



September 5 – 9, 2016

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, on your own intelligence do not rely; In all your ways be mindful of him and he will make straight your paths. ~Proverbs 3:5-6

TUESDAY – EARLY DISMISSAL

WELCOME BACK! With a successful Open House under our belts, we eagerly anticipate a successful first week back for the 2016 – 2017 school year! Thank heavens Tropical Storm Hermine spared us this past weekend and hopefully everyone was able to enjoy a relaxing Labor Day weekend.

Today our 4th through 8th grade students begin and hopefully all students remembered to bring lunch today as well as Thursday and Friday as our lunch program will begin next Monday.

WEDNESDAY – EARLY DISMISSAL

Today we welcome our Kindergarten through 3rd grade students! Please make sure your child brings lunch today and brings their name tag that came with the teacher letter.

THURSDAY – FULL DAY – BEFORE / AFTER CARE BEGINS

All students are to report for school today. Please make sure that all students come to school with their lunch. Before & After Care will begin today.

There will be a P.T.A. Board meeting this evening at 7:00.

FRIDAY – FULL DAY

Please join us for our first school liturgy today at 9:30. In honor of Grandparents' Day this past weekend, we invite all grandparents to join us at our liturgy.

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Arrival - For parents/guardians of K-8 students: when using the student drop off coming off of Bates Road, please do not get out of your car. Only students should disembark. When you get out of your car, you are holding up traffic and others cannot pass on Bates Road. If you need to get out of the car, you must park in the parking lot beyond the buses. I know some of our students are small and booster seats can be tricky, however our students are capable and this helps foster an 'I can do it' attitude in our students! Please go over rules of safety and practice with your child working with buckling and unbuckling their seatbelt. Let them amaze you with what they can do! And please, we are all harried in the morning, yelling or confronting a staff member or other parents who are trying to maintain order simply slows down the process. If you experience difficulty with the drop off procedure, please contact me after the students are in school. To maintain the flow of traffic we recommend that after drop off you continue out to County Line Road. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Dismissal – For parents/guardians of K-8 students: please know that during the first two weeks or so of school, our arrival and dismissal times may be a little slow. This will improve as our students become more accustomed to the procedure. Buses will be boarded and released first. If you or a relative/friend is picking up your child from school, please park in the parking lot, do not cross over/through the line of busses. As soon as we give the buses the all clear to leave, you may then move into the bus zone/access road and the children will be brought out to you. Please do not wait on the sidewalk as this creates a distraction for the students and the teachers. Also, during arrival and dismissal times our staff is responsible for the safety of all the children coming and going. Any discussions with you detract from their attention to the children. Again, I thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

HANDBOOK

This week the youngest student in each family (K-8) will bring home the 2016 – 2017 Parent/Student Handbook. The policies and procedures in our Handbook are necessities, the purpose of which is to keep our school environment safe and clean. Please complete and return the form enclosed in the Handbook stating that you and your child/ren have read the handbook and agree to abide by its contents. Also included is an Acceptable Use Policy for the use of technology while in school. There is one form needed per family so please have each child and parent sign and return to school.

Please note changes to policies and procedures do occasionally occur as the school year progresses. I will share with you any changes to the calendar or policies/procedures in my weekly memo.

Information in the Handbook and the calendar may be found on our school website www.staloyssiusschool.com.

EMERGENCY FORMS

In the summer mailing you received a pre-printed emergency form for each student using the information that we have in our database system. We realize that over the years the information put on the emergency forms stays the same, so all we are asking is for the current information to be updated. Simply cross out any incorrect or outdated information and provide us with the updates. Even if there are no changes, please return all forms to school. Please keep in mind; the emergency numbers you give to the school should be of people who would be able to pick up your child in case of an emergency. For example, if we need to close early due to weather conditions, someone from your list who lives in northern New Jersey, or out-of-state, would not be able to pick up your child or meet them off the bus. I understand that many of you feel that you have cell numbers and can be reached at anytime, however, cell phones may not always be in working order and in an emergency situation we need to be able to contact an adult who is authorized to make immediate decisions in your absence. Please consider this carefully as you complete these forms.

HUGS

Our H.U.G.S. (Homework Under the Guidance of Staff) program will begin Monday, September 26 for students in grades 2 through 8. This is a service program offered by the staff of Saint Aloysius School. We begin right after school Monday through Thursday. Pick up is 4:15 at the gym lobby – the students will be brought out to you. If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact Mrs. Honan at honan@staloyssiusschool.com. A [schedule for days](#) in which H.U.G.S. is in session is posted on our school website.

AUTOMATED PHONE SYSTEM

All families should have received an automated phone message from me last evening. If you did not receive the message please send me an email with the phone number you wish to use for these messages so I can add it to our list.

I am looking forward to a great GATOR year! Have a terrific week and I look forward to seeing you at our Back to School Nights on the 15th and 19th.

Peace,
Ms. O'Connor