeGuzman, who organized the installation of the fence along the playground of the school for his Eagle Scout project. Thank you to all who contributed to this task!

**School Mass Schedule:** School Liturgies will now take place on **Wednesdays at 8:15am** in the Historic Church. All family members are welcome to attend.

**Rediker:** We have replaced Engrade with a new parent portal system, Rediker, to manage student information and grades. More info will be sent out to parents to access their accounts.

**Medications:** If your child needs to take prescription medication during school hours, the medications and required authorization forms must be brought by a parent/guardian to the School Office to be checked in. No over-the-counter medications may be brought to school. Medical forms can be found at: <http://www.olsss.org/forms.html>

## REMINDERS:

**Aftercare:** If you would like to enroll your child(ren) in the Aftercare Program, please email the School Office. All required forms must be completed before children may attend.

**School Uniforms:** For the 2016-17 school year, both the light blue/navy/plain uniform combination, and the navy/khaki uniform combination may be worn. The "Uniform" page of the school website shows all available options. The Uniform Exchange is available during school hours in the Chesapeake Room.

**2015-16 Yearbooks:** There are a few extra yearbooks available (\$35) from the School Office.

**Summer Reading:** Students entering grades 4-8 are required to complete Summer Reading assignments. Info and forms are posted on the school website. Students should bring their book reports to school.

**School Supplies:** The required school supply list for all grades is posted on the school website. Please send your child's supplies with them on the first day of school.

**School Messenger:** If you would like to change or add family email addresses or phone numbers to our Schoolreach parent notification system, please email the info to the School Office.

**Tuition Incentive Program:** For every new family you refer that enrolls at OLSS and designates you as their referring family, you will receive \$500 off your tuition.

**Virtus Program:** All family members who would like to volunteer at the school must first complete all steps of the Archdiocese of Washington's Virtus Child Protection Program. Info & forms are available from the School Office.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### AUGUST:

#### **Aug. 29: First Day of School**

- 7:15am: Donuts and juice will be served in the Providence Room to welcome our students and parents back to school
- 8:00am: Morning Prayer
- 8:10am: Gather in Providence Room for introduction to "Fully Rely On God" song and dance moves
- **12:30pm dismissal**
- Lunch will be served
- Aftercare will be available for registered students until 6:00pm

### SEPTEMBER:

**Sep. 2:** 12:30pm dismissal

**Sep. 5:** No School – Labor Day

#### **Sep. 3-11: Scholastic Book Fair**

The Book Fair will be available during school hours, and after Masses on weekend.

#### **Sep. 8: School Picture Day**

Lifetouch will be taking student portraits. Order forms will be sent home during the first week of school.

#### **Sep. 14, 7:00pm: Back to School Night**

The evening will start with presentations in the Providence Room, after which parents may visit their children's classrooms.

God Bless,

*Mary Bartsch*

Mrs. Mary Bartsch  
OLSS Principal

