



St. George School

133 W. Fourth St.

Hermann, MO 65041

www.stgeorgeschool-hermann.com

Dear Families,
Welcome Back! And this year ...

Believe There is Good in the World

“If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.” Mt 21:22

Extending the school day will help St. George students to seek opportunities to be the good the world needs to witness. For the past several years the students and staff focus on a motto chosen for them by the St. George School Advisory Board. This motto is used to plan spiritual and community activities that promote the mission of our school. This year is no different, but there is an added twist, not only are the students looking for the good things in their world; they are challenged to be the *good* they are seeking. It will be a year of wonderful possibilities as the students seek what it means to be *good* in word, action, and deed.

FACULTY AND STAFF: We welcome EVERYONE back! This is the first time in my 20 years as principal that I did not have to replace a faculty or staff member. God continues to bless our school abundantly.

Our returning teachers and staff members: Ms. Alicia Warden, Prekindergarten; Mrs. Megan Manning, Kindergarten; Ms. Karen Mazzocchio, First Grade; Mrs. Alyson Garner, Second Grade homeroom; Mrs. Gina Crabtree, Third Grade homeroom; Mrs. Bobbie Mundwiller, Fourth Grade Homeroom, 4th & 5th grade Language Arts, 4th Grade Social Studies, 4th Grade Science; Mrs. Kellie Witthaus, Fifth Grade Homeroom, 4th, 5th, 6th Grade Math, 4th & 5th Grade Religion, 5th Grade Science; Ms. Missie McDonald, Sixth Grade Homeroom, 6th, 7th, & 8th grade Literature and English (Language Arts); Mr. Ricky Vise, Seventh Grade Homeroom, 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th Grade Social Studies, 7th Grade Religion, 6th grade Science; and Mrs. Kim Hoemann, Eighth Grade Homeroom, 7th & 8th Grade Science, 7th & 8th Math/Algebra, 8th Grade Religion. Our Part-time teachers for the 2017-2018 school year are Susan Chorley, Art; Linda Lampkin, PE; Melanie Bush, Music and Mrs. Lolly Rogers, Student Success Services. We do have one change on the staff. Mrs. Robbin Lewis will become the Teacher-in-Charge for our new 3 year-old program. Mrs. Lewis has been on staff for 22 years and has been instrumental in first establishing our kindergarten program and then helping to build our prekindergarten program. Through the years she has attended many professional opportunities through the diocese as well as through the Missouri Extension Office to learn about Project Construct. We are excited to see her expand her expertise through this new program.

We do welcome back Mrs. Kate Engemann, Administrative Assistant; Mrs. Robbin Lewis, After School Supervisor; Mrs. Mary Steiner, Pre-Kindergarten Aide; Mrs. Darlene Aubuchon, Head Cook; Mrs. Anna Mae Hackman, Mrs. Jovita Klott, Mrs. Jennifer Elsenraat, Mrs. Pat Grzeskowiak, Assistant School Cooks; Mrs. Bernice Jacquin, Parish Secretary; Alison Grzeskowiak, Custodian and Rev. Msgr. Greg Higley, Pastor.

WEEKEND MASS MINISTRY: The Children Liturgies have been so well received we will continue to host a Children's Liturgy once a month. As in the past, we will be rotating Masses and the children will be in charge of the Ministries. We will be expecting each family to sign your student(s) up to help with the ministries during these weekend Masses. If you fail to sign-up for a Mass time, a Mass time will be assigned to your family. A list of times and dates will be available at the BACK-TO-SCHOOL night. The school will plan the Masses and a week prior to the mass the school will send home a reminder along with the ministry your child will be responsible for at the Mass. We will need help from some parents at each Mass, please consider helping if asked. You will assist the children who are in the offertory procession and other small tasks during Mass.

Thank you for making this a priority and allowing your child to minister to their parishes. We understand how hectic family life is and to add one more thing to the schedule sometimes is tricky but this teaches your child so much. First and foremost that attending Mass is important and a valued expectation of your family. It also teaches them to give of themselves while serving the parishioners who so generously sacrifice for them to attend St. George School. They learn all of this just by following the 3rd Commandment: Keep Holy the Lord's Day. We are so blessed to be a part of something so GREAT.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL – THURSDAY, AUG. 17, 2017: ***The first day of class will begin at 7:30 am with regular dismissal at 3:00.*** Please note that this year the school day has been lengthen by 20 minutes. Students will wear uniforms. The public school begins Wednesday, August 16 so therefore there will be bus service available the first day.

