



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK:
Parent Memo: August 28 , 2020

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER:

Two weeks down and so far, so good. We are still working through “bugs” in new systems and technology for our online learners, but all things considered, we are happy to be back and with the children again. We are getting used to the restrictions as well, and continue to pray that the situation in general will improve for all. Thank you for supporting us in the school re-opening. We couldn't have done it without you!

In Service,
Ms. Laura
labbo@stpatschoolnc.org

CALLING IN SICK

Please understand that if your children stay home from school because they are “sick,” that triggers our Covid protocol. If a child is absent, we have to call home and find out the reason for the absence. If the child is noted as “sick” and has ANY of the symptoms of Covid (fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, unexplained fatigue), then the child has to stay out of school for 10 days OR until a negative Covid test can be obtained OR a medical diagnosis obtained from a physician stating an alternative reason why the child is experiencing symptoms. Therefore, if your child is not really sick, please don't call them in sick. Just be honest. If you keep them home for the day because you felt like letting them sleep in, just tell us that. We don't encourage that on a regular basis, of course, but we realize that everyone takes a day off every now and then. Please don't say they are sick unless they really are sick.

ATTENDANCE

Please note that attendance is taken whether a student is an onsite student or an online student.

Onsite: Students are counted absent if they do not attend for the day, or if they report to school after 9 am or leave before 2:05 pm they are counted for a half day absence. If the student is absent, he/she has time to make up missed assignments. This time is equal to the number of days missed. For example, if the student was absent for two days, then he/she has two days to make up missed assignments after he/she returns to school. Absent onsite students can tap into the online platform and watch the classes if desired, but onsite students are not required to do this. It is an option only.

Online: Students are counted absent if they do not attend the online classes at the designated time. They are counted as tardy if they arrive in the online class after it has already started. Teachers have the ability to see when a student is streaming the class or not.

Students cannot switch back and forth between statuses merely for convenience nor less than a week at a time. Students are classified as one status or the other, each with distinctive procedures. Students can change statuses for certain reasons but with approval by administration. We are sending home a separate document outlining more procedures for Online students just for your information.

NEW FACES

The school is pleased to welcome some new faces (even with masks on) to the faculty/staff.

- 1) Elizabeth Thiel – 5th grade teacher
- 2) Pablo DeDios – Office Assistant (replacing Elsa Baker)
- 3) Valeria Mercado-Vazquez – PreK Teaching Assistant
- 4) Brenda Rios – Elementary Online Learning Assistant
- 5) Patricia Fetzer – Health Room Supervisor

We look forward to working with them and hope you get a chance to meet them sometime during the year.

RAINY DAYS MORNING INTAKE

By now, everyone is getting used to the morning drop off, temperature check and health attestation. But what do we do on days when it rains? Temperature checkers can operate as normal with umbrellas in one hand and thermometers in the other. However, the health attestation checkers will be hard pressed to hold an umbrella and write on a clipboard at the same time. Therefore, we plan to position them under the colonnade on rainy days. You all know the questions you are going to attest to by now. Just look for the question checker assigned to your car. He/She will hold up the clipboard and the parent can give a “thumbs up” attestation from the car. It’ll save our checkers from getting drenched to the bone. If you cannot answer “yes” to the attestation questions, then the best option is not to bring the kids directly to school that day, but call the school in advance and discuss your situation. School administration will then direct you on how best to proceed from there.

WEEKLY MASS

For now, the children are attending weekly Mass on Thursday mornings at 9:00 am as usual. However, they are not in the church. We are livestreaming the daily Mass into the classrooms. During Communion, the children are praying the prayer for Spiritual Communion with our Lord. Father Greg is working with us on a way for the children to receive Eucharist at the school. Later, if restrictions ease, students will return to live Mass as long as we can safely accommodate our numbers and necessary distancing.

TEMPORARY OFFICE CLOSINGS (3:05 – 3:20 pm)

Because of the new dismissal procedures, we are finding it necessary to close the office for 15 minutes during the dismissal time. We have communications coming in from the church lot and the school lot, via various walkie-talkies, trying to call and dismiss all the children. Also groups of students are moving to designated areas swiftly and safely. The office is unable to address “customers” during this short time frame, nor can we have multiple people standing and waiting to be served in that small office space. If you need to access the office during this time, we respectfully ask that you wait outside or in the airlock area until the children are dismissed, and then we can address whatever needs you have. Students who have been dismissed but discover they need to get back into their classrooms to retrieve something will have to wait until dismissal is over in order to get back into the class. We apologize for the very brief inconvenience.

