

Dear Incoming Nursery Parents and Students,

We are so excited that school is starting soon! We cannot wait to meet you and to begin our year together. We know that our littlest learners have some worries...and maybe grownups too if it's the first time in a new school. We want to reassure you that we have an exciting and fun year planned.

We hope you will come to our Playground Day on August 22. You can meet your classmates and have a popsicle. That night, our PTO is hosting a Back to School Night event from 5:00 - 7:00 pm. We hope you can attend one or both events!

You can stop by the school on August 28 between 1:00 - 2:00pm to visit our classroom with your child. This is an informal visit just to get the kids comfortable with the school. Feel free to come at any time during that 1 hour window!

Below you will find some specific information that seems to be our frequently asked questions list. Feel free to email the school with any other questions you have or call Mrs. Donahue at 978-686-1862.

Bag/Backpack

Students should come to school each day with a TOTE BAG or BACKPACK that they can open and close on their own. The backpack/tote bag should be able to fit their lunch box, snacks, water bottle, and take home folder which will be provided by Ms. Leising.

Extra Clothes

Please send in an extra set of clothes with your son/daughter. Please label all clothes you send into school in a small plastic shoe box (which can be purchased at the dollar store) which will fit perfectly in the cubbies. We would like you to send pants/shorts, underwear, socks, and shirts. If your child's clothes come home, please send in a new set the following day. These clothes will be stored in the cubbies from September-June in case of emergencies.

Supplies

The teachers will provide all school supplies for your child. You may want to bring your child's extra clothes box on August 28 for supply drop off day. At that time and at Open House as well we will have a wish list of supplies we may need for the classroom. Anything you can help with will be greatly appreciated.

Snack and Lunch

Students should bring a snack and a drink each day for morning snack. For those students who will be staying for our Afternoon Bunch Program, please send in an additional snack and drink for the afternoon. It helps if these are labeled and kept in a separate bag from their lunch. (A gallon sized Ziploc works great.) We love to see healthy choices every day!

Please keep in mind that Saint Michael School is a peanut and tree nut free school when packing snacks. (Tree nuts include products containing Brazil nuts, almonds, cashews, pistachios, walnuts, pecans, and hazelnuts.) If you send your child with sunbutter please label it.

If your child is still working on opening packages, we recommend that you open the package and place it in a Ziploc bag. Please peel fruits at home before sending to school. If you send juice, we recommend a juice box which is easier for our little ones to open than a Capri Sun. However, if your child has mastered that skill, those are fine as well. You may want to provide your child with a reusable water bottle that can be refilled daily. Our nursery students may also purchase lunch from our lunch provider, Just Like Home. The meals will be delivered to the classroom. Visit this site for more information: <https://www.saintmichael.com/parent-resources/#1528940978523-d651d3b-97b1>

Toys from Home

We understand that your child may be a little nervous about starting school and they may want to bring their “lovey” to school with them. We ask that you do not do this as we would not want anything to happen to it at school. We have so many engaging toys in each classroom that we will not need any toys from home.

Specials

Our nursery students will participate in a daily special. This year, students will attend physical education, music, art, technology, and STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics). We will send home a detailed schedule at the start of the year.

Uniform Policy

Students entering nursery do not wear the official SMS uniform. It is very important that they wear clothing that is comfortable and easy to remove for trips to the restroom. Students will be going outside every day so when the weather cools down, please send in appropriate layers for outdoor play. Maybe leave an extra sweater in your child’s backpack, too. The nursery clothing regulations are as follows:

September - October 31st and again April 1st - June

- Navy blue shorts/skorts with an elastic waist or navy blue elastic waist pants/sweatpants (elastic waist bands help with restrooms)
- White, gray or light blue t-shirt or polo top (SMS logo not required, short or long sleeve)
- Sneakers must be worn every day (no sandals, flip flops, crocs). Safety is our main concern at all times. We recommend shoes that do NOT have laces.

November 1st - March 31st

- Navy blue elastic waist pants/sweatpants
- White, gray or light blue t-shirt, turtle neck, or polo top (short or long sleeve)
- Navy blue, gray, white, light blue sweatshirts and/or sweaters are encouraged during colder months (no hoods)
- Sneakers must be worn every day

We look forward to seeing you very soon!

Erin Leising

Erin_Leising@saintmichael.com

Amy McGovern

Amy_McGovern@saintmichael.com