

OPENING DAY

Monday, August 27, 2018, is a full day, **8:00 a.m.** to **2:45 p.m.**, for students in **grades 1-8**. **Kindergarten will begin on Tuesday, September 4, 2018**. Kindergarten Screening will take place on August 28-30.

Note: Class assignments will be posted by homerooms. **Students should NOT arrive before 7:15 a.m.** Students in grades K-8 arriving between 7:15- 7:40 a.m. will go to Saint Joseph Hall (cafeteria).

All students in grades 1-8 will wear the full uniform from the first day of school. Kindergarten students wear casual school clothes according to regulations to be explained at a separate orientation scheduled for these parents on Tuesday, August 21, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. in Saint Joseph Hall (cafeteria).



ATTENDANCE

ABSENCE: Parents call the school office by 9:00 a.m. to report their child's absence. Upon returning to school, the child must present to the teacher a **written** explanation for the absence signed by the parent. **Please note:** Unexcused absences will be considered unlawful.

EARLY DISMISSAL: Requests for early dismissal must be presented in writing at least one day in advance and should be for serious reasons only. **All early dismissals must be before 2:15.**

No one is permitted to be picked-up after 2:15 p.m. The office has a number of responsibilities at dismissal time to ensure all students get home safely and by their correct mode of transportation. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

TARDY: Students must be IN THEIR HOMEROOMS by **8:00 a.m.**

1. Parents will be notified in writing for each unexcused tardy.
2. Students will be permitted four unexcused tardies without penalty in a trimester.
3. **At the 5th unexcused tardy, the child will be assigned detention.**

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

The school supplies list can be found on the school website. Students in grades 1-4 will need to purchase special tablets and/or copybooks through the school. All students in grades 2-5 are required to purchase the school homework assignment book, and all students in grades 6-8 are required to purchase the middle school homework assignment book. If you pre-ordered a school supply kit through the Home & School Association, the fees for the extra supplies were paid, and your child will be issued the appropriate supplies during the first week of school.

UNIFORM DRESS CODE

NOTE: **Please read the uniform requirements in the Handbook or on the Website carefully.**

P.E. Sneakers - Students may wear any color supportive athletic sneakers for P.E. class. Sneakers that light up/flash, make sounds, or have wheels are not permitted. All sneakers must be non-scuff soles.

RECYCLED UNIFORMS

School uniforms, gym uniforms, blouses, sweaters, tops, and ties may be available. Please visit the uniform closet located at the entrance to the school or call the school office (766-2564) for more information.

MEDICATION

In the past few years, the amount of medicine being sent to school with students has increased considerably. School health services have mandated procedures that must be followed. Please refer to the St. Joseph School Student Handbook for these mandated procedures. If you have any questions, please call the school office at 766-2564.

LUNCH

We will no longer be microwaving packed lunches during lunch periods. The cafeteria staff and volunteers are needed to help students throughout lunch times and cannot be running items to the kitchen to heat up. Please be sure to pack your child's lunch accordingly, or have your child purchase lunch from the school lunch program.

STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

Beginning this school year, SJS will be piloting a new student information system for the Diocese of Harrisburg. We will be using Rediker in place of MMS. Student grades, teacher pages, etc. will all be accessed through this new site. We are currently working with the Diocese to set up the new system and will be sending out further information as soon as possible. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we go through this transition.

FURTHER BACK TO SCHOOL INFORMATION

Please visit our school website, www.sjsmch.org and click the Back to School tab for further information.



TRANSPORTATION (K-8)

Transportation is provided according to the school district in which you reside. **

Walkers or bike riders who need to cross Keller Street on their way to and from school should use the crosswalk at Chestnut and Keller. **BIKES SHOULD BE LEFT AT THE BIKE RACKS OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL.** Students **must** enter the school building by way of the main entrance.

MORNING DROP OFF

BUS: Buses will use the SIMPSON STREET entrance to the school. Children will be dropped off in the school parking lot at the front entrance to the building. Children are to proceed down the sidewalk to the entrance of the school.

CAR: Cars must enter the school parking lot at the KELLER STREET entrance closest to the church. Once in the parking lot, cars must proceed through one of the **two** lanes to the end of the parking area to discharge children. **Parents should not leave the vehicle while students are disembarking**, and children should NOT be discharged from cars in the bus lane. Children should then use the crosswalk to the sidewalk and walk to the main entrance of the school. Cars should exit the school parking lot onto Keller Street.

Do NOT discharge students onto Simpson, Keller, or Filbert Streets. Students are to use the main entrance of the school.

NOTE: If you are accompanying your child into the school, please park in the school parking lot, use the appropriate sidewalks, and enter the school at the main entrance. **It is not necessary to accompany your child into the building every day.**

AFTERNOON PICK UP

BUS: Buses will be lined up in the school parking lot, and students will be dismissed from school to buses near the main entrance. Buses will exit the school parking lot onto Keller Street.

CAR: All car riders and walkers will be dismissed together. Parents are to enter the parking lot at the KELLER STREET entrance closest to the church and park in the school parking lot. Cars should exit the school parking lot onto Keller Street.

NEVER ALLOW CHILDREN TO RUN BETWEEN PARKED OR MOVING VEHICLES.

NOTE: There is **NO STOPPING, STANDING, OR PARKING** on the school side of Keller Street.

PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN THE PRIMARY GRADES SHOULD BE SURE THAT CHILDREN KNOW THEIR BUS NUMBERS. A TAG WITH

THE BUS NUMBERS PINNED ON THE YOUNGER STUDENTS WOULD BE HELPFUL.

Please note that school buses will transport only those students assigned to ride a particular bus and who reside in that school district. **DO NOT ASK BUS DRIVERS TO TRANSPORT STUDENTS FROM ANOTHER DISTRICT TO YOUR HOME.**

CUMBERLAND VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT families who have children riding a transfer bus must provide their own transportation to the Cumberland Valley High School lot on the days Cumberland Valley is not in session. Bus service from the Cumberland Valley High School will be provided directly to Saint Joseph School. Cumberland Valley will provide direct bus service home from Saint Joseph School. Please allow for additional time on the homebound trip on these days.

****There is no transportation provided for preschool students. Separate information will be provided for preschool parents.**

DISMISSAL SAFETY TIPS

Students will be crossed by faculty/staff/parents (or their representatives) **only** at the crosswalks at Keller Street/ Chestnut Street by the church, and at Keller Street/ Filbert Street by the school playground. Students **may not** cross the street by themselves, and they **may not** cross in the middle of the street **at anytime**. Cars may not park or stop along the yellow-painted curb or by a sign that reads "no stopping or standing".

HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

The Home & School Association at Saint Joseph School was established to create an avenue for parents to get involved in their child's schooling by becoming active in the programs that support and enhance the education that they receive from our dedicated staff.

Our meetings are held monthly in the school cafeteria. Most months they will be held at 8:05 a.m., but during November and March, the meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. The meetings will appear on the monthly calendars on the school website. A variety of topics are discussed at each meeting, and input is welcomed from all attendees. Attendees also get to vote on the issues at hand. Our meetings are a wonderful way to stay informed of upcoming events at our school and have your voice heard. They are also a great way to give feedback on past events and make suggestions for new programs.

Our first meeting of the new school year will be held on Tuesday, September 11th, at 8:05 a.m. Please plan to join us and find out what we have planned for the new school year!