

# Principal's Post

August, 2021

*“Commit your work to the Lord,  
and your plans will be established.” Proverbs 16:3-4*

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Dear St. Margaret School Families,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! We are happy to welcome back our returning families and give a special welcome to our new families! For those of you who do not yet know me, I am the principal of our wonderful school. I have been a part of the Archdiocese of Baltimore for over 40 years as a student, instructional aide, teacher, assistant principal, principal and parent. I have been here at St. Margaret School for sixteen years and this is my third year as principal. We have such a supportive Pastor, Fr. Kevin Schenning, and an amazing faculty and staff! We are excited to welcome several new members to our SMS team this year and we can't wait for you to meet them! I cannot express enough how blessed I am to be a part of this incredible school community.

**Communication** - This is my first “Principal’s Post” for the school year! Each month you will receive a “Principal’s Post” from me. I look forward to sharing my posts with you so I hope that you will take time to read them each month. You will also receive weekly emails with important information, reminders, dates, events, etc. Please be sure to read these messages carefully and review our website and calendar ([www.smsch.org](http://www.smsch.org)) often. This link will take you directly to a great resource page for the start of the new year <https://smsch.org/student-life/preparing-for-the-new-school-year>. You will also receive communication from your teachers and room parents as well. If you have any questions or concerns along the way, please reach out to any of us. Open communication is the key to a successful school year!

**Meet the Teacher Day** - We are looking forward to seeing everyone on Meet the Teacher Day, Wednesday, August 25th. You may visit your child’s classroom(s) anytime between 7:30am and 12:00pm. Our new family meetings will be held at 8:00am at the Middle School campus (new location the Callahan Center - the building next to the school) and at 9:30am at the Elementary School campus (Gym). Please remember to complete and upload all necessary forms on the Parent Portal [https://smsch.schooladminonline.com/users/sign\\_in](https://smsch.schooladminonline.com/users/sign_in)

**Emergency Contact Information** - Please review your emergency contact form on the Parent Portal. If there are any changes or updates needed, please contact Cecilia Pleiss [cpleiss@smsch.org](mailto:cpleiss@smsch.org). She will need to unlock the form for you so you can edit the information. Please be sure to click on “submit” after you make your changes.

**COVID Procedures** - Our students, teachers, staff and families did an amazing job last year with all of our COVID procedures. Our school buildings remained open for in person learning all year. Once again, we need the support and partnership of our parents and guardians. We ask you to actively monitor the health of your family and children (symptoms and temperature checks) to avoid exposing the school community to children who are exhibiting COVID-19 (or RSV or Influenza) symptoms. Thank you in advance for helping to keep our school community safe and healthy!

**Uniforms** - We have heard from many of you that some uniform items from Flynn and O’Hara are backordered or shipping is delayed. Please do not panic about this. If your child does not have all of the uniform items for the start of school he/she may wear the gym uniform until the uniforms arrive. Please inform your child’s teacher next week if you are still waiting for uniforms and or/shoes.

**Outreach** - Outreach to the community is a vital part of who we are at St. Margaret School. Each month we will participate in an outreach initiative. Our first outreach collection will benefit Birthright of Harford County. Items will be collected on the ES & MS campuses in bins outside of the main office (and/or at morning drop off at the ES) from August 30th- September 23rd. Please see the attached flyer for a list of needed items.

**Class Lists** - We know the excitement of class lists is building! We can no longer post class lists on our website as we have done in the past. Class lists are being finalized at this time and you will receive an email with the name of your child’s teacher on Monday, August 23rd at 3:00pm. Thank you for your patience!

I am looking forward to seeing everyone during Meet the Teacher Day and our new family meetings. We can’t wait to see our K-8 students on August 30th and our Preschool students in a few weeks! We are going to have a great 2021-2022 school year!

Blessings,

Anna C. Shanahan  
Principal  
St. Margaret School

# Back-To-School Prayer



Dear God,

Please bless all children in this new school year. Give them strength to learn, concentrate and act in love towards their classmates. Watch over them at home and at school. When days become challenging, grant them peace and relaxation, knowing that Your patience, wisdom and courage is excellent in every way. Guide them in their mind, thoughts and body so they may use the knowledge gained to build your kingdom. We thank you for this new school year and ask that you bless the students, families and faculty that make school such a wonderful place.

In your name we pray!

