# St. Catherine of Bologna School

**112 Erskine Road**
**Ringwood, New Jersey 07456**

**August 2016**

*" This is what the Lord requires of you:*
*to act with justice, to love goodness and to walk humbly with your God. "*
*Micah 6:8*

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Dear Parents and Students of the St. Catherine of Bologna School Community,

May the Lord give you His PEACE!

**WELCOME TO ALL OUR NEW FAMILIES**

**WELCOME BACK TO ALL OF OUR RETURNING FAMILIES**
**and**
**BLESSINGS ON THOSE WHO ARE CALLED TO NEW ADVENTURES !**

The Jubilee Year of Mercy continues through November 2016. My prayer for you is that you will always experience God's Mercy through loving kindness, forgiveness and through His Presence in prayer, sacraments, nature and in those whom you encounter.

The sacred in everyday manifests in surprises, joys, sorrows, transitions and transformations.

Among moments of change, I would like to share with you:

Sister Christine Nicoletto is retiring to Assisi House in Aston, Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Veronica Pierce has new employment that she is excited to embrace.

Mrs. SueAnn Parker has retired to enjoy time with Mr. Parker and to await their first grandchild.

Mrs. Christie Kinahan is pursuing teaching in public education.

(Mrs. Zepponi will be our second grade homeroom teacher – teaching Math & Science and Science grades 3 & 4; Mrs. Kurza – Reading; Mrs. DelMastro – Social Studies and Religion; Mrs. Perez – Language Arts).

Please join me in praying for them and expressing our gratitude to each for her dedication to our school community.

THANK YOU for all of your support, prayers, cards and gifts throughout the year.

THANK YOU for investing in Catholic Education at St. Catherine of Bologna School. The success we enjoy is the fruit of teamwork and community spirit – students, parents, teachers and staff together! Market us! Tell others about St. Catherine of Bologna School!

I look forward to celebrating another school year with you!

May God bless you always and in all ways!!

Love n' Prayer,

*Sr. Theresa*
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# UPDATES AND NEWS NOTES

**SCHOOL REOPENS FOR GRADES K-8:**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2016,** from 8:55 a.m. until **1:25 p.m.**

**2016-2017 CALENDAR/HANDBOOK** will be distributed on Thursday, September 8, 2016. Please take the time to read the handbook portion thoroughly and discuss it with your child(ren). A **HANDBOOK CONTRACT** will be found on the last page, **sign and return it by Wednesday, September 14, 2016**. There are revisions to last year's edition. Changes are made in accord with the State of New Jersey, Diocese of Paterson, Saint Catherine of Bologna School Administration and Faculty, Education Council and Home/School Executive Board.

**INFORMATION NEEDED NOW:** For your reference some information that is printed in the handbook, but that you need to know before school begins follows:

**1.) BUS TRANSPORTATION -**
The Office of Transportation of the New Jersey State Department of Education has reminded us that all books, book bags, etc., must be placed on the lap of the student, not on the floor, and of course, never in the aisle. For this reason, we cannot allow mobile backpacks (no backpacks on wheels are permitted on school buses). No items may hang from the backpacks.

Students will be transported to a single destination each and every day on the trip from school. Ringwood/Wanaque parents have the opportunity to **select either** an "on route" after school care facility or other caretaker, or the "home" bus stop as the designated "from school" destination. (Students transported by West Milford or Greenwood Lake Transportation must follow the regulations put forth by that district).

If someone is not there to greet your child at the bus, please instruct him/her on what to do because he/she cannot be returned to school and the driver cannot wait for someone to arrive.

If your child has an allergy/health problem/epipen that might impact them while on the bus (such as bee stings, severe food allergy), please contact Transportation directly. Due to confidentiality laws, we are not allowed to release this information to Transportation. Telephone numbers are: Ringwood 973-962-7500; West Milford 973-697-0777; Greenwood Lake 845-477-3198.

**NOTE:** You are strongly encouraged to use the bus service. New Jersey is one of the few states that funds the transportation of non-public school students K-12. Please do not jeopardize this funding by preferring to drive your child(ren) to school when this service is provided.

**2.) STARTING TIME: 8:55 a.m.** Students transported by car must be punctual. When a bus arrives late, students who ride that bus that day are not subject to sanctions for being late. Avoid the risk! RIDE THE BUS!

**3.) UNIFORMS:** Please adhere to the uniform code stated in the Calendar Handbook. Uniforms are worn in Grades K through 8. Students in non-compliance are subject to a UNIFORM NOTICE. If there are extenuating circumstances as to why your child is not in uniform on a given day, please tell us IN WRITING. This assists us in knowing whether there is a legitimate reason or the whim of fashion. NOTE: SCHOOL SHOES – only shoes purchased from Gibling's Footwear, 382A Ramapo Valley Road, Oakland, NJ, phone 201 337-7971, comply with the code. (Tell them you attend St. Catherine of Bologna School).

**4.)** **LABEL <u>ALL</u>** lunch bags, lunch boxes, jackets, coats, sweatshirts with the child's first initial and last name. Please do not rely on your child to recognize the item no matter how "one-of-a-kind" you think it may be!

