



ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

**201 E. CASS ST.
ST. JOHNS, MI 48879
www.stjoecatholic.com**

PHONE 989-224-2421

FAX 989-224-1900

July 27, 2009

Dear Families,

As I write this, we are still six weeks away from the start of the school year for the students, but we all know they will speed by. Thoughts turn to September as the merchants run their 'Back-to-School' sales and families plan their last long weekend before the schedule fills with school days, homework, and fall activities. We all hope that your summer has been a good one so far and that you will continue to enjoy all that it holds for you as we enter the second half of this season.

THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL falls on **Tuesday, September 8th** this year. We will have our 'Walk Through' on Thursday, September 3, from 8:30-10:30 and 12:30-2:30. This will free you up for a 4-day weekend if you plan to travel over Labor Day weekend. We invite you to bring your students to meet the teachers and get re-acquainted with their friends. This is an 'Open House' format, allowing you to come at any time during the hours written above. We will again set up stations in the gym to take payment for materials fees and September or yearly tuition payments. Additionally, you will be able to find out about the tuition credit you have accrued through participation in the TRIP program. Class lists will be posted there where you can find your room assignments before visiting your teachers.

ST. JOSEPH PARENT SCHOOL COUNCIL will have representatives available to answer questions about participation in school events. As you know, this is our version of the PTA and you are all members. They will have sign up sheets for various events which they sponsor throughout the year with special emphasis on the fall carnival which is already being planned. They will also be asking you to make sure your information in the school directory is current and correct. Please take a minute to do this.

THE SCHOOL CALENDAR is not yet finalized, but will be sent home when we have updated information from St. Johns Public Schools. The following dates have been confirmed:

Thanksgiving Break - Nov. 26 & 27

Christmas Break - Dec. 21-Jan. 3

Spring Break - April 2 - 9 (Includes Good Friday and the week following Easter.)

Please check in local papers, and with the transportation office, for bus schedules and routing.

THE TIME SCHEDULE FOR THIS YEAR is about the same as last year with the school day from 9:00-3:55. Playground supervision begins at 8:30 A.M. but there is no after school care provided.

As you know, Cass Street can be busy and congested in the 20 minutes before school starts in the morning. The good thing about that is that it slows down traffic. The bad thing is that it can be unsafe if everyone does not proceed with care and caution.

A few important reminders:

- In order to accommodate morning traffic flow, please be aware of leaving room for busses to drop off students in front of school.
- Do not drop children off on the south side of Cass and allow them to cross unattended.

- The north side of Cass is a **NO PARKING** zone. Those who need time for hugs and kisses, or long farewells, can drop students off from the parking lot north of the playground with access from State Street.

Once again I add my plea for patience as new bus routes are put into motion. Experience has demonstrated that it will take time to work out the bugs.

The staff for the 2009/10 school year is as follows:

Diane Glowacki & Rose Schmitz - K
Linda Kurncz - 2nd
Sarah Presocki & Cheryl Wieber - 4th
Julie Zielinski & Pat Snyder - 6th
Donna Besinger - Library Nancy Poff - Music
Carlene Deitrich - Teacher Aide
Wendy Jakus, JoAnn Victoria, & Larry Barnum - Lunch/Playground supervision
Tom Karek - School Maintenance
Kitchen - Ann Parker (Supervisor), MaryJo Eiseler & Andrea Klein (+ morning supervision)
Computer, PE & Art staff will be provided by St. Johns Public School as per our Shared Time Agreement.
Terrilynn Voisin - Secretary Tomi Ann Schultheiss - Principal

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY THE TUITION INFORMATION included with this mailing. There is a form which must be signed and returned to the office by the first day of school.

Enclosed with this letter you will find

- Tuition information for the 2009/10 school year as mentioned above.
- Payment coupons for those on the 10 month plan
- A letter to comply with EPA regulations informing you of asbestos inspections
- Parent advisory for possible pesticide application

We will begin full time office hours on August 24th, two weeks before the first day of school. Until then, I will be in and out of the office. Feel free to contact me at home if you do not catch me at school.

HELP WANTED - We will be adding a part time teacher aid to our staff this year to assist in classrooms with some higher needs students. It will be a 15 hour a week position from 9:00 - 12:00 daily. If you are interested, please submit a resume to the school office by August 19.

FYI - SUPPLY LISTS, BASKETBALL PHYSICAL FORMS, DRESS CODE & TRIP INFO are all available on our website at www.stjoecatholic.com.

AND FINALLY...enjoy these final few days of summer with your families before early bedtimes, homework scrambles, early morning crunch times, and tight schedules replace those relaxing summer days. To your daily prayers, please add a plea for a successful school year for your children and for all of us who work with you to help make that happen. Thank you for your belief and trust in us, and the many sacrifices you make to provide a faith based education for your children. We pray that you will continue to feel God's embrace in your daily life!

Sincerely,

Tomi Ann Schultheiss, Principal

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

We believe that each child is a unique gift from God and that a relationship with God should be fully integrated into the life of every student. It is our purpose at St. Joseph School to assist parents in the spiritual, social, and intellectual development of their child within the framework of Catholic teachings and moral values. We are committed to providing a strong academic environment that nurtures life-long learners and encourages all children to become productive, Christian citizens.