



The Pelican Express

Let Go...Let God

AUGUST 4, 2022

BACK TO SCHOOL 2ND EDITION

August 1-5

- In-service for Faculty & Staff, call office before visiting if necessary, as hours are sporadic
- August 3 - School Office is closed for Faculty Retreat
- August 4 - School Office is closed beginning at 12:30

August 7

"Blessing of the Backpacks" & Teacher Commissioning Mass

- Bring your student and your student's backpack to 11:30 Mass.
- Faculty and Staff will also be present for their Commissioning Mass.
- The priest will use this as an opportunity to bless students, backpacks, and Faculty as we begin a new school year.

August 8

Meet & Greet, 3:30-5:00

- All students are invited to the informal event on the school campus.
- Class lists are posted outside the classrooms. PK&K already know this information, but are still invited to come get a snoball.
- *FREE* Snoballs will be available until 4:30.

August 9 & 10

First Day of School

- Staggered Start days for grades 1-8; consult email sent by Mrs. Gioe on 7/12. List also posted on school website>latest news.
- Half of the grade will attend on the 9th and the other half will attend on the 10th.

August 22

Back to School Night

- All parents, grades 1-8 are invited to attend this event
- Agenda includes "State of the Union" by Mrs. Gioe, & teacher presentations in classrooms.
- Door Prizes & Raffles, including "Name the Concession Stand" and "Free Extended Care for a Semester."

New families who wish to register for Extended Care, please call the office and provide us with

- Your child's Name
- Your child's Grade
- Date starting

We will email you a link to register. This DOES NOT need to be completed before the first day of school.

NEWSLETTER

- The "Pelican Express" is published every Thursday and is emailed to parents through FACTS.
- It contains vital information pertaining to school events, reminders, volunteer opportunities for service hours, Child Protection updates, and much more.
- All previous newsletters are kept on the website, under [NEWS](#).

PARENT HANDBOOK

- Located on the website under Parents. You can access it [here](#).
- All families are required to read and agree to all Handbook Policies.
- There are three agreements at the end to print, sign, and return to your child's teacher.

DRESS UNIFORMS

- Dress uniforms must be worn on **Mass days** and special days designated by administration (such as School Picture Day).
- Please consult the Parent Handbook for the specifics of the Dress Uniform.
- The first school mass is on Monday, August 15. Dress uniforms are required.

MASS ATTENDANCE

- Parents are invited to attend School Mass; however, the students are to remain in their class section to celebrate the Mass as a class.

CHANGE IN DISMISSAL

- One important document that will come home the first week of school is the TRANSPORTATION document. This serves as your communication to help us manage your child's transportation to and from school.
- If something changes during the day and you must make changes to how your child is to go home, please call the office **prior to 2:00pm** so that we can get the message to your child.
- **DO NOT** email/text your teacher, as your teacher may not be able to access the message until after dismissal.

SERVICE HOURS

- As reflected on Page 4 of this newsletter as well as Page 10 of the Handbook, all families must commit to 20 hours of service.
- Service Hour opportunities will be published in the weekly newsletter.
- Look for the VOLUNTEER graphic and there you will find SignUp Genius links to sign up to volunteer or donate items.
- Our Parish Fair is October 14-16, and lots of hours can be accumulated at that time. We will also ask for high school students in need of service hours to help at that time.
- Volunteers on campus must be cleared by the Office of Child Protection. See page 7 of the Newsletter or visit the website [here](#).



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- School supplies, purchased through Home & School, will go home for labeling either on Meet & Greet Day or on the First Day of School.
- If you choose to purchase supplies alone, or if you joined MBS after the bulk order, you may find the list of supplies [here](#).
- All PK, K & 1 students are REQUIRED to buy through the school, and this fee has been included in your tuition/fee schedule.
- All soft textbooks must be covered in Contact Paper the first week of school.

CAFETERIA MEALS

- Please refer to the email sent by Mrs. Gioe on 7/26
- Families will have to pay for the Cafeteria Meals this year. If you feel you qualify for a free lunch for your child, please complete the application process found [here](#) on August 1.
- Students who eat the served lunches in the cafeteria must have their lunches paid for in advance.
- New students need to have an account created. When creating an account, please make sure to Select "Diocese of Baton Rouge Child Nutrition Program"
- MBS> Parents>Cafeteria>pay cafeteria meals>MYSCHOOLBUCKS.com
- Information regarding how to set up the account can be found [here](#).
- Monthly menus will be posted on our website.
- Child Nutrition Program site will go live on August 1.

