



St. Pius X Regional School News Notes August 13th, 2020



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Thursday, August 20

*Class Assignment Posted to Plus Portals - NO IN PERSON INFORMAL OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, August 25

*Virtual Family meetings - PreK-5th will arrange these meetings with you; 6-8 teachers will have a Sign Up Genius for you to sign up on

*Middle School (6-8) Chromebook Meeting - 7pm - Zoom meeting - details to follow

Wednesday, August 26

*Virtual Family meetings - PreK-5th will arrange these meetings with you; 6-8 teachers will have a Sign Up Genius for you to sign up on

Thursday, August 27

*Supply Pick Up days - see details in News Notes

Monday, August 31

*First Day of Virtual Instruction

Monday, September 7

*Labor Day - No School

Wednesday, September 9

*Early Dismissal Day - students will follow Early Dismissal schedule for virtual learning

A 2020-2021 School calendar has been posted to the website. This includes days off, early dismissal days and end of quarter dates. A calendar will be coming at the end of each month for the events in the next month. Please keep an eye out **HERE** in **NEWS NOTES** for this calendar.

ARE YOU RECEIVING SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS?

NEWS NOTES: News Notes are one of the main ways we communicate information to parents. News Notes are our weekly newsletter and bulletin and they are emailed every Thursday to your home email addresses from TADS. They are also posted to our school website. If you are not receiving your weekly News Notes, please check your TADS account to see if all email addresses are correct, and then check your SPAM folder. If you are still not receiving News Notes after following those steps (or would like to register another email address) please contact [Ms. Kolosky](#).

REDIKER PLUS PORTALS: Rediker PlusPortals gives you secure access to your child's grades/scores, attendance, and discipline record. Parents can also access the parent directory. Information on accessing Plus Portals will be sent out next week.

GOOGLE CLASSROOM will also be utilized this year for ALL assignments and teacher communications. This platform will create a strong connection between school and family by sharing information that is critical to students' success and learning. Google account information will be sent to your emails next week.

2020-2021 SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS

School supply lists for 2020-2021 school year will be posted on June 15th on our school website. Click [here](#) for our School



Supplies for 2020-2021.

SUMMER IXL AND READING



In order to keep students engaged in learning and flexing their “mental muscles”, St. Pius X has required reading and math assignments for students to complete over the summer. Summer work is to be completed between June 15th and August 25th. Click [here](#) for Summer Work information. Please be advised any IXL Math work that is done before June 11th will be erased.

Health Corner - Immunizations Reminder

ALL students entering Kindergarten need to have 2 MMR and 2 VARICELLA on file prior to the first day of school August 31, 2020.

ALL students entering 7th grade need to have MCV and TDAP vaccines on files prior to the first day of school August 31, 2020



If your child’s immunizations are not up to date please schedule an appointment and let the nurse know when your appointment is scheduled for.

Please ensure your child’s immunization record is uploaded to TADS, or send a copy of their record to the nurse Meghan Benson at mbenson@stpiusbowie.org

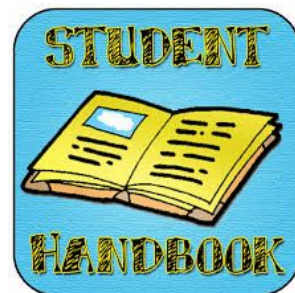
2020-2021 CALENDAR



We have “Gone Green” and parents have access to the school Google calendar. The SPX Google Calendar is located on our school homepage, and at <https://www.stpiusbowie.org/school-life/calendar/>. On the calendar website, you can add the calendar to your own Google account/calendar, change the view, and print a copy. Each month a calendar of events for the next month will be sent home given the uncertain nature of school events right now.

PARENT STUDENT HANDBOOK

Parents will receive their hard copy 2020-2021 Parent Student Handbook on Supply Pick Up day August 27th . Parents may also find the handbook on our website under the School Life tab (posted after August 27th). This handbook is one of the most important pieces of information you will receive. We advise parents to read the book from cover to cover and familiarize themselves with our policies and procedures. It is especially important in the first few weeks of school to understand our arrival and dismissal policies as well as our late arrival/ early dismissal, and



emergency closing policies. There will be a digital acknowledgement form sent to parents on August 27th for the Parent Student Handbook which is due by September 4th.

