

Dear St. Rose Families,

We have arrived in August and the days seem to be marching by quickly! It's usually March that we refer to as coming in like a lion or lamb; but, it seems August decided to take that over and certainly came in like a lion; I pray that everyone weathered the storm safely and that power is now restored to all!

I want to begin this message with celebration! Even with the interruptions and changes to the calendar, we have good news to share because it's always a good time to celebrate with joy! Join me in sending blessings and prayers of congratulations to our 2nd, now 3rd graders, on making their First Eucharist in July! We look forward to the day we can celebrate mass together and partake in this most precious sacrament with them!

I also want to congratulate the members of the Class of 2021 that have been accepted for induction into the St. Rose Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society! Strong academics, thousands of selfless service hours, bundles of talent and creativity and the most beautifully written essays on character and service brought them this prestigious honor! We are proud to have such a driven group stepping up to be an instrumental part of our Student Leadership in the upcoming year. Whether activities bring us together, face to face or online, I am confident that these young leaders will promote the mission of our school and keep the spirit moving in the most positive ways! Congratulations!!



Jude Cappiello, Savanna Cicarelli, Gaby Corona, Brooke Crutchfield, JP Dyer, Deirdre Dwyer, Lily Fagan, Sophia Faruol, Hannah Fox, Griffin Geissler, Maddie Griffin, Oliver Guzy, Benjamin Haddad, Ava Heineken, Stephen Johnson, Mason McSwiggan, Azikiwe Osakwe, Karina Soni, Monica Tokar, and Melena Ventresca

In this newsletter and in the upcoming weeks we will be sharing our plans as well as important information to help you prepare you and your child(ren) for the new school year. We have a long list of what if's that we have been addressing as part of our planning; trust me it is very long as we want to be prepared for each day. Please, if you do not see something you would like answered being addressed, send it to dean@srles.com so that we might include it in upcoming newsletters.

Let's begin our journey to September....

Shout out to our Class of 2021:

We begin with plans for our new 8th grade class; plans are in motion to assist you with your high school search! Please watch your email in the upcoming week for more details. We have dates for high school tours, open houses, and entrance exams, along with links. In addition we are planning our annual High School Night for early September and will also be sending details about the SRS High School Test Prep Course that will be offered beginning the first full week of September.

Day to Day:

As you read, there are several built in breaks for our children to have time to get outside, take mask breaks, and to get up and move! We know this won't be the easiest transition to new routines, but our teachers are using their creative talents to find ways to make things as familiar and comfortable in order to provide a productive and calm experience each day. The daily school experience being a positive one for our children, whether in the building or opting for distance learning, is our priority. Teachers will follow one lesson plan for both scenarios. While in person classes are optimal; in these times, we understand health concerns for some, and plan to support and provide for all students. We are working on ways to keep our students connected as a class, and as an active part of our school community, regardless of location.

Uniforms and Masks:

- Warm Weather Uniforms will be extended to November 1 for this school year.
- After November 1, NO TIES will be required for the boys; however, there may be a day or two where they are asked to wear them (picture day, special event).
- Please be sure to use our Uniform Exchange when preparing your child(ren)'s back to school wardrobe! uniforms@srles.com
- We are not requiring a specific mask to be purchased.
 - Masks should follow CDC guidelines.
 - Selecting their own mask can make it easier to get a child to wear a mask each day. We ask that all masks are conductive to learning; no distracting patterns, and school appropriate (similar to t-shirts on dress down days; with appropriate designs/logos/patterns).
- We will share more information about mask breaks and handling masks during the school day, in upcoming newsletters.

Lunch, Lockers, Backpacks, and Supplies:

- *This year, all children will need to bring their lunch to school.*
- *Lunch will be in the classroom and we ask that you continue to follow the no nut food policy of the school.*
- *When purchasing lunchboxes, containers, and prepackaged food items, buy simple food containers and easy open packages that your child can open and close independently to reduce contact with others.*
- *In addition to lunch, students should also bring a snack to school (all grades; older grades will have a short working snack so an individually wrapped snack item or piece of fruit is recommended for them).*
- *For safety, all water fountains will be turned off; please make sure that your child brings a water bottle to school.*
- *Students will not be using lockers this year. With the setup of the classrooms and desks being spaced for social distancing, there is room for backpacks and coats in the classroom.*
- *We are allowing rolling backpacks this year. Due to safety concerns we do not recommend these for bus riders.*
- *There will be no sharing of supplies this year; students in all grades should be sure to have the basic supplies (see grade level lists on our website) including crayons, color pencils, or markers (depending on grade level and teacher request), scissors, and glue sticks.*
- *Most important, please label **everything**; use sharpie, fabric markers, or special labels.*
- *School supplies, sweaters, jackets, masks, lunch boxes, water bottles and anything sent into school should have your child's last name and first initial so that we can make sure that nothing is misplaced or used by others.*

In upcoming newsletters we will discuss more about what students should pack and keep in backpacks, and what will be stored in the classroom for daily use. We will also be addressing arrival, dismissal, early pickup from school, before and after school care, and clubs and activities. If you will have a need for before school or after school care, please contact me so we can begin planning for the number of students who will be using this service.

As time flies by, we hold out hope for gentler weather days and smooth sailing to get us to the end of the month and ready to open our doors to welcome both, our returning and new students! It is hard to contain the excitement of knowing that these halls and rooms will once again be filled with their joy and laughter! We look forward to joining together, safely, and of course socially distanced; we are prepared, for whatever comes our way, with faith in God leading us on our journey!

*Kind Regards! Stay Well!
Mrs. B*