

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Parent/Student Handbook 2025-2026

500 Camden Avenue • Salisbury, MD 21801 • 410-749-9907 http://www.stfrancisdesales.net

Accredited by Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools

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Dear Parents and Students,

and in choosing life-long careers. each child to meet the demands of our modern society, both at high levels of education We strive to integrate academic rigor and Christ-like patterns of living that will enable academic and moral development. We understand and accept our part in the process. education. When parents choose this gift, it reflects a strong commitment to their child's community you have demonstrated a belief in the values and philosophy of a Catholic Welcome to St. Francis de Sales Catholic School! In choosing to be a part of this

policies and procedures in order for the student to attend the school. circumstances dictate. Students and parents must accept and abide by the school's The school may change any of its policies and procedures and apply them as why you have chosen to be a part of the St. Francis de Sales Catholic School community. defined Catholic institution where students can learn and grow. This is part of the reason students attending our school. These policies enable us to have a professional and Sales Catholic School. We appreciate your support for regulations in place for the The Parent/Student Handbook contains the policies and procedures of St. Francis de

PowerSchool or by signing the hard copy in the family Back to School packet. support its' guidelines. This can either be acknowledged online in "forms" in It is our understanding that all parents have read this handbook thoroughly and will

academic excellence and spiritual development in the context of the teachings of the staff of St. Francis de Sales Catholic School look forward to working with you to promote support and encouragement in working to reach these mutual goals. The faculty and each child on their individual educational journey. It is important that we have your teacher puts into her/his duties, continually working to form, enrich, guide, and prepare In working more closely with us, you will be able to see the effort and interest each responsibility to follow all school regulations and to direct their children to do the same. read, understand, and follow the policies contained in this Handbook. Parents accept the Enrolling your child at St. Francis de Sales School includes the personal responsibility to Catholic Church.

May God Continue to Bless You,

Mrs. Debra Traum Principal

500 Camden Avenue Salisbury, MD 21801 Phone 410-749-9907

www.stfrancisdesales.net

TABLE OF CONTENTS

29	PRINCIPAL'S RIGHT TO AMEND	Library Books14
		Lost and Found14
29	Criminal Background Check	Photos/Videos14
29	SCRIP Rewards	School Communication13
28	Volunteer Commitment	Use of Telephone13
28	Financial Commitment	Visitors
28	TUITION AND VOLUNTEERING	Care of School Property13
		Birthdays12
27	Field Trips	Dress Code for Females12
27	Community Gatherings	School-sponsored Events12
27	Extra-Curricular Activities	Spirit Wear Days11
26	Before and After School Programs	Other Dress Code Details11
26	Recess Procedures	Physical Education Uniform10
26	Cafeteria Procedures	Grades 6-89
25	Cafeteria	Grades 1-59
25	PROGRAMS	PreK 3, 4, and Kindergarten8
		Dress Code8
25	National Junior Honor Society	Snow Days8
24	Student Council	Emergency Closings & Notifications8
24	Homework Guidelines	Leaving School Campus7
23	Retention	Water Bottles7
23	Student Transcripts	Medications7
23	Benchmark Assessments	Accidents or Illness at School7
23	Academic Distinction/Honor Roll	Tardiness7
22	Progress Reports	Early Dismissal6
22	ACADEMICS	Vacation Absences6
		Attendance5
22	Weapons	Arrival/Dismissal Reminders5
21	Harassment & Bullying Behavior	Dismissal Time/Procedure4
21	Expulsion	Arrival Time/Procedure4
20	Suspension	Arrival and Dismissal4
20	Detention	SCHOOL PROCEDURES AND EXPECTIONS 4
19	Conduct/Procedural Referrals	
19	STUDENT BEHAVIOR/DISCIPLINE	Catholic Identity3
		Asbestos and Water Inspection3
17	Acceptable Use Policy	
17	Wearable Technology Policy	Immunization Policy2
17	Chromebooks	Admission Policy2
17	Cellphones/Texting	Home And School Association2
17	TECHNOLOGY	Governance1
		Profile of a Graduate1
16	Expectations for Parent/Guardian	Belief Statement1
15	Expectations for Students	Mission Statement1
	PAKENI/STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT	FOUNDATIONAL DOCUMENTS1

Emergency Procedures.....14

PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK 2025-2026

FOUNDATIONAL DOCUMENTS

MISSION STATEMENT

centered environment through faith formation, rigorous academics, and service to others throughout our St. Francis de Sales Catholic School is dedicated to educating students of all faiths in a Catholic, Christcommunity.

BELIEF STATEMENT

individuals living out Catholic values, while fostering their own gifts and talents. that provides students in Pre-Kindergarten 3 through Eighth Grade, an environment centered in faith formation and service to others throughout our community. We believe that St. Francis de Sales Catholic School is a rigorous and nurturing educational community We recognize the value and dignity of

PROFILE OF A GRADUATE

A St. Francis de Sales graduate models Jesus in thoughts, words, and deeds while

- effective communication, and study habits while aspiring to higher education and career Demonstrating scholarship through academic integrity, creative thinking, problem-solving skills,
- integrating the tenants of our beliefs into all facets of living Demonstrating faith through the Gospel values of love, forgiveness, honesty, and compassion by
- peace. Demonstrating dignity by recognizing God in others while acting with kindness, courage, and
- community. Demonstrating service by showing mercy, empathy, and justice through service to others in our

GOVERNANCE

and in the support and development of the spiritual lives of the students, the administration and faculty, of supporting and maintaining the school and providing for the spiritual needs of the school community. spiritual leader of the parish and is responsible for the various ministries of the parish, including the and the parents. With his associates, the pastor takes an active role in the religious and moral development of the students ministry of education. We are a Catholic school affiliated with the other schools in the Diocese of Wilmington. The pastor is the The Bishop of the Diocese of Wilmington delegates to the pastor the responsibility

principal and assistant principal supervise the instructional delivery of the Diocesan curriculum. The principal is the spiritual leader of the school and is responsible for its daily Catholic Identity. The

a voting member of this board. The principal is a non-voting member. of five committees. These are finance, membership, facilities, development and enrollment. The Pastor is We are governed by a Board of Specified Jurisdiction. This group helps lead the school through the work

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

payment of annual dues. Families are encouraged to participate in all activities of the H.S.A. All parents are members of the Home and School Association upon registration of their children and

The objectives of this organization are as follows:

- Christian environment that fosters the moral, educational, and physical growth of students. To provide a structure within which the school community can assist the administration in creating a
- To promote the active participation by parents in all aspects of their children's education and welfare
- ω To secure resources for auxiliary programming, services and materials that enrich the educational experience of the children.
- 4 To provide a forum for discussion and expression of specific needs of the school.
- To foster communication between the school, teachers and parents.

ADMISSION POLICY as established by the Diocese of Wilmington

have successfully completed Kindergarten. This requirement is non-negotiable. 5 years of age before September 1st. Students for grade 1 must be 6 years of age before September 1st and Children are admitted to school for Pre-Kindergarten 3 if they are 3 years of age or older before September 1, Pre-Kindergarten 4 if they are 4 years of age or older before September 1st and Kindergarten if they are

*Note: Pre-kindergarteners must be fully potty-trained before entering the program

requests a transfer to another school may be asked to complete an exit interview and/or survey. All financial basis with priority given to active parishioners of St. Francis de Sales Parish. Any student/family who immunization records must be received before final acceptance. Admission is determined on a year by year assessment is given to all new students before acceptance is finalized. School records including Francis de Sales Parish. A Health Inventory containing current immunization information is required. An obligations are to be paid before a student's records can be released from St. Francis de Sales. An original birth certificate is required along with a certificate of baptism for Catholics not baptized in St.

IMMUNIZATION POLICY

a conversation with the principal and school nurse is required. attending a Catholic school since immunizations are not in conflict with Church teaching. In addition, there up to date and provide documentation to the school nurse. There is no religious exemption for students the school nurse. In cases where a special circumstance requires an alteration to the vaccination schedule, immunizations due to medical complications. These have to be documented by a physician and shared with is no parental request exemption available in Catholic schools. There may be rare exceptions to immunizations that are required by the State of Maryland. All students must have all of these immunizations As a school in the Diocese of Wilmington, we do not accept any waivers for religious reasons for

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

operate in compliance with: "It is the policy of the State of Maryland that all public and publicly funded schools and school programs

- (1) Title VI of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964; and
- publicly funded schools and programs may not: (2) Title 26, Subtitle 7 of the Education Article of the Maryland Code, which states that public and

student, regardless of the outcome of the complaint." guardian of a student who files a complaint alleging that the program or school discriminated against the discipline, invoke a penalty against, or take any other retaliatory action against a student or parent or sex,age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability; or guardian of a current or prospective student because of an individual's race, ethnicity, color, religion, current student, or withhold privileges from a current student, a prospective student, or the parent or sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability; refuse enrollment of a prospective student, expel a prospective student on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, Discriminate against a current student, a prospective student, or the parent or guardian of a current or

ASBESTOS AND WATER INSPECTION

In accordance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, the Management Plan for Asbestosalso available when requested and is also public information as a city water customer. Containing Materials is available for your inspection at the school office. The Water testing information is

