

The mission of St. Martin Catholic School is to teach a life of Prayer, Leadership, Love, Service and Kindness through Catholic Education.

August 31, 2020



"God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of sound mind" 2Tim 3:7

Dear Jaguar Families,

Happy 2020-2021 School Year!

The first week was so AWESOME!!!! I am enjoying being back among the students and staff. It is refreshing seeing the children, learning, asking questions, discovering, giggling and yes even occasionally whispering to one another in class - *trying not to get caught*- ALL those wonderful things that a kid should do in school. Our GOD IS WONDERFUL!!!! We thank him every day that we are back together where we should be.

Keep praying for a FULL year of learning, fun and organized chaos! It's just how we roll!!!!

This newsletter is stocked full of all the happenings in our school, what you as a parent need to know to help keep your student prepared and organized. Please read it carefully and if you have questions please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

FAITH OVER FEAR

COLOSSIANS PRAYER ... Our Daily Morning Prayer

This is our school prayer this year. Please continue to pray it as a family at home.

We are your chosen ones, holy and beloved. Help us to grow in heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. So **We** may bear with one another and be forgiving. If **We** have a grievance against another, may **We** be as forgiving as you have been with us. And over all these virtues may **We** put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. Let your perfect peace control our hearts, the peace that calls us into one body. **We** are thankful, in your holy name. AMEN

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Google Classroom will be the platform that the teachers will be using this year with the students. They will be posting daily assignments and announcements in this program. As a school we began using it last year during the shut-down and received many positive comments from many of you about how you like being able to see your child's assignments and could easily check on how they were doing.

The following tips/tricks will help you become more efficient in using it:

1. **Guardian email:** This is an absolute must! This is an email that will be generated to your account each time a new assignment is posted to Google Classroom. This will help you know what your child has due and what they are learning. When the teacher sends you the invite please accept it. Please let your child's homeroom teacher know the address you would like connected to google classroom.
2. **Submitting work:** The teachers and students are in the process of teaching/learning how to submit work. A great way to practice this at home is to have your child explain to you how they go about submitting their work. This way they become the teacher and you the student. It not only helps them become more proficient in the use of this platform but also helps them build reasoning and critical thinking skills when they have to explain the "why" it needs to be done a particular way.
3. **PASSWORD:** Your child has a NEW password this year. Their old one from last year does not work. Please ask your child's teacher if you are unsure of the password.
4. **FACTS & GOOGLE CLASSROOM:** One of the cool things about using both platforms FACTS and Google Classroom sync together. Graded assignments will simultaneously be entered into FACTS. It is a new feature the FACTS system is offering this year. However, like all new things in the tech world, there are some kinks that we are working on. Please be patient. Right now you might not see grades posted because of this. Hopefully we will have the "bugs" worked out by mid-quarter.

CHROMEBOOKS

Mrs. Boeckman and Mrs. Knox have been working hard to ensure each 4th-8th grade student has a chromebook/laptop. However, the fates are not cooperating with us, because of the age of our devices and the overall wear and tear on them we have found that several are broken - some in need of minor repairs and others beyond repair. I am in the process of ordering an additional 50 chromebooks with our CARES ACT MONEY. However, because every school in the nation

wants them, they are on backorder. Therefore, if your child has a chromebook (not a laptop because they can have a virus) with your permission they may bring it to school to use.

Just a reminder all Technology Agreement forms need to be filled-out and returned. Also, when a child is using a school device at home or using their own device while working on school assignments they are bound by this agreement and all expectations set by the school and its personnel. Thank you for helping your child develop proper Christian moral etiquette through technology.

RETAKE PICTURE DAY

School picture retake will happen on Sept. 21st. If your child will need to have their picture retaken or if they were not able to come to Open House please let the office know so that we can add them to the photographers schedule for the day.

If your child took pictures at Open House, you should have received an email from the picture company to view and order school pictures. If you did not receive your order code, you can look up your order code here <https://inter-state.com/myordercode> which will allow you to view their picture.

ST. MARTIN PARISH FALL DINNER

The parish will be hosting a drive-thru FALL DINNER on OCT. 4. The chairpersons, Mac Gano and Mariam Kuensting are in need of workers for that day. Please use the sign-up link to sign up to help. <https://signup.com/go/SffwfkX>

RETURN TO SCHOOL FORM

In trying to navigate through the COVID-19 health concerns along with the usual health concerns in a given school year, the school office has come up with a *GENERAL EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL GUIDELINES FOR ILL STUDENTS* form. If your child is sent home from school because they became ill at school this form will help you understand when he/she can return to school. We have attached a copy of this form for your reference.

