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July 10, 2022

Dear All Saints Families,

1 Timothy 6:18 - Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share.

A new school year is always an exciting time. It presents opportunities for various beginnings – new classes, new faces, new expectations, and a new and sometimes busier schedule. This school year will be a time for growth, challenge, and adventure as we continue to build a strong, safe, and caring learning environment for our families, staff and partners.

Many of you know that this is my first year at All Saints. I have experienced a very warm reception since joining the All Saints community, and I want to thank everyone for helping me with the transition into this new environment. June 20 was my official first day, and since summer is such an important time to prepare for the start of the school year, I have tried to make the most of my time in these first few weeks. Before we know it, this building will soon be busy again with students and staff, and in addition to back-to-school information, we will provide information soon on the ways in which parents and community members can be involved in All Saints to support the mission of the school. Parental involvement is an asset to creating and sustaining a rich and engaging environment for students, and we hope to offer a variety of opportunities for those who want to be involved.

I know that the summer break is a precious time, but I encourage you to take time to read through this information and note important dates. Our first community event is right around the corner with a student yearbook signing scheduled for July 14 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. here at All Saints. Mrs. Patricia Jessee, our new assistant principal, and I will be there to greet families, and we hope families will make time to join us that evening.

I want to conclude this message by drawing your attention to the opening quote. In any setting, it is easy to become distracted without some way of reorienting oneself. Each year the staff at All Saints identifies a theological virtue to help synthesize our school culture and faith and this virtue for the 2022-2023 school year is charity. I encourage you to work with your child(ren) to commit this verse to memory and to walk with us as we explore and unpack the virtue of charity.

I hope everyone continues to have an enjoyable summer, and I look forward to seeing you all very soon and starting our work together to make 2022-23 our best school year yet!

Helpful Dates/Times:

<u>Student Yearbook Signing</u> - Thursday, July 14 - 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.: Make plans to see your classmates for a summer yearbook signing. Yearbooks are available to all students enrolled during the 2021-2022 school year at no cost. Details <u>HERE</u>.

<u>Knights Family Meet-and-Greet</u> – Friday, August 5 – 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.: We are inviting all new and returning families to come together, have some fun, and see the school. There will be food trucks where you can order food and the playground will be open. Look for a future email with an RSVP link closer to the date.

<u>New Parent Info Night</u> – Wednesday, August 17 – 6:00 p.m. – School Gym: Please join us in order to receive information about our school and the school day. We will be here to meet, greet, and answer any questions.

<u>Orientations</u> – **Monday, August 22**: We encourage you to come to orientation and bring your child's school supplies along. Please be sure to put his/her name on the supplies. You will receive an email with details and times for each grade level later this month.

<u>First Day of School</u> – Tuesday, August 23: Our doors open at 7:30 a.m. Our tardy bell rings at 8:00 a.m. Homeroom ends/1st period begins at 8:10 a.m. Carline dismissal starts at 2:50 p.m. School ends at 3:00 p.m.

Other Helpful Tips:

After School Program (ASP): Our ASP will begin the first day of school, Tuesday, August 23, 2022. ASP runs from 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., Monday - Friday. The cost is \$50.00 per week. The <u>Student Data/ASP Registration Form</u> must be returned by the first day of school. It is crucial that ALL information on the form is completed as this is required by the VA Department of Education. Snacks are sold during after-school for \$1.00 each cash or you may add funds for snacks to your Tuition Account through <u>FACTS</u>, or students may bring a snack. Students should be picked up from ASP by 6 p.m. There is a late pick-up fee of \$10 after 6 p.m.

COVID Protocols: More information to follow.

Early Release Days (2:10 p.m. dismissal) -1st Tuesday of the month: In order to support our faculty in their professional development and team cohesiveness, we will end school at 2:10 p.m. on the first Tuesday of every month. See the <u>school calendar</u> for specific dates.

Employment Opportunities: We are working to fill several vacancies for the upcoming school year. As of this writing, we are accepting applications for the following positions: Middle School Math, Part-time Physical Education, and Spanish. This information (along with an application) is available on the school <u>website</u>. I encourage families to share this information with anyone interested.

Family Portal: Sign up for the Family Portal if you do not already have an account! This allows you access to the school calendar, your student's grades, After-School billing, parent directory, re-enrollment information and more! https://logins2.renweb.com/logins/parentsweb-login.aspx

- Use District Code: AS-VA
- More information can be found HERE

Knights News: A newsletter is sent home electronically every Friday during the school year. This newsletter is an important source of information and will include relevant forms. Parents, we work hard to ensure you have the most important and up-to-date information. Please read the Knights News carefully. Please keep the school office informed of any changes to your contact information.

