

Dear Parents,

Welcome back!! We LOVE having your children here at St. Ignatius—the best part of our day is being with them.



Please check the website on a regular basis for updated school information.

www.stignatiussacschool.org

Computer/Technology Important News!!

We are asking all students in grades TK-8 to bring in ear buds to be used during computer class. These ear buds will be placed in a plastic zip lock bag with your child's name and kept in the computer lab for the year. We would like all the ear buds brought to school by Monday, Aug. 25th.

Drop Off and Pick Up

For the safety of all our children.....

- Please, no cell phone use while driving.
- Drive slowly.
- Pick up and Drop off is directly in front of the Parish Center. We should be able to fit 4-5 cars at a time. Please pull all the way forward. Your children should be ready to go as quickly as possible.
- Single file line. Cars should not be pulling out to pass others.
- If you park, you must walk WITH your child across traffic.
- The small play structure (by preschool) is closed before and immediately after school.
- For the general school population, the pedestrian gate will be opened **5 minutes before** the dismissal bell (for safety purposes). For pre-school parents and morning am parents who are picking up, the gate will be buzzed open when you arrive.
- If your child has an appt. off campus, you must come into the front office to sign him/her out and then back in.

The last Friday of every month is FREE DRESS.

Please check the handbook on our website at www.stignatiusacschool.org

Since Friday, Aug. 29th is our first School Mass Day...
we will have FREE DRESS on Thursday, Aug. 28th.

St. Ignatius Parish School Peanut and Nut Allergy Policy

St. Ignatius Parish School will be a “Peanut/Nut Safe School.” (Nut refers to both tree nuts and peanuts, which are a legume). This policy is in place to minimize or prevent inadvertent contact with life threatening allergens while at the school during regular school-hours, as well as in all school sponsored activities and field trips. Our goal is to at minimum, eliminate any peanut/nuts that are overtly present. Cross contamination will always be a concern.

All classrooms, except for Lower Grade Science, are designated as peanut/nut free spaces. Food containing peanuts or tree nuts will not be allowed for consumption INSIDE the classrooms. This includes lunches, birthday treats, holiday treats, and teacher supplied snacks. **Precautions will be taken by the classroom parents, however, the at-risk student and their family can't be 100% certain of cross contamination, and this will always be a concern.**

Our lunch service, only serves foods that are peanut and nut free.

Students may bring peanut/nut products for personal consumption at lunch. Any student who brings food containing peanut or tree nuts, will sit in a “peanut zone.” This “zone” will be an area where students who choose to bring nut-based food will sit. Tables will be washed thoroughly and disinfected. On rainy days, students who have a lunch that contains peanut or nut products will be sent to eat in the Lower Grade Science Classroom. After that child is finished eating the necessary steps will be taken to safely return to the classroom.

For **school-wide** celebrations, bake sales and other events, all parents are to provide only foods that are peanut/nut free.

All teachers of every classroom will work with children and parents to understand nut-safe practices throughout the school. (washing hands with soap and water, keeping desktops clean, and disinfecting tables before and after eating snacks and lunches).

Guidelines in place at St. Ignatius Parish School.....

School Responsibility

- 1.** Review by the principal, or person designated by the principal, of the health records and Allergy Action Plan of each at-risk student SUBMITTED YEARLY by parent/guardians and/or health care professionals. (see attached)
- 2.** Ready access to the Allergy Action Plan of the at-risk student to all school personnel. A copy of each student's Allergy Action Plan will be placed in one bright colored file folder in all classrooms, offices, cafeteria, Extension, etc, and will not be removed.
- 3.** Development and implementation of a “nut zone” for those students who bring peanut/tree nut foods at lunch for personal consumption.
- 4.** With parent permission, information will be sent to the parents of the classroom with the at-risk student alerting them of the peanut/nut allergy.
- 5.** The school shall ensure that on-campus medications are appropriately stored, accessible and clearly marked.

6. Students, if age appropriate, shall be allowed to carry and self-administer medications in accordance with the procedures in the student's Allergy Action Plan.

