



616 S. 36th Street
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stlfschool.org

Dear Parents,

Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

School is out, but quiet it is not! We have the Strings Program, Summer Camp, and Totus Tuus all in process as I write! The formation of the human person takes different forms at different times. I pray the particular graces of the summer are finding a home in your heart.

As we look to the year ahead, I encourage you to take a look at a book that I find to be very interesting despite the rather downbeat title, *The Collapse of Parenting*. We have purchased a copy for each family. Some of you already have yours, as we made them available earlier through the newsletter. You are welcome to come pick it up any Wednesday morning when the office is open. If summertime is not a good time for a new read for you, those not picked up already will be distributed at the first SFA meeting. The last chapters are as rife with good advice for families as the first chapters are with the challenges of our culture. Whatever you do, do not stop half way through! While the book is on parenting and family life, it has so many ramifications for our life of faith. The family is the building block of the Church. It has advice on how to build well. I hope you enjoy it as much as I have.

Being new to St. Teresa this past year, I have to comment on a few observations and things that hit me in the heart.

- The “Restoration of Catholic Education”, as Fr. Stoley our Superintendent refers to the shift we are undergoing, is resulting in a richness, beauty and vigor. The memorization of great poetry, along with the dialogue that is coming forth in seminars and the beauty of the arts.....so very good!
- The arts are alive and well here. Children sing well and have musical gifts in full development. The visual arts work they are learning about and producing is inspirational.
- Now, do not take this the wrong way, I believe strongly in teacher formation, but the in-service opportunities we have been having are so engaging. (I don’t mean to be critical of teacher formation of the past, there have been some very good ones, but I’m sure in my years of leadership, I led a few “yawners”.) I have found myself emerging after a full day of meetings with energy and excitement.
- I pray your children are finding some of the same in their classrooms. If they haven’t so much, hang with us, it is coming, I see it so many places.
- I see parents and families engaged. God, be praised.
- I see a bit less entitlement and more gratitude. May the Good Lord continue to inspire that in me also.
- Teachers who work hard! The shift involved in the restoration of education takes a lot of work on the part of teachers who are learning some new content and pedagogy. Their engagement is noteworthy. The hard work of the staff here is right with the faculty.
- I love your kids. From the little babies through the children who graduated this year. God hasn’t stopped making people in His Image and oh, so unique!
- I can’t wait for them to return.....schools are not made for summertime, they are made to help children learn and grow. May we use all that God has given us for His honor and glory.

As we continue to restore Catholic Education to all it can be, we will have a couple shifts:

- Art class is increasing to about an hour. The importance of the arts in the development of the human person is well documented, especially in Catholic Education.
- Technology will be decreasing. The survey sent midyear showed parents of small children desiring considerably less screen time.
 - 4th -8th will have 30 minutes of instruction weekly.
 - K-3 will have no formalized tech class, but will still do MAPS monitoring through I-Pads input at all grade levels two or three times a year.
- Uniforms will be available for preschoolers this year, optional, but not required.

Looking forward to the upcoming school year. God has so much grace in store for all of us!

In Christ’s Love,
Sister Mary Michael, C.K.

FACULTY/STAFF 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

ADMINISTRATION

Principal – Sister Mary Michael, C.K.

Assistant Principal – Sister Mary Agnes, C.K.

FACULTY

PreK – Mrs. Theresa Schafers

KA – Mrs. Karri Hraban

KB – Mrs. Sadie Moser

1st - Mrs. Angie Schafers

2A - Sister Teresa Marie, C.K.

2B – Miss Kaitlyn Becher

3rd – Mrs. Cindy Werner

4th – Mrs. Shelly Sullivan

5A – Sister Mary Faustina, C.K. (5-8 Technology, 6th Theology)

5B – Mrs. Sarah Seib (1st grade co-teacher)

6th- Mrs. Grace Fusselman (5-8 Math & Algebra)

7th – Miss Katherine Hums (6-8 History, 6 & 7 English)

8A - Mrs. Brittany Kudron (6-8 Lit, 8th English)

8B- Mr. Sean Mulholland (5-8 Science)

7-8 Theology & 6-8 Art – Mrs. Kelly Pokojski

K-5 Art- Mrs. Sada Wondercheck

Library K-8 & Latin 5-8 – Mrs. Susan Pepino

Music K-8 –Mrs. Terri Schilmoeller

Band 5-8 – Mrs. Melissa King

P.E. & Athletic Director – Mrs. Mary Kate Miner

Resource & Special Ed Coordinator – Mrs. Mary Murphy

Interventionist & TeamMates– Mr. Anthony Miranda

Educational Consultant - Mrs. Chris Jacobsen

SUPPORT PERSONNEL

Admin. Assistant – Mrs. Jacque Miller

Tuition Manager - Miss Jennifer Heffernan

Secretaries – Mrs. Laura Minchow

Mrs. Kimberly Wilson

Paras – Mrs. Kathy Berrick

Mrs. Jennifer Sager

Miss Abi Barnes

Mrs. Mary Schmit

Volunteer Para Assistant - Miss Jody Degenhardt

Property Manager – Mr. Ben Hirsch

Lunch Program Director – Mrs. Rosie Polak

Assistant Cooks – Mr. Gary Harper

Mr. Roger Hothan

Mr. Gary Love

SCHOOLWEBSITE: stlfschool.org Visit our website for helpful information.

