



August 2018

Dear KCS Families,

We hope that our KCS families are enjoying relaxed, carefree days of summer. While summer may just be getting into full swing, the staff and I are preparing for "opening day." Although September is a long way off, we have some general information to share with you. It is our hope that, come fall, this information will help your student have the best possible first day of school!

ORIENTATION

Orientation will be held at 159 Broadway at the St. Mary's campus on Tuesday, August 28th at 1pm for students in grades PK-4 and their parents. While parents meet with me, Pre-K & Kindergarten students will attend an orientation session with their new teachers. Transfer students will meet with students from the Kingston Catholic Student Council to get acquainted and tour the school. Orientation will last about an hour and is an important step in beginning school.

All students entering grade 5, and all transfer students in grades 6-8 are invited to an Open House at 235 Wall St. at the St. Joseph's campus on Wednesday, August 29th at 1:00pm. Families will be able to tour the building, meet our staff, and have questions answered. There will be also be a brief meeting about using Google Classroom at 1:30.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Classes begin on Wednesday, September 5, 2018. **There is an important time change this year as the elementary school students will be dropped off first. Our doors at the Broadway campus will open at 7:45. Arrival will be from 7:45-8:00am with classes beginning at 8:05. Students arriving after 8:00 will be considered tardy. Dismissal for the elementary building remains at 2:45.** Early drop-off, which began at 7:45 is no longer a necessary option. (This change in our starting time was necessary to equalize the length of the school day at both of our campuses.) **The middle school will now open at 8:00am, with homeroom from 8:00 – 8:10, and classes beginning at 8:15.** Students arriving after 8:10 will be considered tardy. Dismissal remains at 3:00 for the middle school.

The yearly calendar will be available on our website in mid-August. Half days, vacation days, and other important dates for the school year will be listed for your convenience. The after school and lunch programs will begin on Monday, September 10, 2018.

SUMMER READING & MATH PRACTICE

Our summer reading and math practice lists are available on our website on the homepage and on the teachers' classroom pages. All the information your scholar needs to complete the requirements for summer 2018 is posted. If you need assistance accessing this information, please call Mrs. Germano for grades K-4 at 331-9318, or Ms. Weeks at 339-4390 for middle school information. **Please remember that all book reports, templates, and/or study questions are due on the first day of school or on the dates indicated online..** These assignments will factor into first quarter ELA and/or Math grades and late work will not be accepted. So,

find a shady spot, or take advantage of a rainy afternoon, and help your children sharpen their skills! If you have questions or concerns regarding summer studies, please don't hesitate to call.

DROPPING OFF at the St. Mary's Campus

All "cars and walkers" and Pre-K students are to be dropped off in the back parking lot. Drop off begins when the teachers on duty arrive in the parking lot at 7:45am. *(Please do not leave your child in the back lot if you do not see the teachers.)* **Upon arrival, students will enter the building and report directly to their classrooms. Parents may not park in the back lot during morning drop off.*** At 8:00 the back doors will be locked and it will be necessary to bring students to the front doors and be signed in by a parent in the main office. Students arriving after 8:00 are considered tardy.

***Pre-K parents and "cars and walkers" parents wishing to walk their children to the door are asked to park on Broadway (in front of the building) and enter the back parking lot through the Broadway gate.** As buses load and unload on McEntee, parking, as well as dropping off students, is not permitted on this street.

DROPPING OFF at the St. Joseph's Campus

All "cars and walkers" students are to be dropped off at the playground gate on Wall St. Drop off begins at 8:00 when the teacher on duty arrives. *(Please do not leave your child if you do not see the teacher.)* **Upon arrival, students will enter the building and report directly to their classrooms.** Homeroom concludes at 8:10am. Students arriving after this time are **considered** tardy.

ALL BUS STUDENTS

It is strongly recommended that your child ride the bus to school on the first day of school. This will establish the year's bus route and assist our staff in ensuring that your child rides the correct bus home. Kindergarten parents who are anxious about this may wish to "follow the bus."

EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM

The Extended Day Program will begin on Monday, September 10, 2018 at both campuses. The Extended Day team is already gearing up for a fun filled school year! The KCS Extended Day Program includes snack time (Please be sure to send an extra snack and drink if your child is remaining after school.), homework help, free play, organized games, arts & crafts, the use of the playgrounds and gym, plus access to all other after school activities. Students attending this program **must be registered** in the program before they can attend.

Registration forms can be found on our website. The Extended Day program is available at both campuses and fees can be found on line as well.

UNIFORMS

The Kingston Catholic community has selected Land's End to supply our uniforms. All students will be expected to be in **full uniform** on the first day of school. This is also a good time to review the policy on jewelry, make-up, **hairstyle and coloring found** in the parent/student handbook. **A reminder that boy's hair MUST be above the collar and not represent any type of hair fad and both boy's and girl's hair must be out of their eyes and be free of dye and coloring. Additionally, artificial nails, or nail polish are not permitted in school.** Please remember that school shoes may not resemble sneakers in any way. Please be sure your student complies with the school rules. It is very upsetting for students to be removed from classes during the first week because they are still sporting a summer hairstyle, hair color, or nail polish. A full explanation of school policies and uniform guidelines can be found in the Parent/Student Handbook on our website. The updated handbook will be posted prior to orientation.

MILK, LUNCH & SNACK

Milk and lunch will be available beginning September 10th, the first full week of school. The cost of milk for this school year is \$65.00 (thirty six cents/day), which covers the entire school year. Please remit a check for the full amount on or before Friday, September 7th. There will be no refunds for absences, snow days, or days when your child decides not to have milk.

The cost of lunch, which consists of an entrée, side, and fruit, is \$4.50 for the coming school year. Lunch orders accompanied by payment must be placed by Friday for the following week. Please be aware of the following guidelines if you elect to use the lunch program. ***When your child is absent, lunch money will not be refunded or credited to the following week.*** (Only in the event of snow days will lunch money carry over.) Please be sure to return your first lunch menu by Friday, September 7, 2018. Additionally, please be sure to pack a healthy snack and water for your child each day.

All students at KCS have a snack break during the morning. Please be sure to pack a nutritious snack and water for your child. Water is the only beverage students are permitted at their desks- including snack time. Students are welcome to bring juice, milk, etc...for lunch.

SUPPLIES

Your student needs a lunch box and a backpack to begin the school year. Supplies needed for each grade level are listed in the welcome letter from your children's teachers. These letters are available on our website at www.kingstoncatholicschool.com.

SPIRIT SHIRTS

Our graduation class has selected the theme, "On Track for Success!" for the course of the school year. The eighth graders also contributed to a T-shirt design that depicts the theme. These T-shirts are part of the required uniform at KCS and are worn every First Friday of the month and on other special occasions. They will come home with your child the first week of school.

VOLUNTEERS

Any amount of time your family can give to our many events is sincerely appreciated. **Any adult who wishes to volunteer in any capacity (lunchroom, playground, field trips, classroom helpers, etc...) at KCS must complete an Archdiocesan background check and Safer Spaces on-line training.** (If you attended a session during a previous school year, you do **not** need to repeat the training.) Please contact Mrs. Germano at 331-9318 or Ms. Weeks at 339-4390 for more information. Please note that until you have completed the on-line training and background check, you will not be able to volunteer at KCS.

MEDICATION POLICY

Please review our medication policy in the handbook. (The Parent-Student Handbook can be found on our website under News & Information prior to the start of school.) As always, children may not carry medication with them at any time during the school day.

FAMILY COMMUNICATION

Each Wednesday all of the information your family needs for the coming week will be posted on the "family updates" section of the Kingston Catholic web site and e-mailed to you at your e-mail address in our TADs educate system. (If your e-mail address has changed, please be sure to let our office staff know.) Here you will find all you need to know about upcoming events, activities, and programs. You will also find weekly lunch order forms, signup sheets for after school activities, and much more. Please be sure to check this section of the web page each week, read the contents carefully, print anything your family needs to send to school and return

it to school in your family envelope by Friday. In addition, upcoming events are listed on the Home Page as well as in the School Updates section.

