



Principal's Post August 26, 2022

Good afternoon St. Margaret School families,

It was wonderful to see so many of you on Meet the Teacher Day! I would like to thank all of our Room Parents who assisted the teachers this week. We are blessed to have such great parent volunteers!

Communication between school and home is crucial for a successful school year. Each week you will receive a "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.

On our first day of school, Monday, August 29, students may wear regular uniforms or gym uniforms. This is an **early dismissal day**; classes dismiss during the following times:

Middle School 11:45AM

Kindergarten 12:00PM

Grades 1-5 12:05PM

There is no Extended Day Care (EDC) during the first week of school. EDC begins on Tuesday, September 6.

Catholic Identity - Our Archdiocesan theme is "One Body in Christ". We also have a new school wide theme this year "SMS has **GRIT**" (**G**od, **R**espect and **R**esponsibility, **I**ntegrity, **T**eamwork). Our Saint of the Year is Blessed Carlo Acutis and we will continue our monthly outreach to help those in our community.

Parent/Student Handbook - Please read the Parent/Student Handbook and return the signed Receipt of Handbook form to your child's teacher during the first week of school. Please be sure to carefully review the Discipline and Student Behavior expectations (pg. 30) and the Acceptable Use of Technology policy (pg.

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

COVID-19 Policy Reminders - Please read the **attached letter** from the Department of Catholic Schools regarding the COVID-19 policies for 2022-2023.

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>

Family Income Survey - Each year parents are asked to complete a brief Family Income Survey in order to assist the Catholic schools with receiving additional funding. You will receive a separate email with this information soon.

CYO Basketball - Please read the **attached** flyer for more information on the CYO Basketball Program which begins in October!

SMS Fall Festival - Our annual Fall Festival will be held on September 23 and 24! Look for more details soon including volunteer sign ups.

Key Dates for 2022-2023- Please review the **attached** list of key dates for this school year.

Looking ahead!

Sept 5: Closed for Labor Day

Sept. 6-7: Preschool Gradual Entry

Sept. 8: Preschool Regular Schedule Begins

Sept. 23: School closed - Faculty Retreat

We are very excited to begin the 2022-2023 school year and we can't wait to see our students bright and early on Monday morning!

Blessings,
Mrs. Anna Shanahan
Principal