

August 2018

ST. FRANCIS PRE WELCOME BACK

WELCOME!!!! I want to welcome all families to St. Francis PRE. Our first night of PRE will be September 5, we will gather at St. Francis High school and start at 6:30 PM. Registration nights will be August 22 and 29 from 6:30 PM—7:30 PM at St Francis High School. Please plan to attend one of these nights as I would like count of how many kids we will have in each class. This will give me an idea of how many supplies to get before the first night of class. If you cannot make it, please give me a call.

I would like to touch on some of the rules at this point. Some have changed and a lot have stayed the same.

Rules that have stayed the same: **Perfect Attendance** – your child is only allowed to miss a total of four excused days. To get an excused day is when a parent calls me before 6 PM on Wednesday night and lets me know their child will not be at PRE. If no parent calls me before 6 PM then that is counted as an unexcused absent. If the student has any unexcused absents then they cannot qualify for perfect attendance. So please do not send a verbal message with another sibling because a lot of times I do not get that message so the safest way is to call me. At the end of the year there is a prize given to all that achieved that goal.

Dress Code – No foul language on any clothing is allowed. No tank tops, spaghetti straps or mid drift shorts are allowed. No ball caps or stocking hats are allowed. When winter comes they are allowed to wear stocking hats into the building but then must remain in the gathering area.

On church nights I would really like to see kids in nice shirts and nice pants, capris or shorts. Remember this is God's house we are entering.

No toys are allowed pass the gathering area, so that means leave the footballs, kick balls, basketballs and any other toy at home.

Kids will be told to turn off their **cell phones** once they enter pass the doors to the gathering area. So please do not try and contact your child while they are in PRE. If you need to contact them please call the High School or the numbers to reach me are on the back of this newsletter.

Hours for PRE – we will start at 6:30 PM and end at 8:00 PM. We gather at the St. Francis High School. I ask that you don't bring your child much before that cause there is no one outside to supervise your child. I also ask that when you drop your child off that you ask them to stay near the school and not run down to the elementary school to the playground. As when it is time to gather everyone in, my voice cannot yell down that far. And trust me I have a loud voice but not that loud.

Baptismal Certificates – it is required that I have all baptismal certificates from all students in the PRE program. Yes, even if you were baptized here I need to know that. If you have gotten me one in the past, I **will need** a new one this year (this part is new). Also, it is required that all families that are not parishioners of St. Francis Church need to get me a letter from their pastor or priest that states that they give permission for your child to attend St. Francis PRE program. This is required to be given to me by October 1 and no later.

Prayers – I ask that you keep up with the good work of helping your child learn their prayers at home, as we will be testing them out three times during the year. It is easier to have them right on track or a little ahead instead of trailing behind. Have them focus on one prayer and learn that one before moving on to the next one.

I was once told that the first and most important teachers in our children's lives are the parents. The kids look up to the parents and they learn their habits from the parents. So please be the role model for your kids so that Jesus shines through you into them. We will do all we can here at PRE but we so need your help when it comes to continuing their faith.

Rolls and Coffee – We will be doing our annual rolls and coffee after Sunday Masses. Again I will do what I have done in the past. I will divide the families up into two equal groups. If your name is down and you are unable to bring, **please, please** call me so I can get another family to bring in your place. We all have to do our part to make this a success. It's hard to have people come down to support our program if I can't get families to bring the two dozen rolls when they are scheduled to. Rolls must be there by 8 AM and families are asked to stay and help serve. Each family only needs to be there to help for 1 1/2 hours. This way we all can do our part to make this a success. I need parents to help fill trays, I need kids to help sell rolls to go after mass to the people that cannot make it down, I need older kids to help refill coffee and juice and I need parents to help wash pans after we empty them. Lots to do but need every family to help out. Both times will be set so please plan accordingly, look at your calendars to see if one Sunday works better than the other and I will work with each family, if need be.

It will take all of us to show the St. Francis community that we are proud of the PRE program.

Please do your part and support this small fund raiser that I have to support PRE. If you have comments about this or likes/dislikes please bring it to me so I can be aware of your thoughts. Remember half our proceeds will go to support a nonprofit organization.

Fish Fries – Another event that we will be helping with again this year will be the Fish Fries that Humphrey puts on during Lent. I will *require* each family to help out. If you do not help out, I will ask that you talk to me personally so I can understand on why your family cannot help.

I cannot tell you how many thank you's I have gotten from the committee members that put this event on. They put countless hours in to get prepared for each night to serve 500+ people. Once in 2017 we served over 1000 people. Amazing! I feel we can take three hours out of our evening to help. They are so thankful that the families at PRE are unselfish and show up to work at least one night. I'm not asking you work every Friday night, I'm asking you pick one and do your part to make this a success. So when I finalize the yearly schedule, please look at your calendar and set a side one Friday night to do your part. On a side note, it is actually fun while your working as you get to visit with lots of people.

Registration dues: The registration dues are still going to be \$60 per student. That covers their text book that they get at the end of the year, any supplies your child will need while in the classroom and any supplies we need for the activities that we do during the PRE year.

Lori Classen, Director
402-920-0388