



Dear Parents and Guardians,

September 8, 2017

Two weeks down! Thank you for helping us experience a smooth opening. You can continue to be good partners by having your child arrive to school before 8:00 AM wearing the correct uniform and with a healthy lunch. Dropping off lunches and early dismissals tend to be two of the biggest disruptions to the day. Last week you received the handbook; a digital copy can also be found on our website. Familiarizing yourself with school policies and procedures is important. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Faculty Update... I regret to share that our fifth grade teacher, Sr. Mary Olivia Shirley, O.P., has a chronic illness and is unable to teach this year. Sr. Mary Olivia was a great addition to our team and put her heart into her classroom, however it was advised that she take time to focus on her health. The Dominican Sisters have assigned Sr. Maria Sarradet, O.P., previously a substitute teacher and our 6th grade religion teacher with us, to the fifth grade. Sr. Maria is a nurse and has several years of teaching experience. Please keep Sr. Mary Olivia in your prayers and welcome Sr. Maria to St. Anthony.

Thank you... Your participation in today's tag day is appreciated. All proceeds will benefit Houston-area Catholic Schools affected by Hurricane Harvey.

Standardized Testing... Students in grades 1-8 will be taking the baseline Scantron tests in Math and Reading over the next two weeks. Please see the schedule below. This is the first of three testing periods during the school year and helps your child's teacher to identify areas of strength and weakness relative to our Archdiocesan standards. The results will be distributed with the 1st Quarter report cards. All testing is scheduled in the morning and we ask you to please ensure that your child is on time, well rested, and eats a healthy breakfast each day to prepare for this initial testing session of the school year

Grade	Reading/LA Scantron	Math Scantron
1	Monday, September 11 Thursday, September 14	Thursday, September 21 Monday, September 25
2	Tuesday, September 12	Tuesday, September 19
3	Thursday, September 14	Thursday, September 21
4	Wednesday, September 13	Wednesday, September 20
5	Tuesday, September 12	Tuesday, September 19
6	Friday, September 15	Friday, September 22
7	Tuesday, September 12	Tuesday, September 19
8	Wednesday, September 13	Wednesday, September 20

Parent Participation... St. Anthony Catholic School believes strongly in “parent power”. The greater the parent/ guardian support, the increased success we can achieve as a school. Plus, your active participation means you can see your child in action with his/ her peers and play a greater role in the life of the school.

Service Hours ... Each family is required to serve a minimum of twenty service hours during the school year. Ten hours must be served each semester. This means the first ten hours must be complete by January 20, 2018. A cash fee of \$15 may be substituted for each service hour not served. Unmet obligations will be added to the family’s bill at the end of each semester.

Get Started... Parents / guardians must create an account on www.Virtus.org, obtain an electronic background check, and attend Virtus training through the Archdiocese of Washington to participate in any classroom, recess, fieldtrip, and before/aftercare activities. **St. Anthony is hosting two Virtus training workshops -- Tuesday, October 3 and Tuesday, October 17 (6:00-9:00 PM).** Contact Ms. Moore with questions about the process.

Important Forms... All families must return three important forms—the Emergency Contact Form, 2017-2018 Walking Permission Slip, and the ADW Family Survey. Approved Cell Phone Forms must be on file for any student bringing a phone to school. These forms were distributed and can also be printed from our website. Contact your child’s teacher or Mrs. Bond with any questions.

Smart Lunches... In order to keep the Smart Lunch program we need increased participation. A September menu is included in this week’s Friday Folder. If you haven’t tried these delicious lunches I urge you to consider trying it for a day or two and see how it goes. Students give the food rave reviews.

<i>Upcoming Events</i>	
Friday, September 8	Ms. Kane’s Birthday
Monday, September 11	Scantron Begins
Thursday, September 14	Back-to-School HSA Meeting, 6:30-7:30 PM
Friday, September 15	Spaghetti Lunch
Friday, September 15	Ms. Bacon’s Birthday
Saturday, September 16	Mr. Thomasian’s Birthday
Sunday, September 17	Parish 125 th Anniversary Mass, 10:00 AM
Wednesday, September 20	Hot Lunch
Tuesday, September 26	Hoops for Hope
Friday, September 29	1 st Quarter Progress Reports Sent Home

If you haven’t already “liked” us on Facebook I encourage you to do so. Pictures, school news, and reminders are posted on a regular basis. Have a great weekend.
Sincerely,

Michael Thomasian
Principal

Proudly celebrating our 95th year!