CLASS PLACEMENT FOR 2020-2021

On August 20th, 2020, class placements for the 2020-2021 school year will be live on Plus Portals. We will not have an in-person informal Open House as we have in the past. In order to locate your child(ren)'s class placement, please wait for the email notification and then log into Plus Portals. If you are new this year, you will receive information on how to access and register for this account. Once logged in, navigate to your child(ren)'s dashboard by clicking the More button to the right of your child's picture. You should see directly underneath your child's picture, the classes they are enrolled in. The first designation is their class placement. For example, the course listed is 2A Math that means they are in the 2A homeroom class. For students in PreK3, you already have your classroom placement.

EARLY DISMISSAL POLICY



Students will be given both a full day and early dismissal day schedule on August 27th. We will still be following the calendar for full days and early dismissal days, so please stay up to date on which days are designated for either style.

VIRTUAL FAMILY MEETINGS - AUGUST 25-AUGUST 26

On August 25th-26th, each teacher/grade level will conduct Virtual Family meetings. These meetings are intended to introduce you and your children to their teachers and to get to know one another a little better. Parents/Guardians and students are expected to attend these virtual meetings using the student's Google Account access. Teachers for PreK3-5th grade will set up their virtual family meetings with you via email. Teachers for 6th-8th grade will have a Sign Up Genius for parents/families to sign up as they wish for who they wish to meet with. The Sign Up Genius will go live on August 20th. The link to access the Sign Up Genius is:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=c.SignUpSearch&eid=08C7C0D7FBCCFC66&cs=09CBBAD88FCD8B627B7D64745BB59BC8> If you are unable to meet with a desired teacher, please contact them directly via email. Our Faculty listing can be found [here](#).

MIDDLE SCHOOL CHROMEBOOK MEETING-AUGUST 25 @ 7PM

We will be holding a Mandatory Middle School Parent meeting on August 25th at 7pm via Zoom. We are utilizing Zoom to ensure that everyone can attend without using your students' Google accounts to access Google Meet. Zoom meeting information will be sent out next week via email. In this meeting, information about the Chrome book agreement will be shared. The Chrome book Agreement will be sent home electronically on August 20th for your review. We are then asking for your acknowledgement signature on August 27th during Supply Pick Up times. If you have any questions, please contact [Mrs. Snyder](#).



NEWS FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE

- Tuition and ESP payments must be paid on or before the due date each month. Failure to do so will result in withholding a student's progress report, report card, academic record, yearbook, etc.
- If your tuition and/or ESP account becomes overdue by 30 days, your child(ren) may not attend school until it is paid in cash or certified funds in the school office. If payment is made directly online to TADS, it must be paid 7 days prior to this 30-day deadline, so that the funds have time to clear the bank.
- There is no need to call us to confirm the status of your account; we see the same information as you on TADS. If your TADS account shows the payment was made and nothing is past due, then you are in good standing.
- Thank you to the many families who do pay their tuition on time each month! We truly appreciate it! As a token of our appreciation, a prize will be awarded to one family at the end of the year from all who have kept their tuition current every month all year! It is very time consuming to track down families to make their payments. We ask for your cooperation and understanding with this.



LIFETOUCH YEARBOOKS 2019-2020 UPDATE

Dear Families,

Yearbooks are a tradition for schools throughout the US and Canada. At Lifetouch, we are humbled to be a part of providing that tradition. We know how important yearbooks are - especially in times like these.

We want to take a moment to acknowledge this year's delayed yearbook delivery is not what you, as our customers expect, nor deserve, from Lifetouch.

We want you to be aware that our primary yearbook production facilities are located in some of the states that are being hardest hit by the pandemic. We have prioritized the safety of our employees; and we are following all state and local health guidelines to create a safe working environment. Social distancing requirements mean that there are fewer people available to work at any given time. These changes have impacted our production schedule in meaningful ways.