USED UNIFORMS

If you would like to come look through our store for used uniforms, please call the school and make an appointment to do so.

LUNCH DROP OFF

Please be reminded that all students need to come to school with their lunches OR parents need to purchase their child's lunch online through www.MyHotLunchbox.com. If a student or parent forgets a lunchbox **every now and then**, it is fine to drop it off in the airlock area, but we definitely want to avoid parents dropping off restaurant lunches every day. Also, please be reminded again that we will not accept lunches delivered by restaurant delivery drivers. It causes random traffic in the school office during lunchtime. Only parents/guardians will be allowed to deliver a missed lunch, and you can drop it off in the front airlock area on the drop off table. Make sure it is labeled with your child's name so it gets to the right child.

The SHAMROCK!

Below, you will see the reservation form to send your child a special message on a special day by painting the SHAM-ROCK. The kids always get the biggest kick out of it. Instructions below.

SUPPORTING THE SCHOOL

We always appreciate the support we receive from our parents and parish. There are ways to support us without doing anything other than the things you always do. Our school is registered with **PUBLIX** supermarket and with **HARRIS TEETER** for their school give-back programs. If you shop at these stores, a portion of the sale is donated to our school. You just have to go to the supermarket customer service desk and tell them you'd like to link your purchases to the school. If you have been doing it in the past, you may have to renew every year.

Also, if you are an Amazon shopper, you can open an **AMAZON SMILE** account and designate that you want St. Patrick Catholic Church to receive cash donations from Amazon based on your purchases. (although you link the account to the church, the donations go to the school) There is no difference in an Amazon Smile account from your regular Amazon account. You only log in with Smile.Amazon.com instead of Amazon.com. All your history and Prime benefits are still there. Just by logging in under Smile.Amazon.com, it triggers their donation system. Feel free to share this information with family and friends. We can receive from anyone linked to our school.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept 04 – 12:15 dismissal

Sept 07 – No School – Labor Day

Sept 25 – No School – Diocesan teacher workday – No School



SHAMROCK SIGN UP

We are sure you have all noticed the large rock in front of the school. We are happy to announce our new addition to the school. The Saint Patrick Catholic School "ShamROCK". The Saint Patrick Catholic School "ShamROCK" is a great way to celebrate birthdays, show your team spirit, congratulate your student for their accomplishments, well wishes, show your appreciation for a teacher or staff! It is a great way to spread positive messages and increase excitement in our school.

Please complete this form to reserve your day. The money raised from the Shamrock will be used by the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) to enrich the Catholic education experience

Cost:

\$20 per school day

\$80 per week

RULES

- Reservations **MUST** be made to paint the rock through the submission of this form and sign-up genius application. Reservations are on a first come first serve basis. No refunds will be given. If you cannot paint due to bad weather, you may reschedule your reservation to another open date.
- Please use this form to submit your payment cash or check to St. Patrick Catholic School PTO. Payments should be submitted to the school office within 5 business days after reserving a date. If payment is not received within 5 days of making your reservation, your reservation will be cancelled.
- All supplies and materials needed are your responsibility. No trash or supplies are to be left after you paint. You are responsible for any damage that you cause to surrounding property when painting.
- The rock may not be painted during school hours.
- You may begin painting the rock at 4:00 pm the day before your reserved date. Your reservation will expire at 4:00 pm on your reservation date.
- The painting may not contain profanity, discriminatory remarks, obscenities, bullying, nudity, political innuendo or drug related depictions. Paintings must be in accordance with Saint Patrick Catholic School's Student Code of Conduct.
- St. Patrick Catholic School reserves the right to paint over anything deemed inappropriate.

My signature below confirms that I have read and understand the rules for painting the Shamrock.

Name: _____ Reservation Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Cell Phone # _____ Email: _____

-----School use only-----

Funds received: _____ Date(s) Scheduled: _____

