



**St. John School**  
77 Murray Avenue  
Goshen, NY 10924  
(845) 294-6434 - Office  
(845) 294-7303 - Fax  
[www.saintjohngoshen.org](http://www.saintjohngoshen.org)

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**Mrs. Lisa Ferraro, Principal**

August 19, 2016

Dear Parents:

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year at St. John School. We have been very busy getting the building ready for the return of our students. I hope that you have had a restful summer and that your children are looking forward to a year full of learning!

I would like to draw your attention to a few items for the beginning of the year:

**Pre-K Orientation:** Pre-K Orientation will take place at the Pre-K building on St. John Street on September 8, 2016 from 9:00a.m. to 10:30a.m. This is a half-day session for all students, concluding at 10:30 a.m.

\*The first **full day** of school for Pre-K students will take place the following day, **September 9, 2016**. The Pre-K school uniform includes the red sweat suit uniform available from our uniform company, Donnellys. There is a link to their website on the home page of the St. John School website.

**Kindergarten Orientation:** Kindergarten orientation will take place in the kindergarten classroom on Wednesday, September 7, 2016 from 10a.m.-11a.m. The first full day of school for students in grades K - 8 will take place the following day, September 8, 2016. The children will need to be in uniform on the first day and we ask that the children not to wear light-up sneakers to school.

**Opening Day:** School starts for students in the **K-8 program on September 8, 2016**. It is a full day of school and the children are required to be dressed in the school uniform from that day forward.

**Morning Procedure:** We will begin the day at 7:45 a.m. as a school community in the gym for Morning Prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance and announcements. Each class will have a designated area in the gym. Attendance will be taken in the gym before prayers begin. After prayers, each class will proceed to the classroom.

**Drop-Off Procedure:** Parents who drive their children to school in the morning should pull in the driveway between the rectory and the church, drive behind the Church and let their children out at the top of the hill. If the driver needs to get out of the car, he or she should park at the bottom of the hill and not between church and school. *There is no parking between the Church and School during school hours.* This will keep the children safe and the traffic moving during drop off.

Students starting kindergarten should be escorted to the classroom. All other children should report to the school yard by 7:45 a.m.

**A School Where *Everyone* Belongs**



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**Registration:** For any new families applying to our school, in order to finalize your child's registration you must establish a Smart account. If you have not already done so, please visit the Smart website at [www.enrollwithsmart.com](http://www.enrollwithsmart.com).

**Volunteers:** As in the past, one parent (or grandparent, as the case may be) is required from each family to volunteer in one of the following areas: Lunch Room; playground; Bingo; kindergarten lunch; and Pre-K lunch. We are aware that this is a huge commitment; however it is essential for the safety and welfare of your children. Volunteer forms are enclosed. ***Please return your form to the school as soon as possible as lunch starts on the first day of school.*** If you are unable to commit to any of the volunteer positions, or if you do commit but are unable to fulfill your volunteer duty, please know that your SMART account will be assessed the \$600 fee.

All those who volunteer with the children, including coaches, lunch/playground monitors and classroom helpers must complete a background check prior to working with the children. The Safe Environment program is administered by the Archdiocese of New York and requires volunteers to watch a video. Volunteers can access this video by clicking on the links seen on the St. John School homepage website. After watching the video, please print off the certificate and submit it to the school.

**Enclosed with this letter are the following forms:**

- Volunteer Form: Please return ASAP. A digital copy is on the website.
- Milk Letter: Please return by September 1, 2016 so that milk will be available on the first day.
- Yearly Calendar

The September Lunch Calendar will be sent to you via email next week. Please submit as soon as possible.

**School Mass:** Students will attend Mass of the Holy Spirit on September 9, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. All are welcome to attend.

**Back to School Night:** Our Back to School Night will take Tuesday, October 4, 2016. All parents are expected to attend as it is also the first Parent Guild Meeting. This meeting will be held in McCaffrey Hall at 7:00 p.m. There will be a sign in sheet for everyone. You will be asked to pay your Parent Guild dues and for the Lottery



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tickets at that time. You will also meet your child/children's teacher. She will share with you her plans and expectations for the upcoming year.

Finally, I would like to say that I am very excited about the new school year and am eager to connect with each of you. I know you share my desire to make this year the best school year ever.

Sincerely,

Lisa Ferraro, Principal