If your child(ren) will be riding the bus during the school year, you will need to fill out a bus registration form. PLEASE request a bus form at the registration table. This form is sent to us by Schwartz Busing. You may return this form the first day of school. The bus fee for St. George Parish students will be announced in the September Newsletter. This fee will be applicable regardless if your child rides the bus one way or just certain days. Please understand that if your child rides just one day, your family will be assessed for the entire year, regardless if your child never rides the bus again. IF you have any questions you may contact the school office. You may make your check payable to St. George Parish if you are a St. George parishioner, Immaculate Conception parishioner or a St. Paul parishioner. Church of the Risen Savior parishioners' assessment is made payable to their parish. Schwartz Bus does NOT charge if your child(ren) rides the bus to the public school, nor do you have to fill-out their bussing forms.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL TIME: We will begin our day at 7:30 am and end it at 3:00 pm. If you pick up your child and cannot get here at 3:00pm, just as in the past, your child will be able to wait on the steps for 15 minutes after the dismissal bell. All children who are not picked-up by 3:15 will be sent to After School Care.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT MONDAY, AUGUST 14TH: **BACK-TO- SCHOOL Night** is a night set aside so that families can turn in all forms, pay all fees, sign-up for volunteer opportunities and committees, meet with teachers, get school photos taken and have dinner hosted by the Home & School organization. Every family should make plans to attend!!! Registration will be held from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm in the gym. The time has been shorten so that your family may fulfill their Mass obligation for the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

VOLLEYBALL PLAYER-PARENT NIGHT MONDAY, AUGUST 14TH @ 6:30 immediately following Open House

The Athletic Committee has planned the volleyball player-parent night to coincide with the Back-to-School Night. Any girl in grades 6th, 7th and 8th who wants to play volleyball is to make plans to attend this meeting. It will be held in the gym and begin promptly at 6:30 pm. A current physical and a sport emergency form must be on file before your child can begin practice.

FEES: This year your student's book/registration fee will be \$150.00 for each child in grades kindergarten thru eighth. The prekindergarten has paid a \$75 deposit, so therefore the balance of your fee is \$125.00. Homework assignment journals for students in grades 2nd through 8th may be purchased at the BACK-TO SCHOOL Night. The cost of the journal is \$4.00 and every child is expected to purchase one. First Graders will be expected to buy a word journal for \$4.00. Kindergartners and Pre-kindergartners will be expected to buy a writing journal for \$4.00. (PK & K teachers will keep these writing journals in their classroom).

There will also be a \$25 per family technology fee this year.

Grades 7th & 8th there will be an \$80.00 technology device fee. More information on this will be given to the student on the first day of school.

DRESS CODE: The complete dress code is in your Parent/Student Handbook. However, please make note of the following items: Students are not to wear "cargo" style pants, have a distressed look, have external pockets, rivets or flaps on their pockets, or have frayed, pockets, or cuffs. All pants, shorts and skirts are to be hemmed. Knit pants are not acceptable.

Grades 6th thru 8th are allowed to wear khaki pants/shorts. If you are unsure of the color of khaki you may stop by the office for a color swatch. Please remember that the pants must be SOLID navy blue or khaki. If the pants/shorts have belt loops, a belt must be worn. Pants that have the loops cut off will not be allowed. Pants/shorts should be loose-fitting but not baggy. Shorts should be appropriate length, which is mid-thigh to right below the knee.

Please make sure that your student is in compliance with these expectations. Girls especially will want to make sure that their shorts are the required length. If they are not appropriate length, a pair will be provided for her to wear for the rest of the day. Children are encouraged to wear tennis shoes when possible. We have a lot of steps and the children do run and play at recess. A shoe that is comfortable, flexible and can be tied is best. Platform shoes, strapless shoes /sandals or CROCS are not acceptable. All shoes must be worn with socks at all times. This includes out-of-uniform days.

Maroon fleece jackets & sweatshirts (these may also be ¾ zip) with the school logo may be worn during the school day.

There will be a booth at the BACK-TO-SCHOOL evening for you to order any spirit-wear item such as jackets, sweatshirts, or polo shirts with logos.

