



August 24, 2022

Welcome Back to School!



Dear OLSS Families,

On behalf of the faculty and staff of Our Lady Star of the Sea School, I am happy to welcome you to the 2022-2023 school year! We are looking forward to a productive, faith-filled partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. We recognize that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and the school, and a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children. They bear witness to this responsibility first by creating a home where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, and fidelity are the rule. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- 1) Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience, adhering to all safety protocols.
- 2) Completes all homework assignments given by teachers
- 3) Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
- 4) Prays daily to develop a love for God and a knowledge of their faith.
- 5) Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life
- 6) Informs you if he/she needs additional support in any area or subject
- 7) Knows that you expect him/her to succeed in school and go on to college, the military, or trade/vocational school.

Please consider participating in our school fundraisers and volunteer program as our students can greatly benefit from your involvement and contributions. We seek volunteers to help us in many areas throughout the year. Please check the "Volunteering" page of the school website for upcoming opportunities.

I am asking that you and your child(ren) review a copy of our school rules in the Parent/Student Handbook in today's yellow folders, so that you and your child will be familiar with expectations and procedures. I ask that each student and their parent/guardian sign the School Handbook Acknowledgement Form and return a copy to the school by September 9, 2022, to be kept on file. (unless you have already submitted this form in TADS).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or to discuss them with your child's teacher. It is very important that you and your child are fully informed regarding standards related to appropriate behavior for a safe and productive school year.

The staff and I feel privileged to be a part of this school family. We thank you for your support and look forward to working with your student(s) this year.

Grace and Peace,

Mrs. Jennifer Thompson

Principal

NEWS & REMINDERS:

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR: We will host a Scholastic Book Fair from **Sep. 3-11** in the Providence Room. Students will visit the Book Fair during school hours, and it will be open after weekend masses.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT: Back to School Night will be held on **Tue, Sep. 6** starting at 6:30pm. More details will be out soon.

LIFETOUCH PORTRAITS: Lifetouch Studios will be taking student portraits at OLSS on **Tue, Sep. 20** and will email parents with package and purchasing info. Students should wear dress clothes to school that day.

ROOM PARENTS: If you are interested in helping your child's teacher and class by being a Room Parents, please email our coordinator Rebecca Mathe at becken8591@gmail.com. If you have been a room parent in the past, we would like to give another parent the opportunity first.

ADW FAMILY SURVEY: ADW Catholic Schools Office collects income data annually on families in order to participate in federal and state programs, grants, and funding opportunities. All schools are required to participate to determine eligibility for federal education services. Please return your form ASAP.

CLOTHING DONATIONS: We are collecting clothing donations for the Francois family through this Friday. Please send any donations into school by this date.

AFTERNOON PICK UP: Please keep your car rider sign clearly visible until you exit the parking lot with your child. Parents may stand next to their vehicle once they have stopped in the front pick-up section with the engine turned off. Please do not park outside the lot and walk to the doors for pickup during the afternoon dismissal, as it is difficult to dismiss the children this way.

EARLY PICKUP: If you need to pick up your child from school early, please notify the school office with the time. The cutoff time for early pickups is **2:30pm**, so that staff may prepare for regular dismissal.

KINDNESS T-SHIRTS: Students may wear their blue tie-dye Kindness t-shirts on the first Monday of every month, with school uniform shorts, pants, skirts, or jumpers. The t-shirts were given out in May. If you would like to purchase additional shirts, please email the school office with the size. The cost is \$15.

PARISH EVENT: OLSS Parish is hosting Campfire Catechism this **Fri, Aug. 26 at 7pm** on the lawn of the Historic Church. Bring a chair or blanket for a discussion of questions about the Catholic Faith with Fr. Bob!

OLSS PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: OLSS offers Parish Religious Education for the following:

- Grades PK-7th
- Confirmation I (typically 8th grade) & Confirmation II (typically 9th grade)
- First Reconciliation Preparation (School students register for workshop)
- First Holy Communion (School students register for the workshop)
- Rite of Christian Initiation for Children (RCIC) for children who are not baptized or behind in sacraments.

The program starts Sun, Aug. 28 and is still accepting registration. Please contact Joanne Pensenstadler, Director of Faith Formation & Youth Ministry, at 240-925-3034 for more info.

Many thanks to Jean Moyer, a former OLSS student herself, who has been welcoming students back since 2016!



UPCOMING EVENTS:

SEPTEMBER

- **Sep. 2:** 12:30pm Dismissal
- **Sep. 3-11:** Scholastic Book Fair
- **Sep. 5:** No School - Labor Day
- **Sep. 6, 6:30pm:** Back to School Night
- **Sep. 12:** Wear Kindness T-Shirt
- **Sep. 20:** Lifetouch Portraits
- **Sep. 29:** 12:30pm Dismissal
- **Sep. 30:** No School - Calvert Fair Day