



Principal's Post

September 30, 2022

Good afternoon St. Margaret School families,

Each Friday afternoon you will receive this "Principal's Post" highlighting important SMS information. Please take the time to read these weekly posts (including any attachments) and use the information for your planning purposes throughout the year.

We want to extend a big **THANK YOU** to our Fall Festival committee and volunteers for helping to make our festival a huge success! The students enjoyed carnival rides, games and delicious food during a beautiful fall weekend!

SMS Picture Days!

October 5th (PreK Mrs. Hirsch MWF, PreK Mrs. Forrest, and K-8)

October 6th (PreK Mrs. Hirsch T/Th, PreK Mrs. Kopp, PreK Mrs. Rhodes)

ALL students are to wear regular uniforms. If your child has Physical Education on October 5th please have them wear tennis shoes with their regular uniform (no PE uniform for pictures).

October 7th School Closed- Teachers will participate in professional development provided by the Archdiocese of Baltimore. School offices are closed.

October is Respect Life Month - Crosses will be placed on the church lawn. The parish will be placing white crosses on the front lawn of the church (ES campus) for Respect Life Month. They will be put out for the weekend of October 2-3 and will remain there for the month. Please be aware that a sign will accompany the crosses explaining that each cross represents the life of one baby. This is a very sensitive topic especially for our young children so please be aware that the sign will be there. If you have any questions please contact St. Margaret Parish.

Hot Lunch information for October will be coming soon from our HSA!

Please Label SMS Sweatshirts - As weather begins to get cooler please be sure to label your child's sweatshirts and jackets. We sort through lost and found often and return anything labeled to students.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

Trunk or Treat Ticket Sales will take place on Monday morning, October 3. There will be tables set up outside at each campus for the ticket sales. Thank you to our HSA volunteers!

High School Fair - On Tuesday, October 4th we are looking forward to hosting the AOB high school fair from 6:00pm to 8:05pm at our middle school campus. The open fair will run from 6:00pm to 6:30pm. We will then hold three breakout sessions to follow the open fair, with the evening concluding at 8:05pm.

Next Used Uniform Sale - October 6 - more details to come!

Late Pick Up Reminders - Beginning October 3rd, a fee will be charged for the After School Care of any child remaining more than 15 minutes after dismissal (Starting at 2:50pm at the MS and 3:15pm at the ES). Parents will be charged \$5.00 for the first 15 minutes of care and an additional \$5.00 for every five minutes after that. A flat fee of \$5.00 will be levied in an emergency situation. More instructions are on the form. Parents are receiving this information as well in the Principal Post.

Lunch Duty PreK 4 - Grade 5 - Please be sure to sign up to help as a lunch helper volunteer! All volunteers in classrooms need to be Virtus compliant. See below for more information on Virtus. Teachers emailed their sign up genius along with parent lunch helper expectations to all parents on Thursday, September 29th.

Parking in the Church Lot/Office of Aging Parking Lot- Please do not park in the handicap parking spaces during the school day. Please also remember not to park or stop at the yellow curb. Thank you for helping to keep our students safe!

Dress Code and Uniform Policies - (Handbook pages 20-23)

Please be sure your child is following the uniform (including hair) guidelines in our handbook (pages 20-23). Uniform slips will be given for not following the school uniform guidelines. Parent/Student Handbook link:

<https://smsch.org/assets/imgs/featured/Handbook-St.-Margaret-School-2022-2023.pdf>

Campus Safety - Please be aware that students should not remain outside on the campuses after school (on playgrounds, etc.). Students should not be returning into the buildings to use the bathrooms or water fountains after school. We all love our pets, however dogs should not be outside of vehicles on the campuses. Students should not be petting or playing with pets for safety reasons. Thank you for your cooperation.

Volunteer Compliance VIRTUS - Please review the VIRTUS requirements for volunteering. All those who wish to volunteer in our school must be appropriately screened and provide three written references to the school. Parents may not volunteer without completing this mandatory screening. <https://smsch.org/giving/volunteer/virtus>

Looking ahead!

Oct. 7: School Closed - AOB Professional Development Day

Oct. 15: HSA Trunk or Treat (rain date Oct. 22)

Oct. 31: Early Dismissal Day

Nov. 1: Winter Uniforms Begin (Please refer to page 20 in the Parent/Student Handbook)

Have a wonderful weekend!

Blessings,
Mrs. Anna Shanahan
Principal