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

and climate of faith in which to mature. Non-Catholic students participate in all religious activities and celebrations, liturgy, prayer services and the study of Scriptures, thereby providing a Christian foundation classes, except the Sacramental Life of the parish. The development of each child's faith life is fostered through times of prayer, participation in religious

school program for two years preparation. Children in second grade will be prepared to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and sacramental programs of First Eucharist, First Reconciliation and Confirmation, a student must have Sacramental preparation occurs though religion classes and the parish program. To be a part of the Eucharist. Confirmation is celebrated at the end of eighth grade for those who have been a part of the completed one year of religion classes either in school or with the parish prior to the year of sacramental

of the school to witness the sacramental life of the Church by participating in the celebration of the Parish. Our Catholic students' presence at Mass on Sundays manifests their faith life and the commitment and active in parish life and will attend Sunday Mass weekly Eucharist. Our community advocates and expects that our registered parish families will be supportive Saint Francis de Sales School exists as a vital part of the worshiping community of Saint Francis de Sales

SCHOOL PROCEDURES AND EXPECTATIONS

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Arrival Time/Procedure

- while they wait to enter the building. before this time who are not signed up for before school care must have parental supervision Students should arrive and will enter the building at 8:00 a.m. Note that students who arrive
- Students who enter the school building after 8:10 a.m. are considered tardy
- Arrival-(two options)
- 0 "Kiss & Go" Traffic: for those parents for grades 1-8 who remain in their car
- o 1. Enter the Church lot from Riverside Drive
- 0 2. Pull forward toward Camden Ave. past the Carriage House in a single lane ONLY
- 3. Stop and deposit precious cargo.
- 0 4. Proceed in the lane to the exit on Camden Ave. RIGHT TURN ONLY ONTO CAMDEN.

Cr

- 0 "Park & Walk" Traffic: For those families who park and walk with their children
- o 1. Enter the Church lot from Riverside Drive.
- 0 2. Park in the direction of the Carriage House in an available space
- 0 3. You may walk your child to the appropriate class line waiting outside
- 4. Once back in your vehicle, pull forward only. AVOID BACKING UP for any reason.
- Exit the Riverside Dr. exit. RIGHT TURN ONLY ONTO RIVERSIDE

Dismissal Time/Procedures

- Dismissal for all students is 2:55 p.m.
- Dismissal: (two options)
- o "Pick Up & Go" Traffic: Children in grades 1-8 only
- 0 member's directions. how far back in the line the cars are to be loaded. You may not circumvent the staff 1. Cars will be formed in one line after entering the church lot. Teachers will determine
- 0 turning right on Camden Ave. 2. Once the line of cars has been loaded, they will leave as directed by the faculty to exit,
- 0 3. The next group of cars will be directed forward by the staff member
- 4. This procedure will continue until all cars have been loaded.

0 "Park & Walk" Traffic: For PreK 3,4 and kindergarten and those families that might school extracurricular activity, making up school work or playing on the grounds past need to park and walk to the dismissal area or who have children participating in an after

- o 1. Enter the church lot.
- 0 Park in the church parking lot and walk to your child's teacher. Escort your student to
- o 3. Leave the church lot on Riverside Drive turning right only.
- 0 Once in your vehicle, pull forward only. AVOID BACKING UP for any reason

Older students in the family will walk on the sidewalk along the playground to move between lots in these classes will park in the church parking lot and walk to and from the school with their child(ren). *Arrival/Dismissal is different for Prekindergarten 3 and 4 as well as kindergarten. Families with students

Arrival/Dismissal Reminders

- ALL TRAFFIC MUST PULL FORWARD! PLEASE, NO BACKING UP
- The gates close at 8:10 a.m. and reopen at 2:30 p.m.
- PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY AT ALL TIMES.
- supervised after school play. Students are not to play on the field after school. Please use the playground for any parentally
- Do Not park along the field or in the rectory lot for any reason!
- Always watch out for children!
- Do not talk on cell phones while driving! It's the law in Maryland
- your child(ren) to the car. (Drivers of moving cars do not always see darting children.) Please be mindful of moving traffic in the parking lot. You must accompany (not send)
- times of inclement weather. Children should know where they will be picked up each day. This is especially important at
- need to enroll your child in aftercare. you will be late. If you know that you will not be able to pick up on time each day, then you will program. The aftercare fee of \$10 (\$15 for drop-in) will be charged. Please notify the office if 3:20 who have not made other arrangements by calling the office will be placed in the aftercare Children not picked up by 3:15 p.m. will be sent to the office. Students who are not picked up by
- Parents of students who walk or bike to and from school will need to notify the office in writing

ATTENDANCE

It's the law. (Md. Code, Education § 7-301 and Md. Code, Education § 7-302.2)

- This applies to all children 5 years and older and under the age of 18, who live in the state." "Maryland requires regular school attendance unless a student is excused with a lawful absence
- 2 "Under Maryland law, a truant student is one who is "unlawfully absent" from school for more
- 8 days in any quarter,
- 15 days in any semester, OR
- 20 days in a school year."

State regulations. All contagious illnesses must be reported as soon as diagnosed to the school nurse diarrhea or vomiting; or following the first dose of a prescribed antibiotic in accordance with Maryland Illness may result in a lawful absence from school. Students must stay home for 24 hours without fever,

hinder advancement to the next grade the following year. More than 20 days absent per year is considered Excessive absences not related to a health problem during any one trimester or during the school year may excessive and will affect a student's academic standing and grade promotion.

student is absent for three or more consecutive days, a doctor's note is expected to be presented to the office information: Child's Name, Grade, Date of Absence, Reason, and Signature by a Parent or Guardian. If any the absence of their child. An email or note is expected upon the child's return to school with the following parent is expected to call or email the office any time before 9:00 a.m. on the day of the absence to report Please note that a child who arrives after 10:00 a.m. is considered absent for the first half of the day. A

notes regarding absence are kept in the office Please note that Power School does not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences. Medical

completion of assignments. Absence from school excludes participation at ANY extra-curricular activities absence from school is necessary due to illness, please contact the homeroom teacher to coordinate will have the number of days they are absent with which to complete missing assignments. If an extended how to do make-up work. Parents of younger students will need to contact the teacher via email. All students personally check with the teacher(s) to determine the work that has been missed during her/his absence and related early dismissal and being sent home ill. held that day. Perfect attendance for the year means no days absent or tardy. When a student in grades 6-8 has been absent from school for any reason, it is her/his responsibility to This includes non-school

VACATION ABSENCES

policy. Students may receive make-up work upon their return at the discretion of the teacher. The timeline school for a vacation, the office and teachers must be notified in writing (or via email) regarding the dates need the continuity of learning experiences provided through teacher presentations and student interaction. Family vacations should be planned to coincide with one of the ample school holiday periods. with whatever is missed. lessons missed due to unexcused absences. Parents or a tutor hired by the parent will need to help the student for completion of any work is at the discretion of the teacher. Teachers will not be available to reteach WILL BE GIVEN BEFORE OR DURING VACATION ABSENCES in keeping with Diocesan that your child will not be in school. This will result in an unexcused absence by law. NO ASSIGNMENTS Written work alone cannot substitute for these experiences. If a family chooses to remove a student from

EARLY DISMISSAL

to an early dismissal. Students who leave school before 11:30 a.m. will be marked absent for half the day student, who will be called to the office for dismissal. Students are responsible for any work missed due state who is picking up the student. The parent, or approved adult, must go to the office to sign out the possible. A written request from the parent or guardian must be submitted to the homeroom teacher on or (afternoon). Students who arrive at school after 10:00 a.m. will be marked absent for half the day before the requested day of early dismissal stating the reason for this request. The note should clearly Medical appointments should be scheduled outside school hours and on school holidays whenever

TARDINESS

Tardiness will also disqualify perfect attendance. success for the student and is disruptive to the learning environment for other students and the teacher may result in after school detentions and a conference with administration. Tardiness affects academic exceeds more than 5 unexcused tardies to school in any given trimester. Continued and repeated tardiness office to obtain an admittance slip to class and to be signed in by a parent. Students should expect to Students must be inside school before the 8:10 AM tardy bell. Students who are late must report to the receive a Procedural Referral Detention form and will serve a recess detention for each tardy incident that

ACCIDENTS OR ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

phone if a child becomes ill or is injured while at school. Should an urgent situation occur, parents are parents and two other people responsible for the child must be kept current. Parents will be notified by parent in the parent portal of Power School, our student information system. Emergency numbers for It is important for parents to update the office with phone (cell) number changes. This can be done by the special medical condition, this information must be filed with the nurse. responsible to provide transportation for their child, unless it requires emergency services. If a child has a

MEDICATIONS

on their own, including cough drops and over the counter medications. Any surplus student medication that prescribed by a doctor. This includes applying sunscreen. Students are not permitted to take medications the State of Maryland, no staff member may issue any medication to any student at any time, if not with the student's name and dosage is required and must be signed in by the nurse or the school office. Per of permission signed by the doctor and parent. This permission must be updated yearly. A labeled bottle Students needing medication, both prescription and over-the-counter, while at school must have a statement the nursing staff. has not been retrieved by that child's parent or guardian by the last day of classes will be disposed of by

