



Celebrating Over 100 Years of Academic Excellence

August 13, 2018

Dear St. John's Parents,

I hope this letter finds you and your family enjoying the summer! It is with great pleasure that I write to you as we embark in a brand-new school year here at St. John's School. I am grateful for the warm welcome I received this past school year. I am eager to see you all both returning families and new families that we are welcoming to the school community. I am looking forward to working with this school community to build onto the solid foundation, which is in place. Together, as a school community we will engage in a school year focused on growing our faith and relationship with God, fostering a learning environment in which all students will find academic, social and emotional success.

Within this letter you will find important information on new developments for this school year. School is scheduled to begin **Wednesday, September 5th 2018. Gates will open at 8 AM, children will line up in the school yard, and gates will close at 8:10 AM for all children. Students must be in full school uniform. The Summer Uniform can be worn until the end of September. Winter uniform will begin October 1st.**

You will receive a **welcome packet** on the first day of school with the following information enclosed:

- The Parent/Student Handbook is available online at our website: www.stjohnschoolbronx.org Please be sure to read the handbook carefully.
- Your packet contains the signing pages for the Handbook that must be signed and returned by **September 7th**.
- You will receive the yearly school calendar (dates are subject to change). Dates can also be found on our website school calendar. Any changes to the calendar will be announced and a notice will go home informing you of any changes. Please follow this calendar on a monthly basis to stay informed on important school events.
- You will see a Sacramental Information Letter and form to fill out. Please read carefully if you are interested in having your child receive sacraments this year.
- Enclosed you will also find **Morning Care and AfterCare registration forms**. If you are interested in signing up for the Morning Care and AfterCare programs they will begin on **September 10th**. **The registration forms will be due back on September 7th along with the registration fee payments.**
- **NEW** this year you will see information on special AfterCare programs called "**KidsChoice Programming**". A division of the AfterCare program **KidsChoice Programming offers various activities in STEM, Mathletics, Arts and Crafts, and Getting to Know God Religion Programming (PK4 ONLY) during the hours of AfterCare. KidsChoice programming will begin October 1st**. While there will be no additional monthly payments for KidsChoice there will be a **one-time** registration fee to sign up based on which activity is chosen.
- Also **NEW** this year is the **NEWLY** Designed Home School Association. Towards the end of the last school year parents began to sign up for their memberships to the HSA. It's **\$10 for the year to become a member**. We have postponed the appointment of Executive seats to allow for voting to take place. We wanted to give new families a chance to join and

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run for an executive seat. If you are interested in becoming a member and/or are interested in being nominated for an executive seat please fill out the form in your packet and return it by **September 14th**. Elections will take place during the last week of September and Executive members will be announced the first week of October. *If there aren't enough executive nominations we will not be able to hold a fair election, therefore there will be no executive seats.* Those who signed up to be members will participate in quarterly meetings with me as head of the HSA rather than meet with an executive board to work on activities and ideas to improve life, environment, and community at St. John's School.

- The summer has been very busy in terms of the installation of our **NEW STEM LAB**. Construction is scheduled to be completed by October. Students from 6-8th grade will be able to participate in Lab activities in the beginning of our Second Quarter. We look forward to this and will keep you updated on our progress.
- It is important that you complete the Emergency contact form. Please update your information on this form. Contact information must be up-to-date at all times.
- You will also find the Income Survey Form and Home Language Questionnaire (this information is needed for educational funding). For every form that is received it could mean up to \$2000 in additional state funding for our school. Your response and participation are highly appreciated.

Please make sure all of the items in the packet that need to be signed and returned to the school are done so by **September 7th**, as it is vital for us to have all of the necessary documentation to keep updated records.

As a reminder, tuition payments are due on the **20th of each month**. The first payment for the new school year should be made by **August 20th via SmartTuition**. