



August 26, 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome Back to St. Mary's School! We are very excited to start the 2021-2022 school year! There are a few back-to-school events and procedures to start the year.

1. The first day of school is Tuesday, September 7th. Buses will be running that day and all riders are required to wear masks at all times on the bus. Students who are car riders can be dropped off at 7:40 and can be picked up in our car line on Father Jogues St. at 2:50 PM each day. Breakfast and lunch will be served, and as always, both are free to our students. We are still requiring you to fill out the Free and Reduced Lunch forms. We need this information for Federal Funding.  
The menu for the First Day is:  
Breakfast Cereal and Toast  
Lunch Hot Dogs/Michigan's, French Fries, Fruit and Carrot sticks
2. Everyone in the school is required to wear a mask. Please have your child practice wearing their masks before school so they are more comfortable with them on. We applaud our students for how well they wore their masks last year - they did a great job!
3. Again this year we will be following all CDC/Essex County Department of Health guidelines for COVID-19. Our school will emphasize the importance of vaccination, mask wearing, 3 feet social distancing is required, hand and respiratory hygiene, and overall good health. Our 2021-2022 reopening plan is attached.
4. **PLEASE JOIN US ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st ..... 4:00-6:00 PM!** We will be having a Back-to-School Meet and Greet event. This is the opportunity for you and your child to see the classroom, find their desk, meet the teacher, see their friends, and drop off their yearly school supplies.
5. You will be receiving an important letter signed by me and Linda Beers, Director of the Essex County Department of Health regarding testing for COVID-19 in our school. We ask that you fill out the online form to register your child for COVID testing. This year we have the opportunity to test your child in school so you do not have to wait for a Doctor's appointment. Please read this letter carefully and give permission for your child to be

tested throughout the school year. This is an initiative that is being offered throughout New York State and we are happy to provide the service at St. Mary's School.

The 2021-2022 school year promises to be one of the best ever! We have been awarded several grants to enhance our academic programs and our teachers have been very busy creating loving, secure, top-notch classrooms for our students. I am very excited to welcome everybody back!

Blessings to you all,

Sister Sharon Anne Dalton  
Principal