SPIRIT SHIRT DAYS

- Every year, our Office of Christian Formation along with our Faculty and Staff create a "theme."
- This year's theme is "We are called to Act justly, Love mercy, and Walk humbly." - Micah 6:8
- A shirt in the class color, with this logo on the back, is the shirt for students to wear once a month on designated "Spirit Shirt Days" (see calendar).
- Please consult the Parent Student Handbook (p43) with dress code requirements on these days.



FACTS

- Facts is the program we use to process transactions like tuition, athletics fees, etc.
- It's also where you can monitor the grades of your student.
- We will "close" FACTS around progress reports and report card days.
- As we are working now on class lists, FACTS is closed. Thus, you cannot enter Service Hours. See next page for Service Hours information.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

- Accessed from the School Website & Facts. It is kept current.
- Dates from the calendar are published in the weekly newsletter as reminders

Time & Talent (Service Hours)

Parent's Commitment to Church and School One of the requirements for enrollment and/or retention at Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School is a commitment to the following agreement.

- In addition to daily prayer at home, the Catholic members of our family will attend Mass every weekend and on Holy Days of Obligation.
- Twenty (20) hours of Time and Talent will be given to the school and/or Church each year. Hours must be completed between January 1 and December 31 to receive the in-parish tuition rate. These hours are reviewed each year.
- A minimum amount of \$325.00 will be donated to the Church to support the stewardship program as an Identified Offertory Giver (IOG). IOGs will receive in-parish tuition. Donations will be verified by December 15 unless otherwise authorized by the Pastor. Any offerings thereafter will count towards the following school year.

Definition of an Hour

One (1) hour is defined as an actual hour of volunteer work or donation purchases of \$10.

New Students Clause

Time and Talent hours are prorated for new students. However, new families must still meet the IOG requirement of \$325.00 to receive in-parish tuition.

Log your Service Hours into FACTS.

Go to Family > Family Home. You will see "Service Hours" in the middle of the screen. Click "add" to add the hours. You must type in a description. Select "type a custom value," and then type your description.

Sending Items to School

Please label your items that you send to school from a SignUp Genius:

- **Parent Name (signed up on the SUG)**
- **Name of item**
- **Title of Sign Up (ex: 5th Grade Auction Basket)**

This helps us match your hours in FACTS.

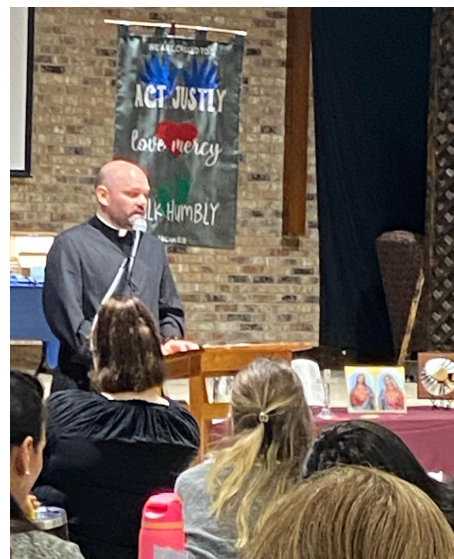
TEACHER RETREAT

Our teachers came back to school Wednesday to celebrate the Eucharist in Mass and in communion with each other. The retreat was led by Fr Todd where he challenged the faculty and staff to be intentional with Catholic values in and out of the classroom.