YEAR MOTTO SHIRT: Students may wear their school year MOTTO shirt only on Thursday this year. All previous motto shirts have been retired and can be worn on OOU days.

SPIRIT DAYS: On spirit days the student may wear St. George T-shirt with their school pants. Watch for these days on the monthly calendar. Athletic warm-up jackets maybe worn on Spirit days.

OUT-OF-UNIFORM DAYS: An OOU day is a day set aside for students not to come in uniform. The student council often puts a theme to the day such as "superhero day". Other times the day is a casual day and the choice of attire is left to the student.

On these days students' attire should be modest, clean and neat. No ragged, holey jeans or distressed clothing is acceptable. Shirts should be long enough that no mid-drifts show at any time, especially when the student raises their hand and loose enough that it is comfortable. Junior high girls should pay close attention to the neckline of their shirt. Young men should wear their pants at their waist. The pants should not sit low on the hips to where their undergarments show. If a student continues to go against the guidelines set for out-of-uniform days, he/she will lose their privilege of participating in these special days. The teacher has a

right to determine what is appropriate and what's inappropriate on both "normal" and out-of-uniform days.

One of the main reasons we have a dress code and set guidelines is to teach modesty and respect through appearance. Parents, please assist your child with their clothing choices. For the full dress code guidelines consult your Parent-Student Handbook.

CELL PHONES, I-POD, I-TOUCH, NINTENDO DS, ETC.: All cell phones, pagers, or any electronic device (ie: i-pods, Nintendo DS, etc.) are not to be brought to school. *This includes the days the students participate in field trips.* The school will not assume responsibility for any electronic device brought to school. If a child has any of these items on school property or out while participating in school sponsored activities, the item will be taken and placed in the school office where it can be claimed by a parent.

COMMUNICATION: 95% of ALL communication from the school office will be sent to you via email through School Messenger. These messages are usually sent to you at 6:00 pm in the evening.

The last day of the month the school offices publishes a monthly newsletter and calendar. These communications are the most up-to-date information on hand. Sometimes there are changes to the yearly calendar that will be noted in this communication. You should assume that the dates, times and events listed in these newsletters are correct. However, if you have any questions when reading these just call the school office. Sometimes we receive correspondence that cannot be emailed. In these cases fliers will be sent home from the classroom in your student's backpack. **We will no longer send home Monthly Family Folders.** All communication will be sent through School Messenger so it is important to opt in to text messages as well as emails. If you are unsure how to do this, stop by the registration table at Back to School Night.

The office will keep the most recent newsletter posted on our website www.stgeorgeschool-hermann.com. The lunch menu is posted on www.teacherease.com and is sent electronically with the monthly newsletter.

VOLUNTEERS: Our school could not provide all it does without the willingness of the parents to do their part and volunteer. Again we need parents to help supervise the playground at recess, help in the lunch room, serve on committees, work functions, help the teachers in their classroom and or drive on field trips. Please consider helping in all areas of our school; if you or someone you know, (perhaps a grandparent), has an hour or more to give to our school, we would truly appreciate the generosity of your time. Use the enclosed volunteer sheet to let us know what you can help with.



ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES:

When you are dropping your child(ren) off at school in the morning:

ARRIVAL PROCEDURE

- Approach the school heading west UP Fourth Street; pull all the way to the stop sign at the corner of 4th and Mozart before stopping; this will allow any cars behind you to pull to the curve.
- Your student should exit the vehicle on the passenger side of the car, stepping out onto the sidewalk. **Never** allow your student to use the driver's side of the car to get out; this is dangerous.
- Never park in the crosswalk.
- Do not park in front of main school building.
- If your child has to run into school because of a forgotten item, please park in the parking lot or on the south side of the street while waiting for them to return.
- Pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and any parent who walks their child into school -- please park on the church (south) side of the street or in the parking lot west of the church. Please use the crosswalk when crossing the street. Dodging traffic to cross the street is not a safe habit to teach our children.
- If you need to travel east on Fourth Street, then please drop your child(ren) off at the crosswalk closest to school, do not let them get out on the driver's side of the car and expect them to use the crosswalk in front of your car.
- Pre-K parents if you want to walk your child into school then please park in the church parking lot or across the street from the school. Do not park in front of school or convent. No child may enter the classroom until 7:45. If you need to drop your child off early please use the above arrival procedures.