WATER BOTTLES

lunchbox or backpack. It will remain in the classroom for grades Pre-K through 5. Middle school students Students may bring a clear water bottle to school. This bottle should be small enough to fit in the student's filling stations as well as drinking fountains throughout the school building. will keep water bottles in their locker, except when needed at lunch and recess.. There are water bottle

LEAVING SCHOOL CAMPUS

school personnel upon departure from that adult's supervision. supervisors at all times. In addition, students leaving campus at dismissal time are expected to notify out the student from the office prior to leaving. Students are required to remain "in sight" of teachers and school hours or during after school activities. If leaving campus during school hours, parents must sign Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds unaccompanied by a parent or teacher during

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS AND NOTIFICATIONS

fog since we do not have buses and arrive at school after sunrise. late or close early, parental discretion is advised. For example, we generally do not have delays due to any school closure or delayed opening via text message and email. In the event that public schools open delays or closure announcements. Moreover, families will be notified using the Bright Arrow system for In the event of a SFdS school cancellation or other emergency, please stay tuned to WBOC or WMDT for

school day begins. Safety is our top priority and is paramount in the decision to change the school day. administration will make every effort to post announcements in a timely manner considering how early our conditions in and around school, and weather bulletins posted by the National Weather Service. The closings or schedule changes will include the condition of roads in and around Wicomico County, parking Please be sure that your emergency contact numbers are current in the parent portal. Some factors for

SNOW DAYS

developmental age of the students and the timing of a storm. Students have one week to complete this "blizzard bag" with written work or may choose a virtual school day. This is dependent on the year. Rather, we offer "snow work" to make up for this missed time. Teachers will either create a work after the return to school. It is the policy of the Diocese of Wilmington that snow days are not made up at the end of the school

DRESS CODE (See school website for photos and order links.)

school year is a transition from Lands End to Tommy Hilfiger. Items from the previous year may still be from our approved vendors, Land End or Tommy Hilfiger, or the H.S.A. uniform store. The 2025/26 Student behavior is directly linked to following uniform expectations. School uniforms must be purchased

administration. Failure to come to school in the correct uniform will require parental notification in writing. This form will communicate the dress code violation and the consequential disciplinary action. All students must be in the complete required school uniform unless otherwise designated by the school

PRE-KINDERGARTEN 3, 4 and kindergarten

Sneakers-(no LED feature) Socks, white crew Shorts, maroon or black T-shirt, grey with logo screen printed warm weather **Boys and Girls** *Optional September 2nd-October 31st and April 14th-June 12th Sweatshirt, maroon with logo screen printed Sweatpants, maroon T-shirt, grey with logo screen printed Sneakers-(no LED feature) *Shorts may be worn UNDER sweatpants in case of Socks, white crew regular uniform *May be worn all year Boys and Girls

GRADES 1-5

Boys

warm weather

*Optional-September 2nd-October 31st and April 14th-June 12th Grey Shorts and Black Belt Maroon polo shirt with logo Solid black dress socks (no logos) Shoes, sturdy black dress (tie or Velcro)

Regular School uniform

*May be worn all year
Grey pants and black belt
White dress shirt (short or long sleeve)
Maroon sweater vest and tie
Socks-black, dress, no sports logos
Shoes sturdy black dress (tie or Velcro)

GRADES 6 - 8 Boys

warm weather

*Optional-September 2nd-October 31st
and April 13th-June 12th
Grey shorts or long pants/black belt
Maroon school polo shirt with logo
Black dress socks (no sports logo)
Shoes (sturdy black dress,
or Vans/black tie with **no stripes**)

Regular school uniform

*May be worn all year

Maroon sweater vest or cardigan with logo
Or blazer, black
Black dress socks no sports logos
Shoes (sturdy black dress
or Vans, grey tie, **no stripes**)

Maroon tie

White Oxford Shirt (short or long sleeve)

Grey Dress Pants and Black Belt

Girls

warm weather

*Optional-September 2nd-October 31st and April 14th-June 12th Polo dress with logo Maroon polo shirt with logo/gray skort White crew socks Shoes, white saddle or sturdy black dress

Regular school uniform

*May be worn all year
Maroon plaid school jumper
White blouse (with collar, short or long sleeve)
Maroon cardigan with logo (optional)
Socks, maroon knee highs or tights
Shoes-white saddle, or sturdy black dress

Girls

warm weather

*Optional-September 2nd-October 31st
and April 13th-June 12th
Grey shorts with black belt or maroon plaid skirt
Maroon school polo shirt with logo
Maroon knee high socks or tights
Shoes (white saddle, black dress,
or Vans/black tie with **no stripes)**

Regular school uniform

*May be worn all year

Maroon Plaid School Skirt
White Oxford Blouse (short or long sleeve)
Maroon Sweater vest or cardigan with logo
or blazer jacket, black
Grey pants with black belt (optional) for very cold days
Maroon knee highs or tights
Shoes (white saddle, sturdy black dress
or Vans, grey tie, **no stripes**)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORM

PreK 3 and 4 through 5th

All students wear PE uniforms to school on their designated day(s) for PE.

Boys and Girls

warm weather

*Optional September 2nd-October 31st and April 13th-June 12th

T-shirt, grey with logo screen printed

Shorts, black or maroon

Socks, white crew, no logos or stripes

Sneakers-no LED feature

Regular uniform

*May be worn all year

T-shirt, grey with logo screen printed

Sweatpants, maroon with logo screen printed

Sweatshirt, maroon with logo screen printed (shorts may be worn UNDER sweatpants in case of indoor PE)

Socks, white crew

Sneakers-no light up LED feature

GRADES 6 - 8

Boys and Girls

Warm weather

*Optional September 2nd-October 31st and April 13th-June 12th

T-shirt, grey with logo screen printed

Shorts, black to the knee

Socks, white crew, no logos or stripes

Sneakers-no LED feature

Regular school uniform

*May be worn all year

T-shirt, grey with logo screen printed

Track pants, black

Track jacket, black with logo screen printed

(shorts may be worn UNDER sweatpants in case of indoor PE)

Socks, white crew, no logos or stripes

Sneakers-no LED feature

Other Dress Code Details

Parents must take responsibility for their child adhering to the uniform policies

- PE shirts must be worn tucked in at all times. Uniform school shorts, skirts and pants must be worn at the waist. Shorts, skirts, skorts, jumpers, and dresses should come down to the knee and they must not be rolled up at the top. Uniform shirts and
- Make-up, false fingernails, false eyelashes are not permitted for any student.
- additional embellishments are permitted. may be worn in grades 6-8; however, the top color must be clear or have a clear natural tint. No Students in grades 6-8 may wear nail polish that is clear or is a clear natural tint. White French tips Nail polish is not permitted for grades Prek 3-5. All nails should be an appropriate "sports length."
- Girls may wear single stud earrings. (no hoops or dangle earrings)
- Students may wear one Christian necklace and one bracelet. No choker style necklaces are to be
- Students may wear an analog watch. (NO Smart watches are permitted)
- Student hairstyles must not present a distraction to the learning environment
- o Hair should be clean and neat.
- o Hair may not be "spiked" with gel.
- 0 fauxhawks or hair tattoos (shaved designs) are permitted.) Boys' hair must be evenly cut and rest ABOVE the collar and ears. (NO mullets, mohawks,
- 0 Hair is to be kept off the face for all students. Bangs must be above eyebrows
- Hair may not be dyed an unnatural hair color.
- distraction to others. Costume accessories such as headbands with animal ears or horns are not appropriate as they are a Hair accessories should be white, grey or maroon in order to avoid clashing with the uniform.
- bandanas, scarves, or sunglasses indoors. girls' earrings (one small post). Boys may not wear earrings to school. Students may not wear hats, Body decorations such as real or temporary tattoos and piercings will not be permitted, except for
- Students may not use cologne, perfume or scented lotions, since it may bother others with allergies.
- of loss. The school is not responsible for lost, misplaced or misappropriated clothing. All articles of clothing should be labeled with the name of the student in order to return it in the event
- violations will result in recess detention. Continued insubordination regarding the uniform policy may uniform when possible. Students will receive a uniform violation slip to document the issue. Three assistant principal along with the homeroom teacher. Parents will be called to bring the appropriate require further administrative action including an administrative conference. If attire, accessories, or hair are questionable, the determination will be made by the principal or

Spirit Wear Days

knee. Nail polish and other make-up are still prohibited on dress down days. shorts, yoga or other tight pants, flip flops, hats, or baggy sweatpants. Shorts, and skirts should touch the that are not baggy or skin tight and have NO holes. In addition, the following are NOT permitted: cut off days students may wear an approved school spirit wear top with appropriate shorts, jeans or other pants For certain occasions students are permitted to be dressed out of the regular uniform. On these designated

addition to following the spirit wear guidelines, students are NOT permitted to wear halter tops, shirts On a few days there may be an opportunity to dress up for a particular theme day or other celebration. Shirts should not contain sayings or pictures that have inappropriate language or advertisements. In

of 3 inches. with bare midriffs or sheer clothing. Girls wearing sleeveless tops or dresses must have straps of a width