THE KINGSTON CATHOLIC SCHOOL FAMILY ORGANIZATION (KCSFO)

The KCSFO is a vital service organization of Kingston Catholic School. This group of dedicated parents and school staff plan educational enrichment activities, social events, and help fundraise to support the school and its programs. **All KCS parents are welcome to be part of this important group.** The first event hosted by the KCSFO will be our Welcome Picnic on Tuesday, August 28th at Post Park at 6pm. The picnic is held rain or shine.

****BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT ****

Back- To-School Night will be held on Tuesday, September 11th at 6:00pm for students in grades PK-4 and Thursday, September 13th at 6:00pm for students in grades 5-8. This is an important event and is designed to get your students' school year off to a great start! I urge every parent to attend this evening, meet your children's teachers, and learn what is ahead for this school year.

We realize that this letter contains a great deal of information! If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call school. Our summer hours are Monday-Thursday from 8:00am-12:30pm. If you call and miss us, please feel free to leave a message and we will return your call. Vice-Principal Vines, the faculty, staff and I look forward to a productive and rewarding school year. Enjoy the warm and wonderful days of August!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Albert, Principal



See Tentative Faculty Listing Attached





2018-2019 KINGSTON CATHOLIC STAFF



Administration:

Principal: Mrs. Jill Albert

Vice-Principal: Ms. Jodi Vines; Elementary School

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Dennise Germano; Elementary School

Administrative Assistant: Ms. Linda Weeks; Middle School

Tuition Manager/Financial Aide: Ms. Marie DiIulio

The Middle School Team:

Grade 8 Homeroom Teacher: Mrs. Ann Mino (Social Studies 7 & 8, ELA 7 & 8, Religion)

Grade 7 Homeroom Teacher: Mrs. Pattie Balcanoff (Math 7, 8, 9, Science 8, Earth Science)

Teacher: Mrs. Monica Gonzalez (Spanish 7 & 8)

Grade 6 Homeroom Teacher: Mrs. Larissa O'Neill (Soc. St. 5&6, ELA 6, Math 6, & Religion 6 & 7)

Grade 5 Homeroom Teacher: Ms. Briana Metelski (Science 5, 6, 7, ELA 5, Math 5, & Religion 5)

Teacher: Mrs. Deirdre Gould (Spanish 5 & 6)

Teaching Assistant: Ms. Dianna DiIulio (ELA & Math 5 & 6)

Health Grades 5-8: Ms. Nicole Tarcza

Public Speaking & Writers Workshop Grades 5-8: Mrs. Lise Hopson

The Elementary School Team:

Grade 4 Teacher: Mrs. Deborah Ressa

Grade 3 Teacher: Mrs. Ruth Naccarato

Grade 2 Teacher: Mrs. Erin McDermott

Grade 1 Teacher: Mrs. Sandra Heaney

Grade K Teacher: Mrs. Laura Geskie

Pre-K Mrs. Sue Scanlon

Spanish: Mrs. Deirdre Gould

Special Area Teachers:

LLI Reading Support: Mrs. Gina Nuzzo

Art: Mrs. Melissa Cascio

P. E. Teacher: Mr. Matthew Levinson

Classroom Music: Mr. David Kwiecinski

Library: Ms. Nicole Tarcza

Extended Day Program: Elementary School- Mrs. Maria DiIulio & staff; Middle School- Ms. Abbey Ressa & staff

Lunch Program: Elementary School- Mrs. Jan Miller & Middle School- Mrs. Coleen Mann

Teacher Aides:

Mrs. Maria DiIulio, Mrs. Sue Hines, Mrs. Kristin Jackson, Mrs. Jan Miller, Ms. Abbey Ressa

Kingston City Schools Teachers & Staff

School Nurses: Mrs. Nancy Shults (elementary school), Mrs. Linda Fitzpatrick (middle school)

Resource Room Teachers: TBD (elementary school) & Mrs. Beth Allen (middle school),

RTI Math Instruction: Mrs. Rachel Harberski (elementary school), TBD (middle school)

Occupational Therapist: Mrs. Megan Sheth

Speech Therapist: Mr. Craig Storch (elementary school) & Ms. Mary Rua (middle school)

Social Worker: Ms. Jenna Jacobi