



St. Ethelreda School
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7/07/2017

Welcome St. Ethelreda Parents!

Welcome to the 2017–2018 School year, an exciting new school year in which your child will be encouraged, motivated, challenged and determined to reach his/her highest academic potential. The faculty and I have spent this summer in Professional Development workshops that will enhance our curriculum and teaching styles to meet the needs of all of our students, if possible. I am sure that you and your child will be pleased with the changes that will be implemented this year.

Major Changes:

- **School will be dismissed on Tuesday through Friday at 3:15 pm for kindergarten through 8th grade.**
- **Beginning Monday, August 28, school will be dismissed for Kindergarten through 8th grade at 2:30 pm every Monday.**
- **Those registered for After Care will go directly to After Care. All others will have to be picked up at 2:30.**
- **The faculty will have to attend In-service or Professional Development every Monday from 2:45 – 4:45. This is extremely important for us to continue implementing Common Core and infusing technology in our curriculum. We also need collaborative planning time to establish a Professional Learning Community which is vital to analyzing our students' progress and learning styles that will greatly impact our test scores. In addition, we must continue planning to achieve our school improvement goals for AdvancED.**
- **We are also integrating PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) into our curriculum. PBIS is a proactive approach to establishing the behavioral support and social culture and needed for all students in a school to achieve social, emotional and academic success. The teachers in preschool through grade 8 are being trained in this research based program and coached throughout the school year. We are required to attend Professional Development to build our capacity as we implement this program. You will receive more detailed information about each of these programs in September at our Open House.**
- **The 6th, 7th and 8th grade students, boys and girls, will wear a St. Ethelreda blazer with the St. Ethelreda emblem. The blazer is sold at Martinelli's. This new addition to our upper grade students' uniform will take effect immediately. St. Ethelreda students will continue to be trendsetters for inner city Catholic Schools and dress for success.**

- **Parents who receive Big Shoulders Fund scholarships, financial aid or any other scholarship are required to give 30 hours of active participation to the school. This requirement can be fulfilled using your talents / skills to enhance our program as needed, by attending Family Mass (2nd Sunday of each month), attending parent meetings, chaperoning field trips and volunteering for special school activities.**
- **Each month there will be parent meeting covering topics such as: homework, social media, learning styles, anger management, school projects, bullying, etc. The presenters will be professionals in the field of education or our own faculty. There will also be a six-part “Parenting in the 21st Century” workshop in the fall and spring.**

We are eagerly anticipating meeting you to share this information with you. Also, by establishing a positive working relationship with you and your child at the very beginning, we can ensure a successful school year. Below you will find some helpful tips for the first day of school.

- On the first day of school, August 23rd, all parents are invited to join our prayer circle outside as we pray for a positive, peaceful and productive school year. Our first day of school will be a full day of classes. The bell will ring at 7:50 for all students to line up quietly by grades in their designated places outside. The teachers will meet their students and escort them to their homerooms. All students must be in their homeroom when the tardy bell rings at 8:10. No one will be admitted to class after 8:10 without a tardy slip. A tardy fine will be enforced after 3 tardies in a month.
- Preschool hours are from 7:00 until 6:00. Preschool students should be here by 8:00 as well. Their program begins at 8:30. Tardiness disrupts the learning program for the teacher, the other children and your child.
- Before and After School will begin on the first day of school. Morning hours are from 6:30 until 7:30 and evening hours are 3:00 until 6:00. There is a set rate for morning and after school care. Rates are listed on the application which may be obtained from the Before and After School Care Supervisor. Preschoolers who arrive before 7:00 go to Morning Care.
- We are happy to inform you that our school is eligible to participate in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs called the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) again this school year. Breakfast and lunch will be provided to all students each day at no charge. There is an application form that must be completed and returned the first week of school. We must be notified immediately, in writing if your child has food allergies and must bring lunch.
- Paulina Street is blocked from the alley south to 88th Street every morning at 7:30 and at 2:55 in the afternoon. Parents must park behind the yellow line on the parking lot when dropping off and picking up students or park on 88th Street. The front half of the parking lot is the safe zone for the students who are exiting cars and walking across the lot to the school. Parking on Paulina Street is prohibited during school hours.
- If you have applied for financial aid, you will receive a phone call within the next 2 weeks notifying you of your adjusted tuition payment. If you do not receive a call from Mr. Ryan or me by July 31st and your application is complete, please contact us immediately.