After-school dismissal begins at 3:00pm. Bus riders will be dismissed first and when the bus has left, then the remainder of the school will be dismissed.

DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

- IF your child normally is a bus rider and you are picking them up instead, please wait until the bus leaves to take your child to the car.
- No one is to cross the street before the bus leaves and EVERYONE MUST ALWAYS use the crosswalk at the corner of 4th St. and Mozart. Please do not use the crosswalk in middle of the street during regular dismissal.
- IF you are headed east on Fourth Street (during regular dismissal time) your child(ren) will be expected to use the crosswalk at 4th St. and Mozart.
- When picking up your child(ren) in the afternoon, approach the school heading west up Fourth Street; pull up to the stop sign at the corner of 4th St. and Mozart. Your child is not to get in the car until you have come to a complete stop; no child will be allowed to get into a car that is moving.
- We expect all children to wear a seat belt and be seated when pulling away from the curb. This is the law. Families need to follow the law concerning child safety seats.
- IF you are headed east on Fourth Street, please stop in front of the crosswalk closest to school. Your child(ren) will use this crosswalk, cross in front of your car, and get in from there.
- If you are waiting for a child(ren) be courteous and park in the parking lot or on the church (south) side of the street. Another option to parking is circling the block and come back around. We want to avoid anyone parking in front of the buildings during dismissal time.
- Be courteous to the other drivers when dropping off or picking up your child. If you need to speak with a teacher or need to go into school for a moment, park in the parking lot.

Dismissal and arrival times are hectic. Children are in a hurry to get where they want to go and do not always use their best judgment in situations. It is our responsibility to be conscious of this and always proceed with caution when dropping off or picking up a child.

AFTER SCHOOL CHILD CARE: St. George will again be offering After School Child Care for all St. George students. It will be held in the gym from 3:00-5:30 when school is in session. The cost will be \$5.00 per child per day. The program is open on a part-time and drop-in basis. Drop-in payment is expected on the day of service. For more information or to enroll your child in the program, see Mrs. Robbin Lewis; she will be at the After School Child Care Program Table during Registration Night.

A reminder to athlete parents: if your athlete goes to the gym at any time between 3:00 - 4:45, (even if they report to the gym after walking to the convenience store to get a snack, which they must have a note to do) you will be charged the \$5.00 drop-in fee. This helps Mrs. Lewis manage her program and it also keeps the students accountable to her.

REMINDER: The door to After School Care remains locked during operational hours. Please ring the doorbell to gain entrance into the gym during this time.

STUDENT BANK: Peoples Savings Bank and St. George School will again be operating the student bank on school premises. Twice a month on designated mornings the student bank will be open for students to deposit their money.

The bank is a huge part of our school community because it helps our students learn the value of saving. It also helps our fifth graders learn responsibility and to begin to practice all those needed work skills.

STUDENT COUNCIL STORE: The Student Council Store will be open on Monday, Aug. 14th during BACK-TO SCHOOL Night. If there are any school supplies that you can't find, you may purchase them here. Thank you in advance for your support of all the Student Council Activities.

**Stop by their table at Back-to-School night
and register for the door-prize.**

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: For your convenience we have given a school supply list to Dollar General, and the Washington Wal-Mart. Please stick to the list. Items not specified will be sent back home unused. There are extra school supply lists in the back of St. George Church.

Don't forget to purchase

SCRIP. If every school family bought \$675 worth of SCRIP, the school would benefit over \$5,000 not to mention each family would get money towards their tithing. See the calendar for the time the SCRIP store will be open. *Can't make it to the store ... buy online or come by the school office during school hours ... there is always a way to buy SCRIP ©*

Buying from our program before heading out to purchase items needed for school helps our school and your family financially.



In closing the first official communication for the 2017-2018 school year, I want to wish everyone an enjoyable continuation of their summer vacation, and ask that you pray daily for the students, faculty and staff of St. George School. Through your prayers and the intercession of our patron saint, St. George and under the mantle of protection from our Blessed Mother Mary, we will have a successful school year. As this year's scripture verse tells us, "*If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.*" Mt 21:22
So ask the Lord to help each of us to grow in spirit, knowledge and friendship for the next 174 days of school!

May God bless us as we build His kingdom at St. George School.

God Bless,

Mrs. Julie Clingman