



Kindergarten News!

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Kindergarten at St. Francis of Assisi School. We are very excited to be here and hope that each of you feels the same. We are encouraged by the level of enthusiasm and involvement we've witnessed during our first days of school. We look forward to the many fun filled days yet to come. To ensure a successful school year we want to emphasize the importance of communication. Please feel free to come to us with any questions or concerns.

The easiest way for us to communicate is through your child's folder he/she brings to school daily. Please put notes, forms, or other important pieces of information in his/her folder. Students are required to turn their folder into a basket each day. Throughout the day, we go through each folder and retrieve any forms sent to school. Forms that "float" in backpacks tend to get lost or forgotten and as a result, we are unable to tend to them. We will also communicate with you via the folders. Please go through your child's folder with him/her each night and discuss the items sent home together!

Please be sure your child brings his/her folder (with his/her name on the outside of the folder) to school each day! Encourage your child to remember to turn in his/her folder as well. Folders that aren't turned in can cause a breakdown in the communication process.

We've listed some other important items below that need to be communicated to each family.

New Staff: We are pleased to have a new associate in kindergarten Julie Tracey will be with Mrs. Morris. We are very excited to add Julie into our kindergarten bunch!

Names: Please make sure your child's first and last names are on everything sent to school. This includes folders, backpacks, towel and clothing. As the weather begins to change, sweatshirts may be on and off throughout the day. Writing names on sweatshirts (and other personal belongings) will ensure that your child comes home with the sweatshirt they came to school wearing.

Friends: If your child will be going home with a friend or someone other than you or your usual carpool, *a note must be written stating your permission.*

Kids Care: If your child is normally scheduled for Kids Care on a particular day, and will not be going on that day, a note **must** be sent to school (**verbal notices can be forgotten in the rush of the drop-off procedure**). We will always send Kids Care kids to Kids Care unless we have received a notice telling us otherwise.

Birthdays: We will celebrate birthdays in Kindergarten. We will take the final minutes of the school day for your child to pass out his/her treats if you choose to send treats. Treats must be store-bought, individually wrapped items. If you choose to send treats, please refer to the safe snack list posted on the St. Francis website and/or that will be sent home the day before your child's birthday. We do have severe allergies at St. Francis School. Treats will not be eaten in the classroom. The students will be asked to put them in their backpacks to eat at home. You will receive a reminder before your child's birthday regarding treat purchasing. Summer birthdays will be celebrated on ½ birthdays.

June birthdays will be celebrated in December.

July birthdays will be celebrated in January.

August birthdays not celebrated in Aug. will be celebrated in February

All About Me: Beginning in October we will highlight one child per week. This child will have a packet to fill out at home and return on Monday. He or she will shine on our "All About Me" bulletin board and have special opportunities throughout the week. We will celebrate your child at 11:30 on Friday's, this will allow you to stay for lunch and recess if you wish. We will discuss more details at Back to School Night.

Arrival and Pick-Up: This process is going great...we just need to fine-tune it a bit. Once we get to know you and your vehicles, this process will improve! At drop off we ask that your child let him/herself out of your vehicle and come stand in the kindergarten line. At pick-up we ask the students to sit on or stand by the curb right when we get outside. After we are all seated, if your child sees you standing nearby, he/she must tell us that they have found their mom or dad and that they are leaving. If you are first in the pick up line, please pull forward until you have reached the 1st orange cone or the 7075-address plaque on the school building. Our goal is to load about six cars at a time. In order to do so, the first car must always pull up to the first orange cone. When the first six cars in line are parked, we will walk or send your child to your car. To ensure that this

process runs efficiently, please pull ahead to the end of the parking lot and park to adjust seatbelts, etc. This process will take some time each day, however, we feel that the safety of your child is important enough to take that extra time.

We will have much more information for you on Back to School Night. Back to School Night will be on Sept. 1st at 7:00 pm. Topics to be addressed will include, Behavior Management Plan, Volunteer Opportunities, Mass Schedule, Curriculum, and other miscellaneous items. We will also provide a "Question Box" for you to write any questions you have for us that were not addressed during our presentation. These questions will be answered in a later newsletter.

We are off to a great start! Weekly Kindergarten newsletters will begin Friday, August 28th. These newsletters are sent via e-mail. Please check your e-mails every weekend for important updates and information regarding your child's kindergarten experience. Please do not hesitate to call during school hours (we will return the phone call as soon as possible), e-mail or send a note with any questions or concerns.

Thank you,
Mrs. Crandell, Mrs. Howard and Mrs. Morris

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