**5.)** **EXTENDED DAY:** Extended Day Registration forms were distributed to all school families in the end-of-the-year packet sent home on the last day of school June 20, 2016 (June 14 for the Kindergarten). Please be sure to fill out BOTH sides of the form and return with your $75 check. $20 of this amount is for registration; $55 will be credited to your account. Extended Day begins September 7, 2016, AM and PM.

**NOTE:** Please write a note to your child's teacher to inform them of your intentions for your child at dismissal **IF OTHER THAN TAKING THE BUS.**

**6.)** **CONTRACT OBLIGATIONS:** Be prompt with TUITION PAYMENTS, and timely with the purchase of GROCERY DOLLARS and meeting your SERVICE HOUR commitment. (All SERVICE CONTRACTS not already returned are PAST DUE). Diocesan Policy states that accounts three months in arrears will have services withheld. Please do not put your child/ren in that predicament.

**7.)** **<u>SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS</u>:**

Sept. 7
- School opens for Grades K-8, **<u>1:25 p.m. dismissal</u>** - **<u>BRING LUNCH</u>**
  Extended Day- AM & PM begins
- Kindergarten Orientation for Parents, 7:00 p.m.

8
- Opening School Liturgy, 9:15 a.m.,
  Birthday of Mary, Mother of God, and of St. Catherine of Bologna
- Pre-School & Pre-Kindergarten Orientation, 6:30 p.m. (no children please)

8-9
- Dismissal at **<u>3:25 p.m</u>. - <u>** BRING LUNCH **</u>**

12
- Specials begin
- Hot Lunch begins
- Pre-School and Pre-Kindergarten 5-Day Programs – Begin
- Co-Ed Uniform Company at school for adjustments/returns/orders, 10am

13
- Pre-School and Pre-Kindergarten 3-Day Programs – Begin

14
- Calendar/Handbook Contracts due

20
- BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT / HSA General Meeting, 6:45 p.m.

**8.)** **HOT LUNCH** will begin Monday, September 12, 2016, for Grades Pre-School – 8. **Lunch forms are on the website:** <u>www.stcbschool.org</u>. Please copy the menu, complete it. Send order form and payment directly to school by September 7, 2016. Checks are made payable to Saint Catherine of Bologna School.

Please note GLASS bottles and SODA CANS are not permitted in our lunchroom. Obvious risks to students make this request necessary. Please AVOID DELIVERING lunch to your children at school, in the lunchroom, or on the playground. Please be sure to pack a lunch or hearty snack on **1:25 p.m.** dismissal days. If you NEED to deliver lunch, please do so by 12:00 p.m. to the School Office NOT to the Parish Center and write your child's name and grade on the bag, lunch box, or container.

**9.) PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN**

Reminder: It is the policy of the Diocese of Paterson that all volunteers who work directly with children in any capacity must complete the Protecting God's Children program before working or volunteering. To complete the program:

1) Call the Parish Office, telephone 973-962-7032. Forms are available at the Parish Office between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
2) A background check will be initiated. If you have a clearance letter from the Department of Education, you may submit a copy of the letter with the seal instead.
3) The Code of Conduct will be signed.
4) After the background check is completed, register for the Virtus class offered throughout the Diocese at various times. See the parish website http://www.scobp.org for a Virtus schedule, or go to the Paterson Diocese website http://www.patersondiocese.org, scroll to the bottom right, click the Virtus logo for a link for class times and locations.

NOTE: After the background check is completed, the volunteer has 90 days to sign up and attend the training class, Protecting God's Children. Failure to attend the class within the 90 days may invalidate the background check.

Further information may be obtained at the Parish Office. Some of the areas requiring completion of the program are: Yard Duty, Lunch Room, Classroom Assistant, Class Parent, School Store, Class Trip Chaperone.

**10.) THINK GREEN**: For the 2016-2017 school year we will continue to send less information home by means of paper and more through e-mail and the website (www.stcbschool.org). Please check the website for new White Envelope procedure.

**11.) If necessary, Tuesdays and Thursdays** will be message and notice days. Information will be sent home in a specialized folder with the youngest Kindergarten through Grade 8 student in the family. Also, please check the "white envelope" section of the website for updates. DAILY WORK HABITS, CONDUCT REFERRALS, UNIFORM NOTICES, LATE SLIPS, and letters from a student's teacher will continue to be sent home daily as needed. Please sign the envelope and return it promptly on Wednesdays and Fridays. Replacement envelopes are $5.

**12.) EMERGENCY FORMS** were sent home the last day of school in June with your child's summer packet. A new form must be filled out for each FAMILY yearly. All information is to be completely and accurately filled in on the new form and RETURNED ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL with your oldest child. If you have a scanner and would like to scan the form and type the information using your computer, that is also acceptable. Just attach the completed scanned copy to our original.

**13.) PARENT PICK-UP:** If parents intend to pick up their child, a written note to that effect must be sent to the teacher in the morning. If something unexpected arises during the day, please call the school **before 3:00 p.m**. You may also come to the office to use the 'Sign-Out Book' **before 3:00 p.m.** The names will be announced at dismissal for parent pick-up**.** Please wait for your child in the upper parking lot.

**Please, please, please** use the utmost caution when driving on school premises. Park so that you can drive FORWARD always!!! NEVER operate your vehicle IN REVERSE! The lower parking lot is for BUSES ONLY. No student is permitted to walk home. Please pass this on to anyone who drops off/picks-up your child.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sr. Theresa Firenze, OSF
Principal