

Our Lady Queen of Peace School
Parent Letter
August 14, 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 15th- K-8 1st day of school- 12:00 dismissal

- Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary- 1st-8th grade students will be attending 8:30 Mass. **We will open the school doors at 8:00 this day.**

August 16th- 1st full day

August 17th- First Communion/Confirmation For 4th Grade

August 20th- PreK 4 first day

August 21st- PreK 3 first day

August 23rd- Mum Order Forms Due

August 26th- School Pictures-Free Dress Day

September 2nd- No School

September 3rd- No School

September 7th- Parish Hog Roast

September 9th- OLQP Dinner Auction Meeting

Golf Match @ Cloverleaf Golf Course

September 10th- PSA Meeting

September 11th- Mum Delivery Day

CALENDAR CHANGES

Tuesday, September 3, 2024, will be a No School Day. Teachers will be in training for a supplemental religion curriculum that is being recommended by the diocese.

First Communion and Confirmation for the incoming 3rd grade class will be held on Saturday, February 15, 2025, in Springfield

OLQP Dinner Auction date has been changed to Saturday, February 8, 2025.

OPEN HOUSE/BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

Thank you to all who came and also who volunteered at the Back To School Bash to make it a fun success. A special thank you to the Bethalto Knights of Columbus for making lunch for everyone. We hope everyone enjoyed it as much as we all did.

BEFORE & AFTER CARE

The Before and After Care program will be open on Thursday, August 15th at 7:00AM. The After Care program will begin at 12:00 on Thursday. If you are sending your child to After Care, please remember to send lunch with them. Regular hours for the Before and After Care program will begin on Friday, August 16th. (7:00-8:15 AM and 3:00-6:00 PM)

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Staff will be at the Preschool door, the door in the primary wing, and at the Enrichment Center/gym entrance to let students in each morning. Pull into the parking lot off of Butcher Street and then proceed to either the primary wing door or Enrichment Center/gym door. If you need to get out of the car, please park away from the doors so we can keep traffic moving. If you have a child in preschool and an older sibling, they may all enter through the preschool door.

DRESS CODE

Please review the uniform guidelines found in the Policy Handbook on our website regarding dress code. Pay close attention to sock color, make up, and OLQP sweatshirts. Please make sure shoes have non marking soles.

SPIRIT DAYS

Thursdays will once again be Spirit Days. Students may wear their Spirit T-Shirts on Thursdays with their uniform jumpers/skirts/shorts. Contact the office or Becky DiPaolo with any questions. Students may wear previous year's shirts if they wish. Order form is attached below.

CMG CONNECT

The **CMGConnect** online training replaces the former Safe Environment Program (VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children") that was previously offered through our Archdiocese. Individuals are now required to complete all Safe Environment Training online.

CMG connect is a new web-based platform that will assist the Diocese to ensure that all employees and volunteers who are in a position of trust with children and vulnerable adults within our schools and parishes are trained to recognize behavior patterns of potential abusers and provide proactive measures for preventing abuse in any context. **This class needs to be completed before volunteering at the school and to complete service hour opportunities.** Attached below is info about how to complete the class and the website to do it at.

Many parents are missing the background check form. I will be sending those home on August 11th. You can either fill it out and email it to the address listed on the form, or send it to the office and we can email it to Springfield for you.

<https://cmgconnect.org/>

These links will walk you through the process.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HLt_5aiak5FMMm3XUcrdQMR0fd3pkREj/view?usp=drive_link

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dwZE44STekkTPAiVw9miebKikXnzOiR4/view?usp=drive_link

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dwZE44STekkTPAiVw9miebKikXnzOiR4/view?usp=drive_link

HOT LUNCH/SPACE CAMP LUNCHES

We will begin serving hot lunch from the public school beginning on Wednesday, September 4th. More information regarding public school hot lunch and Space Camp sponsored lunch were included

in the welcome packet on your child's desk at the Open House this past Sunday. Public school hot lunch this year will be \$3.50/meal and include milk. Ordering can be done by sending in the dates your child wants to order and the payment in a marked envelope labeled "Lunch Order" with your child to school. Orders can be done for an entire month at a time or every week. September's monthly order will be due by Thursday, 8/29 at 9am and weekly orders will be due the Thursday before the week you are wanting to be served lunch. Example: The order for the week of 9/2-9/6 will be due on Thursday, 8/29 by 9am.

In order to raise money to send the 7th and 8th graders to Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama, (and so you don't have to pack lunches the first two weeks of school) students sponsor lunches during the weeks of August 19th and August 26th. All proceeds from these lunches go to sending the kids to camp in October. A menu is attached. **Please turn in orders no later than Friday, August 16th.** PreK- feel free to email me your orders kknight@olqpbethalto.org

I am looking for a volunteer to grill hot dogs for the student's lunches on Thursday, 8/29. Contact me at kknight@olqpbethalto.org if you would like to earn a couple service hours!