We realize this has created a lot of frustration since we are currently unable to provide an estimated delivery time frame for your school's yearbook. Please know our teams are doing everything possible to get your yearbook to you. Shipping is monitored daily. As soon as your yearbook ships, your school will receive tracking information so they can arrange to distribute the yearbooks to the students and families in a manner that is best suited for everyone's safety.

As we navigate COVID-19, our intent is to provide you with a yearbook that your student will

treasure for a lifetime. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate this unprecedented time together.



Pick Up Day - Aug. 27, 2020

We need to hand out materials that your child will need for the 1st quarter . On Aug. 27th, you will pull onto the school property and open the back of the vehicle. You will pull up to the station you are assigned and a staff member will place a bag from the school. Please do not get out of your car. If you need to open the back of your vehicle, please do so before you get to the front of the line. If you have a middle school child, you will be handed a clipboard with a paper to sign saying you have read the chrome book agreement and have picked up your child's device. Once the pick up has been done, you will pull out of line and exit the parking lot. Please have a paper with your child/ren's last name in the front window of your vehicle.

Pick Up Locations - We will have people outside to help!

Pick Up Spot 1 Front entrance to school- enter by the light in front of the school- exit through church exit.

Pick Up Spot 2 Church steps- enter by the light in front of the school- cut across front parking lot to the line- exit through the church exit.

Pick Up Spot 3 Back of school-Hall Entrance- enter through the church entrance and go to the back- exit from front of the school exit.

Pick Up Spot 4 Back of school- Steps to the Science lab- enter through the church entrance and go to the back- exit from front of the school exit.

There will be signs that help you see each pick up station. Each family has been given a pick up time and station- see chart below. This needs to be done so we have the correct bags in the correct place for the pick up. Please email me with any questions

jschrom@stpiusbowie.org.

Pick Up Day Schedule Time and first letter of CHILD'S last name

9am-10am

Spot 1 A

Spot 2 B

Spot 3 C

Spot 4 D/E

10:15am-11am

Spot 1 F

Spot 2 G/I

Spot 3 H

Spot 4 J

11:15am-12:15pm

Spot 1 K/L

Spot 2 M

Spot 3 N

Spot 4 O

1pm-2pm

Spot1 P/Q

2pm-2:30pm

Spot 1 W

Spot 2 R

Spot 2 Y/Z

Spot 3 S

Spot 4 T/U/V

YOU SHOP AND WE GET PAID - HELP US EARN \$\$

Your shopping can help St. Pius X earn money! These fundraisers bring in thousands of dollars to our school each year and don't cost you a cent. Thank you to those families who participate in these fundraisers now. Your efforts are much appreciated! Thank you in advance to those families who will follow the simple steps below to begin participation.

AMAZON SMILE REWARDS PROGRAM: You probably already shop online at Amazon, and now you can help support SPX simply by using the special link here. Shop on Amazon.com. Our unique School Rewards link will take you directly to Amazon, where you can browse and shop just as you normally would. Each month, Amazon will pay us 5% or more of all purchases made by shoppers who reached Amazon through our link. Please support us by bookmarking this link in your internet browser - then making it the first link you click each time you shop at Amazon. And be sure to pass it on to your friends, family, neighbors, acquaintances, and anyone else who might like to help us raise funds by shopping at Amazon.



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION: This program allows our school to collect box tops/labels of food and

household products and redeem them for cash. Simply check the items you buy at the grocery store/ Target/Wal-Mart for Box Tops for Education labels. You will find the labels on dozens of different types of products like: food/drink, paper products, office supplies, cleaning supplies, food storage, tableware and many more. Once purchased, please cut the labels off and return them to school. Don't forget to check the expiration date, as we cannot get credit for expired labels. We will earn 10¢ for every label. St. Pius X can also earn cash

from Bonus Certificates, which can be found primarily in stores on specially marked packages and at checkout printed on a receipt. These vary on value based on the promotion. Bonus codes begin with the letter A. Also look for eBox Tops Codes, which are a 16 digit eBoxTops code that is printed on the product. You would be surprised at how many products you buy every day carry a Box Tops for Education label.



HARRIS TEETER 'S TOGETHER IN EDUCATION PROGRAM: This programs translates your spending at Harris Teeter to rewards for SPX. We need YOU to register and it's easy and it's FREE. Simply give the cashier our code, 4154, and your VIC card when you check out and your card will be linked for the entire school year. That's it! You only have to link your VIC card once each school year. Once your card is linked, St. Pius X Regional School will receive a percentage of your Harris Teeter brand (Harris Teeter, H.T. Traders, Harris Teeter Organics, HT Farmers Market and purchases in the HT Pharmacy) purchases credited back to our account. This program does not interfere with your VIC savings or cost you any money! Don't forget to link your VIC card to our account code next time you are shopping at Harris Teeter.



Your purchases at Amazon Smile, Box Tops and Harris Teeter this holiday season (and all year long) will directly support our school! Thanks in advance for your help.

Parent Spirituality

So how are you *really* doing? Our 1st quarter plan for distance learning was almost guaranteed to come with a sigh of relief to some and as unwelcome news to others. But let's face it - anything short of going back to pre-Coronavirus times was going to disappoint parents, students and faculty. So, as a parent, how are you personally coping with the news?



It may be helpful to remember that when we face unwelcome news (or major change) we often go through various stages - denial, bargaining, anger, sadness, and ultimately acceptance. While these stages are often used to describe grief, we go through them all the time - not just for major life losses, but ever so quickly for life's minor annoyances, and for everything in between. While going through these stages is normal, if you find yourself stuck in just one of the stages, it's time to reach out for help.

If you are struggling, I'd encourage you to name as specifically as possible whatever losses you may be feeling. These may be losses that directly impact you or may be losses you are feeling on behalf of your child. We teach the kids all the time that whenever we are having a rough time, we need to share that with Jesus. And then we need to remember that God is in control, that God has a plan, and that God walks with us every day. So pray and ask Jesus to help guide you in these uncharted waters as a parent and to help you cope with those losses. Then find someone to share those feelings with - not to debate the decisions that have been made - but just to deal with those losses. The clarity of simply naming what you are feeling can be very healing, and God expects us to lean on each other.

Once you have figured out your own feelings about this, you will be better able to help your kids cope. Realize that your attitude matters. Even if you aren't excited about this, you need to be positive for your children. Next, listen to your kids' feelings and find out what they are most concerned about. Once your child has named their biggest concerns, take the opportunity to help them bring these concerns to Jesus in prayer. Beyond just calming their fears, you will be teaching them how to rely on Jesus.

Bringing Church Home



Has your family figured out how you can "be church" at home? One step is to worship online: here are some links to connect you with worship

from our regional parishes:

Weekend masses with Fr. Mike Jones (St. Pius):

<https://www.spxbowie.org/watch-mass>

Daily and weekend masses with Fr. Larry Young (Ascension):

<https://www.ascensionbowie.com/>

A weekly message (homily) from Fr. Scott Holmer (St. Edwards):

<https://stedwardbowie.com/messages-from-fr-scott>

Mass on TV: airs every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. on WDCW-50

Other Area Parishes with online masses: <https://adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayer>

ACRONYM GLOSSARY

Are you new to St. Pius X and unfamiliar with our acronyms? Here is a quick list of our most used abbreviations:

ADW - Archdiocese of Washington

CYO - Catholic Youth Organization

*ESP - Extended School Program (before and aftercare)
Obligation*

HSPT - High School Placement Test

SSC - Student Support Center

VSP - Volunteer Service Program

CFA - Chick-fil-A

HSA - Home and School Association

FSO - Fundraising Support

SAB - School Advisory Board

TADS - Tuition Management Company

Our Regional Parishes:

St. Pius X Catholic Church

14720 Annapolis Road Bowie, MD 20715 301-262-2141

<http://www.spxbowie.org/>

Sacred Heart Parish

16501 Annapolis Road Bowie, MD 20715 301-262-0704

<http://www.sacredheartbowie.org>

Ascension Catholic Church

12700 Lanham Severn Road Bowie, MD 20720 301-262-2227

<http://www.ascensionbowie.com>

St. Edward the Confessor

1940 Mitchellville Road Bowie, MD 20716 301-249-9199

www.stedwardbowie.com