

ST. LAWRENCE SCHOOL

"All Are Welcome"

Dear St. Lawrence School Families,

Welcome back! It was so wonderful to experience the energy and enthusiasm that filled the school building last week as our K-5 students began their first day of school. I would like to thank every member of our St. Lawrence School faculty and staff for helping to make this day so special and run so smoothly for every student. I also want to thank our St. Lawrence School parents and family members for ensuring that every child arrived to school on time and prepared for the first day of school.

I truly enjoyed meeting all of our preschool parents last night during our Preschool Orientation. Our preschoolers are participating in their meet and greet sessions today and tomorrow, and it has been so much fun seeing them explore their classrooms, play together, and meet their teachers. We are all looking forward to the first day of preschool on Thursday!

I am so excited to welcome our new faculty and staff members to St. Lawrence School this year. Mary DeLucenay is our new preschool teacher, Christine Tierney is our new preschool instructional assistant, Natalie Heinsbergen is our new kindergarten teacher, Julia Peralta is our new third grade teacher, Taylor Solano is our new Academic Intervention Services (AIS) teacher, Nancy Kahrs is our new music teacher, and Gianna Newton is our new after school care monitor. We are so blessed to have such amazing individuals join our St. Lawrence School Community!

We have updated St. Lawrence School's Handbook for the 2018-2019 school year. The handbook can be found on our school website in the For the Parents section. Please read through the handbook and sign and return the Handbook Acknowledgement Sheet that is in today's envelope. We ask that you also review the school uniform policy for grades K-5 in the handbook and on our school website. As a reminder, sneakers this year should be solid black or white. Navy blue is no longer a color option for sneakers. If you have any questions in regards to our handbook or uniform policy, please feel free to contact the school office.

Our Academic Intervention Services (AIS) Team has been working diligently to begin preparing small group reading and math instruction for our students in need. All Diocesan schools will again be using the I-Ready program to evaluate the reading and math levels of every child in grades K-5 in the school building. This information, combined with the New York State Test results will be used to determine which students will be receiving AIS and Enrichment this year. A letter will be sent out to all parents of students who become eligible for these services as soon as this information becomes available. I-Ready testing began on Monday and will continue until Friday, September 21st. These are online assessments that help our teachers assess student progress in ELA and math. Each of these tests takes approximately two class periods to complete. There is one ELA test this week and one math test next week. These tests are not in any way factored into your child's report card grade. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's teacher.

For the safety of all of our students, any parent wishing to walk their child to the classroom in the morning will be required to sign in and wear a visitor pass. We ask that after 8:00 AM, all visitors please enter the building through the main entrance by the school office during regular school hours. During afternoon dismissal, the doors at the north entrance will be unlocked at 2:20 PM to allow parents access to pick up a child in the gymnasium. Parents picking up half day preschool students will be let in through the north entrance at 11:00 AM. All parents must sign their child out with the dismissal monitor in the gymnasium. We ask that parents bring a driver's license for the first few weeks of school until our monitors get to know who you are. No child will be released to a parent until they have been checked off by the dismissal monitor. This is to

ensure that each child is going home with the proper adult. We appreciate your understanding in helping to make our dismissal a safe and smooth process for every student.

I am excited to announce that our Walkathon will again be at the Aquinas Institute this year on Saturday, October 27th. Our Walkathon Chair is Jennifer DiVasto and our co-chair is Lisa Martone. I hope to see you all there to support St. Lawrence School during this big fundraising event. The Walkathon Kickoff Celebration will be this Friday, September 14th at 1:30 PM in the gymnasium. Parents are welcome to attend.

Parent Information Night for grades K-5 will be tomorrow, Wednesday, September 12th at 6:30 PM. We will begin in the church and then walk over to the school for an opportunity to visit with teachers in classrooms. I look forward to seeing you all there!

As we begin the new school year, I would like to remind all families that the process of preparing for and receiving sacraments should be done at each child's parish. If your child is in second grade, please make sure to contact your parish to begin Reconciliation and First Holy Communion preparation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your church pastor for more information.

This past summer, Mrs. Agness, Mrs. Kubiak, and Mrs. Fraser announced that they would be retiring. As our preschool instructional assistant, Mrs. Agness worked closely with our preschool teachers and provided so much support for our preschool students. Mrs. Kubiak supported numerous students as an AIS teacher, and helped so many of them to grow academically. Mrs. Fraser has positively impacted so many students throughout her many years as our school librarian, and we will always be grateful for her ability to motivate everyone in our school community to experience the joy of reading in their lives. On behalf of the faculty and staff of St. Lawrence School, I would like to wish Mrs. Agness, Mrs. Kubiak, and Mrs. Fraser all the best. May God Bless them as they begin this new journey in their lives!

Our school theme this year is, "All Are Welcome." At St. Lawrence School, we create a welcoming environment where we strive to treat others with kindness and respect, following in the teachings of Jesus. We are constantly reminded that there are many people in our world who are not as fortunate as we are, and we work to find ways to share our talents with others through acts of service for those in need. Our school song this year is "All Are Welcome." As we welcome many into our school community, we glorify God through our academics, spirituality, and service to others, while growing in faith, hope, and love in our hearts, souls, and minds. I am looking forward to a successful school year where every St. Lawrence School student will grow and learn both academically and spiritually in the love of Christ. I wish you all a safe and pleasant week, and I pray that God fills you with peace and joy as you and your child begin the 2018-2019 school year!

God Bless,

Frank Arvizzigno
Principal

**Welcome to all of
our new faculty and
staff!**





Please Note:

Parent Info Night 6:30pm	9/12
Parish Garage Sale	9/13-9/16
Preschool First Day	9/13
Walkathon Kickoff 1:30pm	9/14
Lunch and Milk Orders Due	9/14
September Pizza Lunch	9/20
Opening Family Mass 4:00 PM	9/22
Welcome Celebration 5:00 PM	9/22
Lunch and Milk Program begins	9/24
School Picture Day	10/2
Quiet Mass 8:30am	10/3
Fall Conference Day – No School	10/5
Columbus Day – No School	10/8

Save The Date!

Sat. 10/27

Our major fundraiser for the school year is the Walkathon, which is scheduled for Oct. 27th at Aquinas!

Lunch & Milk Orders

Our milk and lunch order is now open on the website. All orders and payments are due Friday, 9/14. Please contact the office with any questions.

Today’s Envelope includes:

- Boy Scout Information
- Health Office Reminders
- Lunch Bunch Information
- School Calendar
- Canned Food Drive

Office Reminders

Please get any changes in routine to us before 1:00pm to guarantee that word gets to your child in time for dismissal.

Please send your weekly Tuesday envelope back to school by Thursday each week. If you are sending payments or any correspondence to the office, please include them in this envelope.

Parent Information Night

Our Parent Information Night is scheduled for Wednesday, September 12th at 6:30 p.m. We hope at least one parent from each family can attend. Teachers will be sharing information about expectations and plans for the school year. We will begin the evening in Church. This night is for parents only.

First Week Of School!!