Registration/Enrollment Process

The Registration/Enrollment process is not complete without your Registration Form and Enrollment Packet. The office will be open from 9:00am-3:00 pm, Monday through Friday. For your convenience we will be open until 6:00pm on Wednesday, August 9 and Wednesday, August 16, for you to come and complete the registration process and turn in any required forms, etc.

You will also be able to order/purchase St. Ethelreda gym attire: sweats, tee shirts, shorts, Parent tee shirts, jackets, etc., at this time.

SCHOOL UNIFORM AND DISCIPLINE

UNIFORM

Students must wear their full school uniforms beginning August 23rd.

BOYS	GIRLS	GIRLS
Grades K-8th	Grades K-5	Grades 6-8
Light blue dress shirt	Yellow, round collar blouse	Yellow, pointed collar blouse
Dark blue school pants	Blue plaid jumper	Blue plaid skirt
Dark color school shoes	Dark color school shoes	Blue plaid tie
Belt	Navy Blue knee socks or tights	*Navy blue weskit (open front vest) Gr. 8 only
School tie (K-5 th Solid blue ties)		Navy blue knee socks or tights
*(6-8 th blue/gold stripes)		Dark color school shoes
Navy blue sleeveless pullover vest (K – 5)		

*Items must be purchased from Martinelli's, 3517 West 95th Street, (708) 425-6287.

Note: Martinelli's is running a sale until August 31st on uniforms. Do not wait until school begins to order or purchase uniforms.

Preschool Uniforms:

Boys- Navy pants, light blue polo shirt and dark school shoes, belt. These items may be purchased at WalMart, Kmart, Rainbow, Target, or Zemskys or any other store.

Girls- New this year St. Ethelreda navy school jumper purchased at Martinelli's (See samples in the office). This is the only ACCEPTABLE uniform for the girls; Navy knee socks or navy tights, dark school shoes.

The school uniform must be worn every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Gym uniform is worn on Tuesday and Thursday with white socks, black or white gym shoes ONLY. The dress code will be strictly enforced.

DISCIPLINE

In order to maintain uniformity and discipline in our school, the students must comply with the following:

- **BOYS** cannot wear designer/house haircuts. This includes geometric parts, designs, letters, tails, braids, dreadlocks, twists, perms, Mohawks, high top fades and color. Boys cannot wear anything in or on their ears.
- **GIRLS:** Dyed, streaked or tinted hair is not allowed. Extensions, tracks, micro braids, pony tails, etc. must be their natural hair color. False nails of any kind and nail polish of any color cannot be worn to school. This includes nail tips, full sets, press ons and French or American manicures.
- Tattoos, temporary or permanent, are not allowed. Lip gloss may be worn (when needed) in moderation by junior high girls only. Jewelry such as chains, pendants and bracelets may not be worn with the school uniform. Only one pair of earrings and one ring on each hand may be worn. The dress code applies to EVERYONE.

Your child's school supply list is enclosed with this letter. Please do not send or allow your child to bring anything that is not on the list. Keep in mind that cell phones, electronic hand held games, tablets, I-Pods and any other electronic devices are not allowed in school. If any of these items are in your child's possession, it will be taken and returned to you, the parent, only after a \$20.00 fine is paid. This money will be put in our Technology Fund.

REMINDER. All new students must have a physical, up-to-date immunization and a copy of his/her birth certificate. Students entering preschool, kindergarten, and sixth grade must also have a physical and up-to-date immunization. The State requires proof of a dental exam for those entering kindergarten, second and sixth grades. Kindergarten students must also have a vision exam which is also required by the State. All of these forms may be obtained from the school office.

The faculty, staff and administration of St. Ethelreda welcomes each of you. I am delighted that you have chosen St. Ethelreda School for your child's source of learning. We will nourish and love your child at his/her "home away from home". Our doors are always open and you are welcome to stop in and visit at anytime. Until then, may God bless you and your families and enjoy the rest of the summer.

It is our prayer that as we work together for the good of your children
and our students, you will

DISCOVER THE DIFFERENCE OF A ST. ETHELREDA EDUCATION.

Peace,

Denise Spells, Ed.D
Principal

P.S. Check out our website at: www.stethelreda.org, for up-to-date news.