

Dear St. Rose Families,

Perhaps you picked up a very tired child or two in car walk or at the bus stop this afternoon; after their first full week, having gone through five full days and hitting the books a bit more now, they are bound to be a bit tired! With autumn just around the corner, a beautiful weekend awaits and time for rest, relaxation, and some fall fun! I hope you have many opportunities to make memories with your family this weekend!

We want to stay connected, even though we might be learning in different places right now! Please consider sharing pictures of your children while distance learning, and we'd love to see pictures of all our students and families as they begin to enjoy some fall adventures. Please send pictures to dean@sres.com We can't wait to share them on our bulletin boards, social media, and through the newsletter!

While we have been moving into our studies and schoolwork; we have also been looking for opportunities that provide safe activities for our children after school. Last week we announced a new program of clinics and activities organized by Monica Ortega, our Athletic Director. These have been very successful and well received by our children. Soccer, chess, and track are on the menu for clinics for the upcoming weeks. Please see information below regarding registration.

Trying to keep our children engaged in their passion for creativity we have two more offerings joining our list of choices. Music with Paul Effman Music and Art Smart with Mrs. Kathy Vincent. Please see below for more details and registration information.

Not to forget that we sometimes have a need for a little help with our academics; we are looking into several options for tutoring as well. So as we keep moving forward, we hope to keep adding back activities and the things we love about St. Rose, with a little twist for added safety in our current climate. We find our best resources through our families, so please share your ideas with us!

Athletic News and Clinics:

Underway and popular, SRS is offering three after school clinics for students in grades 2-8! They will be hosted by Dan Pelletier and his TEAM DIG USA organization. Each clinic will take place 3:15-4:15 out on the field.

Tuesday: Soccer

Wednesday: Chess

Thursday: Track

All coaches are in Diocesan compliance for VIRTUS and background checks. Social distancing per CIAC recommendations will be followed. Please note that these are skill-based clinics; no scrimmaging/contact play will occur. If the weather is poor, the clinic will take place inside and masks must be worn at all times. There will be a maximum of 15 students per clinic.

Registration will occur on a weekly basis and will open each Friday afternoon for the following week. The cost for each session is \$20. Please use the link: <https://www.teamdigusa.com/st-rose-of-lima-school/> to register and pay. Please contact Mrs. Ortega at athletics@srles.com with any questions.

And the Band Played On:

We miss the sound of music filling our halls on Wednesday afternoons; but, we have a special announcement from Lou Varuzzo, Director of Education at Paul Effman Music, on a way our band members can keep playing and new members can join the program!

“We are dedicated to making sure that music will always be available to your young musicians and we have been working non-stop so that they may continue their musical journey. I am so proud of what we have accomplished. With Zoom lessons and a content library to support them, I know that the quality of our teaching will be as good, if not better than it has ever been. The teachers that we have been so fortunate to retain are so passionate about what they do and they are ready to give all that they can to your students and your community. They are more dedicated than ever to keep the music alive for your kids!”

Since we cannot host a live Demonstration Assembly this year, we will be showing a video to the children during snack/lunch in the classrooms. You can also access their web page to see information about music, the program, and register. This page also has “video” versions of our Demonstration Assembly so students can learn about all of their options. The link is: <https://pemusic.com/join>

Be sure to read their flyer and registration form in the important documents link in this newsletter.

For Our Resident Artists and Crafters:

Creativity abounds and Art Smart keeps our young artists practicing their skills with their new NEW enrichment program... a "Home Kit" program option in lieu of on-site afterschool programming.

Mrs. Kathy Vincent is back with a promise of monthly projects that will be just as wonderful as ever, just presented in a safe (& hopefully, temporary) manner.

Kit materials are NEW, assembled by Mrs. Vincent, masked & gloved. Her safety protocol is posted to her website. Here is the link to have a look: <https://artsmartstudiomonroe.com/>

Be sure to see the flyer in the important documents links.

Shout Out to the Class of 2021:

This year's annual High School Night will take a virtual route; we are currently contacting high schools and arranging virtual presentations and visits. If you are interested in a specific school, please reach out to their admissions staff to see what they are offering as their "shadow days" this year.

When applying to high schools:

Recommendations for Math are to be directed to Mrs. Cicarelli cicarelli@srles.com

Recommendations for ELA are to be directed to Ms. Vertucci vertucci@srles.com

School Admin Recommendations are to be directed to Mrs. B dean@srles.com

Requests for Records are to be directed to Mrs. Coppola admissions@srles.com

This begins the journey of our 8th graders towards high school; please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or requests for information.

Distance Learning:

While teaching in person classes, we have had our home learners joining classes via Google Meet. This looks the same throughout the school; the duration of lessons and number of times calling in each day, vary based on the stamina of students at each grade level. We want to thank our families, who have opted for Distance Learning, for staying a part of our community and entrusting us with your child's online education during this time of uncertainty. Our program has been planned with the goal that Distance Learners have a seamless transition back to in-person learning in the future.

