



August 3, 2018

Dear Sacred Heart Catholic School Families,

I am writing to you today as we come to the close of our first full week of school. I know that you are very proud of your children and you certainly should be. As earlier mentioned, our school theme this year is Cardinals ROCK (Respect Others with Christian Kindness)! We have started the school year with great joy as we have seen our students practice kindness each day! At the end of each school day this year I have the pleasure to announce over the P.A. student's names who are building the Kingdom of God with their acts of Christian kindness. This list of students is growing with each day. Congratulations Sacred Heart Catholic School community!

As I have previously announced, we have been blessed with an increase in student enrollment this year. This is a good thing, but it does bring some challenges. The school leadership is currently working on a plan to be able to add classroom aides for our classrooms that are near or at capacity. Next week I hope to be able share some exciting news that will enhance opportunities for our students to continue to be academically successful.

We also know that morning arrival and afternoon dismissal have experienced its share of challenges. Here are the safety guidelines that we are asking all parents to follow.

- At morning arrival, please keep your car in line.
- Never pull out of the line to go on to Martha Ave., wait your turn.
- If you are first in line, pull your car all the way up to the first adult waiting to help your child out of the car.
- Children should not exit the car door on Martha Ave.
- If you want to take your child out of the car and walk your child in the building, please pull into the church lot from 8th Street., park in a space near the sidewalk, and walk around to the side entrance door of the Activity Center.
- At dismissal, the back-parking lot opens at 2:35PM. When creating a new column, please pull all the way to the front to be even to the car to your left.
- Students in grades Kindergarten and First are dismissed first.
- Only Parents of Kindergarten and First Grade students should walk up and get their child from the teacher.
- Parents of children in grades two through eight should wait outside of their car for student's dismissal at 2:45 PM. Please be patient as children get in their cars.
- Cars should not pull out of the dismissal line until a "Go Signal" is given.
- **At no time should children or adults walk through the dismissal line of cars while cars are leaving the parking lot.**

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There is something very inspirational watching the students gain confidence so quickly at the beginning of the school year. I think it was Wednesday, just one week into, and a kindergartener told his mom who was walking him towards the PAC, “Mom, I’ve got this. (You don’t have to walk me in!)” Another time, a parent was walking towards the doors that lead to the lunch room and a first grader held open the door and said, “If you are looking for the cafeteria, it is easy to find, just keep walking.”

I want to thank parents for helping us limit interruptions to instruction and letting children learn from occasional mistakes or unplanned situations. By not bringing any forgotten items to school, including things like lunches, books, homework, money, instruments, etc. (eyeglasses and medications are exceptions), we can help kids handle small issues now, and they will be better equipped to handle big issues later in life. You are doing a great job!

Lastly, but not least, please do not wait to contact me personally by phone or text at 812-374-4859 if you have a question or concern about your child’s education.

Enjoy the weekend!

Frank Barlag

Sacred Heart of Jesus, Have mercy on us.

Live Jesus in our hearts, Forever!

