



August 14, 2018

Dear Parents:

It's that time again. Books have been ordered and floors have been cleaned. Enrollment for this coming school year is one of the best we've had in years! As it currently stands, we have 197 students enrolled for the 2018-2019 school year. Our **Early Learning Foundation** (Pre-K to Grade 2) is just about full with just a few openings left in only Kindergarten and Grade 2. Some of the things we have done over the summer have been replacing the rug in the library and hopefully applying a fresh coat of paint in both the cafeteria and restrooms downstairs. As for the *playground*, which many parents have been asking about, we are beginning our phase one in building it. Not to anyone's surprise in this day and age, you need a permit for just about anything when it comes to upgrading your building and grounds.

NEW ADDITIONS TO FACULTY

I am happy to introduce **Nicole Leste** as our new Grade 1 Teacher now that Mrs. Rostron is getting a well deserved rest with retirement. Ms. Leste is a graduate of Rhode Island College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Early Childhood Education. She is also highly trained and certified in everything from CPR to First Aid to Safety Care Training as well. Assisting Ms. Leste for a few days (along with Ms. Pereira in Kindergarten) will be Mrs. Kathy Dowling who many of you already know and **Mrs. Lisa Garganese** who had been here several years ago and found the time to come back and help us out for a few days too. Good to have her back.

Along with Ms. Leste joining us, we would also like to welcome on board **Mrs. Karen Bouthillette** as our new Grade 3 Teacher. With Mrs. Vicki Patterson moving on and getting ready for a new member to her family, Mrs. Bouthillette brings a wealth of experience to her classroom. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary & Special Education from Rhode Island College along with a Masters of Education Degree in Special Education from Providence College. Mrs. Bouthillette has over 30 years of teaching experience and has always wanted to work in a Catholic School.

As for our After-School Care Program, with the retirement of Mrs. Moran, we have **Mrs. Sheila Parenteau** joining our staff. Mrs. Parenteau is a retired nurse who also belongs to St. Paul Parish and was looking to help us out with after school. Looking forward to having her join us.

And last but not least, we have **Ms. Cecilia Spinella** working as a Teacher Assistant in our Pre-K 3 yr. old program. Ms. Spinella has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology and is currently enrolled in a Teacher Preparation and Certification Program. She as with Ms. Leste is also highly certified and trained in CPR, Safety, etc. too.

SCHOOL DAY BEGINS AT 8:15

Our school day begins at 8:15 (students can still arrive earlier, however, we will not ring the bell until 8:15 to begin our school day in the auditorium). For new families, as well as a reminder to everyone, please remember the school day ends at 2:30PM for grades 1-8 and at 2:15PM for Pre-K and K.

SPECIAL OPEN HOUSE & ORIENTATION DAY

On Tuesday, August 28th, parents are invited to attend an **Open House** with their children. We will be open from **9-2:30**. Teacher's will be available to review information to families required for the 2018-2019 school year. Everything from filling out Emergency Cards to Lunch Forms will be discussed. This is a great time to visit with your child's teacher to know what is and will be expected from them throughout the classroom in the school year ahead.

Student Handbook

Most of you should have reviewed the St. Paul School Student Handbook last year on our website, www.saintpaulschoolcranston.org. There may be some new additions/revisions to the Student Handbook in the weeks ahead; please be on the lookout for it on our website. Both parents and students must sign off on this Handbook after reviewing it. Please be aware that the Student Handbook is enforced throughout the year. **Students should be in summer gym uniforms on the first day of school.** The uniform requirements are clearly stated in the Student Handbook; please do not make any substitutions. **Please be aware, our uniform policy will be strictly enforced.**

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Lunch Program

Albertino's Pizza will still be providing our school lunches every day this year. The cost for a slice of pizza is still \$2.50 on Friday's. Lunch orders from Monday-Thursday are still \$4.00. Please see our school menu attached to this e mail. **Our lunch Program will begin on Tuesday, September 4th** (Please remember to send exact change when filling out lunch form) so **don't forget to pack a lunch for the first week of school!** The price of milk is still **50 cents**.

Emergency Care Cards-Most Important for All Students!

New Emergency Care cards will be sent home the first day of school. Please complete and **return them ASAP-especially if you plan to have your child in our After-School program which will begin on Tuesday September 4th.**

School Bus Transportation

First Student provides bus transportation for Providence residents. Cranston Public Schools provides bus transportation for Cranston residents. Times for pickup and drop off are published in the Providence Journal and Cranston Herald a week before the opening of school. Cranston mails bus passes directly to student's home addresses. Providence requires every student to complete a bus request form to receive transportation. If you live in Providence and have not sent in a form you will not be getting a bus pass. St. Paul School does not receive Providence bus passes until just before the start of the school year. Passes will be given to students on the first day of school.

After-School Program

Our After-School Program is offered every day from 2:30-5:30PM. All students from St. Paul School are eligible to attend. Please remember, **invoices will be emailed bi-weekly**. Sadly, families have taken advantage of this program over the past year and in some cases had payments still due throughout the summer! If payment is three weeks in arrears, your child will not be able to continue the program.

The cost of this program is **\$7.50 per hour**. This program offers snacks, supervised homework/study, and play. **The After-School Program begins on Tuesday, September 4th as long as you have provided the necessary paperwork.**

Morning Care Program

We will offer once again the opportunity for parents to drop off their child before school begins at 8:15. From **7-7:45am** parents can drop off their child to be escorted to our Pre-K classroom where Mrs. Keane will be there to greet and watch over them. **There is NO COST for this program!** (*Mrs. Keane has volunteered once again to be here at school earlier than usual*).

The School Day

Students who arrive after 7:45 must wait in the school auditorium until a member of our staff will either take them outside or down to the cafeteria depending on the weather conditions. Students will then be escorted to the auditorium at 8:15 AM when the school bell is rung either for Morning Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance or taken directly to their classrooms by their teachers. Students who arrive after 8:30AM should report to the secretary's office to sign in so as not to be marked absent. Students are expected to be on time. **Habitual tardiness will be brought to the attention of the parents by the principal** (*Please see Student/Parent Handbook on this issue*). Poor attendance and tardiness directly affect a child's success in numerous ways; emotionally as well as scholastically.

Enjoy what is left of summer! I hope you will join me in looking forward to a great year ahead. See you on either **Tuesday, August 28th** at **Open House** or on the **1st day of school on Wednesday, August 29th!**

Mr. Corry