



August 15, 2019

Dear Parents,

Summer has been a very busy time for St. Ursula School. Besides the annual thorough cleaning which occurs each summer, the new library and library classroom are being remodeled. This will provide us with more access to the library during the day and an entirely new classroom/homeroom. We have contracted for new safety doors at the main door and to replace the art room exterior door. The air conditioning in the lunchroom is being upgraded and we are in the midst of the bid process for the new gym air conditioning unit.

Included on this letter is your child's teacher and room number for the upcoming year. Please understand there will be *no changes* of assignments. Teachers take into consideration many facets of each child when assigning them to a class and/or teacher. I thank you in advance for your understanding. Also please don't email your new teacher prior to the start of school, since they are still on summer vacation and may not have access to email.

Since school ended we had a few staffing changes. Mrs. Samantha Trigger is moving from second grade to kindergarten. Mrs. Sadie Northey, previously a kindergarten instructional assistant, has assumed the tuition officer position and we have moved that office to the finance office on the first floor.

St. Ursula welcomes four new staff members this year:

Ms. Catherine Dreyer, middle school ELA/Math/SS---retired from BCPS
Ms. Michaela Commodari, fifth grade teacher---former SUS student
Mrs. Heather Broccolina, kindergarten instructional assistant
Mrs. Bonnie Cooper, first grade instructional assistant.

New parents, and students, have been invited to a New Parent Night on Tuesday, August 27th starting at 6:30. If you are a new parent and have not received information about this event, please contact Deena Conti (deenaconti@gmail.com).

As stated in the Parent Handbook, the school day officially begins at 8:10. The doors for drop-off open at 7:45. **By 8:10 all students are expected to be in their classrooms.** If you are late, please enter in the main door on Manns Avenue with your child. You will need to sign your child in providing the reason for the tardiness.

All students will enter the gymnasium on the first day of school only. There will be signs designating the grade levels. We ask any parent who enters to stay on the perimeter of the gym once you escort your child to their line.

The Parent/Student Handbook has been updated. It is imperative that you read the new handbook completely prior to signing the receipt page. If you have any questions, please contact an administrator.

As you noticed, there is an information form for your child attached. It is important that you review all of the information on the form and make any changes as this information is used for all forms of contact throughout the year. If no changes are needed, please check and sign the form. If there are any blanks, please fill in the missing information and if changes are made, please make the changes directly on the form. The emergency contact information on page two of the form needs to be completed. Also included is an Emergency Health Information form that needs to be completed for each student. All forms are to be returned to school the first week in September. All other forms to be filled in will be sent via email blasts. Remember Wednesday is our usual day to send emails.

As you gather uniforms for the upcoming year, remember when buying socks, they need to cover the ankle bone and may not have any logos on them (Nike, Under Armour, etc.). Uniforms that meet our requirements may be purchased at the Flynn and O'Hara store located in North Plaza Mall. Gym uniforms may also be purchased at Sportsline on Harford Road. Please refer to last year's handbook regarding shoes. Remember that Sperry's are not acceptable for kindergarten through second grade. Van Dyke and Bacon, located in Nottingham, has the acceptable shoes on display. Also please refer to last year's handbook regarding hair. Boys' hair should not be over the ear or touch the shoulder. All bangs must be 2 inches above the eyebrow and no hair may be chemically dyed to any color.

Also, a summer reminder that all parents, grandparents, guardians, etc., who wish to visit or volunteer in the school, must first complete the online Virtus training. This is a mandatory online training established by the Archdiocese of Baltimore to ensure your children are safe at St. Ursula. The training certificate lasts for 5 years, and then you will need to renew the certificate. If you have never taken any training, I highly encourage you to complete it prior to the school year beginning. It may be accessed at virtusonline.org. More information may be found on the school website under the Parent link—parent volunteering.

Please refer to our website for calendar updates as well as the supply lists. Remember school opens on Tuesday, September 3. The first two days, 9/3-4 are half days with dismissal at 12:10. Extended Day will begin on Wednesday, September 4th for those who have registered. Milk/Juice, for those who have pre-purchased, will be on Thursday, September 5th. You will receive an eblast before school starts with the link for purchasing milk/juice. Also mark your calendars for Back to School Night: September 4th for grades 5th through 8th and September 5th for grades K through 4th.

A great way to start the new school year would be to attend the St. Ursula Church Mass and picnic at Double Rock Park, Sunday August 25 at 12:00. In case of rain, the picnic will be held at the church spiritual center.

Peace of Christ be with you,

Debbie Glinowiecki
Principal