

September 30, 2021

Principal's Corner

And just like that, the first month of school is in the books for this year! It might be cliché to say that it "flew by," and we are happy to say that it was a successful start to our school year.

As we look forward to October, we have quite a few fun events and activities planned: Middle School Retreat, Marathon, Conferences, MEA Break, Halloween, and our first Family Fun Night. We hope that you are able to participate in as many of these activities as possible. It is through opportunities like these that we are able to strengthen our St. Dominic School community.

Blessings,
Dawn Biren

Fall Conference Sign-Up

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, October 14 and Tuesday, October 19 from 3-7pm each day. Please use this [Sign-Up Genius](#) to reserve your conference time. You may choose to meet with teachers either in-person or virtually this year. For virtual conferences, teachers will send out a Zoom link closer to the date.



Recording Volunteer Hours

As you begin completing your required volunteer hours for this school year, please use this [online form](#) to submit your time.

Volunteers Needed

Recess and Lunch: We are looking for volunteers to assist during our recess and lunch times. This is between 11am-12:15pm each day. Please contact the [School Office](#) to help.

Ofrenda for Dia de Los Muertos: We are looking for families to help set up and also bring their creative energy to assist in the planning and execution of the altar. Please contact [Mrs. Sletten](#) to help.

Per our family [Volunteering, Fundraising, and Fees agreement](#), all families need to complete between 10-15 hours each school year.

All adults who volunteer at school, including attending field trips, must complete the Archdiocesan requirements of the Virtus program. For more information, please contact [Mrs. Claudia Bauer](#) in the school office.

Parents and Visitors at Mass

We are excited to welcome parents and visitors back to our weekly school mass beginning with our Marathon kick off mass on Friday, October 15 at 9:30am.

We ask that parents and visitors sit in the pew sections on the north side of the church by the garden area. Students will remain with their classes during school masses.

All mass attendees are required to wear a mask while in the church with the students.



Marathon 2021

Our next Collection Day is Thursday, October 7. Each student/family who brings in an additional \$50 or more will receive an SDS Water Bottle!

Social Emotional Learning Update

We have two parts to our Social Emotional Learning program this year. First, our Sainthood Emotional Learning program that is being taught each week in our Preschool-8th Grade classrooms. Tomorrow our students will begin learning about St. Jude for the month of October. Through St. Jude, we will practice *Self Awareness and Perseverance*.

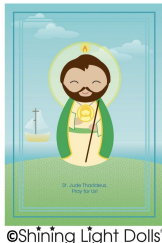
Our staff is working with CSCOE on the Peace of Mind 2.0 program with *The Nurtured Heart Approach*. On Wednesday next week, our staff will have the first of four onsite training sessions with Phoenix Counseling Services.

Sainthood Emotional Learning

INSTILLING HOPE AND LIGHT THROUGH CATHOLIC MINDFULNESS

Emotional Connectors

- ★ Self-Awareness
- ★ Perseverance



©Shining Light Dolls

Saint Jude,

Pray for us!



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Saints' Night Out (SNO) 2022

Would you like to help make the 2022 Saints' Night Out a success? Planning for the event will start in October. [Please click here](#) to express your interest in completing your required volunteer hours by helping with SNO!

Meeting: Tuesday, October 19 at 6pm via Zoom.
Event Date: Saturday, March 26, 2022

Water Bottles and Masks

Please make sure that your child brings a clean mask to school each day. We are running low on smaller size masks.

All students should bring a clean water bottle to school each day. Due to Covid, our water fountains are not in use. Students may use the Water Bottle Filling Station.

Peace of Mind in October

The October Parent Session with Dr. Jules Nolan will be held on October 13 at 7 pm.

Psychological Wellness Begins at Home

Our children are more stressed and anxious than any time in modern history. How we parent and manage emotions at home can protect our children and bolster their emotional resilience, or it can hinder development and make things worse. This session will focus on parenting strategies that promote healthy psychological development. The influences of technology, pressures of modern life, and common parenting mistakes will be discussed. Parents will leave with concrete strategies to help their children thrive.

[Register Here](#)



Strategic Plan Update 2021-2022

In Spring 2019 during our last MNSAA Accreditation visit, the school developed a Strategic Plan. Each year we focus on 2-3 initiatives. This year, the School and School Board are focusing on:

- Social Emotional Learning Implementation
- Facility Needs Assessment and Plan
- Enrollment Growth

Dates to Remember

October 1 - Sainthood Emotional Learning: St. Jude
October 4 - PSA Meeting at 6pm (virtual)
October 6 - 8:20am School Mass, 4th Grade
October 7 - 2nd Marathon Collection Date
October 11-13 - Middle School Retreat
October 13 - No School Mass
October 15 - 9:30am- School Mass (Preschool-8th)
10:45am- Start Marathon
1pm- Early Release (Preschool-8th)
October 19 - 6pm SNO Meeting (virtual)
October 21-22 - MEA Break, No School
October 29 - 6-8pm Family Fun Night -
Popcorn and Movie (Coco)



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St. Dominic School inspires children to excel as confident leaders, critical thinkers, and responsible citizens in a Catholic, values-based community.