

St. Patrick's School
Tuesday Notes
September 7, 2021

COVID Reminder

You are now asked to get your child tested if any of the following symptoms are present. This is a slight change from last year's policy. Symptoms for children are any one of the following: fever of 100.4 or higher, sore throat, cough, difficulty breathing, diarrhea or vomiting, new onset of severe headache (especially with fever), or loss of taste or smell. Last year you were looking for two symptoms before testing, now if one is present testing is needed or if you know he/she was exposed to Covid.

For children/persons with chronic conditions such as asthma, the symptoms should represent a change from baseline.

A child must be fever free for 72 hours or parents share a negative Covid test before his/her return to school.

Dismissal Reminders

Please see the attached drawing done by one our long-time parents to assist with understanding the morning carpool system.

September Service Project

We will support the Koller Family's annual toy drive. Mrs. Koller, our kindergarten teacher, and her husband have three children, Jordan, AJ, and Hunter. AJ was born in 2004 with Alagille Syndrome, a multi-organ disorder. He had multiple heart surgeries and procedures over the course of his life. In between hospital stays, doctors' appointments and therapy, the Koller Family spent a lot of time together trying to live as normal of a life as possible. As a family, they traveled to amusement parks, the beach and AJ was awarded a Make-A-Wish trip to Disney when he was three years old. AJ was a very good friend and was well loved at his school! Through all of these fun times, AJ's liver and heart disease progressed and he passed away at the age of ten on September 14, 2014. As a family, the Kollers wanted to do something positive on the anniversary of his passing to celebrate the joy he brought into so many lives.

We invite all from the St. Patrick's community to show our love and support and honor AJ's life by participating in the annual toy drive. Toys will be donated to Johns Hopkins Children's Center to the Child Life Department. Please see the flyer for more details.

Emergency Packs & Drills

Each year we ask parents to send in a "crisis pack" for your child. This is mandated by the Archdiocese of Washington in case our children ever need to "shelter in place". We will store these packs in our classrooms. We recommend two bottles of water and a couple of snack pack size snacks that have a long shelf life (pretzels, cheese and crackers, goldfish etc.). Please put these items in a gallon size Ziploc bag and label your child's name on the outside. It is not necessary to send in stuffed animals, toys, or blankets.

I know it is scary to think about emergencies, but with a little preparation and practice, we will be fully prepared, and your children will be in good hands and SAFE. We will practice emergency drills with pre-kindergarten-grade 8 students next Monday, September 13th. I recommend that you talk with your children over the next few days about emergency drills (fire, earthquake, bad weather, and an unsafe

person in the building) and reiterate to them that the drills we must do next Monday are best to keep our St. Patrick's Family safe.

Back to School Night

Back to School Night is scheduled for Thursday, September 9th.

There are two classroom sessions scheduled for kindergarten- grade 8 and one session for PK. If you have a child in our PK, please attend the 7:00-7:30 p.m. session in the PK classroom. If you have an older student, you can visit his/her classroom for the first session (6:30-7:00 p.m.) All sessions will be held in your child's homeroom and will be 25 minutes.

There will be a general information session from 7:30-8:00 p.m. in the gym.

Masks are mandatory.

Teachers of special classes (art, music, P.E., library, & technology) will be available in the school library from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Please stop in if time allows and introduce yourself.

Scantron Baseline Testing Schedule

Monday, September 13	Tuesday, September 14	Wednesday, September 15	Thursday, September 16
Math 8 th - 10:00-11:00 7 th -9:00-10:00 6 th - 11:30-12:30 5 th -8:30-9:30	Math 4 th - 10:00-11:00 3 rd - 8:45-9:45 2 nd - 11:00-12:00	Reading 7 th - 10:00-11:00 5 th -10:45-11:45	Reading 8 th - 8:30-9:30 6 th - 8:30-9:30 4 th - 10:00-11:00 3 rd - 8:30-9:30 2 nd 9:30-10:30

Parent Volunteers

The response for our outdoor September lunch schedule was amazing, thank you. Since we have parent volunteers ready to help, here is the October schedule.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4fa9af2aa0fccf8-school1>

If you are joining us to help with outdoor lunches, please pop in to let Mrs. Ali know you are here and to learn which classes will be outside with you and to where you will dismiss students after eating lunch. Your target arrival time is 12:25 p.m. and if for some reason you are unable to make your shift, please try to find a sub!

Rediker Parent Portal

If your family is new to St. Patrick's this year, parents will receive an email by tomorrow (Wednesday) mid-morning with your log in information for the on-line grading portal used by our teachers. This is primarily used in grades 4-8, but all new families will receive an email inviting you to log in.

