



Principal's Post September 2, 2022

Good afternoon St. Margaret School families,

Each week 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. Thank you!

The first week of 2022-2023 is in the books! We opened our school year with prayer services on each campus. We are looking forward to our Opening Liturgy on Thursday, September 15th. On this day, the Middle School students will be dropped off to the Elementary School campus. We will celebrate Mass and enjoy time with our Prayer Partners!

Please save the date for our annual Fall Festival on September 23 and 24! Look for a separate email with important Fall Festival information!

SMS September Outreach Our September outreach collection assists the *Choose Hope Women's Center* in Bel Air. Most needed items are: baby lotion, wash, shampoo, diaper cream, socks, towels, blankets, pacifiers, small sleepers and onesies, 18-24 mo. clothing, large diapers, and Pull-ups. Donating to our monthly outreach is optional. Please offer your prayers to those in need in our Harford County community.

Lunch Duty PreK 4 - Grade 5 Lunch duty parent helpers will begin in October! Each homeroom will receive a Sign Up Genius from the school. Please look for an email to be sent at the end of September.

Parent/Student Handbook - Please read the Parent/Student Handbook and return the signed Receipt of Handbook form to your child's teacher.

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

Please carefully review the Dress Code and Uniform Policies on pages 20-23.

The following hairstyles are examples of prohibited hairstyles: head shaving, lines and designs, faux-haws, mohawks, mullets, spikes or coloring of any kind. If parents have a question about a hairstyle, they should contact the administration for guidance.

SMS Back to School Nights

Middle School Grades 6-8 - Thursday, September 8th at 6:30pm - parents report to their child's homeroom at 6:30pm and follow a modified version of their child's schedule.

****Please note there will be an 8th grade parent meeting in the Mission on Thursday, September 8th From 6:00-6:30pm****

Elementary School All Grades Preschool-Grade 5 - Thursday, September 15th at 6:30pm - parents report directly to a homeroom at 6:30pm - there will be three sessions.

Family Income Survey We need your help! Every year our school has an opportunity to participate in federal and state programs that benefit our students with a variety of materials and services. Parents are asked to complete a brief Family Income Survey in order to assist our Catholic schools with receiving these additional materials and resources. Please use this link to complete the form **by Friday, September 16**. Thank you for your assistance!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe2MaxgjJq-YA7fsnNhmamEjoi7hq7Bn1nnv01fjFJyKWUswjw/viewform>

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

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>

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

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

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: Extended Day Care (EDC) begins

Sept. 6-7: Preschool Gradual Entry

Sept. 8: Preschool regular schedule begins

8th Grade parent meeting 6:00-6:30PM in the Mission

Middle School Back to School Night 6:30PM

Sept. 15: Opening Liturgy and Prayer Partners - MS students are dropped off at ES campus

Elementary School Back to School Night 6:30PM

Sept. 23: School closed - Faculty Retreat

Sept. 23-24: FALL FESTIVAL!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Blessings,
Mrs. Anna Shanahan
Principal

"SMS has GRIT" (God, Respect and Responsibility, Integrity, Teamwork)