To help distance learning be beneficial and workable for both students and teachers, we wanted to again share expectations for Distance Learning:

- *Cameras must be on; teachers need to see students as they attend class and participate.*
- *Students may dress casual (no pj's please).*
- *Attendance is necessary for success.*
- *When live lessons are offered to distance learners, timely attendance is expected so that no instruction is missed.*
 - *If there is an emergency that prevents attendance, please email the teacher as soon as possible.*
- *Students should attend their sessions, on camera, as scheduled; parents can be present in the room.*
- *For confidentiality purposes we remind parents that the Google Meet is live and when the mic is on, students in the classroom can hear what is being discussed; so please refrain from engaging in a discussion with a teacher at this time.*
- *We kindly ask that parent questions and comments be sent via email and not asked during live lessons or put in the chat..*
- *Students need to attend scheduled meetings, as these have been coordinated with and are tied to the live lesson in the classroom.*
- *Teachers cannot be contacted during the school day to makeup missed lessons.*

Gratitude from All!:

We once again want to thank our families for their support and dedication to our school and our reopening! Sending heartfelt appreciation out for the generosity you have shown to our classrooms; teachers have been thrilled with the many items that have been donated to help keep things running in a safe and healthy way!

Thank you to all our parents for attending the virtual Back to School Nights for grades K-5 during this past week. We know how precious time is for you and we are grateful for your participation in the evening's presentations.

Uniforms and Masks Gentle Reminders:

While we have extended the warm weather uniform, and have seen some chilly days, a gentle reminder that students can wear the SRS sweater, fleece, or PE sweatshirt (over their polo shirt) during the entire school day. Hoodies and sweatshirts that are nonuniform can be worn to and from school and outside for recess; but, cannot be worn in the classroom. We will add days for spirit wear and SRS team hoodies and sweatshirts after November 1.

Please remember to send an extra mask to school with your child.

Please be sure that the mask fits securely, especially over the nose.

If your child wears a reusable mask, please make sure that the mask is washed each evening, or a different mask is worn the next day.

BUS Rider Reminders:

- *Students wear masks while on bus. Please remind your child that the bus is an extension of school and they must comply with this rule.*
- *In the morning, as students board the bus, first ones on will sit in rear seats on bus and seats will be filled in moving forward.*
- *In afternoon, students will sit on the bus according to drop off, starting with students with first drop off sitting in the front.*

Arrival and Dismissal:

We appreciate your patience during as we work to provide a safe and timely morning drop off and afternoon pick-up. The timing appears to be improving as we get used to the new procedures. We do have one concern regarding flow of traffic upon entrance and exit of the parking lot. To help everyone stay safe we are publishing our car walk map and procedures. Please pay special attention to where and how cars should enter the parking lot and travel to the drop off and pick up points.

Our Car Walk map is included in this newsletter.

Our car walk program does impact the bus traffic in the parking lot so we want to make sure we keep all traffic moving safely during these times. Please note and comply with the following for everyone's safety.

- Cars enter the parking lot through the middle entrance, closer to the church.
- Go to the right then make a quick left and down the aisle between the parking lanes on the side of the church
- Cars should then proceed to the area by the stairs nearest the soccer field
- Please refer to the car walk map included in this newsletter

We would like 4 cars to pull up and drop off at one time. This is for cars where students can easily exit on their own and parents remain in the car.

If your child needs assistance getting out of the car and gathering their belongings, and parents need to exit the car to help:

- We ask that instead of being in the line of 4 cars, that you pull up, parallel to the soccer field
- Help your child out of the car, collect their belongings
- Then walk them safely to the stairs, using the area between your car and the field to keep everyone safe
- See map

Just a reminder of our other arrival and dismissal procedures:

Students arriving by bus:

- Will be dropped off at the front doors of the school
- Grades K-5 will enter through the doors under the red awning (Primary Wing)
- Grades 6-8 will enter through the main doors.

Students arriving by car:

- Will be dropped off by the stairs nearest the soccer field
- Students needing assistance should be dropped off further down along the soccer field; see map and instructions above
- They will walk up the stairs and head to the same doors as the bus students
- Once students have entered the building they will go directly to their classrooms

At the end of the day, students will remain in their classroom until their bus or name(car walk students) is called for dismissal.

8th grade bus buddies will help our younger students go to and board their buses.

Car walk students will be called by last name. Students will go to the foyer of the Gathering Hall. An 8th grade helper will line up families following social distancing protocol. The groups will then be walked out to the car walk line to their cars.

Every car that arrives for pickup must have the placard displayed with the student's last name so that the 8th graders can easily see and log the name.

What we need our parents to do:

- Please have the placard displayed so that the 8th grade helpers can easily see your name.
- Keep car windows closed.
- If you are in need of additional or replacement placards please contact the school office.

Off to the Weekend:

Unfortunately, our Parked Car Parade has to be canceled; don't worry we have many more ideas for future spirit event! We want to thank Monica Ortega for bringing this idea to our community!

As we head into autumn, may we continue to see the beauty of God's creation in the transformations that announce a new season and bring even more reasons to be thankful for his goodness! Our children continue to face this season of their life and the changes that have occurred with patience and great cooperation; so our days flow into weeks and our school year unfolds with many blessings of being together and learning and celebrating our SRS story for 2020!

May you enjoy a weekend of fall adventures!

Kind Regards! Stay Well!

Mrs. B