



St. John the Baptist School
Where small can make a BIG difference!
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Dear Pre K 3 and Pre K Families,

We know that for some of you this may be your first experience with St. John the Baptist School, and it may even be your first experience with sending your child to school. We want to assure you that we are here to support your child, and to support you. We have outlined some information below that will hopefully help to make this transition positive, and we encourage you to call with any questions or concerns. We are blessed and honored that you have chosen us to welcome your child to Catholic Education.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Johnson and our Pre K Staff

Arrival/ Dismissal:

PreK 3 students have their first day on **Thursday, September 10th**. Students have class every Tuesday and Thursday. Students will arrive through the side doors at 9am and will be greeted by a staff member and will be brought up to their classroom. Parents/Guardians are not permitted to walk students to the classroom. Students will be dismissed at 12pm through the side doors. You may park in the side lot and students will be brought out through these doors by their teacher. Students will only be dismissed to an adult that is listed as an approved pick up person. Please be prepared to show ID if requested. Students must wear their masks for arrival and dismissal.

PreK 4 students will have their first day on **Wednesday, September 9th**. Students may begin arriving at 7:45 am. We ask that families park in the church parking lot and walk their child to the front door where they will be greeted by a staff member. Parents/Guardians are not permitted to walk students to their classrooms. If there are older siblings in the family we ask that you follow the dismissal/arrival procedures outlined for our K-8 students. All students need to be here no later than 7:55am, so that they are ready to begin the school day promptly at 8am. Dismissal begins at 2pm. All bus students are dismissed first so we ask that you not park in the bus lane and park in the back portion of the side lot. You must walk to the sidewalk where all students will be dismissed through the side doors. Please do not come into the building to get your child. Students must wear their masks for arrival and dismissal.

Uniform/Dress Code:

Pre K students do not wear a school uniform. We encourage you to send your child in comfortable clothes that will allow for the freedom of movement and play. Pre K students should wear sneakers and are discouraged from wearing shoes without backs, flip flops, and slippery soled dress shoes. Students must have a clean mask for each day they attend school. We encourage all students to have an extra mask in the classroom.

Lunch:

PreK students will eat lunch in our school cafeteria. Students may purchase a lunch, or they may bring their own packed lunch. It can be difficult for students to get used to eating at a specific time and within a time limit. We recommend beginning a structured eating routine. Please don't be surprised with uneaten food that comes home, this is normal and also one of the reasons that we encourage snack time. Please make the school aware of any dietary restrictions or allergies, and contact the office immediately with any concerns.

Specials:

PreK 3 will have use of the art room, music room, and gym. Enrichment activities are provided by the classroom teacher and this is a great introduction to the different learning environments in the school

PreK 4 students will participate in Music, Art, Computer, and Library with the Special Area Teachers. Physical Education (PE) is on Monday or Tuesday and students should make sure to have sneakers on this day. Your child's teacher will give you a list of specific days for specials.

School Liturgy:

Pre K 4 students will attend the Weekly School Masses virtually and will actually be able to participate in readings and worship later in the year. We will let you know if your child is participating ahead of time and you are welcome to join us.

Forms:

Please make sure that you have completed and turned in all medical forms, birth certificate, and other forms by the start of school. Miss. Sarah is happy to help you with any questions. Included in this mailing is verification that you have access to the Parent/Student Handbook. You must return this from and our green liability form prior to the first day of school. No student can be admitted to In-Person Instruction without these forms on file in the main office.

A Few Things to Consider:

1. Even positive transitions can be stressful on young children. It is normal for your child to cry, have trouble sleeping/eating, be moody, or act out. These behaviors should lesson as your child becomes more comfortable with their routine. Our staff is here to support your child, and you, so please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns. We expect a few tears (from parents and children) during the first few days of school.
2. All of our PreK students are expected to be fully potty trained by the start of school. Even those that are doing great can sometimes be overwhelmed when school starts. Prior to the start of school allow your child to use a public restroom, or your home bathroom, independently. You may wish to stand outside the stall and offer encouragement, but allow your child to be independent. Accidents do happen so please send in a full change of clothes including socks and underclothes and shoes for us to keep at school.
3. Young children need lots of sleep. Begin to establish a nighttime routine that allows children to be in bed and asleep at a reasonable time. For children ages 3-5 years it is recommended that they get between 9 to 11 hours of sleep.
4. Morning routines can be difficult, as young children are not good at "rushing". Establish a morning routine that allows your child to dress, groom, and eat prior to arriving at school.

Our goal is to make PreK a positive experience for you and your child. There are a lot of new changes this year, so I encourage you to attend one of the Virtual Parent Meetings that are being held on August 18th, 19th, and 20th. Although you can attend a meeting on any of these dates, I will gear the meeting on August 18th to my Early Childhood parents, so that may be the most helpful to attend.