Also, to help you understand the school's protocol for your child to return to school, if they have had COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, we have attached a flow chart explaining the process. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

FYI: If you have a family member tested for COVID-19 and receive a phone call from (573) 636-2181 please answer it, it is the Cole County Health Department calling with your results.

SCHOLASTIC BOOKFAIR

Our Scholastic Bookfair will be online this year. We are looking for a volunteer or a team of volunteers to help organize this. If you are able to help, please contact the office at school@stmartinjc.org. Thank you!

JAGUAR CLUB

We are looking for parents, grandparents, and/or parishioners to help with ARRIVAL time. We have found that having extra hands available when the students arrive is a blessing. With the need to direct traffic, open car doors, take temperatures and sanitize hands, there is a need for extra volunteers. Arrival time is from 7:00-7:30. You would need to be here at 6:55 and you will be finished no later than 7:30. Maybe get a group of your friends and all of you sign up for one morning, that's what the dads who do Thursday did. Please use the provided link to sign-up for a shift. Thank you for helping! <https://signup.com/go/gLPGydB>

On the off chance that someone different will be picking up your student please email or send a written note to the office to communicate the change. It is all right if you include the teacher in the email, but it is important that the office is notified. Thank you.

LIFE RUNNERS

Action needed: please sign your student up right away to be on the largest ProLife team in the world. Liferunners.org/join-now. It is completely free for students/teachers/clergy of an organized school chapter. St. Martin Catholic School is the very first grade school chapter ever started. The shirts, we call jerseys, are free and can be worn on the 1st Wednesday of every month. We have many more walkers than runners today. Walkers' jerseys are easier to read. You can sign-up online at www.Liferunners.org. Pick St. Martin's Chapter, when asked, "how did you hear about LIFE Runners?", type in - joining my school's chapter, need size youth large, etc. Or text Joel Schroer your shirt sizes once signup is complete. If you signed up previously, were active with our group, and need a new shirt size, just let Joel know.

Be intentional in your faith and help your kids put on a life saving jersey! You never know who will be impacted to change their heart and mind for ProLife! Questions, please contact Joel Schroer, 573-690-8323, Director of 12 Mid Missouri chapters and 1,100 of the global 15,000 LIFE Runners across all 50 states and 38 nations! All in Christ, For ProLife!

WE HOLD IN PRAYER

Please pray for Jeff Brondel, a dedicated beloved volunteer. He has been diagnosed with stage 4 liver cancer. Jeff is in charge of the Jaguar club and also has donated his time in so many ways for the school and parish over the years.

WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATIONS

Thanks to Andy Distler we have one water bottle filling station installed -- Hip Hip Hooray! -- we are hopeful that an additional 2 will be installed within the next 2 weeks, the last one is back ordered and won't be in until the end of November.

We are in need of bottles of water. Some students forget their water bottle and because the drinking fountains are off limits these kids go all day without a sip of water; that's not good. So I would like to keep a few cases of water on hand for them. If you would like to donate a case of water please do so through FACTS and send an email stating what the donation is for. You may also drop a case off at arrival or dismissal time. Thank you in advance for your help.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW

Fridays are Jaguar Spirit Days: Students may wear spirit shirts on Fridays with uniform bottoms. gray blast-off shirts may be worn on Fridays.

No School: September 7

~~**Grandparents Day:** Sept. 14~~ **POSTPONED UNTIL SPRING 2021**

Picture Retake Day: Sept. 21

Early Dismissal: Sept. 24

No School-Teachers' Inservice Day: Sept. 25

Parish Fall Supper: Oct. 4

Testing Week Grades 3-8: Oct. 5-10

Goblin 5K: Oct. 18

Working together through Christ,

Julie Clingman, Principal

2020-2021 St. Martin Year Calendar: <https://stmartin.diojeffcity.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/16/2020/08/Calendar-2020-2021-1.pdf>

Dr. Vader's Letter: <https://diojeffcity.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Back-To-School-Letter.pdf>

Bishop McKnights prayer intention: https://diojeffcity.org/blog/monthly_prayer/bishop-mcknights-september-prayer-intention-for-the-local-church/

Athletic Registration: <https://payit.nelnet.net/form/0BcTeDuk>

Lunch Menu: https://sms-mo.client.renweb.com/ftp/sms-mo/Email/10489/DzoaEmof_September_Lunch_Menu.pdf (Only available for FACTS School Families)