

St. Francis de Sales Catholic School

Wednesday Newsletter

May 22, 2019

Dear St. Francis de Sales Family and Friends,

My second year as principal of St. Francis de Sales Catholic School has been an eventful and positive one. We are very proud of the progress we have made in enrollment which has grown more than 16% since 2017. With the continued support of our partners at the Healey Foundation we have created the momentum we need to ensure the sustainability of the school.

This has been accomplished in part with the successful implementation of a school board of specified jurisdiction. They have approved their first school budget, begun an annual fund campaign, brainstormed marketing goals and surveyed facility needs.

A highlight for this year was the first pre-kindergarten class for three year olds lead by Casey Flanagan. A classroom was repurposed which included the addition of a bathroom. We had seventeen students enrolled many of whom will join us next year for our amazing four year old pre-kindergarten which has gained an impressive reputation in the Salisbury thanks to the hard work of Kathleen Hall.

Middle schoolers have begun a wonderful partnership with Salisbury University students. They are combining efforts to create STEM projects, specifically using the 3D printer. Their projects are supporting the local community garden and SUs pollination awareness goal.

The performing arts programs have been rejuvenated at the helm of Mary-Tyler Upshaw. Several students were successful in making All Shore Choir and for the first time ever one of our students earned a prestigious place with the All State Choir. Band has quadrupled in size and marched in the Ocean City St. Patrick's Day parade along with a newly formed pom-pom squad. An inspiring rendition of Godspell was performed by our entire 8th grade class. Later this month we will host an Arts Showcase which will include performances by the choir and band as well as a student talent show.

We will graduate 25 8th graders this year. They venture out to both public and private schools from here. We consistently hear about their successes in high school and college. Many come back or email to thank us for the foundation of faith, academics and leadership that were a part of their elementary and middle school experience. As one alumna recently shared, "Faith, family and friends are what St. Francis is all about."

With Joy!

Debbie Traum

Lunch for the next few days:

We are always looking for volunteers to serve lunches from 12:30-1:30! Along with the daily entre, students can choose a drink (milk, juice or water) and from several sides (grapes, pudding, carrot sticks, celery sticks, applesauce, Go-gurt, etc.) **We always welcome parents to help supervise recess as well.**

Thursday, 5/23	Friday, 5/24	Monday, 5/27	Tuesday, 5/28	Wednesday, 5/29
pizza!	No lunch-noon dismissal	No lunch-no school	Chicken salad	French toast sticks

Reminders

- We invite students to bring in flowers this month to honor Mary Queen of Heaven.
- Please remember to satisfy all financial obligations by the end of the school year in order to receive report cards or transcripts.
- If you are in need of volunteer hours, the Carriage House is looking for help sorting donations on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.
- **School office hours in the summer are Monday through Thursday from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm.**

Important Dates

- May 23rd 8:30 am guidance counselors from Wicomico County meeting with 8th graders and parents
- May 24th **noon dismissal**-aftercare available
- Monday, May 27th-**NO SCHOOL MEMORIAL DAY!**
- May 29th Performing Arts Showcase (band, choir, talent show, visual arts display) 5:30 pm
- June 1st End of year dance for 7th and 8th graders at Holy Redeemer
- June 5th Story Time 10 am and 6 pm
- June 6th LAST DAY FOR HOT LUNCH
- June 6th 8th graders Pass the torch ceremony/Fun Day/Last Day
- June 7th field day!-**noon dismissal**-aftercare available
- June 9th 8th grade graduation Mass and Awards Ceremony following in church
- June 13th **noon dismissal** aftercare available
- June 14th last day of school **noon dismissal NO AFTERCARE**

FIELD DAY!

Field Day planning is underway! I am making a list of volunteers who can come for the day to run a station, and volunteers to bring cut up fruit for the day! Last year we were able to have 2 volunteers at each station. I'm hoping to get that again this year to help with the workload. This is a great way to earn volunteer hours!

Field Day is Friday, June 7th. We will have a volunteer meeting immediately following the opening ceremonies at 8:30, and Field Day will last until 11:30. (noon dismissal) If you would like to volunteer please send me an email and I will start a list, and get information out to you about your station as we get closer!

