

8/2007

Summer greetings and welcome to all our families! In choosing Catholic school for your children, you continue to provide them with a commitment to the gospels and to show them the great variety of ways in which Christ comes alive in this world each day. Our faculty and staff look forward to the opportunity to really see your children in their gifts as well as their needs. We are here to provide the great reassurance of ritual, the constancy of community, and the paths to a prayerful life.

Our school opening begins on **Wednesday, September 5th for students in grades 5 to 8. There is no school on Wednesday for students in grades 1 to 4. Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup> is the first day of school for students in grades 1 to 4. There is no school on Thursday for grades 5 to 8. On Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, school is in session for all students in grades 1 to 8. Each day is a FULL DAY.** Please be sure your children have a bag lunch and drink. Our Milk/Beverage preordered drinks are not in effect. Our Hot Lunch program begins later in September. It is a commitment to nutrition and is a great benefit for your child. As wellness policies are being mandated in public school districts, the diocesan Nutritional Development Services administrators are able to pressure food providers to continually improve the wholesomeness of the products we serve. Lunch envelope/order forms, menus, and ordering instructions are included in this packet. Please note the change in beverage price and the alternate lunch choice from last year.

School begins at 8:15 every morning and will end at 3:05. **Your child must be in the cafeteria for our morning assembly to be considered on time.** Please set up your schedule to allow for unexpected delays in traffic, etc. Help your children to begin their day in a positive way. Uniforms are to be worn beginning with the first day of school. Summer uniforms are allowed until Monday, November 5th. On cooler days, uniform sweaters can be added and on gym days navy blue sweatpants may be worn. LaCrosse International is our official vendor for gym shorts. They are priced reasonably and are a good quality. Our uniform suppliers are Flynn & O'Hara along with Rose Uniforms. Scrip for both of these stores is sold at Immaculate. Take advantage of this convenient way to purchase uniforms while benefiting the parish. Just a note of caution – please do not purchase backless or slide shoes even though they are in style. All the children walk up and down stairs numerous times each day and slides are hazardous.

Curriculum changes in our support materials this year include McDougall-Littell American History © 2008 for Grades 7 & 8. Though it

is a large (and heavy) survey edition, we have the rights to the online text to facilitate homework completion and eliminate the need for students to carry the book to and from school; Scott-Foresman/Addison Wesley Science © 2008 will be piloted in Grade 5. You will notice a difference in the frequency of labs with this updated program; Grades K to 5 will be using the new Reading Street program from Scott-Foresman ©2007 (Grade 1 piloted the program last year); Reading tests in all grades will be Benchmark tests as opposed to Skills tests. They are more challenging for the students and require a higher level of thought and reflection to facilitate standards mastery; Grade 3 will be using a PA Community newsletter to support the Social Studies curriculum and Grade 1 will be piloting the Scott Foresman new Social Studies program; Kindergarten will be using the new Loyola Religion text ©2008. As outlined in our Middle States reaccreditation, assessment as well as “Understanding by Design” will continue to be an important focus as a guide to our instruction.

We will continue with our Second Step program, an empathy/tolerance based program. Teachers will be spending this year training in the Olweus Bullying program techniques by the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit. Second Step helps to provide a structure to the classroom meeting component of the bullying program. As outlined in our Middle States reaccreditation, assessment as well as “Understanding by Design” will continue to be an important focus as a guide to our instruction.

In selecting our support texts for our curriculum programs, an important component in our selection process is the integration of technology with the program. To that end, we continue to improve our technology hardware and software accessibility. SmartBoards will be installed in grades 6, 5, Honors Math, and the Library. A Laptop will be purchased for each classroom as a continuing step in our plan to have a SmartBoard in each classroom. Our ICS web page ([www.icsjenkintown.org](http://www.icsjenkintown.org).) will continue to be updated by our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to help keep you abreast of developments in all areas.

We hope that Summer Reading assignments are moving along with our students. Summer Reading is a mandatory assignment. Our Summer Review books are not mandatory but please do not discard them and return them to school by September 21<sup>st</sup>. We would like to see what the students were able to complete and will be sending parents a survey in September. Don't allow the books to be a “stress factor” as the summer wanes.

**Please return the salmon emergency form ASAP – the first week of school.** It is – as named – important for us to have this information for emergencies. When you return your emergency form, **please be sure to include your e-mail address.** We will be sending home a form in the first communication envelope where you will be asked to “opt in” if you want a hard copy of our weekly communication. Otherwise, you will receive our updated communications through our website. You will receive a reminder via email when the site is updated. We have added an additional line in the school office to expedite calls. The new number is 215-887-3560.

Families whose Financial Commitment Form is complete are receiving an invoice with the packet today. If you do not receive an invoice, please call the office for another form – Our business manager, Ellen Mahoney, needs to know the payment plan you choose before she can generate a statement.