At Risk Family Responsibility

1. Provide written notification, SUBMITTED YEARLY, (health record) to the school of an at-risk student's allergies that pose a serious threat to the student.
2. In conjunction with the school and health care provider, fill out the Allergy Action Plan, YEARLY (school will provide form). This plan includes instructions, emergency contact information as well as a photo of your child.
3. Provide properly labeled medications and replacement medications. If the student requires epinephrine ensure that at least **TWO** doses are on hand at all times. (the child may need to carry in their backpack for after school activities/sports/clubs). It would be ideal for the classroom, front office, and if needed, extended day, each had an epi-pen for your child.
4. Educate the child in the self-management of his/her food allergy including
 - safe and unsafe food
 - strategies for avoiding exposure to unsafe foods
 - symptoms of allergic reactions
 - how and when to tell an adult they may have an allergy related problem
 - how to read food labels (if age-appropriate)
5. Review and evaluate the Allergy Action Plan with school representatives, after school club moderators and team coaches, the child's physician and the student (if age-appropriate)

At-risk Student's Responsibility

1. Shall not exchange, share or trade food.
2. Shall not consume any food, drink or other substance containing ingredients unknown to the student, or known by the student, to contain any allergen that is a threat to the student.
3. Shall be proactive in the care and management of his/her food allergies and reactions based on his/her maturity, experience or training
4. If allowed to carry own medication, as specified by doctor, student will do so in a safe and responsible manner, and the parents will report this arrangement to the school office.
5. Shall notify an adult school representative immediately if he/she consumes or comes in contact with in any way any item that may contain a substance to which he/she may have a serious allergic reaction.

Curriculum Information

Last school-year, the Diocese of Sacramento adopted the Common Core for Math and Language Arts. We have purchased new Math textbooks that are aligned with the common core and are excited to begin using them with your children. Below you will find some information regarding the Common Core and what it means for our school. I have also attached a link below that contains great articles regarding Math At Home by CA Math Council.

<http://cmc-math.org/temp/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/K-12Math@HomeEnglishBW.pdf>

Diocese of Sacramento

Implementation of California Common Core State Standards (CCSS)

What CCSS ARE for Catholic schools

- From 1997-2012, the Diocese of Sacramento followed the California State Standards in Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science. The diocese has its own Religion Standards.
- In September of 2012, the Diocese of Sacramento began implementation of the California Common Core State Standards for Language Arts and Math, after thorough review and comparison of both sets of standards.
- California Common Core State Standards are academic standards for grades K-12
- They are the **learning "targets"** of what students should know at each grade level.
- California Common Core State Standards are **NOT curriculum**; curriculum is all of the resources teachers use to help teach these learning "targets." Catholic school administrators and teachers will always have the right and ability to choose the most appropriate resources for the students.
- As always, any curriculum used in Catholic schools will never jeopardize or conflict with the teachings of the Church, and will always adhere to its doctrine. CA Common Core State Standards DO NOT threaten our Catholicity.
- The California Common Core State Standards are extremely rigorous and will better prepare our Catholic school students for college and career (see a sample of a crosswalk on next page.)
- Since we are a private institution, Catholic schools have the ability (as we always have done) to add or subtract standards as we see fit.
- As always, Catholic school administrators and teachers will continue to go above and beyond what is expected, and will continue to demand the highest expectations for their students.
- California Common Core State Standards do not force us to stop teaching classic literature. We will continue to teach classic literature with purpose, as before. In addition, we will teach our students to read technical documents and informational text helping better prepare them for the future.
- We have been overwhelmingly affirmed by all six of the Catholic high schools in our diocese that our K-8 students will be better prepared for high school after being instructed in CA Common Core State Standards.

What CCSS are NOT for Catholic schools

- Catholic schools do not participate in federal programs, nor do we receive any "Race to the Top" dollars, nor adhere to any "No Child Left Behind" laws. We have no responsibility or connection with the federal or state government regarding implementation, teaching, or measurement of the Standards, which exempts our diocese from any policy or financial requirements of the Standards.
- The Catholic schools in California do not take the CA state tests for public school children; any and all assessments that the children of California's public schools will take in relation to the Common Core Standards are not to be taken by Catholic school children.
- No student personal or testing data will ever be exchanged with the government.
- California Common Core State Standards will not "dumb down" our Catholic educational system. We firmly believe that these rigorous standards will help our students be more prepared for their future.