



The Pelican Express

Let Go...Let God

SEPTEMBER 10, 2020

DATES FOR YOUR PLANNER

- September 11 - Red, White & Blue Day
- September 18 - Professional Development for Middle School Teachers. **Students in 6-8 do not attend school.** Spirit Shirt day for PK-5.
- September 22 - Progress Reports
- September 25 - Professional Development for Teachers in PK-5. **Students in PK-5 do not attend school.** Spirit Shirt day for Middle School students.

WOW!

The **Diocesan Child Nutrition Program** has been approved for a nationwide waiver from the USDA that will extend through the end of December.

This means that all MBS students will qualify for free breakfast and free lunch, regardless of income.

Breakfast is served from 7am - 7:40am in Bishop Ott. Students may not receive breakfast after 7:40am.

If you think your child will begin participating in breakfast due to this waiver, please email Mrs. Wendy at wlee@mbsbr.org. Also, if you are opting to participate in the lunch program rather than bringing lunch for home as usual, please notify Mrs. Wendy at wlee@mbsbr.org. This will allow the cafeteria to prepare adequately.

**Family night 9/16
has been canceled
due to first week
of September of no
school.**



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

- Should anyone (not just students) in your family have fever, cough, congestion, headache, sneezing, loss of taste/smell, or any other COVID symptom, please keep EVERYONE home and contact Nurse Frances at FAvery@mbsbr.org.
- If you or a family member has been exposed to or diagnosed with COVID, keep everyone home and contact Nurse Frances at FAvery@mbsbr.org
- If you or anyone in your family has been tested for COVID and are awaiting results, keep everyone home and contact Nurse Frances at FAvery@mbsbr.org
- Nurse Frances will walk you through what needs to be done. If that means your student(s) must quarantine, we will allow them to participate in Virtual Learning for the specified time.

For Covid Guidelines,
[CLICK HERE](#)

REVISED CHILD PROTECTION POLICIES UPDATE FOR CURRENT FILES EXTENDED



The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops revised the child protection policies. Please note that all volunteers that have a child protection file must update their file with the revised forms in order to maintain their child protection credentials.

Child protection files that are not updated will be closed during the database sweep. The sweep of the database has been postponed for a few weeks. There is no set date for the sweep, so please update your file now.

The update consists of the revised Code of Ethics (12-31-2019) and the online child protection training certificate for Serving Vulnerable Populations. See attachments below for more information on updating.

The Chaperone and Volunteer Requirements Agreement 2020-2021 has been [attached](#) for your convenience. Please mark the 2020-2021 grade level of each child in the Class section. Please scan and email the updated paperwork to childprotection@mbsbr.org. Please note that two Time and Talent hours may be counted this year for updating your child protection file.

VOLUNTEER



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 counted for your Time & Talent hours for completing the child protection process.

SPIRIT SHIRT DAY IS COMING: SEPTEMBER 18 OR 25.

Because of Professional Development Days, please refer to the calendar (also found on page 1 of this newsletter) for when your student wears his/her spirit shirt.



HURRICANE LAURA RELIEF DRIVE



Most Blessed Sacrament
Catholic Church

SEPT 11 - 20

DROP OFF

MBS CHURCH

place items in bins located outside church doors under walkway (Woodlawn side)

GIFT CARD DONATIONS

Gift Cards are Needed

gift cards must be delivered to the church office during office hours no later than September 21

ITEMS NEEDED

- Heavy Duty Garbage Bags
- Heavy Duty Gloves
- Fix-A-Flat Cans
- Bug Spray (body & yard)
- Charcoal
- Carbon Monoxide Detectors
- Gas Cans
- Paper Towels
- Mops
- Brooms & Dustpans
- 5 Gallon Buckets
- Towels for Cleaning
- Bleach & Disinfectants
- Hand Sanitizers

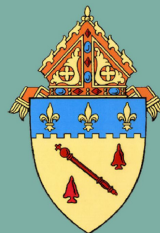
we are NOT collecting food, water, clothing, or hygiene items



WWW.MBSBR.ORG



FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS



CIRCLE OF GRACE

KEY CONCEPTS

DIOCESE OF BATON ROUGE

Office of Child and Youth Protection

God Gives Us A Circle of Grace

Where He Is Always Present

Raise your hands above your head, then bring your outstretched arms slowly down. Extend your arms in front of you and then behind you embrace all the space around you slowly reach down to your feet. Knowing that God is in this space with you. This is your Circle of Grace; you are in it.