We welcome our new staff members: **Mrs. Mary Krist, Ms. Laura Zielinski, Ms. Pat Harte, Mrs. Jane Tomaszewski, Mrs. Mary Beth Carroll, and Mr. Jack Carroll.** Mrs. Krist will be an aide in Grade 1 each morning until noon. She is an experienced aide who was a first grade aide at St. Cecilia’s and was most recently a co-teacher with CORA in Philadelphia. Our 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Ms. Zielinski, comes to us from Presentation B.V.M. where she also taught 4<sup>th</sup> grade and will complete her Master’s degree this year at St. Joseph’s University. Ms. Harte will be teaching 7<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies and will share 7<sup>th</sup> homeroom duties with Mr. Cooney. She is an experienced teacher having taught in Archdiocesan and most recently Social Studies in Lower Moreland school district. Mrs. Tomaszewski will be teaching Honors Math and is also an experienced teacher whose love is Math, Science, and Art. She is coming to us from Immaculate Heart of Mary where she taught 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Mrs. Carroll will be directing liturgical music for our liturgies with the children (Ms Mamrol will be organizing the readings and any practices we need) and Mr. Carroll will be offering guitar lessons after school.

We bid farewell to **Mrs. O’Hara** who retired but will still be serving as a substitute for us. **Ms. Chirillo** has accepted a position with the Central Bucks School District. We wish her the best as she continues in her teaching career. Both these teachers’ contributions to the Immaculate community were notable and many! **Mrs. Twohig** will continue to direct our May Procession and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation.

Our middle grade program will be taught as follows:

- Mrs. Cipolla:** 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Homeroom  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade ILA & Social Studies  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade ILA & Social Studies
- Mrs. Zygala:** Library K-8  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math
- Ms. Mamrol:** 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Religion  
Instructional Support 4-8  
Liturgical Planning
- Mr. Cooney:** 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Homeroom  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade ILA
- Ms. Harte:** 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Homeroom  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies
- Mrs. Hagarty:** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Homeroom  
7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math  
6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

We are grateful to Home & School for supporting us in so many ways. Look for our new Sally Foster Sale & Back to School Night in September. Then on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, our 7<sup>th</sup> parish auction/social, takes place. Your help is always appreciated. We thank you for your support and for assisting us in moving forward with our academic goals.

As always, we thank you for welcoming all of us into your children's lives,

**Pastor: Reverend Monsignor John J. Conahan**

Principal:	Mrs. Diane Greco
Kindergarten:	Mrs. Leslie Overmier
Kindergarten Aide:	Mrs. Veronica Parkes
Grade 1:	Ms. Noelle Gola
Grade 1 Aide:	Mrs. Mary Krist
Grade 2:	Mrs. Margaret Cooney
Grade 3:	Ms. Margaret Harmer
Grade 4:	Ms. Laura Zielinski
Grade 5:	Mrs. Kelly Weidner
Grade 6:	Mrs. Elena Cipolla
Grade 7:	Mr. William Cooney
	Ms. Pat Harte
Grade 8:	Mrs. Georgina Hagarty
Art & Computer:	Mrs. Teresa Heinz
Band:	Mr. Alexander Schmauk
Piano:	Mrs. Kathy Sandoski
Guitar:	Mr. Jack Carroll
Honors Math:	Mrs. Jane Tomaszewski
Library:	Mrs. Teresa Zygala
Liturgical Music:	Mrs. Mary Beth Carroll
Music:	Mrs. Denise Germont-Risser
P.E:	Ms. Kathleen Lauletta
Nurse:	Mrs. Linda Weissman
Secretary:	Mrs. Mary Zeccardi
Secretary:	Mrs. Mary Beth Albrecht
Intermediate Unit Staff:	
Reading & Math:	Mrs. Marge Ruppel
Speech:	Ms. Randi Chud
Counselor:	Mrs. Eileen Ford
Psychologist:	Mr. Jeff Bellos

PLEASE READ THE ENCLOSED INFORMATION. IT'S  
IMPORTANT! BE SURE TO CHECK BOTH SIDES.

God Bless,  
Mrs. Greco

## KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION DAY FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2005

During the time assigned for your kindergartner you remain with him/her as all of you become acquainted with one another in Mrs. Overmier's and Mrs. Parkes' classroom. Please report according to the schedule below:

### 8:45 - 9:15

Joseph Antenzozi  
Mary Grace Guerin  
Cameron Malinao  
Shannon Miller  
Theodore Walrond

### 9:30 - 10:00

Kathleen Campbell  
Peter Dougherty  
Marie Martin  
Jake Williams  
Devin Shenk

### 10:15 - 10:45

Jack Clark  
Amanda Kroll  
Tyler Mayes  
Mary Teresa O'Hara  
Tessa Sandre

### 11:00 - 11:30

Matthew Diffendal  
William Schwegler  
Siobhan Loughney  
Gina Sassane

Regular Kindergarten classes as well as the optional Extended Kindergarten Session (12:00 to 3:05) will begin on Monday, September 10th at 8:15. Dismissal for kindergarten will be at 12:00 from the back door of school. Extended Kindergarten Session children will dismiss with the rest of the school at 3:05. The projected fee schedule for the Extended Session is enclosed.

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--Just a reminder, please remember that in addition to jumpers & kilts, uniform **pants**, **shorts**, and **skorts** are to be purchased from our uniform suppliers. The quality and appearance is obvious. It is our uniform code. Uniforms are checked periodically during the school year and infractions are issued for students who are not in compliance. Shoes with soles that don't leave black marks on the floor are a plus in keeping our building clean. Your continued support is appreciated. Low top white sneakers (not running shoes) are allowed only with shorts or skorts.

--Please consult our school calendars (our summary and the monthly calendars) when you are making plans! They include the most up to date revisions.

--Our **Library Birthday Book program** will continue this year. Look for more information in September. Our Book Fair will take place in the fall and we plan to have it open on the weekend again.