

St. Rita of Cascia School

"The Peacemaker"



September, 2018

Dear St. Rita Family,

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year at St. Rita of Cascia School. Our Patron Saint, St. Rita, for whom our parish and school are named after, was a model of patience and peace.

St. Rita at a very young age wanted to become a nun. However, her parents wanted her to marry. She married and had two sons.

With time, her husband and sons died and then she entered the Augustinian Convent. She wanted her family to be more peaceful, to encourage peace in her village and to have patience and peace among the other sisters.

She asked the Lord to let her share in His suffering to help create that peace for everyone. Today, it is important that we all work for peace. First in our families, then in our school, our church, our community, our workplace and everywhere that we can.

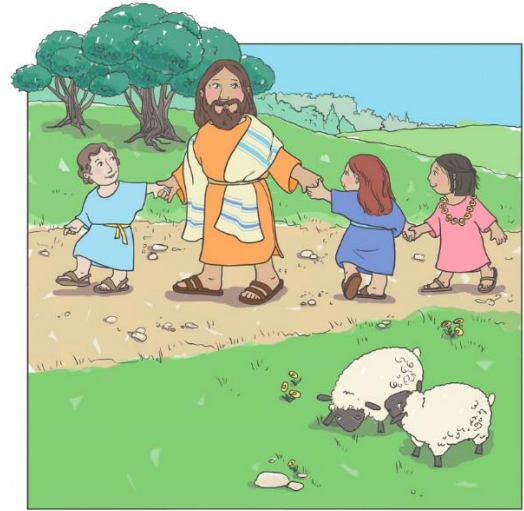
At the end of our school day, the very last prayer we say is:

"St. Rita of Cascia, Pray for us."

We dedicate this year to St. Rita to carry on her great mission of peace in the world. Our monthly newsletter is called "The Peacemaker" in her honor.

God bless,

Mrs. Bette Faxon



Our school theme is "Follow Jesus: Leave Footprints of Love and Kindness". This includes all people who are created and loved by God: children, moms, dads, teachers, principals, priests, neighbors ...EVERYONE!

Ephesians 4:32 "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other just as God forgave you."

Let us work together this year to give thanks for all that we are given as children of God. We need to follow the example of Jesus and treat everyone with love and kindness.

Parent-Student Handbooks were given out on Book Day. For all families, including returning families, please be sure to see the revisions and additions from the Diocese on Bullying, Parent Cooperation and Concussions.

SIGNATURE FORMS ARE DUE BACK.

1st Pillar of our school mission: FAITH

Weekly Mass: Every Tuesday at 9:00 AM, Our school masses are student led. Grades 1-8 attend weekly, Kindergarten attends monthly in the beginning of the year & on Holy Days. Preschool will have special prayer services to participate in.

Prayer Through the Day: Each morning, we have student led morning prayer reciting different prayers each month along with the Pledge of Allegiance. By the end of the year, every student K-8 has had a turn to be the leaders on the intercom. Before the lunch/recess hour, we pray the "Grace before Meals" together. We end our day giving thanks for all the blessings by reciting "The Glory Be" and ending with St. Rita of Cascia ...Pray for Us.

Schoolmessenger: We use our voice message system to send out reminders about events. When you see the school number/or St. Rita come up on your caller id, pick up. It will also go to voicemail. Voice messages also go to your email and can be played back.

Please check your messages before you call the office. Most announcements for events are sent after office hours. You will also get an email from Schoolmessenger that you can click on the link to hear the message.



IF YOU DO NOT HAVE VOICEMAIL SET UP ON YOUR PHONE CHECK YOUR EMAIL. YOU CAN ALSO HAVE A FRIEND OR CLASSMATE SHARE THE PHONE MESSAGE INFORMATION WITH YOU.

What's for Lunch?



KEEP THAT CALENDAR HANDY!

Please keep your lunch calendar handy to see what days you have ordered meals. It is very time consuming for our office staff to get multiple calls each day to see if a lunch is ordered or to replace your lunch calendar.

Please provide a healthy lunch for students in (PreK-8) and a healthy snack for students in PreK-4 each day.

We do not allow parents to bring restaurant meals unless it is a special occasion such as a birthday. We cannot refrigerate the lunches during the day. Pop is not allowed at any time. No glass containers please.

We have students with peanut, tree nut or other food allergies, please help us keep our school snack and meal times safe for all children. Children who DO NOT have allergies are still able to bring items containing nut products.

