

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the start of the 2017-2018 school year! I'd like to begin this year with the following prayer:

St. Augustine's Prayer to the Holy Spirit.

Breathe in us, O Holy Spirit, that our thoughts may all be holy. Act in us, O Holy Spirit, that our work, too may be holy. Draw our hearts, O Holy Spirit, that we may love but what is holy. Strengthen us, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy. Guard us, then O Holy Spirit, that we always may be holy. Amen.

I would like to welcome these new students to Divine Mercy Catholic School:

Kindergarten – 6 students:

Ross Carter
Wyatt Flynn
Wyatt Head
Miranda McCord
Kalel Mead
Madisyn Morehead

Grade 1: Evelyn Lyons
Grade 2: Mary Gibson
Grade 2: Addalynn Thomas
Grade 4: Hunter Lyons
Grade 6: Emma Lyons

Welcome to these students and their families. We are excited to have you as a part of Divine Mercy Catholic School!

We're looking forward to a great year!

Mr. Linder

*** Just a reminder that there is no Wednesday Envelope this year. All forms from the office will be sent home with each family's oldest child, and the newsletter will be sent electronically.**

Important Dates:

- Fri. 8/25 Commitment Mass
- Fri. 8/25 Club's Choice Fall Fundraiser begins
- Tues. 8/29 PTA meeting @ 6:30 p.m. in Mr. Grant's room
- Wed. 8/30 First Day of Band for 5th/6th graders
- Thur. 8/31 School Council Meeting @ 7:00
- Fri. 9/1 School Mass @ 9:15
- Mon. 9/4 No School – Labor Day
- Tues. 9/5 No School – Teacher In-Service
- Wed. 9/6 Preschool First Day
- Fri. 9/8 School Mass @ 9:15
- Sat. 9/9 Nathan Rosswurm Memorial Golf Scramble
- Mon. 9/11 Fundraiser Orders Due Back
- Sept. 11-15 Fall MAP testing for grades K-6
- Tues. 9/12 Fall Pictures PreK-6
- Thur. 9/14 School Mass @ 9:15
- Fri. 9/15 2 HR Delay – Teacher In-Service
- Tues. 9/19 Staff meeting after school
- Thur. 9/21 3rd/4th Grade Farm Safety Day at Paulding Fairgrounds
- Fri. 9/22 5th/6th Grade Field Day at Paulding Fairgrounds
- Fri. 9/22 School Mass @ 9:15
- Wed. 9/27 Midterm Reports Posted on Progress Book
- Fri. 9/29 School Mass @ 9:15

Forms:

- Please return any forms received during open house

Friday we will kick off our Fall fundraiser. Club's Choice Fundraising is offering some individual and group incentives to encourage participation. This event will run through Monday, September 11th. Delivery of ordered items will be October 10th. **Please collect payment when your customers place their orders.** Our fundraiser helps keep our tuition affordable.

Absence - When your child is going to be absent or late, please call the school office (419-263-2114) before 8:40 a.m. Otherwise, our secretary will be calling you to verify your child's absence.

Weather Delays:

If Paulding is delayed 2 hours for weather reasons, and Wayne Trace is on the regular schedule, Paulding buses will run 2 hours late. You may bring your child in, safety permitting, or you may let them ride the Paulding bus running on the 2 hour delay. They are not counted tardy when it is a weather related 2 hour delay. If Wayne Trace is delayed 2 hours and Paulding is not delayed, Divine Mercy students arriving on Paulding buses will be placed in a monitored study hall in the Paulding school until they can be transported to Divine Mercy.

If Paulding closes for weather reasons, and Wayne Trace remains open, there will be **no bus** service to Divine Mercy. If you choose not to bring your child to school, they will not be counted absent for that day.

3-hour delays - Wayne Trace will implement the 3-hour delay when necessary. **A 3-hour delay would extend the school day by 1 hour, with dismissal at 4:25.**

Tuition and Book Fees - If you have not done so already, please sign up to the FACTS Tuition Management system: <https://factsmgt.com/>

Lunch Money - Just a reminder that you need to send in money with your child if they will be buying hot lunch. You may send in a lump sum of money and this will be placed on your child's lunch account. Lunch (which includes milk) is \$2.70. If your child wishes to purchase milk only, it is \$.50 a carton. If paying by check please make the check payable to Payne Elementary. Remember to place your child's money in a marked envelope that includes:

Their name, grade level, and the amount of money that is enclosed.

Please do your best to keep your child's lunch account current. A notice will be sent home with your child when more money is needed in their account.

Free and Reduced Lunch Forms - This form was in the packet of papers you received at open house or on the first day of school. If you have not yet returned this form, please take time to look at the income chart to see if you qualify. No child on Free and Reduced Lunches will be singled out at lunchtime. There is no difference in how the count is taken or how they are served to the students. Federal Assistance funds our Title 1 reading and math programs.

