



The Pelican Express

Let Go...Let God

AUGUST 1, 2024

CALENDAR

August 2, 5, 6

- In-service for Faculty & Staff - office closed

August 3&4

- Blessing of the Backpacks. Students are invited to bring their backpacks to weekend Masses to have them blessed for the school year.

August 7 & 8

- **PK & K Parent Meetings & Student Assessments** - information was mailed. Please scan the QR code on your letter to sign up for your meeting.
- **Staggered First Day of School For Grades 1-8.** Half of the students will attend on the 7th; the other half will attend on the 8th. The list is on page 2.
- Buses will not run on August 7. Buses will run on August 8.
- Regular Office Hours Resume, 7:15-3:30

August 9

- First Day of School for ALL students in Grades 1-8.

August 10

- Classroom Coordinator applications are due. See page 5.

August 9&12

- **Staggered First Day of School for PK & K.** Half of the students will attend on the 9th; the other half will attend on the 12th. The details were emailed over the summer. Parents are allowed to walk their students to their classroom just on this day.

August 12

- Three forms at the end of the handbook are due to your child's teacher. One form per student is required. See page 2.

August 13

- First Day of School for ALL students in PK & K. All students utilize Carpool or Bus. Please do not walk your child to the gate. This halts carpool progress and creates unsafe situations.

August 15

- **First School Mass, 8:15** - Assumption of Mary - See modified uniform on page 5.
- Back to School Night for Parents only.

August 21

- **School Pictures.** All ordering will be done online and we will receive instructions with the active code the week prior to the pictures.

Staggered Start - First Day of School

The first day of school for students in grades 1-8 can be found [here](#). Class lists/HR will be published at Meet & Greet.

MBS Discipline Plan

Technology & Acceptable Use Contract

Photo Permission Form

These three documents can be found in the back of the Parent/Student Handbook. Click [here](#). Please print these three documents, sign them for each student, and return them to your child's homeroom teacher by Monday, August 12.

Summer IXL & Reading Requirements

All **existing** students going into first-eighth grade must complete IXL assignments over the summer. Click [here](#) for more information. This is due by the first day of school, August 7, and will count as a 20-point quiz grade.

All students going into Kindergarten through 8th grade must complete summer reading. Click [here](#) for more information. Upon returning to school, students must be prepared to participate in graded assignments pertaining to their reading. They are encouraged to take the AR tests

School Calendar

The school calendar is an ongoing, always-changing [site](#). Please take note of all of the events, but especially:

