Frequently Asked Questions



Here is additional information about us that may be helpful. And if you have any more questions, ask away! We are here to help!

What are the school hours? Is there recess?

School starts daily at 7:50 a.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m. for grades K through 8. Students at all grade levels have recess every day.

All students must be in their classroom/homeroom by 7:50 a.m.

Do you offer before/after care? If so, what is the cost?

<u>Free</u> **Morning Care** is available for students in grades K through 8, from 7:00 to 7:30 a.m.

Before Care is available for Pre School and Pre-K from 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. for a flat \$7.50 rate.

After School Extended Care is also available from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. and is supervised by St. Matthew teachers and staff. The cost for After School Extended Care is \$5/hour/child and available for Pre-K through 8th Grade.

What is the student-teacher ratio? What is the student-device ratio?

We have a 18:1 student teacher ratio and a 1:1 device ratio. All grade levels have 2 classrooms.

Do you need to be Catholic to enroll at SMS?

No. While the majority of our students are Catholic, we welcome families of all faiths.

Students have regular religion classes, and Mass is attended weekly on Wednesdays.

First Reconciliation and First Communion instruction is provided in 2nd grade and Confirmation in 8th grade.

What is the uniform policy?

Navy or khaki pants/shorts with red polo-style shirts are worn by both girls and boys.

K-3rd grade girls can also wear plaid jumpers. 4-8th grade girls can wear plaid skirts/skorts.

SMS offers a <u>free</u> uniform exchange program for all students and is a great cost savings benefit to families!

SMS "spiritwear" is available for purchase and can be worn on designated days.



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Is hot lunch available?

Yes! One of the things that sets SMS apart from other private schools in the area is our full-service cafeteria. Our cafeteria offers a hot, cold and salad option daily.

SMS accepts applications for free and reduced lunch. Children may also bring lunch from home. Milk is available for purchase.

Families are welcome to stop in to have lunch with their child. We just ask that you make prior arrangements for this with your child's teacher.

How is parent communication handled?

We work to make it as easy as possible for families to be informed and to stay in touch. Our front office team is second-to-none and provides a detailed, weekly e-newsletter about activities, key dates and events, the weekly lunch menu, and much more!

Teachers at all grade levels provide a weekly newsletter to let you know about class lessons and activities. PowerSchool is the educational software used to keep students and parents updated on grades and assignments.

Parents are free to reach out any time to teachers and administrators via e-mail, and parent-teacher conferences happen throughout the year and can also be requested as needed.



What are the extracurricular activities available?

We offer 10 sports during the Fall, Winter and Spring seasons! CYO-sponsored sports are for students in grades 4 through 8 (with a few also available for 3rd graders). Additional activities include Chess Team, Choir Club, Newspaper Club, Cub Scouts, and Girl Scouts.

Are volunteer opportunities available?

St. Matthew is a very active community and is strongly driven by volunteer support for a variety of different events, activities, and projects.

Volunteering is one of the best ways to get involved, meet new people, and make an impact for our students, school, and community!

Enroll Today!

