



August, 2021

*“A new school year means new beginnings, new adventures, new friendships and new challenges. The slate is clean and anything can happen.”*

Dear Parents,

In spite of the current state of affairs in our world, I hope you have had some time to “get away” and recharge. Also, please remember what a great, safe year we had last year and our intention is to do it all over again this year! The teachers and I are working hard to make that happen.

I want to thank Mrs. Tworischuk, Ms. Schapitl and Mrs. Marone for all their years at Assumption School. They will be missed and we wish them well in their retirement. I am happy to welcome Ms. Lauren Rogler, Ms. Catherine Ruiz and Mrs. Marybeth Wooters who are joining our Assumption faculty and look forward to working with them.

Kate Ball and Lisa Lucas and their committees are working diligently on our very first Oktoberfest. I think it will be an exciting and fun event for both moms and dads. Thank you in advance for supporting this event. It will be our main fund raiser this year.

Your child may have a phone in school only if I have a current note stating both you and they understand it must be turned off and in their backpacks until they leave the building at dismissal. You can find this form in the online Back to School packet. Please do not text or call your child on their phone during the school day – that’s usually how I wind up with their phone!

There will be a limited hot lunch available starting out but children can also bring their lunch from home as well. Gilda Gallo will send information home with instructions on how to order, the cost and a menu. We cannot eat in the cafeteria yet – lunch will be in classroom or outside. Aftercare will begin on Monday, September 13. Forms online in the Back to School packet.

All students in grades PK3 through 8 should be in uniform on the first day of school. Please be aware that all walking shorts for students in K – 4, whether boys or girls, must be from Flynn and O’Hara – not the Gap or anywhere else. Girls in grades K - 6 will wear white or navy knee socks or tights starting in October when the weather cools. Exact date to follow. Girls in grades 7 – 8 should wear the maroon plaid uniform skirt with the cardinal color polo from Flynn and O’Hara. Gray or maroon knee socks should be worn when the weather cools. Boys in grades 7 – 8 should wear the cardinal color polo from Flynn and O’Hara and khaki pants – clean, hemmed, pressed and definitely not oversized and hanging off them. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys may wear khaki walking shorts – same standards as above – until the cooler weather arrives. Seventh and eighth boy’s pants and shorts do not have to be from Flynn and O’Hara. All students may wear sneakers on any given day. No dyed, bleached, unruly or two-toned hair coloring or piercings for students in any grade. This must be modified before school begins. **Please note:** Sneakers, loafers, boat shoes or leather tie shoes are the





acceptable shoes for school. No Uggs, suede “slipper like” shoes and definitely not the ballet-like shoes that have crept in.

**Please respond to the Transportation Notice included with this letter.**

We have been advised by the Diocese of Paterson not to hold an “in person” Back to School Night. The teachers will be in touch with you to set a time for a virtual Back to School for their students’ parents. If the climate changes with Covid, I’ll look into changing this.

I want to go over some items from my 2021-2022 School Year Opening letter that I sent to you on August 4<sup>th</sup>.

School will open Wednesday, September 8. September 8, September 9 and September 10 will be half days with dismissal at 11:00 a.m. We will stagger the arrival of the classes as we did last September.

Wednesday, September 8 – Grades 5, 6, 7 and 8 will come to school from 7:50-11:00 a.m. NO BUSES – this is the only day this week they come to school.

Kindergarten – You have received an email from the teachers giving you information regarding orientation on Wednesday, September 8. Please park in the back of school and come up the steps by the cafeteria.

Thursday, September 9 – Only grades 3 and 4 will come to school to meet their teachers from 7:50 – 11:00 a.m. NO BUSES – this is their only day this week.

Friday, September 10 - Only grades 1 and 2 will come to school to meet their teachers from 7:50 – 11:00 a.m. NO BUSES – this is their only day this week.

PreK – You will receive an email from the teachers regarding orientation on Friday, September 10.

Monday, September 13 all students in K – 8 from 7:50 – 2:15. Buses will be available.

We are not planning remote learning this year. If someone tests positive or is simply not feeling well, they will work directly with their teachers to make up work.

\*\*\*If the entire school is shut down, we will then move to remote learning. If an entire class is quarantined, that class will go remote.





We anticipate all students and teachers will be wearing masks indoors, as we begin the year. We will carefully watch for any and all guidance on mask wearing. If we can safely distance no masks needed in gym and recess.

### **Temperate checks and Waivers:**

No waivers this year. \*Subject to change if necessary.

### **Sick Children:**

Please don't send sick kids into school. It could compromise all that we've worked so hard for. If they say they are sick, whether it's true or not, keep them home. This is really very important.

### **Honeywell Instant Alert**

This is no longer in operation. We will be using an instant alert through Rediker AdminPlus. A scheduled test will be sent on Tuesday, September 7. If you do not receive this, please email [pdechiaro@assumptionnj.org](mailto:pdechiaro@assumptionnj.org) with your correct information.

### **Morning Drop Off:**

Buses for Morristown and Township will begin running on Monday, September 13. Car riders can be dropped off in the front of school between 7:15 and 7:45. Class will begin at 7:50 a.m. We will direct the kids to go directly to their classrooms. Please be on time for school.

### **Pick Up: A slight time change here.**

Student in grades K, 1, 2 and their siblings will again be dismissed from the back playground at 2:00 p.m. The teachers will bring those kids out to you on the patio area outside the cafeteria. That will ease some of the volume of cars in the front driveway.

Buses should exit the driveway by 2:10 p.m. and then we'll begin the car line. Please don't block our neighbors driveways while you are waiting and remember, there's no prize for being in line the longest – the later you come the quicker you're out! If you misplaced your nametag or never had one please make one and mount it so it's visible as you pull into the driveway.

Please send your children with a beach towel so we can utilize the outside spaces.

I hope I covered anything you may have wondered about. I will add, subtract or modify things in





the next few week as all the guidance evolves. One thing for sure, we will have a wonderful year again and make the best of whatever comes our way.

Stay safe, have some fun and know we are looking forward to seeing all of you.

*Sister Merris*