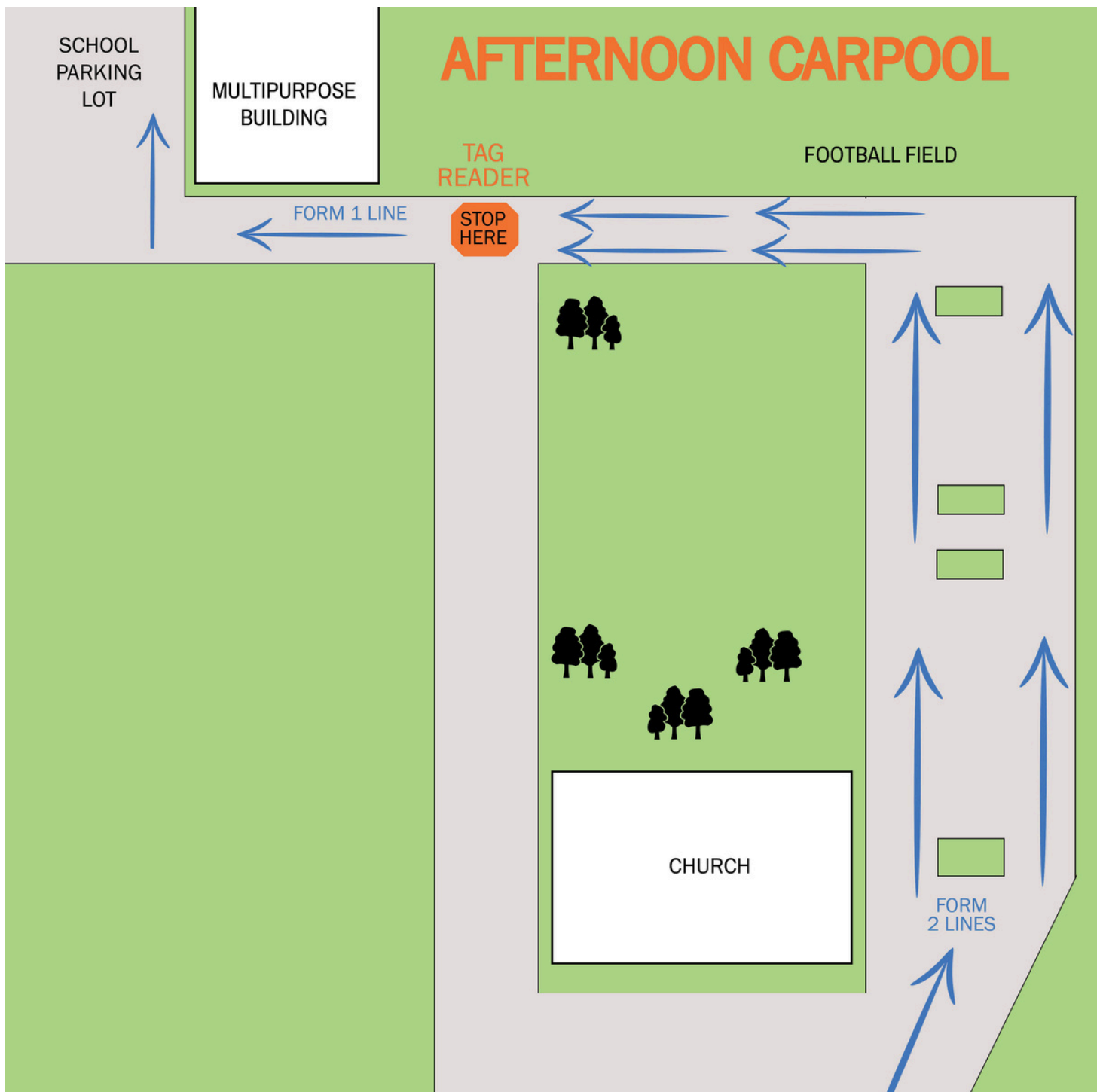
- **Monthly Spirit Shirt Days** - students are invited to wear this year's spirit shirt with uniform bottoms. They will be distributed in August.
- **Conference Days & Professional Development Days** - Students do not attend on their grade-level designated days.
- **Mass Days** - Students are required to wear their Dress Uniforms to Mass. see page 5
- **Sisters/Adoration** - As the Summer newsletter indicated, we will have the Mercedarian Sisters on campus this year

Carpool Procedures & Reminders

- Morning carpool begins at 7:20 and ends at 7:45. Students are tardy thereafter. After assembly, students must be checked in the office with a guardian.
- Students needing to be dropped off after 7:20 must do so through the carpool line.
- For safety purposes, we ask that you not drop off or pick up any student in the parking lot, the rear parking lot, or on the gravel lot on Baringer.
- 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. 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.}}
- To assist in keeping cars from backing up onto Jefferson Highway, a double line is to be formed in heavy traffic. Cars are to stay to the right (Woodlawn High side) and proceed in a single line to the rear gate entrance of the school campus. The left Church entrance is for Church use only.
- Each car proceeds into the SCHOOL parking lot through the gate adjacent to the Multi-Purpose Building. Continue to proceed until directed to stop. Please do not stop for folks walking through the lot. They will pass through once you are stopped at your drop-off location. {{Afternoon carpool: proceed to an open, colored cone.}}
- Allow the teacher on duty or the Safety Patrol student to open the door.
- Afternoon carpool begins at 2:50 and ends at 3:15. Students remaining on campus will be sent to Extended Care for a fee.
- Students will be given a procedure to assemble for afternoon carpool. Students will only be loaded into the vehicle from the passenger side. Parents are not to get out of their vehicle at any time when the line is in motion. Parents are to adhere to these guidelines for the safety and efficient movement of all involved in afternoon carpool
- More information about Transportation and Carpool may be found in the Parent/Student Handbook.

