



OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL NEWS

August 12, 2020

Dear OLSS Families,

I hope everyone is enjoying the last few weeks of summer! We are excited to be returning to school and are busy preparing for the year ahead. Please read the Parents' Health Guide from our School Nurse, included with today's news. It contains helpful information to ensure optimal health and safety for the children as we prepare to begin the school year.

Please review the news and reminders in this newsletter and contact the School Office at olssschool@comcast.net or (410) 326-3171 with any questions.

Stay happy, healthy, and holy!

Mrs. Jennifer Thompson

Principal

2020-2021 TEACHERS & STAFF:

- Principal: Mrs. Jennifer Thompson
- PK Director/Teacher: Mrs. Stephanie Riley
- PK Assistants: Mrs. Terri Yates, Mrs. Amy Quade
- Kindergarten: Mrs. Cheri Shaw
- Grade 1: Mrs. Peggy Waldheim
- Grade 2: Mrs. Carmen Norris
- Grade 3/Vice Principal: Ms. Maggie Quade
- Grade 4: Mrs. Kimberly Weber
- Grade 5: Mrs. Wendy Rawlings
- Grade 6: Mrs. Therese Frederick
- Grade 7 & 8: Mrs. Beth Oster
- Library: Mrs. Angela Ingelido
- Physical Education: Mrs. Cindy Grater
- Computers: Mrs. Cindy Grater
- Spanish: Mrs. Dawn Skeith-Baugher
- School Secretary/Admin Assistant: Mrs. Colleen Muldoon
- Admin Assistant: Mrs. Amber Tamburri
- School Nurse: Mrs. Brandi Hutchins
- Aftercare Director: Mrs. Amy Quade
- Aftercare Provider: Mrs. Heidi Trice
- Lunch Coordinator: Mr. George Klein

START OF SCHOOL SCHEDULE:

To help our students and staff return to school after a long period away, and to adjust to the many changes as we begin the school year, we will have only a few grades come in on each day during the week of Aug. 24-28. This will allow staff and school administrators to help them learn the new procedures and see if any adjustments can be made to help things flow as smoothly as possible.

- **MON, AUG. 24 & TUE, AUG. 25:** PK Introduction & Assessment Days
- **WED, AUG. 26:** Kindergarten, 1st, & 2nd Grades **only** / 12:30pm dismissal / Bring lunch
- **THU, AUG. 27:** 3rd, 4th, & 5th Grades **only** / 12:30pm dismissal / Bring lunch
- **FRI, AUG. 28:** 6th, 7th, & 8th Grades **only** / 12:30pm dismissal / Bring lunch
- **MON, AUG. 31 – FRI, SEP. 4:** All grades / 12:30pm dismissal each day / Bring lunch
- **TUE, SEP. 8,** all grades will begin coming to school for full days, 8:00am-3:00pm.
 - Hot Lunch Program will begin
 - Aftercare Program will begin

NEW PROCEDURES FOR K – 8th GRADES:

As detailed in our Re-Opening Plan (posted on the school website), please be aware and prepared for the following new procedures that will take place when we return to school:

1) TEMPERATURE CHECKS

- Each student will have their temperature taken and recorded in the morning carline, and will be asked the following questions:
 - a) Does the child have any symptoms of COVID-19?
 - b) Has the child had any close contact with anyone known to have COVID-19 or anyone who has any symptoms of COVID-19?
 - c) Has the child or any of their family members have traveled to any state that has a 10% or higher positive rate for COVID-19? (A list of state positivity rates can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/index.html#testing>)
- Each student's temperature will be taken and recorded again at mid-day and end-of-day.

2) FACE MASKS

- Face masks are required for children ages 5+.
- Children must put face masks on as soon as they step out of their cars and must keep them on whenever they are in the school building.
- Face masks must fit properly and be appropriate for an educational setting.
- Please send an extra face mask to school for your child in a labeled Ziplock bag.

3) ENTRY/EXIT DOORS

Students will enter and exit the building through designated doors; OLSS staff will be located around the school building to direct children:

- Kindergarten & 1st grade: Main doors, far right door
- 2nd & 3rd Grades: Main doors, far left door
- 4th – 8th grades: Doors located at the back of the school

4) CLASSROOMS

- Students will practice social distancing in the classrooms.
- Students will not enter any classrooms besides their own.
- Each student will keep their own school supplies, tissues, hand sanitizer, lunch box, backpack, and belongings in their crate beside their desk. **Please label all your child's belongings.**

5) DRINKING WATER

- Water fountains are being replaced with touch free water bottle filling stations.
- Please send a labeled water bottle with your child daily.