School-sponsored Events

cover up and they will receive a uniform violation slip. to bring appropriate attire. If they cannot bring appropriate clothing, the student will be given clothing to Students attending school-sponsored events must follow the guidelines listed above. Parents will be called

Dress Code for Females

- Dresses should not have cut-outs below the bustline: When you put your arms by your side, skin should not touch skin.
- 2 Dresses should not be backless and/or sideless, or have areas where skin shows.
- ω Dresses may not be made of see-through fabrics or nude -looking fabrics such as tulle, netting, or
- 4. Necklines must not be cut too low.
- 5 the top of the slit should not be above the knee Dress length should come down to the knee all the way around the hemline. If a dress has a slit in it,
- 6. Dresses should not be skin-tight.

worn by a student. In these cases, the students will call home for appropriate clothing to be brought to Administration and faculty will determine the suitability and therefore violation of any item of clothing

BIRTHDAYS

providing any food to the class due to allergies. certain foods in order to prevent life-threatening allergic reactions. Please check with the teacher before are students in our school who have severe food allergies. It is important that there is strict avoidance of teacher will inform you as to classroom regulations for a small birthday snack. Please be aware that there choose the day before or after to celebrate. The dress code regulations must be followed. The homeroom as Mass/prayer service days, school pictures, field trips and other days requiring uniforms, your child may celebrate. The selected day must be pre-arranged with the child's homeroom teacher. On days such child has a summer or holiday birthday, he/she must choose the date of their "half-birthday" day to On the day of or nearest to your child's birthday, he/she may have a personal out of uniform day. If your

invited, you must use other methods to distribute the invitations. Treat bags will not be able to be permitted only if the entire class is receiving invitations to the celebration. If the entire class is not student's classmates only during their lunch. Distribution of birthday invitations in the classroom is distributed in school. *Snacks are expected to be a small or of modest proportion and will be distributed among the birthday

CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

from school. Destroying school property is subject to disciplinary action. This includes paying for Books must be covered at all times. Book bags are to be used by all students to transport items to and materials is expected at all times. If such items are destroyed, payment must be made for the replacement. Reasonable care of the school building, furnishings, books, Chromebooks and other instructional damages

VISITORS

public function, must sign in/out at the school office before going through the school. Parents and students should not let visitors in the building without permission from staff. For the safety of our students, all visitors, including parent volunteers at the school, except at the times of

mutually agreed upon, dropping by for a conference before school is not appropriate. Formal lunch/recess/carpool duty since the teachers have the responsibility to supervise the students. Unless instructional time. Parents may not interrupt teachers during class time or while a teacher is on Parents are to schedule conferences in advance at a time that is convenient for both teachers and parents parent/teachers conferences are held in October and February. Conferences will be scheduled at such times that they do not interrupt or interfere with a teacher's

USE OF TELEPHONE

changes in dismissal arrangements, etc. unless authorized by staff, faculty or administration. permitted to use the school phones or their personal cell phones to call home for lunch, homework teachers from parents will be taken and delivered by the school administrative assistant. Students are not teachers and students will not be called to the phone during the school day. Messages to students or We make every effort to keep interruptions of the instructional program to a minimum. Therefore,

*The preferred way to communicate with teachers, staff and administration is via their school email. These email addresses are found on the school website and in the front of this handbook

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

sent through the YOUNGEST and/or ONLY child in the family. included in this weekly correspondence. When necessary, a hard copy of particular information will be etc., will be emailed as part of the school newsletter. Parents are expected to be aware of the information be contacted via email. Each Monday, information about school events, important dates and happenings, The school website **stfrancisdesales.net** includes most information needed by families. Teachers should

mailed home A school newspaper (The Busy Beak) is also published periodically throughout the school year and is

gradebook through the parent portal in PowerSchool. Families receive their access code with which they school community regarding time sensitive announcements. Parents have access to their child's The Bright Arrow platform embedded in Power School is used to send phone calls, emails or texts to the

the parent/guardian. It is vital that families keep their demographic information up to date using the parent can set up an account at Back to School Night. These do not change from year to year unless done so by portal in PowerSchool.

best to respond to your inquiries within 24 hours emails can be found on the school website. Per the Diocese expectations, teachers and staff will do their The preferred method to communicate with your child's teacher is via the school email. All teachers

PHOTOS/VIDEOS

granted permission to the school to post/use photographic images. indicate their choice by printing the form and sending in or by acknowledging the form using the e-collect school website and as well, is distributed in the packet at Back to School Night. Parents are requested to publication of these pictures, activities or accomplishments. This Permission Form is available on our including names, pictures, and/or student work. Permission of parents is required each year regarding the feature in PowerSchool Parent Portal. Forms not submitted or acknowledged will be interpreted as Occasionally the school publishes information about school activities or student accomplishments

photos posted by parents or students. those students' parents may not have been granted. The school is not responsible for unauthorized *Parents should not post photos of other students to personal social media since permission from

LOST AND FOUND

identification purposes. Labeled clothing will be returned to students. A lost and found bin sits in the typically be donated twice a trimester. ALL CLOTHING AND LUNCH containers MUST BE labeled for vestibule next to the School Office. The school is not responsible for any items that are lost, missing or misappropriated. Found articles will

LIBRARY BOOKS

Students are responsible for lost or damaged books. All library materials must be returned as required before progress reports can be accessed. Families are required to pay for or replace lost or damaged

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

contacting the school office. the school with their most up to date contact information using the parent portal in Power School or by The safety of the students, faculty, and staff is our top priority. Our parent notification system, Bright our students after an emergency or incident has occurred at school. It is imperative that parents provide Arrow, allows us to send a timely message via all contact numbers and emails to the parents of ALL of

sign children out provided they have the proper identification. may need to provide proper identification. Other persons listed on the Emergency Form may also When parents are picking up their children early, they must sign them out in the school office and

equipment is inspected in accordance with state law requirements. St. Francis de Sales School has of the following-lockdown, intruder, shelter in place, bomb/evacuation and tornado/severe weather teachers situational awareness and response. prevention of problems and provides a positive approach to unforeseen events. We teach students and ensuring the safety, emotional and spiritual well-being of students and staff. This plan focuses on the developed a comprehensive crisis management plan that is a workable response primarily focused on throughout the year. Students are trained to move quickly and silently to their designated locations. Fire emergency drills every month. These will include at the very least one fire drill per month and one of each In accordance with the Maryland State and Diocese of Wilmington regulations, we participate in

and before/aftercare staff, are all CPR and first aid certified per the State of Maryland guidelines. responders. They have also been trained in basic first aid (Epi-pens/AED) by our nurses, and Stop the Bleed and Narcan training from Tidal Health. Our childcare team, early childhood teachers, assistants The faculty and staff receive extensive Active Shooter response training with local county and city first

PARENT/STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

students' and parents' rights. The school also has an expectation for decorum and individual responsibility. All stakeholders contribute to the climate and culture of the school educational environment. do not endanger the health, safety, and welfare of the students or staff. The SFdS School Board recognizes environment. St. Francis de Sales School allows students freedoms allowed by law, provided these freedoms The school administration has the primary responsibility and authority for maintaining an orderly educational

EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS

Students are required to:

- Recognize and respect the authority of the faculty, staff and administration
- Work to their fullest potential.
- Conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner at all times-both in and out of school hours.
- Accept responsibility for their actions

Respect the dignity, rights and property of others

- Obey school procedures and regulations.
- Observe the dress code and uniform policies.
- Show respect for school property and the educational environment.
- Model Catholic Christian values at all times
- Attend school regularly and on time.
- Come prepared for class assignments and activities

to professional or academic climate) towards any staff member or other student may be asked to leave the School Board and the Pastor has the authority to determine when this consequence is appropriate the school community permanently. The Administration in consultation with the recommendation of *Students who act in an unacceptable manner (i.e. gross disrespect, threatening, or causing disruption

EXPECTATIONS FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

and proper attitudes toward school. To help children, all parents should: Parents are called to develop in their children good habits of behavior as well as demonstrate respect

- Maintain positive communication among students, faculty, staff and administration
- and for private and public property. Teach and explain to children respect for rules, authority, faculty and staff, the rights of others,
- Monitor student academic progress via the Parent Portal as part of our PowerSchool platform
- Insist on prompt and regular school attendance
- Comply with attendance rules and procedures.
- Communicate with the school nurse about health requirements:
- Immunization Records/Health Inventories
- Current Medications
- Allergy Protocol
- Short and Long Term Illnesses
- Attend requested parent-teacher conferences.
- Keep current with activities and assignments via the weekly school newsletter and teacher
- Carry out recommendations from educators made in the best interest of the child
- out disciplinary action. Comply with the procedures of the school concerning student conduct and cooperate in carrying
- Model Catholic Christian values with the child at all times.
- Provide resources for students to complete class-work and homework
- Assist their child in being healthy, neat, and clean.
- school personnel both on and off campus. Refrain from using profanity, abusive language or inflammatory actions in interactions with
- Maintain up-to-date home, work, and emergency numbers with the school
- de Sales Catholic School. Maintain positive relationships with the school and on social media when referencing St. Francis
- Complete the Diocesan background check in order to volunteer for activities with children

students or other family members who choose to post editorial content to websites or other forms of social media about our community will be contacted by an agent of the school and may be required to always be taken to avoid libelous statements. Parents or students that habitually post negative dialog on online media must ensure that their submission does not reflect poorly upon the school. Care should leave the school community. *We are a Catholic Christian community and as such should lift each other up at all times. Parents,

disruption to professional or academic climate) towards any staff member or student may be asked to consequence is appropriate. recommendation of the School Board and the Pastor has the authority to determine when this leave the school community permanently. The Administration in consultation with the *Parents/Guardians who act in an unacceptable manner (i.e. gross disrespect, threatening, or causing