Carpool Reminders

- No cell phones are to be used 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. If you stop in the church parking lot to move kids around, please do not stop in the middle of carpool lines.
- 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 carpool.
- Please be kind to the Safety Patrol Crew. They have been waiting outside just as long as you have been waiting in line.



School Mass

The first school Mass will be on Thursday, August 15, which is also a Holy Day of Obligation. Dress uniforms are required for all school Masses. Due to the excessive heat Louisiana experiences in August, regular uniforms may be worn (even on Mass Days) until September 30. Students are allowed to wear jumpers without a shirt and shorts on Mass days. Beginning October 1st, complete dress uniforms will be required for Mass.

Hair cuts & Skirt Length

Please consult the Parent/Student Handbook on p43 for all hair grooming guidelines. Boys & girls have a hair policy that must be followed. The girls' skirts should have the finished hem to the top of the knee.

Back to School Night

Back to School Night will be held on Thursday, August 15, 2024, in St. Ursula Hall and Classrooms. This time is the opportunity to meet teachers and other parents who share your homeroom. The agenda is below.

5:45 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. - Registration and Refreshments

6:00 p.m. - Introductions and Presentations

6:45 p.m. - Class Presentations

Elementary – 1st –5th - Homeroom Classes

- 6:45 p.m. – 7:10 p.m. - Session 1
- 7:15 p.m. – 7:40 p.m. - Session 2 (Repeat of Session 1)

Middle School – 6th – 8th Grade – St. Ursula

- 6:45 p.m. 7:45 p.m. – Middle School Presentations
 - Enrichment/Activity
 - Grade Level Expectations
 - Grade Level Routines
 - Subject and Grade Level Expectations

Altar Servers Needed

All boys and girls in grades 3rd -8th are invited to join the Altar Server Ministry for the 2024-2025 school year. If you are interested in joining the Altar Server ministry, please complete the following [form](#) and return to school, ATTENTION: CELESTE RABALAIS or email it to crabalais@mbsbr.org. The Form is due no later than August 27. Please note that the signup is for BOTH school and/or weekend masses. You can specify one of the other.

Training is mandatory will take place during school hours on Thursday, September 5th.

Classroom Coordinators Needed

Classroom Coordinators are needed to be considered for each homeroom. If you would like to be considered, please complete the following [form](#) by August 10.

Volunteerism - Time & Talent

- In order to volunteer on school or church campus, you must go through the Office of Child Protection to update your credentials.
- Opportunities to volunteer and get service hours will be placed here in the newsletter. See next page for save the dates!

OFFICE OF CHILD PROTECTION

The 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 lessons are grade-level appropriate lessons mandated by the Diocese of Baton Rouge to instruct students on topics of personal safety, making good decisions, developing wholesome relationships, and self-esteem. The age-appropriate Circle of Grace lesson plan for your child's grade level may be reviewed at the following link.

Link: <https://learncat.diobr.org/circle-of-grace>

Password: CareSafeChurch

To opt-out your child from the lesson, please send an opt-out form to childprotection@mbsbr.org. Opt-out forms must be received by August 14, 2024. Click [here](#) for the Opt-out form.

It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to ensure that the Office of Child Protection receives the opt-out form by the deadline.



Vision Screening Help

Cafeteria Help



Calling Volunteers!

Home and School is in need of volunteers throughout the school year! Please save these dates. During Back to School Night, each teacher will be passing around a volunteer interest form. More information to come in future newsletters and Back to School Night!