Inclement Weather last Wednesday

Thank you for your quick response last Wednesday afternoon. We appreciated the emails and phone calls noting the carpool changes.

As a reminder, we will always follow Montgomery County Public School for inclement weather unless the direction is given directly to Catholic schools by the Superintendent of the Archdiocese of Washington Catholic Schools, which was the case in last week's incident. It is rare that we will make a closing decision independently of MCPS.

Picture Day

Individual student pictures will be taken on:

Monday, October 4th for children in grades 3-8.

Tuesday, October 5th, for children in grades PK-2.

Students may be out of uniform on these days but should be dressed nicely.

Class pictures will be held on Wednesday, October 6th for all grades. Students should wear their uniforms (even if it is a birthday-IOU out of uniform). **Boys should wear long khaki pants and girls should wear their jumpers/kilts (not skorts).**

High School Information Meeting

Parents with students in grades 6-8 who are interested in learning about the high school process and acceptance into area Catholic high schools are welcome to join me for an information session on Thursday, September 23rd at 8:15 a.m. This session will walk you through the application process and help answer any questions you may have as you prepare your son/daughter for high school. We will meet in the parish center first floor meeting room. The code to enter is 12121#.

Draft of School Directories

The draft of the school directory will be available at back-to-school night, please check your information and initial that it is correct before we distribute the final copies to our families.

Golf Registration: This event fills up fast!

For event information and to purchase tickets, click [here](#). Find your own foursome or the organizers will pair you up. If you would like to volunteer to help with the golf event, please email Brittany Duignan, Brittany.duignan@gmail.com.

Annual Fund Contribution and Golf Signage

The golf event will recognize contributions to the Annual Fund. All signage along Kane Lane will be relocated to Manor CC before the event. THANK YOU to all the families who have already supported the Annual Fund. Our goal is 100% parent participation. Please visit the [School's Annual Fund webpage](#) for more information on why your participation is important. To make your 2021-2022 Annual Fund donation, click [here](#). Signage along Kane Lane is ordered every Friday morning. Please make your pledge by Friday at 8:00 am each week to see your family's sign the following week. Questions?

annualfund@stpatrickadw.org

Classes that reach 100% participation before the golf event will enjoy no homework the evening on September 27th and no tests/quizzes on Tuesday September 28th! Younger grades will receive ice cream or another age-appropriate prize!

Help Wanted

The HSA is looking for two volunteers to Co-chair the much loved and highly anticipated annual Sip'n Shop! For those who are new to St. Pat's, the Sip'n Shop hosts various local vendors in our gym for a fun evening of sipping wine and shopping till you drop! It has grown as a cherished event that kicks off the holiday season and gets everyone in the giving mood! If you're interested in chairing this event, please contact Becky Landers at rebeccaspeaks@hotmail.com or Kristy Swarhout at kristyswarhout@gmail.com.

Help Wanted: Spirit Wear Assistant

Our new Spirit Wear Coordinator, Yolanda Ngo, would welcome an assistant to share some of the Spirit Wear responsibilities this year. Responsibilities include collaborating about and designing new Spirit Wear items, ordering items, keeping an updated inventory, helping to staff in-person sales, as well as, processing on-line orders. Please contact Yolanda Ngo at yolandada@gmail.com if you interested in helping out!

Spirit Wear!

Welcome back Badgers! A new school year has begun and what better way to demonstrate your support then by showing off your St. Patrick's spirit wear swag! Follow the link below to shop our current selection of St. Pat's apparel and products. <https://one.bidpal.net/stpatswear/welcome> Please reach out to Yolanda Ngo at yolandada@gmail.com for more details.

The Great Patsby – a Grand Affair... Take two!

The HSA is in Search of Gala Chairs for our Bi-Annual Event in March 2022 at Manor Country Club! If you are well organized, have experience in fundraising or event planning or if you are willing to roll up your sleeves and help our community, we want you! Many aspects of the event have already been planned however there is still opportunity to put your unique stamp on this important social and fundraising event. The Gala chairs will have the support of the HSA team to guide them through the process. Let us know if you're interested and help us make this event the most successful yet!

Cross Country

Registration for Cross Country Closes Tonight at MIDNIGHT

We confirmed with CYO that we will have six regular meets on Sundays between September 12th and October 17th. Practices are held two days a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-6pm at either Red Gate Park and Lake Needwood. [Registration](#) is FREE and open to all St. Patrick's School children in grades Kindergarten through 8th Grade, as well as children in the Parish in K-8th grade. Please register via Sportspilot.