TECHNOLOGY

CELL PHONES/TEXTING

either their locker or classroom closet throughout the school day. If a cell phone is seen in use during the Diocesan Acceptable Use Policy for Technology will result in detention, suspension, and/or expulsion. administration will contact the parent to come pick up the device. Repeated offenses or violations of the school day, no matter what the use (texting, talking, web access), the phone will be confiscated and the not to be used during before or after care. Students may ask a staff member for permission to use their phone before or after school. Cell phones are A student may have a cell phone in his/her school backpack, which is to be kept turned off while inside

CHROMEBOOKS

or request a login for the guest Wi-Fi network. St. Francis de Sales Catholic School as well as the parents having business at the school (activities, board meetings, etc). may use their own cellular service parents. Students may not access the school's wireless network without approval. Guest speakers or is a privilege that requires extra caution and responsibility both on the part of the students and their use these Chromebooks in accordance with our Acceptable Use Policy for Technology. This opportunity Diocese of Wilmington are not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal electronic devices We strive to maintain technological relevance in education, in providing the opportunity for students to

WEARABLE TECHNOLOGY POLICY

are prohibited. No student may wear any form of wearable technology. There may be medical exceptions email alerts, caller ID, text notification, social networking, photo/video capturing, and/or calendar alerts with documentation from a physician and must be shared with administration and the nurses Wearable technology, such as fitness trackers or Smart Watches, which allow for notifications, such as

grades and encouraged for the learning of time telling. never permitted, even if the connecting device is out of reach. Normal analog watches are permitted in all Devices that have the capability to connect to a personal technology device (cell phone, tablet, etc.) are

ACCEPTABLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY POLICY from the Catholic Diocese of Wilmington:

with the Diocese of Wilmington has developed an Acceptable Use Policy that is specific and clear. A their electronic devices at school for a length of time commensurate with the nature of the violation. student who violates any portion of the Acceptable Use Policy may immediately lose the privilege to use In an effort to ensure the safety of our students and the security of our school assets, our school along

- Parents from all grades and students in grades 3-8 must sign and follow the Acceptable Use Policy
- Electronic devices are to be used only for academic activities assigned or approved by the teacher.
- All material on the electronic devices must comply with the spirit and policies of St. Francis de Sales Catholic School.

ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY As Required by the Diocese of Wilmington

devices. This Technology Agreement is an abbreviation of full policies. For full policies, please refer to address the appropriate use of technology provided by the school and personally owned technological the complete version of the Acceptable Use of Technology Policy found on our school website. The responsibilities and expectations we have for our students, include but are not limited to: "Access to technology is integral to the educational mission and purpose of our institution. These policies

- We expect our students to act responsibly and thoughtfully when using technology.
- right to monitor and track all behaviors and interactions that take place online or through the use of Students should not expect that what they write or publish online is private. The school reserves the technology on our property or at our events.
- limited to educational purposes. The use of all school-owned technologies including the school network and its Internet connection is
- Commercial and recreational use of school technology resources is prohibited
- Recreational use of the school technology is <u>prohibited.</u>
- All e-mails sent from school provided accounts are representative of the school.
- Connection to wireless Internet by students is <u>prohibited</u> unless otherwise directed/instructed.
- Students are responsible for any activity that occurs through their personal account.
- Students must respect the privacy of others.
- belonging to others. Do not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, other data, or passwords
- o Do not misrepresent or assume the identity of others.
- 0 who sent you the information. Do not re-post information that was sent to you privately without the permission of the person
- Do not post private information about another person.
- Do not post photos or videos of others without prior permission.
- do not use that account outside of the terms with which you were given access to that account. Do not use another person's account. If you have been given an account with special privileges
- your school name, your address, your phone number, or other identifying information. Do not voluntarily post private information about yourself online, including your name, your age,
- Our institution prides itself on its reputation for excellence; therefore, you may not use the school's permission from school administration. name, logo, mascot or other likeness or representation on a non-school website without express
- administrators unless authorized to do so. Students may not initiate electronic communication with teachers, adult leaders in ministry, or
- by emergency or parish/school personnel. Personal Technology Devices (PTDs) are for use only during an actual lock down and as instructed
- privacy. Teachers or school personnel reserve the right to confiscate, collect, and inspect any PTD in restrooms, sleeping areas, dressing rooms, or other areas where there is a reasonable expectation of other young people). Such recording devices may never be accessed, turned on or operated in others without the expressed permission of the person(s) being recorded (including adult leaders and Never use devices capable of capturing, transmitting, or storing images or recordings to record accord with written policies.
- might encounter school sanctions. SFdS community. Actions contrary to this practice will be considered by the administration and thus social media outlet should be done in a manner that is respectful to their standing as a member of the that impersonate or misrepresent any individual. Prudent and appropriate use of any off-campus technology at any time. Students may not create social networking pages, accounts, sites, or groups Social networking websites, profiles, or accounts, may not be accessed through the school's

- hate literature. Students may not access material that is offensive, profane, or obscene including pornography and
- posted online by students. Inappropriate communication is prohibited in any public messages, private messages, and material
- annoy any individual. Students may not utilize any technology to harass, demean, humiliate, intimidate, embarrass, or
- game systems onto school property or to school events. MP3 players, CD players, DVD players, or other similar data-accessing devices, or personal video Unless explicit permission is granted by legitimate authority, students are not allowed to bring iPods,
- legitimate authority. International websites may only be accessed from school owned technology under the direction of
- All students are expected to maintain academic honesty.
- All access to the Internet is filtered and monitored.

installing new programs, software, or hardware. repair, or reconfigure settings on school-owned computers. This includes downloading, adding, or Unless legitimate authority grants explicit permission, students are not allowed to alter, change, modify

you should immediately tell a staff member or teacher If you accidentally access inappropriate information or if someone sends you inappropriate information,

any other stored data. technology in a way that violates this policy, you must report the incident as soon as possible If you witness someone else either deliberately or accidentally access inappropriate information or use The school retains the right to suspend service, accounts, and access to data, including student files and

The school is not responsible for any damages students may suffer, including but not limited to, loss of data or interruption of service."

available on the school website for parents and students. It can be printed and signed or can be acknowledged using e-collect in the Parent Portal of Power School. Parents and students are required to read the Acceptable Use Agreement and sign it each year.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR / DISCIPLINE

appropriate disciplinary action must be taken. If flagrant violations of school rules take place or repeated indifference to correction is demonstrated, inappropriate or unacceptable behavior that occurs on campus and during any school sanctioned events. followed. Any faculty, staff or administrator has the authority and responsibility to correct any must adhere to individual classroom procedures and accept consequences when the procedures are not of teachers to teach, students to learn, and all to be safe. In addition to school wide policies, students positive behavior is reinforced, consequences result when any individual's actions interfere with the right The immediate objective of school discipline is to maintain effective educational conditions. While

CONDUCT / PROCEDURAL REFERRALS

procedures. A referral may be issued by faculty, staff, or administration. The written referral will A Conduct-Procedural Referral Form is used to communicate violations of school policies and

guardian and returned the next school day. generally be accompanied by an email from the teacher or administrator. It must be signed by a parent or

Conduct referrals may be administered for:

- Failure to observe school/class rules
- Destruction of school property
- Disrespectful/discourteous/rude behavior to an adult or other students
- Unacceptable physical contact such as striking or biting of another student
- Multiple or repeated incidents of insubordinate behavior
- 7.6 Public displays of affection
- Academic dishonesty (plagiarism or cheating)
- Other serious infractions
- Bringing or threatening to bring a weapon to school

Procedural referrals may be administered for:

- Failure to observe school/class rules
- Running/physically discourteous behavior in hallway/classroom
- Inattentive/rude behavior in class
- Excessive talking or loud behavior in class
- Inappropriate etiquette at school assemblies/liturgies
- Failure to abide by the Acceptable Use Policy for Technology
- 4205 Dress code infractions
- Other incidents of disruptive or inappropriate behavior on or off school campus

Conduct/Procedural Referrals may merit the assignment of one or more of the following:

- Teacher conference held with student
- Student referred to the principal
- Lunch, recess, or after-school detention
- Student removed from class
- S Student sent home
- 7. Student suspended either in school or at home
- Parent conference with administration

DETENTION

is to be served. The detention period may require the student to complete assigned work that might be scheduled may result in the assignment of additional time or suspension. Parents will be notified in An after school detention will typically be held until 4:00pm. Failure to attend detention sessions as academic or reflective in nature. writing by way of an office referral and email at least 24 hours before a scheduled after school detention

SUSPENSION

provide supervision of the student. Students must complete all assignments given during the suspension removed from class and supervised by the administrator. During an out-of-school suspension parents removed from the classroom for one or more days. During an in-school suspension, the student will be Suspension may be given to a student for serious infractions of the school rules. The student will be

period. While suspended, the student is ineligible to attend or participate in any school sponsored activity.