****Note: you must be child protection certified****

Fun Run

November 15th

Penne Leier
pleier@mbsbr.org

MBS Parish Fair

October 18th - 20th

mbparishfair@gmail.com

Grandparents Day

November 22nd

Allison Toups/Alicia Authement
allison.gulledge@gmail.com
aliciaauthement@gmail.com

Teacher Shopping Days

December 6th and 13th

Noelle Comeaux/ Nicole Vidaurre
nacomeaux@gmail.com
nicolervidaurre@gmail.com

Pals Luncheon

January 30th

Mandi Celestine/Margo Kitto
ace6410@gmail.com
margokalin@aol.com

Father Daughter Dance

February 8th

Michelle Leerkes
michelle.leerkes@gmail.com

MBS Gala

February 15th

Chelsea Meng
mbsbrauction@gmail.com

Donuts with Dad

March 20th

Noelle Comeaux/ Nicole Vidaurre
nacomeaux@gmail.com
nicolervidaurre@gmail.com

Pelican Games

April 4th

Tara Watson/Allison Davis
TKWatson4@gmail.com
adavis6479@yahoo.com

Muffins with Mom

April 10th

Noelle Comeaux/ Nicole Vidaurre
nacomeaux@gmail.com
nicolervidaurre@gmail.com

Faculty Staff Appreciation Week

Week of May 5th

Angela Warren/Margo Kitto
angelaawarren@bellsouth.net
margokalin@aol.com

May Crowning

May 8th

Ashley Ferrer
ashleyferrer@gmail.com



**HOME & SCHOOL
RAFFLE**
@ BACK TO SCHOOL
NIGHT!

RAFFLE TICKETS WILL BE SENT HOME THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL. **\$5 PER TICKET OR 4 FOR \$15**

ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN:

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE (FALL SEMESTER)

MBS FAIR PARKING SPOT

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE (SPRING SEMESTER)

FIRST IN CARPOOL

MBS FAIR TENT SPOT

NAME THE CONCESSION STAND

WINNERS ANNOUNCED AT BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT!

AUGUST 15, 2024

Time & Talent (Service Hours)

Parent's Commitment to Church and School

Enrollment and/or continued enrollment at Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School requires a commitment to ALL of the following:

- **Prayer and Mass** – Families must commit to daily prayer at home. Catholic families must attend weekly, Sunday, Mass on Holy Days of Obligation. Non-Catholic families must attend Sunday services at their home church.
- **Service** - Twenty (20) hours of Time and Talent 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.

Definition of an hour of Time and Talent: an actual hour of volunteer work or donation purchases of \$10

- **Weekly Church Offering** – As an Identified Offertory Giver (IOG), a minimum amount of \$325.00 must be donated, yearly, to the Most Blessed Sacrament General Offertory or Building Fund to support the Church stewardship program. Church members who meet the IOG requirement *will receive in-parish tuition*. Donations will be verified by December 15 unless otherwise authorized by the Pastor or Principal. Any offerings thereafter will count towards the next school year.

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.

We are looking forward to having all our students back on campus!!
Pelican Power information is coming soon!

Registration coming soon for:

Swimming (We are searching for a swimming coach, please email tkrysan@mbsbr.org if you are anyone you know is interested)

Tennis

Parish Sports Flag Football! (will be searching for coaches)

Carpool Line and Gym sign information coming soon!! (Email tkrysan@mbsbr.org)

Go Pelicans!

Athletics can be an important part of a young person's life. It teaches discipline and self- pride while helping one realize the importance of cooperation. Athletics are a component of, and interact with, the spiritual, social and academic components of the overall school program. MBS recognizes that support from the administration, faculty, staff, coaches, parents and fans are necessary in providing a positive Catholic athletic experience for the student-athlete. Athletes, parents, and fans are a direct reflection of MBS and should adhere to the philosophy of the school by always acting in a dignified manner.

click [here](#) for 10 reasons why kids should play sports

Go Pelicans!

Tommy Krysan, Athletic Director

MBS Athletics

tkrysan@mbsbr.org



MBS ATHLETICS