GOD IS PRESENT

Because He Desires A Relationship With Us

God is with us when we are happy and sad. God does not cause bad things to happen to us. He loves us very much. • God desires to help us when we are hurt, scared or confused (unsafe). • Having faith may not take away all of life's struggles. It is because of these struggles, God promised to always "be present" providing guidance and comfort in our time of need.

GOD HELPS US KNOW

What belongs in our Circle of Grace

• Our feelings help us know about ourselves and the world around us. • God helps us know what belongs in our Circle of Grace by experiencing peace, love or contentment when something or someone good comes into our Circle of Grace.

GOD HELPS US KNOW

What does not belong in our Circle of Grace

• God desires to help us when we are hurt, scared or confused (unsafe). • The Holy Spirit prompts (alerts) us that something does not belong in our Circle of Grace by giving us "a funny or uncomfortable feeling" that something is not safe. This feeling is there because God wants us to be safe.

GOD HELPS US KNOW

When to ask for help from someone we trust

• God gives us people in our lives to help us • God wants us to talk to trusted grownups about our worries, concerns or "funny/ uncomfortable feelings" so they can help us be safe.

from the Principal...

It is typical for an educator's mind to start racing on Sundays as they think about the lessons they've planned or have to plan and hoping and wishing the weekend was a positive one for their students, so they will return refreshed and ready for the week. Sometimes, teachers (and students) dread Mondays, me included. (By the way, Thursday is my favorite day of the week because it means Friday is right around the corner.) While we often think teachers have it made with getting off at 3pm and having paid holidays and summers off, the reality is, they work all the time: researching ideas, grading, communicating with families, writing tests, attending meetings & conferences, reporting to duty...the list is endless. Now, due to COVID, we add digital learning and increased attention to their social and emotional well-being.

As an educational leader, I never feel as though I adequately thank the MBS faculty and staff for all that they do. In fact, I don't think I could ever express the extent of my gratitude, awe, wonder, and joy about all that they do. Weekly, my thoughts of them and prayers for them become more intentional and targeted and the following story illustrates why.

"On a Monday morning, years ago, a student walked into their principal's office and stated, " Dr. J, I wrote this scripture down when I heard it in church yesterday. It reminded me of what you and the teachers do for us." and he walked out. I immediately grabbed my bible to find the scripture, and it read: *And I will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them; I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth. These are things I will do; I will not forsake them. Our job is not a regular job. Isaiah 42:16*

As an educator, I believe we have been strategically placed in our position to provide hope to the hopeless child. As we embark on this very different school year, let this message be a reminder of the responsibility we have as educators and leaders to lead our students and communities.

As an educator, "we must be that stone on a mountain of despair," "we must provide that mustard seed of faith to our students who have lost hope," and we must do this with a great deal of resiliency, resolve, and infinite fortitude. Let us consistently remind our teachers that they are awesome, amazing, and appreciated. Let us tell them that the "sky is not the limit and that "we have footprints on the moon," and let's understand that as educators, we must "see the invisible to achieve the impossible.

"While thanking our fantastic faculty and staff, I also want to thank our families and stakeholders. This year has been different, it has been a little chaotic and confusing. We have all had to do a little give and take, despite our beliefs. You have all been supportive and understanding and more than willing to reach out in support, offer mutual understanding, and give the benefit of doubt. All of this has happened because we all love the MBS community and we all want for our children to be happy and successful children of God.

Even though this year is different, I wake up each day, excited to see the students, work with the teachers and collaborate with parents. It takes all of us! Let us remember to keep each other in prayer as we continue to navigate our school year.

Pelican Proud



Thomas Hodgson will be a senior at CHS this year. In September 2019, he received an award for “Highest Academic Honors” for 4.0 GPA at Catholic High School. He works as an MBS Aftercare group leader, and is also an Eagle Scout with Troop 888.

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10 Ways to Build Relationships with Kids

- 1 Talk to them about non-school related subjects.
- 2 Let them teach you about their interests.
- 3 Remember things about their lives.
- 4 Share about your own life.
- 5 Engage in activities with them.
- 6 Tell hilarious (and even embarrassing) stories.
- 7 Share inspirational stories from your life.
- 8 Do crazy things.
- 9 Use their interests in your lessons and activities.
- 10 Apologize when you mess up.