We practice twice per week, in part, in recognition that many athletes play other sports and may only attend one practice each week. Sunday CYO meets begin at 12:30 pm and usually take about 2 hours. Participation at CYO meets is optional. Additional information on the season and schedule can be located [here](#). We always need multiple assistant coaches to ensure the safety of our runners during practices. Please email barbaragutierrezsmith@gmail.com if you are interested in serving as an assistant coach (or head coach) at Tuesday and/or Thursday practices.

Women's Bible Study - Grounded in Hope

Join the women of Walking with Purpose as we kick off our newest Bible study, *Grounded in Hope*. Many school moms have been involved in this beautiful community for the past two years and we would love to have more women join us! You can learn more by visiting www.walkingwithpurpose.com. We will meet weekly on Wednesdays starting in October (you can choose mornings or evenings, in-person or virtual.) As we journey through the book of Hebrews, we will learn to grab hold of Jesus, our anchor of hope, so that we remain steady and grounded despite our circumstances. No previous experience is needed! For more information or to get a registration form you can email stpatrickwwp@gmail.com.

St. Pat's Greg Gannon Canned Food Drive (GGCFD) – Two Co-Leaders Needed!

Looking for new school parent leaders to lead St. Patrick's GGCFD! This year marks St. Patrick's 9th year of participating in the Greg Gannon Canned Food Drive (*St. Patrick Church | Greg Gannon Canned Food Drive (ggcfd.org)*). The drive started with Greg Gannon, a parishioner at another area parish who

wanted to teach his family about service. His mission of service grew from his immediate family to their neighbors and ultimately to his home parish of Blessed Sacrament. After battling cancer, Greg tragically died, but his legacy lives on! Nine years ago the GGCFD concept and playbook was adopted by St. Patrick's and it's currently running in about 10 other area parishes! This is the largest one day of service at the parish in which the whole parish community participates, young and old, singles and families, often with wagons and pets in tow. Basically, we distribute bags to the communities in which we live and pick up the bags and deliver them to the parish. Our event this year will be held on either on Saturday, November 15 or Sunday, November 21, which we will finalize very soon. It's a big endeavor with lots of moving parts so we need leaders who are enthusiastic and organized and can also work with territory leaders and volunteers. Laura Rizzo, our previous leader whose kids grew up at St. Pat's but are older now and moved on the High School and College, is passing the torch and happy to support the incoming leaders. Ideally we will have two co-leaders. Must be VIRTUS certified. This is a great way to meet other parents and enjoy fellowship, plus this program is so much fun! If interested, please contact Monica Ludwig, Social Concerns Director monica.ludwig@stpatrickadw.org.

Free Money for St. Patrick's School

Harris Teeter Together in Education (TIE) program allows schools to earn funds when you link your VIC card and shop Harris Teeter brands. It's easy and it costs you nothing!

Please take a minute to link/re-link your card to our school id 1397 via online <https://www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education>; or at the checkout counter; customer service desk, or call 1-800-432-6111. **Link your card by September 30, 2021 to be automatically enter in the Harris Teeter 2021 LINK, PERK UP AND WIN COFFEE SWEEPSTAKES - Win FREE coffee for one (1) year AND a Harris Teeter Coffee Brand gift basket for the school. There will be ten customer winners and ten school winners.**

Box Tops for Education program has changed the way we can earn cash for our school. The program is transitioning from clipping Box Top labels from packages to earning credit for our school by digitally scanning your receipt. To participate in the new digital Box Tops program just download the Box Tops for Education app and scan your receipt after purchasing qualifying items. The app will find participating products purchased at any store and instantly add cash to St. Patrick's earnings online. Click here for more information <https://www.boxtops4education.com/en/How%20To%20Earn> If you have traditional Box Tops clips at home send them to school – credit is still earned for unexpired clipped Box Tops.

Amazon Smile program makes donations to eligible charitable organizations. When first visiting AmazonSmile, please search for St. Patrick's Church/School Rockville, MD. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to St. Patrick's.

The Upcoming Weeks:

Thursday, September 9th	Back to School Night 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m
Friday, September 10th	Summer Work Reward Day
Monday, September 13 th - Friday, September 17 th	Safety Drills PK-Grade 8 Scantron Testing Grades 2-8
Friday, September 23rd	High School Information session for Junior High Parents 8:15 a.m.
Friday, September 24 th	Noon Dismissal PK-grade 8; Faculty PDD; Aftercare available until 6:00 p.m.

Monday, September 27th

Golf Tournament at Manor Country Club