

St. Coleman Catholic School
☺ **Summer Newsletter – June 2019** ☺

Dear Parents, Students, Faculty, and Staff;

I hope your summer is going well and that you are relaxing and enjoying some quality family time! I have just finished wrapping up the 2018-2019 school year and am well into planning the 2019-2020 school year!

The campus is full of activity, yet it is so quiet without the students! Too quiet! Our major project for this summer started immediately after the students were dismissed for vacation; we are in the process of updating our fire alarm panel and fire system throughout the school. In addition, we are installing a fire suppression system (sprinklers) in the Parish Hall. This is a huge project! It will bring another added level of security to our school. With our new fire system, we will have the ability to call a “code red” (or any other code) from other locations, outside of the main office. In addition, the system will be tied into outside speakers which were installed so that students can hear a code called even if they are outside on the field. School security is continually changing. We need to constantly be aware of our needs and the needs of our students. I am very thankful for the parents who share their thoughts and concerns with me. It’s how our school continues to stay so safe!

Calendar

The preliminary school calendar is already posted to Plus Portals and the school website. The first day of school for all students is Monday, August 19, 2019. We will have a 12:00pm dismissal on that day. Tuesday the 20th will be a full school day with dismissal at 2:50pm. Lunch and after school care will also begin on Tuesday, August 20th. Look for the “Year at a Glance” calendar posted to Plus Portals with all of the early dismissal days and holidays color coded for your easy reference.

Please check the school calendar and plan your vacations so that they do not interfere with the school year. This is so important! It is becoming an issue for many students and we had several students who reached the point of 20 days absent last year; many of these due to family vacations. This is not an acceptable reason to have excessive absences. Attendance really does impact student performance in the classroom. We do have a few long weekends for you to enjoy with your family. Please also note the dates for Terra Nova testing week (March 2-6, 2020) and *be sure that your child is in school during that week.* This is important for your child’s optimum testing conditions and your cooperation is appreciated.

Meet and Greet

There will be a teacher meet and greet on Friday, August 16th, from 9:00am to 11:00am. You can bring in your child’s school supplies, see their classroom, and meet the teacher(s)! This is when the students in grades 5-8 will be able to pick up their new school issued iPads and cases (with a signed iPad agreement). However, there is an iPad fee of \$50 for 3rd-4th grades (iPads remain at school) and \$100 for 5th-8th grades (iPads go home with the student each day). This fee is billed to your FACTS Tuition management account.

Faculty/ Staff

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to the following faculty/staff members:

Mr. Richard Littlefield has decided to enjoy retirement. He has been such a wonderful addition to our SCS family and he will be greatly missed. The middle school students enjoyed his stories and his quick wit! We wish him all the best in his retirement and many blessings for years to come!

Mrs. Laura Rossie transferred to a teaching position in another Catholic school closer to her home. It was sad to say goodbye to such a wonderful woman! We wish her well in her new position at her new school! She has all our love and support for a great school year!

Mrs. Samantha Sylvestri decided to pursue her Master's degree and has taken a position at a location which will allow her more flexibility to continue that path. Her enthusiasm for teaching will be missed! We wish her all the best and will keep her in our prayers!

Mrs. Katie Tomlin and Mrs. Maureen Brady have both decided to take some time off from working. They each have a baby and want some time to be stay at home moms. Join me in wishing them well and all the best for their futures!

Please join me in welcoming back to the classroom:

Mrs. Renee Zaldivar! That's right, she's back! Mrs. Zaldivar taught here at SCS for years, left us for one year, and has now returned to us for good! We are thrilled to have her home again!

New to St. Coleman for 2019-2020:

Mrs. Tara Boers is joining our faculty as a new 6th grade teacher. She is an experienced educator. She recently moved from Orlando and previously taught for the Diocese of Orlando. She is a welcomed addition to our family and our students are blessed to have here as one of their teachers!

Mrs. Aryam Lozito joins us as our new Spanish teacher. She brings experience as a former teacher at Franklin Academy. She is full of enthusiasm and positive energy! Please join me in welcoming Mrs. Lozito to her new SCS family!

Dress Code Reminders

Just a friendly reminder to have all students follow the dress code that is in the parent-student handbook. A few highlights:

- ***No dyeing or alteration of natural hair color (Adding any product to your hair to alter the color is prohibited)***
- ***Hair style is to be appropriate for school; neat and no fad haircuts (mohawks, spikes, shaved sides, etc.)***

(If you notice the same reminders in the summer letter, it's because it's still an issue! Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated.)

Shoes

All students in grades 5-8 are required to wear the Skechers uniform school shoe (available at Debbie's Uniform Store). The students in the lower grades may choose to wear the Skechers shoes, but it is not mandatory.

Youth Shoe:	Style: #96320	Color: Chocolate	Name: Maddox Ashez Grambler	Sizes: Y 11 – 6 1/2
Men's Shoe:	Style: #64455	Color: Brown	Name: City Walk-Malton	Sizes: 6 1/2 and up
Women's Shoe:	Style: #49336	Color: Desert Brown	Name: Relaxed Fit-Bikers-Curbed	Sizes: 5 1/2 and up

Uniform Updates

Please remember when sizing your daughter for her uniform that we are looking for skirts to be of an appropriate length for a student attending a Catholic school. *The school administration reserves the right to determine the appropriateness of the skirt.*

Summer Reading

Summer reading information is available on school website. Look on the website under Parents to find all the information related to summer reading requirements.

Attendance

Attendance is extremely important for your child's academic success. Please make every possible effort to have your children in school. There are no more than 20 absences allowed in one school year, 10 per semester. If a student is absent for more than 20 days, they may be retained in their current grade. Also, teachers do not, and are not expected to, pack up work for students who will be absent to go on vacation. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Drain Fields

You should see an improvement in the parking lot! We have had the drain fields thoroughly cleaned out and the flooding issue has improved significantly. Sorry to those of you who enjoyed Lake St. Coleman!

Italian Festival

Save the date! The Italian Festival will be held on February 14-16, 2020. We always need volunteers! It's a great weekend for some family fun, volunteer time, awesome food and music!

PlusPortals

New Families – look for an email from PlusPortals in August with the information you will need to activate your parent account(s). PlusPortals is our secure communication site for class assignments, grades, parent-teacher email, etc.

All Families – Homeroom assignments, 2019-20 directories, etc. will be available on Plus Portals in August.

Enjoy your vacation!

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer. Please remember to attend Mass every Sunday! I look forward to seeing all of you in August! Don't forget to join us for teacher Meet & Greet on Friday, August 16th!

God bless you and your families,

Dr. Lori St. Thomas, Principal