



St. Patrick Catholic School
The Irish Weekly
Week of August 9-13, 2021



Our Mission Statement

To lay the foundation for students through Catholic traditions and high standards of education in a safe, nurturing, and welcoming environment.

So be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us as a sacrificial offering to God. Eph 5:2

Update to the COVID Policy

Please remember that if someone in your family tests positive for COVID-19 or has prolonged exposure (a distance of less than 3 feet for more than 15 minutes) to someone testing positive, there is a quarantine process in place for our school. Please notify us if these scenarios occur and we will talk you through the procedure. We will also have to gather information to complete a form required by the diocese.

As far as methods being taken at school, for the first quarter of the year, all teachers have been asked to spread out their desks as far as possible. Clustering of desks will not take place during the first quarter, and group work will be kept to a minimum, keeping prolonged exposure standards (see paragraph 1) in mind. At lunch, students will be spaced out as much as possible and will eat at tables with their own class. We will continue our static spraying of classrooms, as well as cleaning during breaks in the day. It is **highly recommended** (but still optional) that students and staff wear masks, at least for the first quarter. We will continue to limit visitors to the campus during the school day, and **ALL** visitors must wear a mask. After the first quarter, or as the situation changes, we will evaluate our policy and our efforts and make the appropriate changes where needed.

State Tax-Free Holiday

The 2021 Back to School Sales Tax Holiday was passed by the Florida Legislature and signed into law by Governor Ron DeSantis. It will be held July 31 – August 9, 2021. During this sales tax holiday period, qualifying items will be exempt from tax including certain school supplies selling for \$15 or less per item; certain clothing, footwear and accessories selling for \$60 or less per item; and the first \$1,000 of the sales price of personal computers and related accessories purchased for noncommercial home or personal use.

School Office Hours

Our school office will begin regular office hours this week. The office is open from 7:30am until 4:00pm. Please remember to wear a mask if you need to come into the office. ***Please note: the handbook accidentally says that the office is open for business until 6pm. This is inaccurate and will be corrected ASAP.***

PreK-3 through Kindergarten Meet and Greet Activities Recap

We had some tremendous Meet and Greet activities take place during this past week. On Tuesday, August 3, Mrs. Trujillo and Ms. Carolyn welcomed back our Kindergarten students and their parents. On Thursday, August 5, our PreK-3 and VPK students and their parents came in to meet their classmates and their teachers. Special thanks go out to our Early Childhood Staff, especially our teacher assistants, Ms. Sandy and Coach Trevor from Soccer Shotz, who kept our students engaged while their parents had the chance to meet with the teachers.

Meet the Teacher Nights for Grades 1-8

Our First through Fifth Grade Meet the Teacher Night will be held on Monday, August 16, from 6:00-7:00pm. Our Sixth through Eighth Grade Meet the Teacher Night will be held on Tuesday, August 17, from 6:00-8:00pm. **Our program will change slightly, so you will report directly to your child's homeroom to begin the evening.**

Drive-Through School Supply Drop-Off

Our Drive-Through School Supply Drop-Off was a tremendous success. Thank you to all the families who took the time to drop off their supplies on Friday. If you could not drop off your supplies, you can still do so. Just drop them off at the white lunch table outside the office and give us a call to let us know they are there (similar to how you

will drop off a lunch if your child forgets it). If you would prefer to bring the supplies into the office, there will be someone available from 7:00-4:00 on Monday and Tuesday to help you. If these days do not work, then your child can bring the supplies to school with them on Wednesday, August 11.

Half-Day on Wednesday, August 11

Our first day of school will be a half-day on Wednesday, August 11. Grades K-8 will release at 11:45am. PreK-3, Full-Day VPK and Half-Day VPK AM will dismiss at 10:45am. Half-Day PM VPK will dismiss at 2:45pm. **There will be no after-school care that afternoon.**

Drop Off Time and Location

Please remember that students **should not** be dropped off any earlier than 7am. Drop off for the Early Childhood Program is through the carline around their campus. Drop off for grades K-10 is through a line that ends at the gate near the school office. If a staff member is not there to welcome your child, please make sure to wait.