FREE AND REDUCED HOT LUNCH

In your welcome packet on your child's desk at the Open House was paperwork to fill out if you qualify for free or reduced lunch from the State of Illinois. The forms have what income levels will qualify for these benefits. If you qualify, **please return the form back to school by Friday, 8/23/24.**

BUILDING UPDATE

The building is looking great, and we are ready to welcome our students back! The parking lot has been resurfaced and looks wonderful. We are looking forward to watching the Preschool students ride their toy cars on the new concrete slab on their playground. Thank you Stutz Excavation for your generous donation!! We are still awaiting the gym door installation. I was told it will be 2-3 weeks before this happens.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

We are looking for someone to update our "Yellow Books" that we use for student Masses. We need someone to type all of the songs (provided by Mrs. Wiggernhorn) and then print and bind the booklets. We have everything needed for printing and binding. If you are interested in doing this and earning service hours, please contact the office.

MUM FUNDRAISER

The mum fundraiser started this past Sunday. Info about the sale and your child's order form was included in the welcome packet on your child's desk at Open House. We are also needing some volunteers to help sell mums after Mass on the weekend of 8/17/24. Follow the link below to help. 1 service hour will be given per shift. Order forms are **due back to the school office by Friday, 8/23/24.**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0944A5AC2EA5F49-50542413-mumfundraiser#/>

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FOOD TRAILER

The Knights of Columbus will once again have their food trailer at the Bethalto Homecoming this year. We are excited to be back at the Homecoming! Please consider helping by working a shift (or two). This is a great opportunity for the Knights and OLQP to show a good presence in our surrounding community. All Brother Knights, their spouses, and any prospective members are all welcome to help. You can sign up at the following link <http://bit.ly/KCFOOD24>, or scan the QR code below:



KofC Food Trailer Signup

You may also call Luke Kistner at (618)558-2689. We hope to see many of you throughout the weekend. Thank you all for your continuous prayers and support, God Bless!

I DOOD IT

Our Lady Queen of Peace Church will once again have the I Dood It stand at the Bethalto Homecoming on Friday, August 30th - Monday, September 2nd. Click the link below to sign up to work a shift or two!

https://signup.com/mobileweb/2.0/vspot.html?activitykey=562426574062#choose_event_page

The I DOOD IT committee is asking each family to donate 1-2 gift cards (\$5.00) value to be used as prizes. You may drop them off in the church or school office.

CHESS

Chess Club will be held on Wednesdays from 6 - 7 PM in the 6th grade classroom beginning September 11th. Chess Club is open to students in Kindergarten - 8th grade. Thanks to Luke Kistner for providing this opportunity for our students.

SCHOOL PICTURES

School picture order forms were sent home on Sunday, 8/11. School pictures are scheduled for Monday, 8/26. Free dress is allowed for picture day. Pictures will start at 8:30am and they will start with the youngest students first. If your child misses picture day, there will be a makeup day in November scheduled. You can order online anytime (if you order before picture day you get free shipping) or send in the payment to the school office at any time up until the day of pictures. If you do not order online before picture day you will receive a proof a few weeks after picture day to look at and you can order online at that time. Contact Chrissy in the school office with any questions.

PARISH HOG ROAST

The annual Hog Roast is coming up on September 7th following the 4:30 Mass. The money raised this year, combined with the funds raised at last year's Hog Roast, will go towards building a restroom and sink out at the pavilion! The school will once again be in charge of drinks for this evening. Look for a link to sign up in next week's parent letter. I am attaching the Hog Roast letter for further information. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

UPCOMING MASS SERVERS

Saturday 8/17- 4:30PM- Levi Woodiel and Jack Kruse

Sunday 8/18- 8:30AM- Adult Servers

10:30AM- Josie Hagaman and Jemma Dorsey

Saturday 8/24- 4:30PM- Tinsley Busse & Hudson Hall

Sunday 8/25- 8:30AM- Ava Tone & Ryder Williams

10:30AM- Regan DeVries & Julian Certa

CHURCH NEWS

August 18-Knights of Columbus Chicken Dinner 11:30-2pm, Carryout or Drive-thru only. \$14 Adults, \$6 children. Adult meals for \$14 include half chicken or 5 chicken strips and 3 sides (Mac/Cheese, Green Beans, Potatoes with Gravy).

August 25- Pavilion Night 6:30-9:00 PM- Come enjoy a great night with free food (smoked wings & brats), drinks, and music.

September 4- RCIA classes begin. RCIA is the process by which persons who have never been baptized become members of the church. If you are interested in becoming members of the Catholic faith, please contact the church office (618-377-6519).

September 7- Parish Hog Roast.

I am looking forward to a wonderful, blessed school year. Please reach out to the office with any questions or concerns you might have. My office door is always open.

I found this bible verse fitting since so many of us- parents, students, and teachers- are anxious about new school years and the changes that will come:

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus".~Philippians 4:6-7