The more students who qualify for free/reduced lunches help secure federal funding for our Title 1 reading and math programs. These programs are a very important part of our daily curriculum. Our students depend on these programs to boost their academic skills in all areas. **Please return the forms to school by this Friday, August 25th.**

Divine Mercy School Council is sponsoring the 9th Annual Nathan Rosswurm Memorial 9 Hole Golf Scramble on Saturday, September 9th:

Profits from this event will benefit the tuition assistance program. We still have openings for teams. The cost breakdown for a team (**4 players**) is:

\$30/player (\$120 team) payment required in advance - includes green fees, 1 cart per team, food and drinks

\$40/player (\$160 team) payment required in advance - includes green fees, 2 carts per team, food and drinks

Tee off time will be at 9 a.m. with a shotgun start. You can call Ed Stuart (419-263-2219), or the school office (419-263-2114) to register a team for this event. If you are unable to play, but would still like to contribute, you can show your support for our school by purchasing a "Tee or Cart Sign." You can have your family name listed on a tee sign for a \$15 donation and/or a cart sign for a \$25 donation. To purchase a "Tee or Cart Sign," you can send in your donation along with your family name to the school. **Please have all Tee/Cart sign information into school by Wednesday, September 6th.** If you have any questions call the school office.

Wanted - Golf door prizes - If each family could donate 1 or 2 small items it would really help! The prizes do not have to be expensive things. Some examples might be - golf balls, golf tees, golf towel, Bath & Body lotions, tee shirts, gift cards, or candles. Thank you for your help!

Box Tops for Education – Please cut these out and send them to school. They bring in extra funding for our school. Thanks for all of your help!

School Pictures - The school pictures are scheduled for Tuesday, September 12th. More information will come home soon. We will once again be going with Lifetouch Studios. These pictures make up the composite pictures for our annual yearbook so all students will be photographed.

Notification of upcoming **PTA meetings** will be included in the Wednesday newsletter sent home each week. The PTA sponsors many fun activities throughout the year. Our first meeting of the 2016-2017 school year will be **Tuesday, August 29th at 6:30 pm** in Mr. Grant's room. Other dates are:

Tuesday, October 17th @ 6:30

Tuesday, December 5th @ 6:30

Tuesday, February 6th @ 6:30

Tuesday, April 10th @ 6:30

Please plan on attending PTA meetings this year. This organization is what you make it to be, and we have a great PTA!

If you received **Honeywell Instant Alerts** last year, you should still be receiving them this year too. This is used to notify you of school delays. New students and any new kindergarten family will be added to the system, using the phone number you provided during registration. Any newly registered family, and any new family who is coming from Payne Elementary is already in the system too. **If you do not receive a notification during our first school delay, let us know so we can resolve the issue.**

Any parent who will be around the students this year, in the school setting (ex: Mardi Gras, thanksgiving lunch, helping at school, etc...) **must be registered in the VIRTUS program** that the Diocese of Toledo uses. Here are the steps to complete everything:

1. go to the website: <https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/> and click **First-Time Registrant**
2. **ONCE REGISTERED**...go back to the homepage and click on "Services/Programs" near the top of the page
3. The first option that will come up on your screen is "Protecting God's Children® for Adults" and you should click under that paragraph where it says "More..."
4. When you click "More..." you will go to a new page where you want to click:

Click [here](#) to begin the Introduction to the Protecting God's Children program.
5. There will come a point where you need to enter a token/code for payment - please email Dianne Jones at our Parish office and she will send you this code.
Her email is: finance@divinemercycatholic.com

No one should have to pay out of their own pocket to complete the program.

Once you complete the program email me (principal@dmcschool.com) a copy of your certificate AND email Dianne Jones (finance@dmcschool.com) one too.

We have several upcoming field trips that we'll need drivers for. They are:

Sept. 21 – 3rd/4th grade Farm Safety Day at Paulding Fairgrounds

Sept. 22 – 5th/6th grade Field Day at Paulding Fairgrounds

Oct. 25 – all grades will be going to visit the National Shrine at Our Lady of Consolation in Carey, Ohio.

IF YOU WANT TO DRIVE FOR ANY OF THESE EVENTS YOU MUST COMPLETE THE VIRTUS TRAINING. IF YOU'VE COMPLETED IT, IT'S GOOD FOR 5 YEARS.

Classroom Spotlight

Each week we'll be highlighting a different classroom in our newsletter. This will be similar to last year's Classroom Curriculum News.

Also, please watch for Facebook updates on Divine Mercy Catholic Parish's page.