



August 1, 2017

Dear Assumption Catholic School Families:

Welcome to the new school year! I'm always amazed how quickly we reach the end of July and begin gearing up for the first days of school. I hope that you have had a blessed summer and you have enjoyed quality time together as a family. We are so excited to begin the new school year and I wanted to give you some important upcoming dates and times to help you prepare for the first few weeks of school.

New Families!

We welcome ten new families to Assumption this year in Kindergarten, first, third, fourth, fifth, and seventh grades. New families in Kindergarten through 8th grade are invited to the **New Family Orientation** on **Monday, August 28th**. We will meet from 9 am to 9:30 am in the school library for a school introduction and overview followed by time with our Parent Ambassadors. This is an Open House format from 9:30 am to 12 pm; so if you can't make it at 9 am, please drop by any time before 12 pm to meet the teachers in their classrooms.

Teacher assignments and new staff

We are so grateful for the quality of teachers we have at Assumption and for the sacrifices they make in this vocation to foster our students. Thankfully, all of them will be returning for another school year. Susan Roland, the only exception to this, has officially retired as our PK-8 music teacher (but will still be helping with liturgies and the Christmas program). We are excited that our former fifth grade teacher, Mrs. Henna Reese, will now be teaching part-time music in Pre-K through Fifth Grade. Since she'll be having a baby in October and out for maternity leave at that time, we've hired an additional music teacher, Mrs. Marie Wegner. She will teach Middle School Music and director of the Middle School Choir for the school year, and fill in for Mrs. Reese when she is on leave. Mrs. Wegner will also be our accompanist at school masses. Additionally, Mrs. Lisa Blas will be teaching fifth grade for the 2017-2018 school year.

Schools and Libraries Proram (E-Rate) funding and networking upgrades

We've been approved to receive approximately \$8,000 in federal funding through the Schools and Libraries Program (also known as E-Rate program- Discounted Telecommunications Services). This will partially pay for new wireless access points to be installed in each of the twenty classrooms and gym plus an upgraded/faster Internet service through Comcast. The portion not covered by federal funding will be subsidized by the generosity of a Fulcrum Foundation Modernization Grant, which will provide approximately \$13,000 in upgrades to cover what E-Rate funding doesn't cover. This project will be completed this week and be ready for the additional devices in grades five through eight beginning in January 2018. This has been a huge blessing and will improve our Internet service and accessibility to all of the classrooms.

Revised Parent Handbook and Uniform Policy

Thank you to the committee of parent helpers with whom I met in May to work on revising the **Parent Handbook**. We changed the format to include a table of contents and made minor policy updates and changes. New families may find it helpful to learn the culture of the school by reviewing the handbook. You can find it online at: <http://school.assumption.org/parent-student-handbook.html>.

The revised **Uniform Policy** was sent to current families last April but if you need to review it again, you can find it at: <http://school.assumption.org/uniforms-dress-code.html>. Make sure your child's uniform is ready for the first day of school and for the first school mass on Friday, September 2nd. We will be providing gentle reminders to students during the first week, but may send home an "Out of Uniform" notice beginning the second week of school if parts of the uniform don't match the guidelines.

Dates to remember:

- **August 28th**- New Family Orientation 9-9:30 a.m. in the school library followed by an Open House and classroom visits from 9:30 to 12 p.m.
- **August 29th**- Back-to-School Reception at 5 p.m. Bring your child's school supplies to drop off in the classrooms from 5-5:30 pm and then meet in the gym at 5:30 p.m. for appetizers and drinks.
- **August 30th**- First Day of School. The day begins at 8 a.m. Regular school uniform today. Prayer Assembly in the gym at 8:15 a.m. followed by Parent/Teacher Club introductions and important information for parents until 8:45 a.m.; Early release with dismissal at 11:45 a.m.
- **August 31st**- First Day of Preschool, **September 1st**- First Day of Pre-Kindergarten
- **September 1st**- First School Mass at 10:30 a.m. (Students should wear dress uniform.)
- **September 4th**- No School, **Labor Day**
- **September 16th** (Saturday)- Spaghetti Dinner at 5 p.m. Mark your calendar to attend this important Parent/Teacher Club fundraiser.

I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school at the end of August, but until then enjoy the remaining weeks of summer! We're in the office from 9 to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday until the school year begins, so come by or call if you need anything.

Yours in Christ,



Dan Anderson
Principal

P.S. Make sure we have your most current email address(es) since we'll be communicating with you throughout the next few weeks with additional information. The first principal's newsletter of the year will be sent digitally on Wednesday, August 30th, so look for it then!