6) BATHROOM BREAKS

- Only two students may be in a bathroom at once.
- Manual soap dispensers will be replaced with touch free soap dispensers in the bathrooms.
- Manual paper towel dispensers will be replaced with touch free dispensers in the bathrooms.

7) BUILDING RESTRICTIONS

- No parents are allowed in the school building.
- To contact the school office, please call 410-326-3171.
- If you need to pick up your child early, please notify the school office with the exact time of pick up. A staff member will meet you at the main school doors to sign out your child.

8) AFTERNOON DISMISSAL

- Dismissal will begin at 2:45pm daily, to allow teachers to thoroughly disinfect their classrooms and edit virtual learning videos at the end of the day.

NEW PROCEDURES FOR PRE-KINDERGARTEN:

The Pre-K Program is regulated by the Maryland State Dept. of Education (MSDE), and has many additional requirements that must be followed. Please see their website for more detailed information on regulations:

<https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/regulations>

1) TEMPERATURE CHECKS

- Upon arrival at school, PK students and his/her parent/guardian will be met outside the PK building by an OLSS staff member; everyone must wear face masks.
- **The parent/guardian must bring a thermometer from their home and take the temperature while being observed by an OLSS staff member.**
- If the child's temperature is 100.4°F or higher, the child will not be admitted to school and staff will contact the Calvert County Health Dept. and follow their recommendation for that child.
- After the child's temperature has been recorded, staff will ask the parent/guardian the questions:
 - a) Does the child have any symptoms of COVID-19?
 - b) Has the child had any close contact with anyone known to have COVID-19 or anyone who has any symptoms of COVID-19?
 - c) Has the child or any of their family members have traveled to any state that has a 10% or higher positive rate for COVID-19? (A list of state positivity rates can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/index.html#testing>)If the parent/guardian replies "YES" to any of these questions, the child will not be admitted to school and staff will contact the Calvert County Health Dept. The child should quarantine and the parent/guardian should contact the child's health care provider for further guidance.

2) FACE MASKS

- Children aged 2+ may wear face masks if developmentally appropriate. Please see the letter from Calvert County Health Dept. included with today's news.
- Children must put face masks on as soon as they step out of their cars and must keep them on whenever they are in the school building.
- Please send an extra face mask to school for your child in a labeled Ziplock bag

3) BACKPACKS & LUNCH BOXES

- PK students can not bring backpacks to school. Any items that need to come into the building with them must be in a labeled Ziplock bag.
- Lunches must be sent in plastic/hard surface lunch boxes or a new disposable paper bag each day.
- Please make sure that items in lunch boxes can be opened by students on their own.

4) SNACKS

- Due to new restrictions on handling children's food, we will not longer provide morning snack for PK students. The \$100 PK snack fee for the school year will be removed from tuition accounts.
- Please send a daily snack for your child, and make sure that snack items can be opened by students on their own.

5) BUILDING RESTRICTIONS

- No parents are allowed in the building.
- PK staff may be contacted by calling the PK building's direct phone number, 410-326-5262.

6) AFTERNOON PICK UP

- Dismissal will begin at 2:45pm daily, to allow teachers to thoroughly disinfect their classrooms at the end of the day.
- PK students will be signed out by school staff. Parents/guardians should wait outside the PK building at 2:45pm, wearing face masks and practicing social distancing, and students will be brought outside.

NEW PROCEDURES FOR AFTERCARE:

The Aftercare Program is regulated by the Maryland State Dept. of Education (MSDE), and has many additional requirements that must be followed.

1) LOCATION

- **ALL** Aftercare students will now be located in the Providence Room
- At 3:00pm dismissal, Aftercare students will be met outside the main school doors by the Aftercare Director, where they will walk around the outside of the building and enter the Providence Room through the doors on the patio.

2) TEMPERATURE CHECKS

- At school dismissal, Aftercare staff will take each child's temperature.
- The child's temperature will be recorded and the OLSS staff member will ask three questions
 - a) Do you have any symptoms of COVID-19?
 - b) Have you had any close contact with anyone known to have COVID-19 or anyone who has any symptoms of COVID-19?
 - c) Have you or any of your family members traveled to any state that has a 10% or higher positive rate for COVID-19?If any child has a temperature of 100.4°F or above or if they answer "YES" to any of the questions, the child will be isolated and the parent/guardian will be called. Aftercare staff will contact the Calvert County Health Dept.

3) FACE MASKS

- All students must wear face masks while in the Aftercare program.

3) BACKPACKS

- Aftercare students' backpacks and lunchboxes must be left outdoors on the patio.