- Candy is not permitted except for special days at school. If a lunchable has candy in it, I instruct the children to take it home.
- Please include a spoon or fork if needed and a napkin each day. We have an emergency supply but it is expensive for us to provide those on a regular basis.
- For students in PreK-4 we have the first 5 minutes in silence so that they can eat the main thing (sandwich, pasta, salad)
- FOR SNACK TIME: PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY NUT PRODUCTS SO WE CAN KEEP THE ROOMS ALLERGY SAFE! THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.



BUS INFORMATION:

It is a good idea to have the students put their bus info inside their assignment planner for grades 3-8 or on a tag on the school bag for grades K-2.



PE classes have started. Please have the children bring their gym shoes and clothes in a drawstring or zippered bag to keep everything together. If they do not have an official school gym uniform, then they may wear a solid color pair of shorts and a solid color t - shirt. If a student has the official uniform, then they are expected to wear those every day. All students should bring their gym uniform on Monday and take home on Friday to be washed.

If you ordered gym uniforms on BOOK DAY those orders will ship on Sept. 6th , we should have them by the beginning of the next week.

YOU MUST LABEL all items of clothing. 75% of our students wear green polos. Mix-up in the locker room is very possible. You want your child to wear their own shirt, jumper, skirt or pants home.

PARKING LOTS: The FRONT LOT is for faculty and staff only. There is one VISITOR SPACE for guests.

MORNING EXTENDED DAY parents should not park in the teacher's lot. Please pull along the curb on the front circle close to the school.

In the back there is also teacher parking only area between the rectory and the dumpsters or next to the gym sidewalk.

NO CARS CAN ENTER THE FRONT CIRCLE BETWEEN 8:00 AND 8:25 – BUS ONLY.

PRESCHOOL DROP OFF IS AFTER BUS AT 8:25.... Please do not enter front circle before that time. At the beginning of the year, some busses are a little late.

MORNING DROP OFF: Please have the children stay in the car until the teachers and patrols are in the CROSSWALK.

BIRTHDAYS: Due to the number of children with food allergies. Parents may not send food treats for birthdays even for take home in the event a child would ride the bus.



BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHTS "Curriculum Night"

GRADES 5-8

Thank you to the parents who attended last Wednesday night. It is always a pleasure to visit with our parents.

PreK- GR. 5

Wednesday, Sept. 5th at 7PM
Parents will meet the teacher and hear about the grade level curriculum.

Parents only. This is a night for the adults only please. Children will not be able to be in the classroom for the presentation.

Please do not ask the teachers about student progress or share confidential information at this night. This is only a short time and the teachers want to greet all the parents. If you have other information to share please call the teacher.

ST. RITA of CASCIA School, Aurora
FACEBOOK

is a great place to get up to date announcements. There is also an alumni page for St. Rita. Be sure you check to see it is the school for new information.

NOTES: Please send a note for any changes for students (extended day, no bus, etc.) Send one for each child.



WHO SHOULD I ASK? There are times when you may have questions about something at school.

Office:

Questions about lunch, attendance, bus, financials, health records, and events are usually addressed to Mrs. Drieske or Mrs. Harner.

Teacher:

Homework, tests, field trips, classroom procedures, reading goals should be handled by the classroom teacher. Please send a note to school, you may call the office and leave a message for the teacher. The teacher will try to contact you during his/her planning period during the day. You may also send an email for easy questions. For more important matters of student progress or adjustment to the new year, a phone call is better.

Principal:

Questions about school procedures, curriculum, student health and safety should be directed to Mrs. Faxon. Please call the office.

Communication is important for everyone. For something related to the classroom it is best to contact the teacher first.



SPECIAL GUEST DAY!
(Grandparents/Special
Friends)
Friday, September 14th

Many schools have a special day for grandparents to visit the school. St. Rita has had this tradition for many years. Since some of our students may not have grandparents who live nearby, we extend this invitation so that every child has a Special Guest.

Students will dismiss at 11:30 that day. We would love to have a visitor for every child.

CALENDAR UPDATES are posted on our school website calendar. www.saint-rita.org

Monday, Sept 4th – Labor Day NO SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE: Friday, October 26th

“Trunk or Treat” Family Fun Night



We are looking for a new Committee Chairperson and members to help. Call the school office if you are interested for more information.