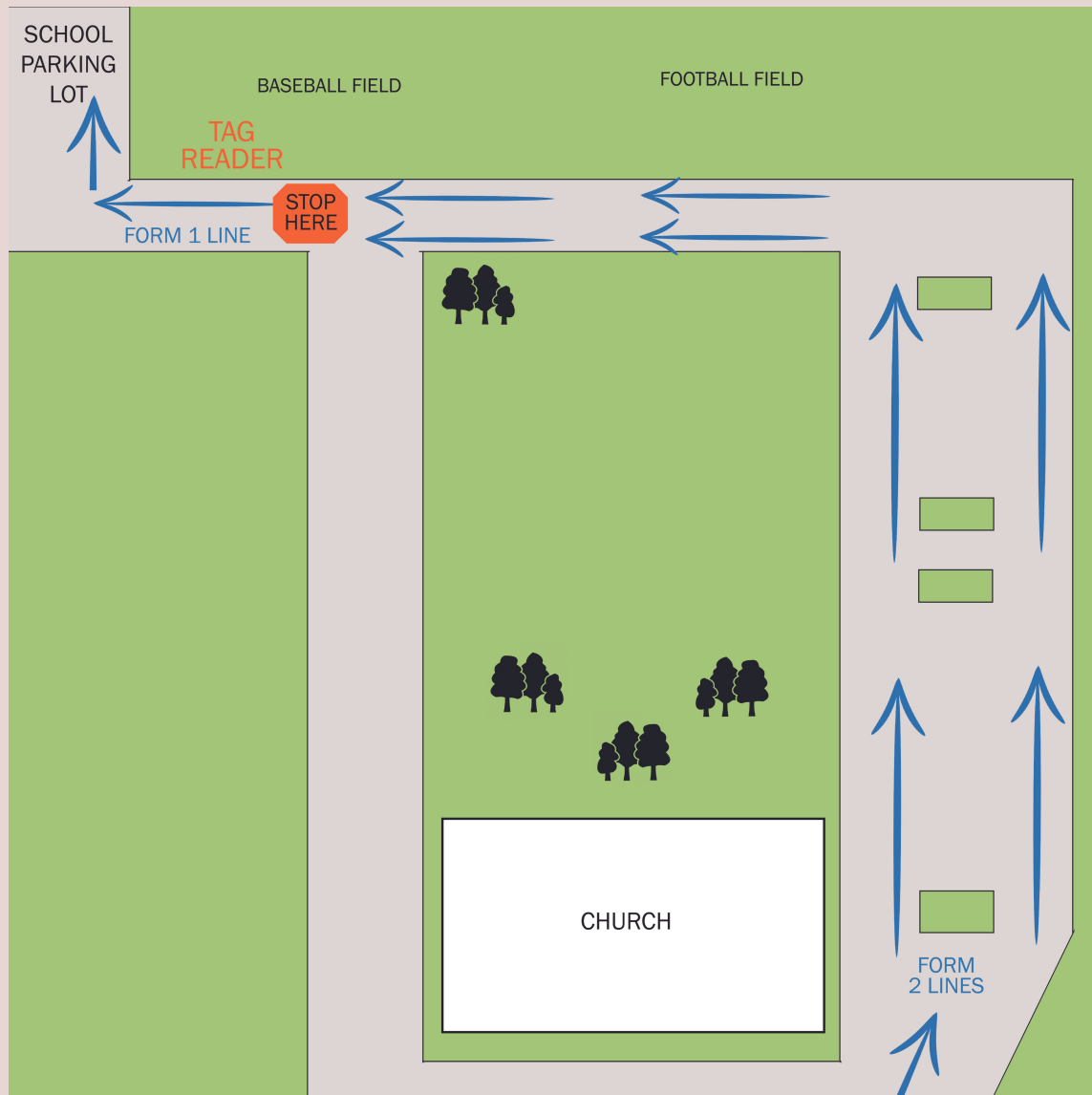
The Mens Club fed the teachers jambalaya and salad!

The retreat concluded with painting a theme-related piece of art hosted by Mudpies & Masterpieces.

“We are called to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God”- Micah 6:8



CARPOOL



Morning Carpool: 7:20-7:50

Tardy Students must be signed in the office by an adult.

Afternoon Carpool: 2:45-3:10

Students not picked up will be sent to Extended Care for a Drop-in Fee.

Check Handbook for Complete Procedures.

