



Our Lady Star of the Sea School

An Island of Learning... A Sea of Faith

Newsletter: August 31, 2016



Dear Parents and Guardians,

We enjoyed welcoming our students back to school on Monday morning! We are starting the year with an enrollment of 120 students. We will continue to strive to provide a loving, supportive environment at OLSS School, where our community of parents, teachers, students, and parish are committed to the academic and personal success of each student. We look forward to a great year ahead!



FROG Full Rely on God



On the first day of school, students and teachers gathered together to learn about "FROG – Fully Rely on God", which will be our school's theme for the 2016-17 school year. Faith in God means we rely on him and depend on his reliability. Having faith means realizing that God is bigger, greater, and better than us – and He loves us greatly. Learning to Fully Rely on God is a journey and a learning process.

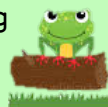
May God bless you as you learn to "Fully Rely on God" each and every day!



Students learned the FROG song & dance together on Monday

FROG CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK:

Our students will be given a FROG challenge every week to help them spread God's word. This week's Challenge is to make time to hug their parents every day in a loving and caring way.



NEWS :

Yellow Folders: Every Wednesday, your child will bring home a yellow folder. Please take out and review the papers inside, and send the folder back to school the next day. Completed forms may be returned in the folder.

Emergency Forms: Please complete the "Emergency Contact & Medical Info" form in your child's folder today, and return it to school ASAP.

ADW Family Survey: The Archdiocese of Washington Family Survey is enclosed in yellow folders today. This survey helps determine the amount of funding for additional services our school is eligible to receive. Please complete and return one survey per family. The info in the survey is confidential.

PE Days: Please have your child wear their PE uniform on their class' PE day, starting this week:

- **Thursdays:** Pre-K, 2nd, 3rd, & 5th grades
- **Fridays:** Kindergarten, 1st, 4th, 6th, 7th, & 8th grades



Virtus Training: OLSS is hosting a Virtus Child Protection training class on **Thu, Sep. 22**. If you would like to sign up to attend, please register online through your Virtus account by selecting "Register for Live Training".

School Portraits: Lifetouch will be taking student portraits on **Thu, Sep. 8**. Students should wear appropriate dress clothes to school that day. Lifetouch portrait package order forms are in your child's yellow folder today.

Scantron: Scantron testing monitors students' progress throughout the school year. Baseline testing in Math, Reading, and Religion will take place during the week of **Sep. 19-23** for grades K-8. The information from test results helps formulate lessons to progress forward. Please be sure your child is well rested and has a healthy breakfast on testing days, and avoid scheduling doctor appointments during testing times.

REMINDERS:

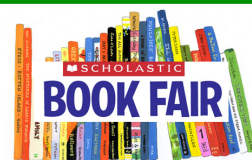
- **Milk/Juice Orders:** Please send in your Milk/Juice order forms and payments by the end of this week.
- **Aftercare:** All required forms must be completed before children may attend Aftercare.
- **School Messenger:** Please email the School Office if you would like to add emails or phone numbers to our School Messenger notification system.
- **Car Rider Signs:** Please notify the School Office if you need additional Car Rider signs.
- **Volunteering:** Anyone who would like to volunteer at the school must first complete the ADW Virtus Child Protection Program. Info & forms are available from the School Office.
- **School Masses:** School Liturgies are **Wednesdays at 8:15am** in the Historic Church.
- **Rediker:** Our new parent portal system, Rediker, will be used to manage student info and grades. Info will be given to parents at Back to School Night on Sep. 14.



Archdiocesan Band Program

The Archdiocesan Music Program offers instrumental lessons and a group band experience in Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Washington for students in grades 4-8. An ADW Music Teacher will come to OLSS to present a Band Demonstration on **Sep. 12**. Program info and registration forms will be sent home that day. Lessons begin **Sep. 26**.

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the Providence Room from Sep. 3-11 at the following times:



- Sat, Sep. 3, after 4pm Mass
- Sun, Sep. 4 after both Masses
- Tue, Sep. 6 – Fri, Sep. 9 during school hours
- Sat, Sep. 10, after 4pm Mass
- Sun, Sep. 17 after both Masses



We hope to see all parents at Back to School Night on **Wed, Sep. 14**, starting at 7:00pm. The evening will start with a presentation in the Providence Room, after which parents are invited to visit their children's classrooms to learn about their curriculum and schedules, and to meet other parents and students.

Our Home & School Association (HSA) committee will also give a brief presentation, and will be available to answer questions, and assist with sign-ups for volunteer committees and HSA memberships.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SEPTEMBER:

- **Sep. 2:** 12:30pm dismissal
- **Sep. 5:** No School – Labor Day
- **Sep. 3-11:** Scholastic Book Fair
- **Sep. 8:** Picture Day
- **Sep. 14, 7:00pm:** Back to School Night
- **Sep. 30:** 12:30pm dismissal (Fair Day)

OCTOBER:

- **Oct. 7:** No School – Collaboration Day
- **Oct. 20:** Lifetouch Portraits Make-Up Day
- **Oct. 24:** Grandparents Day
- **Oct. 28:** 12:30pm dismissal–Teacher Development

God Bless,

Mary Bartsch

Mrs. Mary Bartsch
OLSS Principal