



Mary of Nazareth Catholic School

A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence



August 25, 2021

Dear Parents,

We are excited to welcome all students back to the building in less than two weeks. As we have navigated the summer months, we continue to modify our approach regarding our return to follow CDC, Archdiocese of Washington, and local jurisdiction guidance for schools. See letter from the Secretary for Catholic Schools [HERE](#). The school administration and the Strategic Planning Committee of the Mary of Nazareth School Board of Directors have been in contact throughout the summer to ensure a collaborative approach as we return to in person instruction. Please review the MoN Reopening Plan [HERE](#).

Several events have been adjusted as a result of the most recent CDC and ADW Guidelines for schools. Please review the calendar updates in the Newsletter regarding Open House, Opening School Mass, Back to School Night and the Back to School 'Picnic'. [See Calendar Here](#)

Although our search for a STREAM Coordinator continues, I wanted to keep you abreast of new hires and teaching responsibilities for the 2021-2022 school year. Please note:

Mr. Humphries, middle school Social Studies teacher, will be on paternity leave until Wednesday, September 16. I will be teaching his classes until he returns. Please keep the Humphries family in your prayers at this exciting time.

Mrs. Joy Dyer, MoN parent and soon to be former HSA President, will be joining Ms. Amy Ebner and the PreK team as a teaching assistant. Mrs. Dyer has spent time in our preschool previously and she will transition seamlessly into her new role on staff. She will no longer be our afternoon carpool engineer.

Mrs. Kara Johnson will be our Resource Director. Mrs. Johnson is a National Certified Counselor with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from St. Bonaventure University and a Master's in School Counseling from George Washington University. She has extensive experience supporting students, families, and teachers after seventeen years in the field and thirteen years as a school counselor at St. John College High School in Washington, DC. Mrs. Johnson will be an asset to our school community and she is looking forward to joining us.

Fourth and fifth grade will continue a team-teaching approach, focusing on teacher strengths and experience. Please note the following:

Mrs. Angelika Clark	4th and 5th grade Language Arts
Mr. Matthew DuVall	4th and 5th Grade Science and 4th and 5th Grade Math
Ms. Theresa Finucane	4th Grade Math
Mrs. Holly Magidson	4th Grade Social Studies and 4th and 5th Grade Language Arts
Mrs. Victoria Posner	5th Grade Math, Religion, and Language Arts
Mrs. Jane Rice	4th Grade Religion
Mrs. Tracy Sanchez	4th and 5th Grade Math
Mrs. Anna Savage	4th Grade Language Arts and Religion and 5th Grade Social Studies

Mrs. Krysia Novotny has been nominated to be our Home and School Association President. Please review this nomination and biography in this week's newsletter. The vote will take place at the virtual HSA meeting scheduled for 6:30pm on Wednesday, September 8. Mrs. Novotny has volunteered extensively over the years and she is looking forward to serving the Mary of Nazareth School community in this leadership position.

As you are aware, raising and teaching children in a COVID environment required flexibility and, in some cases, leniency last school year. I was hoping the 'relaxed uniform' and 'no haircut, no worries' ships would have sailed by 8:00am on Tuesday, September 7, but I understand there have been challenges with shipping and purchasing items with Flynn and O'Hara. As such, the policy for the first few weeks will be for students to dress as closely to the uniform of the day as possible. Thankfully barbers, all black sneakers, and all white sneakers are in season and available to all. Ensuring your child is in uniform will help us start off on a positive note. We appreciate your cooperation. [Uniform Requirements Here](#)

Hot lunch will begin at the earliest on Tuesday, November 2. After considerable research and communicating with a variety of vendors, we are planning to utilize Yay Lunch. Yay Lunch is a paid lunch service provider that delivers restaurant meals, selected by you, to the school for your child's lunch. Several ADW schools currently use this service including St. Raphael, St. Patrick, St. Mary, and Mother of God, as well as many other schools in the area. Please see the newsletter for more information about Yay Lunch. (See YAY Lunch flyer [HERE.](#)) Please contact [Mrs. Lisa Payne-Abreu](#) with any questions about Yay Lunch.

Milk will be available on the first day of school, Tuesday, September 7. To order milk and pay online, see link [HERE](#). Milk orders are due by Friday, September 3.

We will be returning to pre-COVID carpool procedures. Please take time to review Carpool Guidelines and Safety Reminders [HERE](#). Your cooperation, attentiveness, and willingness to follow instructions during morning and afternoon carpools is imperative to the safety of our students, faculty, and staff.

As I mentioned in my email earlier this summer, parents are now responsible for conducting a health screening and temperature check at home every morning. It may be prudent to keep a thermometer in your car. See the Requirements of the Health Screening [HERE](#).

Kindergarten parents will be permitted to drop their children off at the classroom for the first week of school only. If you plan on doing this, drive directly into the parking lot at the KFC and walk over to school.

As always, #theresnoplacelikemon. I can't wait to get started and see many of you at Open House next week.

Sincerely,



Michael Friel