CARPOOL

Procedures

- New families will receive two carpool tags. Everyone needs to have a carpool tag on those days that we have early dismissal, or no bus days. Additional carpool tags can be ordered by completing the following [form](#) and turning it & your money in to Mrs. Vonnie.
- All carpool traffic must enter the campus through the CHURCH parking lot on Jefferson Hwy. Only two cars (who were awarded this privilege at the Gala/Auction) are allowed to enter through Baringer.
- Two lines form and turn into one line at the CAR RIDER PRO TAG READER sign. Afternoon carpool: *Do not enter the single-line through the car rider tag reader until 2:30.*
- Each car proceeds into the SCHOOL parking lot through the gate.
- Continue to proceed along the gym and courtyard until directed to stop.
- Afternoon carpool: proceed to an open, colored cone.
- Allow the teacher on duty or the Safety Patrol student to open the door.
- Direct your child to sit and buckle when you are in the parking lot or gravel lot.
- More information about Transportation and Carpool may be found in the [Parent/ Student Handbook](#).

Reminders

- NO CELL PHONE USAGE DURING CARPOOL.
- If you do not have your tag, you will be asked to park in the lot and wait until the end of carpool to get your child from the Teacher on Duty.
- Students must exit car from the Passenger Side. (Some parents stop in the Church Parking lot to move students around before getting to the carpool area.)
- Please maintain the cleanliness of your vehicle. We have had personal items fall out of the car and roll under the car, causing delays in the carpool.
- Please be kind to the Safety Patrol Crew. They have been waiting outside just as long as you have been waiting in line.

CARPOOL

Halfway to December

Where are you on your IOG contributions to MBS Parish?
In-Parish Tuition is granted to those who fulfill the IOG requirements year to year and complete service hours.

Would Automatic Withdrawals be easier for you?

Click [here](#) to print the auto debit form.

Bring the completed form and voided check to the Church Office.

You can also drop it in the weekly collection basket.



VOLUNTEER



MBS Back To School Night -
Click [here](#) to help or donate.

Athletics Concessions Stand
- Click [here](#) to donate.

Double Hours



MBS August Cafeteria
Volunteers - Click [here](#) to
help.



All are invited to attend Mass
each weekend.

Please click [here](#) for this
weekend's
Parish Bulletin.

OFFICE OF CHILD PROTECTION



According to the Safe Environment Policy promulgated by the USCCB and the Diocese of Baton Rouge, all parish and school ministry volunteers/chaperones must complete a mandatory background check and child protection training. Please note that MBS School child protection requirements are not the same as MBS Church Parish. Therefore, if you are compliant for one, you are not automatically compliant for the other. Please email Mrs. Landry at childprotection@mbsbr.org to check the status of your file and/or receive the required paperwork to activate your file.

2022-2023 Chaperone and Volunteer Agreement

All volunteers with active, updated files must complete and submit this school year's Chaperone and Volunteer Requirements Agreement and the Code of Ethics Acknowledgement Form (page 5 of CoE document). Please find the **agreement** [here](#) and **Code of Ethics** [here](#). Please scan/email the completed paperwork to childprotection@mbsbr.org. One service hour may be counted in FACTS for updating the agreement and CoE.

New Volunteer Applications are being accepted at this time. Anyone that has not completed the child protection process for MBS School previously, please email your volunteer request to childprotection@mbsbr.org. Please note that five hours may be entered in FACTS for "Time and Talent" service hours once the child protection process is completed.

Circle of Grace- Safe Environment Training Program

The USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People requires that all children enrolled in Catholic Schools and Parish Schools of Religion receive Safe Environment training. The Diocese of Baton Rouge will provide such training for grades K-12 utilizing the program, Circle of Grace.

The Circle of Grace lesson(s) for your child's grade level is scheduled on the following dates: Grades K-8 Weeks of August 15 - 19, 2022, and August 22 - 26, 2022

The Circle of Grace lesson plan for your child's grade level may be reviewed at the following [link](#). (Password: CareSafeChurch)

Please note that many of the lessons have a parent letter explaining the grade-level content. Parent letters will be sent home. The information in the parent letter is meant to be discussed between parents and students at home. The parent letter will not be discussed in class. Some lessons require a parent to sign and return the letter or activity page for documentation.

Parents have the right to opt their children out of receiving Safe Environment training. If you choose not to have your child participate in the training, it is required that you sign and submit the [Circle of Grace Opt-out form](#) for grades K-8 to Roslyn Landry in the Office of Child Protection by Thursday, August 11, 2022.



*Please note that opt-out forms will not be accepted after August 11, 2022. *