EXPULSION

authority to expel a student lies in the hands of the principal, pastor and the School Board in conversation demonstrated, or the well-being of those within the school community has been jeopardized. The administration before the expulsion is finalized. The following list gives examples of student behavior with the Catholic Schools Office. Parent(s) and student(s) will attend a meeting conducted by the warranted when extreme violations of school rules take place, repeated indifference to correction is that violate school policy and may result in expulsion. Expulsion is a denial of the right to attend school for the remainder of the school year and thereafter. It is

- Physical, online, or psychological abuse or harassment of others.
- Insolence, disrespect, or insubordination of authority.
- Extortion.
- Arson.
- Grave defacing or destruction of school, church, personal property.
- Habitual disruption of school function and the learning environment.
- related paraphernalia. Possession of and/or trafficking in alcohol, tobacco, vaping products and illegal drugs, as well as their
- Possession of a weapon, or any other dangerous article or look-alike weapon
- Possession of and/or trafficking in pornographic materials.
- Criminal activity.
- Terroristic threats such as threatening to physically harm an individual or to bring a weapon to school.
- Conduct unbecoming a student of a Catholic school both in and out of school.

HARASSMENT AND BULLYING BEHAVIOR

success in learning within a caring, responsive, and safe environment that is free of physical and cybereach person has a right to be treated with respect and dignity. We are committed to each student's people in the school community. Each student in our community has a right to: have the opportunity and support to develop to their fullest potential and share a meaningful bond with bullying, harassment, discrimination, racism, and violence. Our school works to ensure that all students As a member of the Body of Christ and part of the community of St. Francis de Sales Catholic School,

- Learn in a safe place
- Be treated with respect by peers
- Receive the help and support of caring adults

and each volunteer is required to sign a volunteer covenant based on the volunteer code of conduct each by the Catholic Diocese of Wilmington. In addition, each adult employee signs an ethical code of conduct in training as part of the For the Sake of God's Children and the Shield of Protection Programs instituted We take child protection seriously. As such all members of the school faculty and staff have participated

measures will be taken for violations of this policy. This will include conferencing with administration social media harassment that influences the climate of our school community. Appropriate disciplinary intimidation, insults, negative gestures, facial expressions, writing/drawing unkind notes or pictures, and calling, put downs, starting or spreading rumors, lying about another person, physical threats, environment. Some, but not all, examples of this behavior are the following: a repeated pattern of name Bullying behaviors (physical, emotional and sexual) will not be tolerated in our Catholic Christ-centered and consequences appropriate for any violations.

WEAPONS

does not allow carrying or possessing firearms on public or private school property. Weapons such as but not limited to guns and knives are not permitted on campus. The State of Maryland

ACADEMICS

education for its students. Realizing that each child is an individual and has a tremendous potential for grade levels. reading/literature, English/grammar, spelling/vocabulary, penmanship, and written expression, science, Department of Education and within the guidelines set forth by the Catholic Schools Office of the Diocese achievement, the curriculum meets the needs of the student according to the standards of the Maryland Saint Francis de Sales Catholic School is committed as part of its mission to providing the best possible social studies, and Spanish. of Wilmington. Students receive instruction in religion, mathematics, language arts which includes We also offer classes in art, library, music and physical education for most

availability art, nutrition, rocketry, Latin, Lego robotics, and drama. Other classes may be available pending teacher Students in middle school are eligible to take various electives courses. These include band, choir, advanced

PROGRESS REPORTS

achievement in various academic areas along with their effort and conduct. Formal parent/teacher conferences may always be made with specific teachers throughout the year. All financial obligations conferences are held at the interim of the first(October) and second (February)trimesters. Individual each trimester for grades PreK3-8. These documents are not printed and are an indication of a student's must be current in order to access progress reports. Progress reports are accessed from the parent portal in PowerSchool by the parent/guardian at the end of

NA	Z	I	S	G	P	rades K-2 and Specials:
Not Applicable	Not Yet Demonstrating	Improvement Needed	Satisfactory	Very Good Progress	Demonstrates Proficiency	Progress Codes

ਸ	D	С	В	Α	Grades 3-8: Grade
69 and below	70-76	77-84	85-92	93-100	Percent Range

Effort/Conduct:

O-Outstanding; G-Very Good; S-Satisfactory; I-Improvement Needed; U-Unsatisfactory

ACADEMIC DISTINCTION/HONOR ROLL

Academic Excellence and Academic Achievement for each marking term: The following criteria has been established, in grades 6-8, for students to earn Honor Roll recognition for

Academic Excellence: All A's in major subjects. P's and G's in special subjects. Students must have S or better in Effort and Conduct.

subjects. Students must have S or better in Effort and Conduct. Academic Achievement: A's and no more than three B's in major subjects. P's and G's in special

Major Subjects: religion, reading/vocabulary, writing/grammar, mathematics, science, Spanish(8th), and social studies.

BENCHMARK ASSESSMENTS

student instructional needs and to help set goals for individual students. Families will receive a parent report with their student's results. Students in kindergarten and the first part of first grade participate in a Students participate in Renaissance Star 360 benchmark assessments four times each year. (September, STAR Literacy assessment. This test offers insight for reading and math readiness November, February, and May) These reading and math tests are used to make informed decisions about

STUDENT TRANSCRIPTS

order specifying that there is to be no information given, it is the responsibility of the custodial parent to request. All financial obligations to the school must be settled prior to the transfer of such records. submitted to the school office by the receiving school. Records will be sent only with this official provide the school with a copy of the court order. A transfer of student records to another school must be to the academic records and to other school related information regarding the child(ren). If there is a court office for this to occur. In the absence of a court order stating otherwise, a non-custodial parent has access Parents have access to review their child(ren)'s records. A request must be made in writing to the school

RETENTION

year progresses, it may become evident that a student needs to be retained at the current grade level. In A student is promoted if he/she has successfully achieved the standards for the grade level. As the school

and parents if either or both of the following conditions exist: The student has not adequately completed developmentally, socially or emotionally delayed for the next grade level the grade work or has a failing average in two major academic subjects. child. Students may be retained in a grade by the school administration in consultation with the teacher This decision is not done lightly. Parents are provided specific information about the progress of the such a case, conversations between teachers and parents should be expected to begin during Trimester 2 The student's maturation is

If approved by administration, summer school or tutoring arranged by the parents may be accepted in order social studies. to remediate these failures. The major subjects are: religion, language arts, mathematics, science, and

In all cases, grade level retention is a school decision and must have the approval of administration.

HOMEWORK GUIDELINES

Homework is a review or added practice of a skill already taught in class. the night, it is advisable for the student to review her/his work in preparation for the next day's classes. sense of responsibility when working independently. If a written assignment has not been requested for homework. Advice and direction are sometimes needed, but the child develops self-confidence and a not adequately fulfilled, students may be required to redo assignments. Parents should not do their child's presented in class. Homework should be legible with a student's best penmanship. If this expectation is The school's policy is to assign homework to provide reinforcement of skills or content previously

are merely an average and may be less or may exceed the specified minute total on any given night. aforementioned average may not include reading or long term project assignments. In addition, these totals minutes; First Grade: up to 20 minutes; Second Grade: up to 30 minutes; Third Grade: 35 minutes; Fourth The following is an average of possible written homework load for each night - Kindergarten: up to 15 40 minutes; Fifth Grade: 50 minutes; Sixth through Eighth Grade: 60-80 minutes.

each grade based on the specific teacher guidelines. Students are encouraged to use this organizational tool to record assignments. Individual teachers may have their own procedures to remind families of homework three to five days in advance. Student planners are given to all students in grades 2-8 and are utilized in days of excused absence with which to complete missed work. Tests will typically be announced at least All work missed through excused absences, etc., must be made up. Students will have the same number of such as posting on Google Classroom.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Mission

social activities for the school throughout the year. promote harmonious relations throughout the school community, as well as to support various service and The mission of the student council is to: develop leadership skills and to practice good citizenship

Election

the Spring of their 7th grade year. St. Francis de Sales Catholic School Student Council officers are elected by their peers from grades 5-7 in

Duties and Responsibilities

influence on other students. The student council executive board should at all times be a model of Gospel values and a positive

- the student council faculty advisor. President-Represents the student body in a respectful manner, leads meetings, communicates with
- Vice President-Performs duties of the president in his/her absence. Support the president.
- Secretary-Records minutes of meetings. Writes any correspondence for the board
- Treasurer-Collects and counts money collected for fundraisers.

Representatives

These members support the efforts of the St. Francis de Sales Catholic School Student Council in service Two representatives from each class in middle school are elected in the fall by their fellow classmates. to the school community.

