



Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Friends, and Guardians,

The staff has been busy getting ready to welcome back students on September 5, 2018. We are excited to begin working with your children again for what we know will be an exciting year filled with lots of learning and growth. The building has been cleaned, books delivered, and classrooms ready to go as we gear up to begin the 2018-2019 school year. Please take time each week to read this newsletter as it contains lots of important information that you will need to keep up to date on school happenings.



Parent Newsletters will be emailed each Thursday to families and will contain all important information necessary to help aid you in supporting your child as well as our school community. We all look forward to the year ahead.

God Bless each of you,

Mr. Grill,
Principal

Please be sure to visit our school website at:
<https://stmartinoftoursphila.independencemissionschools.org/>

Here, you will find copies of our school handbook, weekly newsletters, staff lists with emails, monthly, and yearly calendars as well as many other important documents and information.



- Please click [HERE](#) to access the Student Handbook.
- Please click [HERE](#) to access school calendars.
- Please click [HERE](#) for information on CARES.
- Please click [HERE](#) for important Summer Information.

Attention New Families

There will be a meeting for all new families next Wednesday, August 29, 2018 from 7-8pm in the School Gym. Please stop by to meet the administration and office staff as well as find

out information to get you ready for the school year. We look forward to seeing you there!

Welcome New Staff

As we begin the 18-19 school year, we have many new faces to join our SMT family. Please join me in welcoming the following new staff members to SMT:




- Ms. Jennifer Nobles- Assistant Principal
- Mrs. Isabel Cabrera- Tuition Manager
- Miss Maria Duca- PreK4
- Miss Julia Abbattista - 1st Grade
- Ms. Michele Holland - 1st Grade
- Mr. Corey Millman- 1st Grade
- Miss Hope Davis - 3rd Grade
- Mr. Nick Fox - 5th Grade
- Miss Hannah Peuser - 5th Grade
- Mrs. Mariette Matos - 6th Grade
- Mrs. Theresa Rubin- 5/7th Student Support
- Mrs. Carolyn White - Library

School Day Starting Hours

School doors will not open for students until 7:40AM each morning. Students arriving before 7:40AM will not be permitted in the school building unless paying for, and attending, morning CARES (which begins at 7AM). Breakfast is served from 7:40-7:55 each morning. If you would like your child to receive breakfast, he/she needs to arrive before 7:50AM to have enough time to eat and be ready before the first bell rings. Any student arriving after 7:55AM will be considered late.

Pretzels

Grades PK-8 If you would like your child/ren to receive a pretzel, simply put  the money in an envelope with your child's name and grade on the envelope labeled pretzels, return it to their homeroom teacher on time, and they will receive a pretzel.

Bussing

Bus routes are being finalized as we speak. You will hear from Sue Kedra about your child's route. Please be mindful that this is a process and takes some time. The School District of Philadelphia is very large and they have lots to figure out. This is a process so please be patient we this is all figured out on our end.

Car Line:

The Morning Drop Off Procedure for Grades 1 to 8 begins on Wednesday, September 5, Kindergarten & PreK on Monday, September 10. The procedure is as follows:

Cars enter the parking lot through the lane closest to the school building. Teachers and students help children out of the car. **Parents, please do NOT exit your cars. It is important that we keep the car line moving.** We will help the younger children get to their destinations. Cars exit the parking lot via the middle lane and turn right onto Loretto Avenue. Please do not go left because it backs up traffic in the parking lot as well as on Loretto Avenue. Please help us to keep everyone safe, especially the children. A more detailed document showing this can be found [HERE](#).

Attendance Matters:

Students **must be in the school doors by 7:55AM**. Any student not in school by 7:55AM will be marked late. Next steps will be issued to parents to students who are frequently late for school. It is vital that students are in school to receive their instruction during the entire school day. Therefore, **no students will be permitted to be picked up from school after 2:00PM without a doctor's note**. Frequent early pick-ups will be tracked and parents will be notified of next steps if needed. **Students should only be picked up early from school for unavoidable emergencies.**

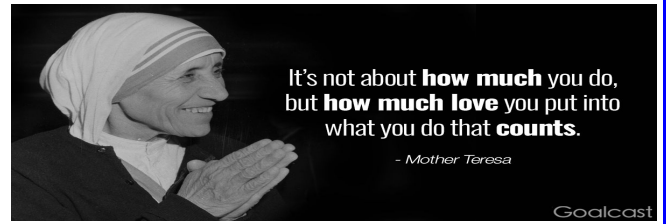
Healthy Snacks:



Only healthy snacks are permitted in school for students. Due to allergies and high sugar intake, no cupcakes, brownies, cakes, etc. are permitted to be sent into school. This also includes birthdays. Any unhealthy snacks will be sent back home with students and not distributed.

School Tuition is due the 15th of each month!
Please ensure your payments are on time!

Quote of the Week:



Student Safety:

The safety of our students and staff is utmost priority. Please ensure that you **bring proper photo identification when entering our school building**. All visitors will be asked for photo ID as well as parents/guardians who are picking up children from school. All visitors and parents will be asked to sign in when entering SMT. Please also remove sunglasses and hats when buzzing in at the main doors before entry. Please also ensure your emergency contact form includes all the latest information. No students will be released to an adult who is not on the emergency contact list. We will need permission from the parent/guardian for any child leaving who is not being picked up by a named emergency contact

A Glimpse at the Days Ahead



September

- 9/4 - School Opens- New students only; 12pm dismissal PK & K Parent Conferences (AM)
 - 9/5-School Opens- ALL students; 12pm dismissal PK and K Parent Conferences (AM)
 - 9/6- First FULL Day of School 1st-8th Gr.;PK & K Open House 8-11AM
 - 9/7- PK & Kindergarten Begin 8:15- 12pm; FULL DAY 1st-8th Gr. Music Demo Gr. 2-8 @ 9 & 10AM
 - 9/10 -PreK and K FULL Days Begin; Breakfast and Hot Lunch Begin; CARES begins PK-8
 - 9/14 - Back to School Mass @ 8:30AM
 - 9/15 - Villanova Day of Service at SMT; Tuition due
 - 9/19 - Back to School Night 1st-8th Grade 6:-8PM
 - 9/25 - School Pictures
 - 9/26 - Pretzel Money for October due \$11.50 (send in an envelope with child's name & room #)
 - 9/28 - Faculty/Staff PD 12pm Dismissal
- Click [HERE](#) for September calendar.