I'm looking forward to a great day!!!

Thank you,

Katie Ayd

Musical Notes:

Our First (hopefully annual) Fine Arts Night is a week away. ALL students in grades 3-7 are participating, we also have students from the others grades as well. Doors will open at 5:30, please come and check out the visual art that will be placed around, prior to taking your seats.

Details for where students should go while waiting to perform will be provided next week to individual classes. All students should dress up. No jeans, leggings (appropriate with tunics or dresses), sports uniforms. School winter uniforms are always appropriate.

Mary-Tyler

Home and School Association

New HSA Board

We are pleased to announce our HSA board for the 2019-2020 school year. Please take the time to thank them for their willingness to step into these important roles when you see them.

President: Josh Kelley

Vice President: Renee Kelley

Secretary: Jill Stevenson

Treasurer: Julie McBride

Past President Advisor: Stephanie Cooper

Penguin Volunteer of the Year

The HSA has decided to begin a new tradition.... we are recognizing Marta Hayes-Trice as our 1st SFdS Penguin Volunteer of the Year!

Marta has served on the HSA for 3 years, 1 as secretary, 1 as president and 1 as past president advisor. Marta has become our go to person for all. Always willing to give of her time to make sure that all our events are a success!

We created this award in her honor. To recognize the true Penguin spirit of friendship, service to others and

dedication to community. Please join us in congratulating Marta!!! Thank you, Marta, - the SFdS community is better because of people like you ❤️

Volunteer Hours

It's time to start turning in your volunteer hour for the 2018-2019 school year. Remember each family is required to volunteer 30 hours per year or pay \$10/hour not earned. All hours are due by June 30th and bills will be going out by July 10th to those not meeting the requirement. You can turn your hours in via email to HSA@sfdscs.org

Here is the form to use for tracking your hours. ([Click here for the form](#))

Reimbursements for 2018-2019 school year

Any project chair or homeroom mom that has any receipts to turn in for reimbursement, please make sure to do so prior to June 30th. This is the final deadline to be reimbursed so that the books can be closed out for the year. Remember each homeroom is allowed \$100 for classroom expenses for the year.

Homeroom Mom for 2019-2020 school year

We are looking for parents who would like to volunteer to be the Homeroom moms for each grade for the 2019-2020 school year. We would like to have at least 2 parents to help share in the duties for the year. These duties include such things as planning class parties, preparing the auction project and being responsible for collecting for the teacher gifts for Christmas & the end of the year. Each class is given a stipend to use for these things from the HSA. If you are willing to take on this role, please let Heather Johnston know by email at hthrlj@yahoo.com
Please include your name and the grade for which you would like to take on.

Scrip Fundraiser

Want to earn tuition credits and volunteer hours just by doing your regular shopping??

Sign up now and do your regular grocery shopping with Scrip!!

You can purchase gift cards and set up your mobile account - it's so simple!

See Kris Reilly after school on Friday in the pick-up line or email her at onehoyarn@yahoo.com

HSA Dues

Families who haven't paid dues or completed volunteer hours will be billed. If you are unsure whether you have paid your dues, please email us at HSA@sfdscs.org

Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry Updates Grades 7-12

Contact lalvarado@visitstfrancis.org for more info.

Friday, May 24th Glow Bowling Parents vs Students at Southbound Alley in Fruitland. Arrive at 5:45 p.m. Bring money. SIGN UP HERE <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b094fa9ad2ba5f85-parent>

Friday, June 7th End of the year School Party & Game Night. SIGN UP HERE <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b094fa9ad2ba5f85-first1>

June 8th and 9th during Masses youth will be helping to collect personal care items to help Joseph House restock for the summer! Let me know which youth are available to help collect before and after services. Items needed: Deodorant for men and women, razors, mouthwash (alcohol free only!), toothbrushes & toothpaste, soap, body wash, Shampoo, lotion, towels and wash cloths. (Travel size shampoos, lotions, body wash, and toothpaste appreciated.)

NCYC, Youth Conference in November 20-24th. 9th grade and above. Register now!

Liza Alvarado - Mutchler
Director of Youth Ministries