Lunch: Children will need to bring **lunch** to school. All Saints partners with **Yay! Lunch** to offer an optional purchased lunch daily. Restaurant options are chosen by Yay! Lunch and payment is made directly to the company using their website. See more information <u>HERE</u>. We will be able to help you set up your account and place your order in the office if assistance is needed. Ordering begins the week prior to school starting. When parents register at yaylunch.com, they will be alerted when ordering goes live. *Parents who create or update their Yay Lunch account between 7/15 - 7/31 can enter the giveaway for \$150 Yay Lunch credit (that's a month's worth of lunch!).*

Morning Carline & Gathering: While we understand that parents of younger students may wish to walk their child into school at the beginning of the year, we do not permit parents to enter the building during morning carline. If you walk your child into the school, you must say goodbye at the front door. Parents are not permitted to visit classrooms in the morning. During a normal day, all grades gather in the gym during morning arrival time. At 8:00 a.m., we make morning

announcements, recite our Mission Statement, the Student Pledge for Peace, our Morning Prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Parent Volunteers: We want your help! There are lots of opportunities both during the week and on weekends: field trip chaperone, PTO functions, assisting with extracurricular activities, assisting in our library and on our school grounds, etc. The Catholic Diocese of Richmond requires all volunteers to attend a free training session on child abuse prevention entitled "Protecting God's Children" by VIRTUS. Please see this weepbage on how to become an approved school volunteer.

Physical Education (PE) Uniforms: PE uniforms are purchased through <u>Flynn & O'Hara Uniforms</u>. Remaining PE uniforms will be available for purchase at the Knights Family Event and on Orientation Day while supplies last. Students wear the PE Uniform on their assigned PE day beginning the 2nd week of school. Your child's teacher will let you know the assigned PE day.

School Supplies: School Supply lists can be found at <u>SUPPLY LISTS</u>. Children should bring their supplies on Orientation Day (Monday, Aug. 22).

School Uniforms: Students are expected to wear the <u>proper school uniform</u> starting the first day of school. New uniforms should be purchased through <u>Flynn & O'Hara Uniforms</u>. Used uniforms are available at a discounted price on a first-come-first-serve basis at All Saints.

Student Handbooks: Student handbooks for 2021-2022 are on our website. Updates for the 2022-2023 school year will be published on our website by Friday, August 12, 2022. All school guidelines and policies are included in the handbook. It would be helpful to spend time with the handbook as this will be a reference for us throughout the year.

Summer Reading: All students have Summer Reading requirements. Returning students already received their copy. See a copy of the summer reading assignment on the <u>website</u>.

Tag Days: Modesty (defined as: behavior, manner, or appearance intended to avoid impropriety or indecency) is the virtue that underpins our dress code both on uniform days and on "tag days" (AKA – dress-down days). To the extent that modest dress is worn on a Tag Day, students may interpret the Tag Day dress code with modesty in mind. See page 5 of the <u>Uniform Guidelines</u> for specific parameters for Tag Days that help guide a student and parent toward modest dress.

Technology Fee: There is a \$100.00 technology fee to help offset the cost of the Google Chromebook and the Online Learning Platforms. The charge of \$100.00 will be automatically billed to your FACTS Grant & Aid account on August 1, 2022 with the due date of August 11, 2022. Please contact Mrs. Hilliard, shilliard@allsaintsric.org with any questions.

Tuition Payments: Please be sure you have signed up for tuition payments through <u>FACTS</u> (please note: this is different from the Family Portal) or you have contacted Mrs. Hilliard with questions before July 15, 2022. First monthly tuition payments typically withdraw via EFT the first week of August. There is a \$500.00 early contract cancellation penalty for any enrollment withdrawals on or after August 1, 2022. Finally, there is a 1% discount for any tuition that is paid in full on or before August 1. Please contact Mrs. Hilliard, shilliard@allsaintsric.org with any questions.

Virtues in Practice Program: Helping students establish a well-formed conscience through a life of virtue is an important facet of a Catholic School. We use the "Virtues in Practice" program as our guide for our themes each month. This year's theme is the "Year of Charity". The virtues for each month are as follows:

September – Charity
October – Friendship
November – Courtesy
December – Purity
January – Fortitude

February – Prudence March – Respect April – Forgiveness May – Responsibility Each family will receive a printed Parent Guide which will supplement what is being taught at school. For more information visit <u>Virtues in Practice Program.</u>

Website: The school website is full of helpful information such as the school calendar, upcoming event information, PTO information, uniform requirements, and a showcase of student work and activities. Mark it as a favorite and visit often! www.allsaintsric.org

Thank you for choosing All Saints. We look forward to a great school year filled with learning, fun, and community building. We are delighted to welcome your family!

Kind Regards,

Scott Meadows, M.Ed.

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Principal