

August 15, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Our first day of school is right around the corner! On Monday, August 20th, we will begin our day at 8:00 AM with Morning Assembly in the gym. The students will line up in front of the designated class signs that will be out on the playground area. They need to line up with the 7:55 AM warning bell. Of course, we invite you all to come celebrate with us as we pray for a year rooted in faith, rooted in mission, and rooted in hope and joy.

The first week looks like this:

Monday, August 20

Opening assembly at 8:00 AM in the gym * the children will be dismissed to class following Morning Prayer, flag salute, and announcements.

Hospitality and a PTG meeting in the gym for parents/guardians

Dismissal time for the children is 10:30 AM

Tuesday, August 21

TK/K only will be dismissed for the rest of the week at 12:00 PM. Extended Care is available for those parents who need their services.

Choice Lunch, our new vendor, for lunch service begins today. There will be a representative at Back-to-School SCRIP orders are due by 1:00 PM

Wednesday, August 22

Thursday, August 23

Friday, August 24

Normal schedules for the teachers and students . . . yes!
Remember the “itty bits” still get out at noon.

We have some wonderful new people joining our team this year. They are excited and motivated to meet you and your student (s), and can't wait to get involved in their new educational community.

Grade 2 – Lead teacher, Ms. Jennifer Dahlstedt
Ms. Dahlstedt has taught Second Grade at another school in our diocese for two years. She has a Multiple Subject teaching Credential from Brandman University, and has a Master of Arts in Education from California State in Bakersfield.

Grade 2 – Instructional Assistant, Ms. Monica Lira
Ms. Lira comes to us with a Bachelor's Degree in Visual Communication Design and a minor in Education. She is planning on continuing her education at SFSU to earn her teaching credential and Masters in Education. Ms. Lira has experience as a Catechist at another diocesan parish.

Grade 4 – Lead teacher, Ms. Elizabeth Bautista
Ms. Bautista comes to us with a Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Studies from the University of Phoenix, and a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential from the same institution. She has been involved with teaching Sunday Studies for the past 10 years, and loves working with children.

Grade 6, 7 & 8 Math – Mr. Michael Sasser

Mr. Sasser is returning to us after a short hiatus. We are happy that he is coming back to our St. Joseph family. He loves our community and is motivated and filled with energy to meet and greet our students and parents. Welcome aboard, once again.

Technology Assistant, Ms. Cecilia Salinas

We have felt quite a void in our Technology Department since Mr. Esquivel moved. Mrs. Salinas takes on a lot of additional responsibilities, besides technology, and an assistant was needed. Ms. Cece Salinas is just the person to round out that department. If you remember, she was our Instructional Assistant in Grade 2 on Wednesdays last year, and has taken a major role in helping out with our musical productions for the past couple of years.

Ms. Salinas graduated from the University of the Pacific with a major in Music Management.

We look forward to working with these new people who have joined our faculty and staff.

I was just informed by Mrs. Hemmila on Monday, that she will be unable to return to our school and teach Art this year. I am, actively, looking for someone who is capable and knowledgeable in this subject area to replace her. I cannot guarantee, at this point in the year, that I will locate a qualified candidate. The teachers have been informed that art will return to the classroom setting for the time being.

* Think about it . . . the classroom teachers/Extended Care have a need for curtains for their exterior windows. They don't need to be fancy/lined. If you are someone who enjoys

sewing and can help us out, please leave a message on my voicemail or send an email to me and I will get back to you.

* Virtus online is the place to locate the Safe Environment training that is required for faculty, staff, parents and guardians. You must have this to enter the building and work with the students in any capacity.

* The updated Parent/Student Handbook is on our website. Please begin looking through it now, so that you will be able to sign off on the document in a timely manner.

See you soon,
Arlene Marseille