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

allows the student to demonstrate their strengths in the five characteristics for NJHS. These are period of one trimester in which to correct the deficiency. If the deficiency is not corrected, the member is cumulative GPA, grades in conduct and effort and service activities throughout his/her membership. shall be by a majority vote of the five-member Faculty Council. A student is expected to maintain his/her scholarship, character, citizenship, leadership and service. The selection of each member to the chapter conduct. Students who are invited to participate complete an application for membership. This application will not be eligible for membership or may lose their membership for violation of these various codes of inappropriate use of technology (as deemed by the Acceptable Use Policy of the Diocese of Wilmington) subjects. In addition, students being counseled for academic dishonesty, repeated behavior problems or Point Average of 93 or above, Ps or Gs in special subjects, and Os or Gs in Effort and Conduct in all trimester of 6th, 7th or 8th grade. Students are invited to join the NJHS if they have a cumulative Grade Student membership in the National Junior Honor Society is based on outstanding Scholarship, subject to dismissal. Those students who do not continue to meet the qualifications listed above are subject to a probationary Citizenship, Character, Service and Leadership. Students are eligible for membership after the second

PROGRAMS

CAFETERIA

extended. Children may also bring lunch from home. Sodas and candy are not permitted for school lunch. serve lunches and clean up each day as well as to help supervise students at recess. A Sign-up genius is Lunch is offered daily and payable through the use of an on-line POS food service system or cash/check provided for parents payment may be sent in to the school office. Payment must be made in advance, no credit can be We want to work with families to encourage healthy food habits. Parent volunteers are needed to help

Cafeteria Procedures

- on duty before dismissal. may go directly to the line before going to their place. Grace after Meals is to be led by the teacher lunchroom. All classes are to walk quietly to their assigned table. Students who are buying lunch Students do not leave the classroom before the bell rings. The Grace before Meals prayer is to be said prior to leaving the classroom. Therefore, students may be immediately seated as they enter the
- 3. Only lunches should be on the tables. (no toys or books etc.)
- 4. receptacles and the floor should be cleaned of all debris. All students should leave their place clean for the next class. Trash is to be put in the waste
- S Other than use of the restroom facilities, students are not permitted to walk around the cafeteria. leave their lunch table. Everyone is to stay in her/his seat. Students are to ask permission from the supervising teacher to
- 6. Students should not be excessively noisy.
- 7. Students will be assigned to help wash tables after lunch.

Recess Procedures

are always two teachers or assistants on duty. ABSOLUTELY, NO ROUGH GAMES ARE Students are permitted to play in the schoolyard during their recess period. For insurance purposes, there

the Nurses Office. Parents will be notified by the nurse when necessary. to the Nurses Office. In the case of a serious accident or emergency, teachers will escort the student to the end bell. Children who have a minor accident on the playground will be escorted by another student PERMITTED AT ANYTIME. The teachers/assistants on duty will be present before the first bell and to

The following guidelines are expected:

- 1. No rough play, such as kicking or hitting another student.
- 2. Students must remain in the sight of an adult.
- 3. No standing on picnic tables or climbing trees.4. Playground equipment is to be used properly.
- outside of the bridge.) Playground equipment is to be used properly. (example-do not walk up the slide or crawl on the
- No running or playing on the stairs or the ramp in front of the parish center
- No running or playing in the prayer garden or in the flower beds
- 7. Students will exhibit sportsmanship in all play.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

day before the Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter holidays, the final day of Catholic Schools Week and dismissal time until 5:30 PM. Registration is required and is offered on a first come, first serve basis. the last day of school. The program begins on the first full day of classes in September and is held from St. Francis' Before/After-School Programs are open for all students. The aftercare program is not held the will likely result in removal from the program. Weekly payment is expected using the FACTS program. Payment that is delinquent more than two weeks

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

academic and physical requirements. Activities for students in grades 5-8 are field hockey, basketball, should not interfere with academic progress. soccer, golf, lacrosse, baseball, band and choir participation. These activities are extracurricular and St. Francis de Sales School offers several activities in which the students may participate if they meet the

so that one has the opportunity to develop intellectually, morally, emotionally, physically and culturally. fee. Students who participate in a sport must pay the required fee before playing in a game For a well-rounded education, we offer a balance between academic studies and extracurricular activities Parental permission is required for students who participate in these programs. Activities may require a

improvement as described by the administration. Students who participate in sports activities must average may not participate in the activity until issued progress reports (report cards) or show adequate Satisfactory in Conduct and Effort during participation. Students who do not maintain a C or above maintain a yearly physical examination by a physician. A student who participates in any school or sport activity must maintain grades of C or above and at least

may not be able to participate in games. The principal holds the final decision on any issue relating to or be present on school property. Students who miss excessive amounts of practice without permission *Students who are absent from school may not participate in or be present at any activity after school

COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

and, at the same time, helps you keep in touch with the school. Proper audience behavior and etiquette is Parents are invited and encouraged to attend any community meeting, school assembly, function, Mass/Prayer Services, etc., even if their child is not actively participating. Your presence gives support

FIELD TRIPS

signed and returned to school. Forms, other than the school form, will not be accepted. Any student who participate in the field trip. If a student will not be participating, they will stay home from school. fails to submit the St. Francis de Sales Permission Form signed by a parent will not be allowed to behavioral requirements. When such trips are being planned, permission forms will be sent home to be considered a privilege, and a student may be denied participation if she/he fails to meet academic or Periodically, students are taken on field trips as a part of their educational program. These trips are participate. Telephone calls or a fax are not accepted in lieu of the proper form being completed. No refunds for the cost of the trip are given. A parent has the right to refuse to allow the child to

participate in the field trip will be marked absent. *Siblings may not accompany students and/or parent chaperones on field trips. Any student who does not

Diocese of Wilmongton in order to accompany the students. Chaperones and other adults will not All chaperones or other adult attendees must be cleared through a background check process by the

through the classroom teacher and only if they have clearance from the Diocese first. to travel with the class by bus, parents may in some cases follow or meet the bus. This MUST be cleared supervised by the classroom teacher and cleared volunteer parents.) If for some reason a parent is unable participate in field trips in any capacity without receiving clearance from the Diocese first. (All trips are

participating in a field trip, all school policies and procedures apply. The Diocese of Wilmington does with the teacher. The school is not liable for any accidents or injuries occurring during a class trip. When Students must remain for the entire class trip and will be dismissed from school unless previously planned not permit overnight trips.

TUITION AND VOLUNTEERING

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

signed up for direct withdrawal using the FACTS program. The only exception is when paying in full Fundraising, tuition assistance and contributions from the parish support the rest of the funds needed. with one payment. This requirement is part of the signed legal tuition contract. Tuition paid is non-refundable and payments are expected to be current. Monthly payments must be Tuition covers approximately 75% of the total cost of educating a student at St. Francis de Sales School.

dues, Before/After School Care Programs, failure to complete volunteer hours, uniforms, team or corecords. Other fees include the annual registration/re-enrollment payment. Additional fees include H.S.A. will prohibit re-enrollment for the following year. It will also prevent parents from receiving student disenrollment from the school. Failure to complete financial obligations by the end of the school year curricular activity, class activities and field trips. Please note that excessive delinquency of a family's financial obligations to the school may result in

Business Office (410-742-6443). Flanagan, immediately in order to make arrangements. All tuition transactions are handled through the A parent who is having unexpected financial difficulties should inform the business manager, Susan

VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT

uncompleted service hours up to \$300. Families are responsible for reporting their own hours using the complete the hours of volunteer service by the end of the fiscal year will result in a fee of \$15/hour for trips, field day, coaching, etc. Volunteer hours are required to be completed by May 31. Failure to many opportunities to help the school. This includes helping with lunch/recess, chaperoning dances, field Parents are required to give no less than 20 hours of volunteer service during the school year. There are School, additional fees are derived from each family's participation in support of various fundraisers. Since tuition and parish subsidy do not cover the cost of educating each child at St. Francis de Sales form found in the parent portal of PowerSchool.