- **2023-2024 School Calendar:** Please check the school calendar for important beginning-of-the-school-year dates.
- **School & Art Supply List; School Handbook; Preschool Handbook**
- **Breakfast and Lunch Menu, Free/Reduced Meal Application – Please apply for free/reduced meals!**
- Breakfast, lunches and milk: You can set up/login to an account with MySchoolBucks and put money in your student's account. You may also set up an account which will give you access to view what your student has purchased daily. Even if you set up an account, you may still send in a check to pay for lunches if you prefer not to pay online. There is a processing fee for any transactions made on MySchoolBucks.
- **Service Hours Form:** Our students are encouraged to perform acts of service throughout the school year and are required for upper grade levels. Hours are recorded from May 1, 2023 through April 26, 2024. Please review the form carefully for required due dates and hours. You may request us to print the form if you are unable to.

Dennis Uniform Sales: Please visit our school website or the Dennis Uniform website (<https://www.dennisuniform.com/> school code: PQY) to order. On page 8 of our school handbook, please note that Grades 7 & 8 khaki pants **must** be the Dennis Uniform Company brand. Skirts and jumpers must also be Dennis brand.

During our summer office hours, on Wednesday mornings from 9-11:45 a.m., you may drop off at the office any gently used uniform pieces your child has outgrown, and shop for used uniforms in our Used Uniform Closet.

Dress Code information is found on pages 7-9 of our online St. Teresa School Handbook. It is important that you become familiar with this information, as you make your purchases for school. As we look forward to the start of our new school year, among the points to remember are: extremes in hairstyles are unacceptable. Use of hair color, highlighting, or bleaching of hair is not permitted. Boys' hair may not touch the collar or cover the eyebrows. The sides of boys' hair and sideburns may not extend below the middle of the ear, and designs may not be cut into the hair. Plain white, black, or navy socks must be worn with shoes.

Our Jayhawk Jumpstart for Grades K-8 will be held on Thursday, August 10th from 5:30-7:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing you that evening, when you and your child can drop off your supplies, see your classroom, meet the teacher, and enjoy seeing classmates and friends. **The Knights of Columbus will be grilling burgers and hot dogs for everyone. Chips and water will also be provided.**

Friday, August 11th: Payments for Breakfast and Lunch and all paperwork, including physicals and immunizations, are due. Payments and paperwork may be turned in sooner or you may also drop them off at Jayhawk Jumpstart!

First Day of School for K-8th: Wednesday, August 16th. The arrival window is between 7:45 a.m.-8:04 a.m. Students must be in the classroom by 8:05 a.m. when the tardy bell rings. Dismissal is at noon. Rosie will start the breakfast program on the first day of school, serving from 7:15 a.m. to 7:35 a.m.

First Day for Prekindergarten will be an Open House on Wednesday, August 16th. PK-A: 9:30-10:30 a.m., PK-B: 10:30-11:30 a.m. Regular Prekindergarten sessions start on Thursday, August 17th.

***Extended Learning Center**: We will not have an Extended Day program for next year due to lack of enrollment.

Physicals and Immunizations: All Kindergarten, Seventh grade, and out-of-state new students *must* turn in their physical forms and updated immunization records to the school office before or on August 11th. State Law requires that these forms are turned in before the first day of school.

Sports Physical Forms: All 8th graders participating in our Lincoln Catholic Schools League must have a sports physical on file. The form is due before the student is allowed to practice. The 7th Grade Physical form will suffice for 7th grade sports participants.

For any Catholic Youth Sports waiver/paperwork, please see the school website.

Volunteers: We welcome parents and volunteers. Before you volunteer – for classroom activities, field trips, sports coaches, etc. – please complete the Diocesan Safe Environment Training. You may be asked to also complete a background check. This will be noted when you log into the CMGConnect website: cmgconnect.org. Background checks are valid for five years; Safe Environment training must be renewed every year. Please contact the School Office with any questions regarding areas in which you might help, as well as questions on background checks or Diocesan Safe Environment Training.

Enclosed:

- **Summer Adoration Root Beer Float Party/ 8th Graders Freeze Pop Sales**
- **Pool Party for St. Teresa Students Grades 5-8**
- **7th Grade Science Supply List**

***Emergency Contact Forms are now printed via PowerSchool; please make sure your information is updated there!**