



St. Raphael Catholic School

Welcome Back

Welcome back to school! This year our theme will be, “Our St. Raphael Family...Thriving in Faith and Unity”. Our focus will be on flourishing in our faith while growing closer together as part of God’s family. We are looking forward to a great year! Below is our Rebel Report which will be e-mailed or sent home through your child’s backpack. It is also posted on our website www.straphael-gc.org.

Monday August 30:

- 1st day of school- After students are in their classrooms, parents may go into the gym for donuts and coffee.
- Dismissal at 11:30am
- Non-uniform day

Tuesday August 31:

- Full day of school K-8- dismissal at 2:55pm
- Non-uniform day

Wednesday September 1:

- 1st day of school for 4 year old preschool
- Full day for grades K-8 dismissal at 2:55pm
- Non-uniform day

Thursday September 2:

- 1st day of school for 3 year old preschool
- ½ day of school for grades K-8 dismissal at 11:30am
- Non-uniform day
- Football game- JV-6pm V-7:45pm

Friday September 3:

- No school- Enjoy the long Labor Day weekend!

Saturday September 4:

- Altar Servers (4:30pm)- Bethany McCormick, Kersta & Kayla Eichstedt

Sunday September 5:

- Altar Servers (8am)- Justin Querry, Maxwell & Vincent Murray
- Altar Servers (10am)- Allison and Sara Bielski & Lindsey Gossett
- Altar Servers (noon)- Samantha Hershey, Rachel Dean & Amanda Simon

Monday September 6:

- No School-Labor Day

Tuesday September 7:

- Students grades 1-8 are expected to be in full uniform-Please review the Uniform Policy that was given out on the 1st day of school. Girls’ skirts need to be long enough to touch the top of their knee cap.

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- Shared time classes begin (the gym uniform may be worn on the days the students attend gym)
- Parent Orientation at 6:30pm. **Please meet in the church.** We will then proceed to the classrooms where teachers will make 15 minute presentations. Presentations will be made at 7:00 and 7:30 in Building 1 (grades 4-8) and in Building 2(K-3rd grade). Teachers will then be in their rooms until 8:00 for questions. Please remember that this is not a night for conferences rather a time for the teachers to acquaint you with their classroom procedures.

Friday September 10:

- Please join us for our 1st all school Mass at 8:30am. All school Masses will be celebrated every Friday.

Reminders:

Latch Key-Please note that Latch Key will be closed on Tuesday, September 7th because of our Parent Orientation at 6:30pm

Save your labels- We will still be collecting Box Tops for Education and Campbell Soup labels. Please have your child turn them into the homeroom teacher.

Attached to this sheet are:

1. Annual Asbestos Notification (no action is necessary)
2. Annual Pesticide Application (you may request notification if needed)
3. Emergency Cards/ Medical Release Forms. **(Please fill out and return ASAP)**
4. Internet Policy for all students **(must be signed and returned by 9/7)**
5. Criminal Background Check Form (If you plan on volunteering in the school, this must be filled out and returned) On the back of the sheet we are asking volunteers to let me know whether they have completed the Protecting God's Children workshop. One will be offered on Sept. 29 at St. Raphael.
6. E-mail request if we do not already have this information.
7. School parking and drop off procedure-this will change during our Festival week because of the tent set up.
8. Authorization to use student images (no action is necessary unless you do not want your child's image used)
9. Updated calendar

Updated Student/Parent Handbook with directory will be given out at Parent Orientation. There were a couple of additions to the handbook. After this year, Student/Parent handbooks will only be given out to new families. Please keep your handbook in a safe spot. The handbook is also on our website. The directory will be updated on a yearly basis.

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Free/reduced lunch-Applications for free/reduced lunch are available in the office. These forms are evaluated by the Archdiocese of Detroit Food Services office and the information on them is confidential.

Scrip Program-Scrip hours for this year will be: Thursday and Friday 7:45-8:45am
Wednesday and Thursday 2:30-3pm
In the Scrip room by the office
After all Masses in the Resurrection Room

Lunches: We will continue with the Archdiocese hot lunch program. Hot lunches and milk will be available beginning on Tuesday, September 7th. Hot lunch is \$2.50 and milk is \$0.35. Order sheets are attached and need to be returned by September 2nd.

School uniforms and gym uniforms may be purchased from School Belles. Plain gray, navy, or red t-shirts are acceptable with solid navy sweat pants or shorts. Navy sweats with a single/double white strip will also be allowed. NO LOGOS. Please review the uniform policy. We will be enforcing this policy beginning Tuesday September 7th when students will begin wearing their uniforms. We will continue to offer a fleece pullover or fleece vest. These will be available through the school office. Only the fleeces sold at school with the SRS logo will be acceptable dress code in place of the sweater/vest.

Volunteers: The success of our school comes when the school and parents work together as partners in the education of our students. We welcome your assistance in any capacity. We will be asking for volunteers during our Parent Orientation on Sept. 7 at 6:30pm.

Fundraisers: We have taken great efforts to try and restructure our fundraising. When you figure the cost to educate a student at our school, the cost is around \$3900 per student. As you know our tuition rates only cover a small portion of that expense. While we are very fortunate to have a parish that willingly supports our school, there is only so much the parish can contribute to our costs. This is why fundraisers are such an important part of our budget. If we were to eliminate them entirely, the only way to make up the difference would be to raise the tuition. That is something we try to avoid. We are asking for your support in the following: A raffle in the fall and a Gala in the winter. If we can get the support of all of our families, we should have no problem reaching our goal. In the budget for this year, our income from fundraisers is set at \$75,000. **If you choose not to participate in the school raffle, a fee of \$150 will be assessed.** While it may seem like a large amount, I am confident with your support we will reach our goal.

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