Pick-Up Diagram

A diagram with the afternoon pick-up procedure can be found at the end of this newsletter. Please remember to join the line based on the **oldest** student in your carline. Kindergarten through Grade 4 students will begin dismissal at 2:40pm. Grades 5-8 will begin dismissal at 2:50pm. Please be patient during the first few weeks as everyone gets into the swing of pick-up. Also, please make sure to remain in your car and refrain from cell phone use, so that we can keep the line moving smoothly.

Home and School Welcome Back Event

Our Back-to-School Family event is tentatively scheduled for Friday, August 20. More information about the event, as well as the Sign-Up Genius link will be included in next week's *Irish Weekly*.

New Family Ice Cream Social

Our New Family Ice Cream Social event was held on Friday, August 6, from 6:30-8:00pm. We were pleased to welcome 27 new members to the St. Patrick Catholic School family. Special thanks to the HSA Board for sponsoring and running the event.

Hot Lunch Program

The Hot Lunch Program will begin serving full lunches on Monday, August 16. For the first half week of school (August 11-13), Chef CJ will have snacks available for purchase. Please be sure to pack a lunch for your children during that first half-week of school.

The Hot lunch menu for August is now open and will close at Noon on August 13, 2021. Once the website closes for Hot lunch ordering, it will not reopen until it is time to order for September. We are unable to go back into the system to extend ordering past the published deadline.

Please log in at <https://stpatricks.ahotlunch.com> and sign up for an account so you can order lunch for your children throughout the upcoming school year. After you activate your account, you will need a school code to add your children. The school code is ee. (There is also a link to this site on our school website)

Once logged in, if you have any questions or need assistance, click on the Software Support option on the bottom left of your navigation panel.

***If your child is a half day VPK-C/D student, they may NOT purchase lunch.**

Athletic Spirit Store Now Open

We are excited to announce the launch of our first St. Patrick Irish Athletic fan wear store! Athletes, parents, siblings, staff, and fans can all order Irish Athletic gear to wear at practices, games, or even to school on our Irish Spirit Days! **All orders must be placed by Friday 8/20/21.** Items will be shipped directly to your home!

Check out our Irish Athletic Store here: https://stores.inksoft.com/st_patrick_athletics/shop/home

Please note: our regular spirit store will also be opening. These are different spirit stores since the funds raised go to different activities. All funds raised by the athletic fan wear store go directly to our athletic program.

HSA Board Needs YOU

Our HSA Board is looking for a treasurer, as well as homeroom parents for each of our classrooms. Google forms will open this week, and if you are interested, please submit your form **by August 20, 2021**. The links to these forms will be sent out early this week. For more information, please contact the office or your HSA Board.

Essential Forms for Submission

At our school supply drop-off, you received a handbook acknowledgement form, as well as a COVID-19 waiver. Both forms must be submitted, along with any updated health forms (physicals and immunizations) by **Friday, August 13**. Without the handbook or COVID forms, students **WILL NOT** be able to attend class starting on Monday, August 16. If you need another copy of these forms, please contact the school office by email and they will be sent to you.

This Week-At-A-Glance

Monday, August 9

- School Office is open for business from 7:30-4:00pm.

Tuesday, August 10

- School Office is open for business from 7:30-4:00pm.

Wednesday, August 11

- School Office is open for business from 7:30-4:00pm.
- First Day of School—Half Day with NO After Care (PreK-3, Full-Day and AM VPK dismiss at 10:45am, Grades K-9 dismiss at 11:45am, and PM VPK dismisses at 2:45pm)

Thursday, August 12

- School Office is open for business from 7:30-4:00pm.
- Full day of class for PreK-3 through Grade 8.
- School Cafeteria is open for snacks only.
- First day of After School Care.

Friday, August 13

- School Office is open for business from 7:30-4:00pm.
- School Cafeteria is open for snacks only.
- Final Day to submit Hot Lunch orders for August.

Lunch Menu (please order through <https://stpatricks.ahotlunch.com>)

Monday 8/16	Tuesday 8/17	Wednesday 8/18	Thursday 8/19	Friday 8/20
The menu for this week will be uploaded to the website this coming week and we will begin announcing it in the next <i>Irish Weekly</i> .				