4) SNACKS

- Due to new restrictions on handling children's food, we will not longer provide snacks and drinks for aftercare students. Please send a daily snack for your child.

5) PICK UP

- The pick up location for Aftercare students is at the patio doors outside the Providence Room. Parents may not enter the building.

NEW PROCEDURES FOR BEFORE CARE:

The Before Care Program is regulated by the Maryland State Dept. of Education (MSDE), and has many additional requirements that must be followed. PK students will not be able to use the Before Care Program.

1) TEMPERATURE CHECKS

- Upon arrival at school, Before Care students and his/her parent/guardian will be met on the patio outside the Providence Room by an OLSS staff member; everyone must wear face masks.
- **The parent/guardian must bring a thermometer from their home and take the temperature while being observed by an OLSS staff member.**
- If the child's temperature is 100.4°F or higher, the child will not be admitted to school and staff will contact the Calvert County Health Dept. and follow their recommendation for that child.
- After the child's temperature has been recorded, staff will ask the parent/guardian the questions:
 - a) Does the child have any symptoms of COVID-19?
 - b) Has the child had any close contact with anyone known to have COVID-19 or anyone who has any symptoms of COVID-19?
 - c) Has the child or any of their family members have traveled to any state that has a 10% or higher positive rate for COVID-19?If the parent/guardian replies "YES" to any of these questions, the child will not be admitted to school and staff will contact the Calvert County Health Dept.

2) FACE MASKS

- All students must wear face masks while in the Before care program.

NEWS & REMINDERS:

AFTERCARE: If you plan to enroll your child(ren) in Aftercare, please notify the School Office by email to olssschoool@comcast.net **as soon as possible**. Due to new restrictions, we may only have 13 children in Aftercare with two staff. **All required forms** (available on the school website) **must be completed before children may attend**.

BEFORE CARE: If you plan to enroll your child(ren) in Before Care, on a full- or part-time/occasional basis, please notify the School Office by email to olssschoool@comcast.net **as soon as possible**. Due to new restrictions, we may only have 14 children in Before Care with one staff member. **All required forms** (available on the school website) **must be completed before children may attend**.

NEW PARENTS MEETING: Our New Parents Meeting is on **Thu, Aug. 20 at 5:30pm** in the Providence Room.

OPEN DAY: We will have an Open Day for in school students on **Fri, Aug. 21 from 9am-3pm**. This is an opportunity for new and returning students and parents to visit their classrooms, meet their teachers, and drop off school supplies. This is **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY** – please sign up at: <http://www.olsss.org/open-day.html>

VIRTUAL LEARNERS OPEN DAY: We will have an Open Day for virtual learning students on **Tue, Aug. 25 from 9am-3pm**. This is an opportunity for students and parents to visit their classrooms, meet their teachers, pick up their books, and take their Scantron Assessment baseline testing. This is **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY** – please sign up at: <http://www.olsss.org/open-day.html>

SUMMER READING: Upcoming 4th – 8th graders have required Summer Reading assignments, posted on the school website, that are due on their first day of school.

SUMMER MATH WORK: 1st – 8th graders' summer math work is also due on their first day of school.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: The required school supply list for all grades is posted on the school website. Please send your school supplies in on your Open Day visit, or on your child's first day of school. Virtual learners should also consider purchasing the supplies on their class lists, in anticipation of joining classrooms in the school in the future.

MEDICATIONS: If your child needs to take over-the-counter or prescription medication during school hours, medications and required authorization forms must be brought by a parent/guardian to the School Office to be checked in. Medical forms can be found at: <http://www.olsss.org/forms.html>

TUITION PAYMENTS: All tuition, Before Care, and Aftercare payments must now be paid through your TADS account. No payments will be accepted at the school office.

LUNCH TICKETS: We will be introducing a new electronic system to pay for school lunches. Detailed information will be sent out before the Hot Lunch program begins on Sep. 8.

BOOST SCHOLARSHIPS: The Maryland State Dept. of Education issued the first round of BOOST scholarship awards last weekend. If you applied but are unaware of the issuance of awards, follow the portal instructions on your emails from MSDE to accept or decline their awards by **Aug. 22**.

HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION NEWS:

- HSA's [Facemask Fundraiser](#) is accepting orders through Aug. 21.
- HSA is selling storage crates (one of the items on each class's school supply list) for \$5/each. They are available for purchase in multiple colors at the school; please pay through the online school store.
- HSA is hosting a fundraiser with Mabel's Labels, in which 20% of your purchase is donated to the school. Please see https://mabelslabels.com/en_US/fundraising/support/