SCRIP REWARDS for Volunteer Hours and Tuition Support

please contact the business office at sflanagan@visitstfrancis.org. Here is how the reward program school gives families half of the value of the rebate given by the vendor from this program. For questions purchase of SCRIP gift cards. This applies to both gift cards and online Raise Right app purchases. The St. Francis de Sales Catholic School families earn both volunteer hours and tuition money as a reward for

- The school incurs a \$30 administrative fee to cover mailing, copying and labor expenses. Once a family's SCRIP purchases have covered this fee, they begin to begin to earn rewards
- 2 For each \$2,000 in total purchases, families earn 5 volunteer hours for the current school year.
- $\dot{\mathfrak{S}}$ after purchases cover the administrative fee, a gift card for Food Lion for \$100.00 yields \$2.50 toward Families earn one half of the rebate amount for tuition credit for the **next** school year. For example,
- 4. extra for families while greatly benefiting our school. classroom needs, technology, and playground equipment. Support for this endeavor costs nothing funds are used for programs and resources that directly impact students. These include assemblies, The profits from SCRIP are directly deposited in the Home and School Association account. These

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

and lunch helpers) must complete a Criminal Background Check and receive clearance in order to be with application is done online and once cleared lasts for 5 years. our children. Individuals will pay \$45 for a code from the office to be used by the vendor. The employees and volunteers (including but not limited to coaches, service providers, chaperones, classroom In accordance with the Diocese of Wilmington's "For the Sake of God's Children" mandate, ALL

PRINCIPAL'S RIGHT TO AMEND

retains the right to amend this handbook for just cause at any time during the school year. For the most procedures for St. Francis de Sales. The administration reserves the right to rule on individual issues and its most current edition. up-to-date version of the Parent-Student Handbook, families are asked to refer to the school website for This handbook is printed in the summer. Every effort is made to include the most recent policies and

Revised - July 2025



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St. Francis de Sales Catholic School

August 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	Diocese of Wilmington New Teacher Orientation Day	14 Diocese of Wilmington New Teacher Orientation Day	15	16	
17	18	19	Spirituality Day with the Bishop	21	22	23	
24	25 Faculty/Staff Meeting 9:00 AM	Faculty/Staff PD 8:00 AM	Faculty/Staff PD/Retreat 8:30 AM Mass	Meet your Teacher OPEN HOUSE 12:30-2:30 PM *See information below	SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED	30	
31		* Middle School Orientation for 6th Grade only 11:00 am * 1st Grade Parent Meeting 11:00 am © 2011-2022 by Vertex42.com. Free to Print. https://www.vertex42.com/calendars/school-calendar.html					



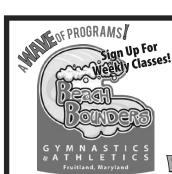




St. Francis de Sales Catholic School

September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Labor Day School Office Closed	First Day of School 12:00 Dismissal Before/Aftercare Begins	3	Individual School Pictures	Group School Pictures	6
7	8 School Lunch begins	Back to School Night in Parish Center-6:00pm	10 8:30 Mass	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 8:30 Mass Student Council Induction Ceremony after Mass	18	Summer Reading & Math Reward	20
21	22	STAR Reading Assesments	Faculty Level Meetings 3:30 PM	25 Bishop Koenig Visit 11:00 Mass	26	27
Confirmation Meeting 11:30	29	STAR Math Assessments				
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St. Francis de Sales Catholic School

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:30 Mass	2	3	Blessing of the Pets
5	6	7	8 8:30 Mass	9 H.S.A. BINGO 6:00 PM	T1 Interim	11
12	SCHOOL CLOSED Columbus Day	14	15 8:30 Mass	16	17	18
19	SCHOOL CLOSED Parent/Teacher Conferences 8:00-4:30	12:00 Dismissal Diocesan Professional Dev. NO AFTERCARE	22 8:30 Mass	23	24	Fall Festival/ Trunk or Treat 10:00 am-12:00 pm Parish Center
Youth Ministry 7th Grade & up Bonfire	27	28	29 8:30 Mass	Faculty Meeting 3:30 PM	31 Happy Halloween	
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St. Francis de Sales Catholic School

November 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						All Saints' Day
Vocation Awareness Week	3 1st Day for	4	5 8:30 Mass	6	7 Golf Tournament	8
Awareness week	Regular Uniforms				Athletic Assoc.	
9	10	STAR Reading Assessments	12 8:30 Mass Veterans Service immediately after Mass	13	14	Diocesan High School Placement Test (8th Grade)
Diocesan High School Placement Test (8th Grade)	17	STAR Math Assessments	19 8:30 Mass Faculty Level Meetings 3:30PM	20	21	22
23	24	25 NO AFTERCARE End of Trimester 1	26 SCHOOL CLOSED	Thanksgiving SCHOOL CLOSED	28 SCHOOL CLOSED	29
30		Thank Makanji			© 2011-2022 by \https://www.vertex42.com/cale	/ertex42.com. Free to Print. ndars/school-calendar.html



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St. Francis de Sales Catholic School

December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	SCHOOL REOPENS	2	3 8:30 Mass	4	5	Santa Social Breakfast 9:00-12:30
7	Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass 8:30 AM	Trimester 1 Report Cards in PowerSchool	10	11	12 Nutcracker	13
14	15	Elementary Choir and Christmas Pageant 6:00	17 8:30 Mass Band and Middle School Choir Concert 6:00	18	Early Education Christmas Concert 1:30 No aftercare	20
21	SCHOOL	23 CLOSED - CHRIS	24 TMAS HOLIDAY	25 Christmas	26	27
28	SCHOOL CLO	30 DSED	31			
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St. Francis de Sales Catholic School

January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				Happy New Year	2	3
4	5 SCHOOL REOPENS	6 Feast of the Ephipany	7 8:30 Mass	SCHOOL 8	9	10
11	12	13	14 8:30 Mass	15	16	17
18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day SCHOOL CLOSED	20 First Reconciliation Service	21 8:30 Mass Faculty Meeting	22	23 March for Life T2 Interim H.S.A.	24
25	26	6:30 PM SFdS Church 27 CATHOLIC SCHOOL	3:30 PM 28 8:30 Mass	Talent Show 6:00 PM	Family Social 30 8:30am Grandparents' D Prayer Breakfast 12:00 Dismissal No aftercare	31
		MARTINIATHER RING	J. VVI. L.IX	•		Vertex42.com. Free to Print. endars/school-calendar.html





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St. Francis de Sales Catholic School

February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 8:30 Mass	5	Athletic Assoc./ Knights of Columbus Bull Roast 6:00	7
8	9	10	11 8:30 Mass	Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30-5:30 pm	12:00 Dismissal Aftercare Available Parent/Teacher Conferences 12:30-5:30	14
15	President's Day SCHOOL CLOSED	17	18 8:30 Mass ASH WEDNESDAY	STAR Reading Assessments	Stations of the Cross 2:15 PM	21
22	23	STAR Math Assessments	25 8:30 Mass Faculty Meeting 3:30 PM	26	Stations of the Cross 2:15 PM ASP Fish Dinner	28
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Birthday Parties!



March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 8:30 Mass	5	End of Trimester 2 Stations of the Cross 2:15 PM	7
8	9	10	11 8:30 Mass	12	Stations of the Cross 2:15 PM ASP Crabcake Dinner	14
15	16 SCHOOL CLOSED Diocesan Professional Development Day for Teachers	Report card access Open Parent Portal of PowerSchool	18 8:30 Mass	19	Stations of the Cross 2:15 PM H.S.A. Family Social	21
22	23	24	25 8:30 Mass	Faculty Level Meetings 3:30 PM	LIVE Stations of the Cross 2:00 PM ASP Fish Dinner	28
PALM SUNDAY	30	31				
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St. Francis de Sales Catholic School

April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:30 Mass All School Retreat 12:00 Dismissal No Aftercare	Holy Thursday SCHOOL CLC	Good Friday	4
5	6	7 SCHOOL CLO	8 OSED April 2-April 1	9 0	10	11
12	H.S.A. Easter Egg Hunt SCHOOL REOPENS Spring Uniform Begins	14	15 8:30 Mass	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 8:30 Mass	Middle School Play 1:15 & 6:00	T3 Interim	25
26	27	28	29 8:30 Mass Faculty Meeting 3:30 PM	30		
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St. Francis de Sales Catholic School

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	AUCTION GALA Kentucky Derby 6:30 PM Parish Center
3	4	5 STAR Reading Assessments	6 8:30 Mass	7	PreK 3 Mother's Day Picnic 11:00 Rectory lawn/Parish Center	9
10	11	STAR Math Assessments	13 8:30 Mass NJHS Induction Ceremony after Mass	14	15	16
17	18	All School Band & Choir Concert 6:00	20 8:30 Mass Sports Awards 6:00	21	22	23
24 Pentecost	Memorial Day SCHOOL CLOSED	26	27 8:30 Mass Faculty Meeting 3:30 PM	28	29 7th&8th Gr. Dance 7-9:30	30
H.S.A. Volunteer Hours due in the PowerSchool Parent Portal		memorial DAY	Tracarty Freeting 5.50 FM	1		ertex42.com. Free to Print.

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St. Francis de Sales Catholic School

June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 8:30 Mass Passing the Torch Ceremony after Mass - 8th Gr. Fun Day 12:00 Dismissal for 8th Grade only	4	5 PreK3-2nd gr. Field Day - 12:00 Dismissal Aftercare Available 8th Grade Graduation Mass and Awards 5:00pm	6
First Eucharist 2:00 PM St. Francis de Sales Church	8	9	10 8:30 Mass PreK 3 End of Year Picnic 11:00 Rectory lawn/Parish Center Last Day of Aftercare	Field Day Grades 3-7 12:00 Dismissal No Aftercare	Last Day of School 12:00 Dismissal End of Trimester 3 No Aftercare	13
14	Faculty/Staff Report	16 Faculty/Staff Report	17 Faculty/Staff Report	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
		Sammer			© 2011-2022 by Ve https://www.vertex42.com/calend	rtex42.com. Free to Print. dars/school-calendar.html



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St. Francis de Sales Catholic School

July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
			1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30	31		
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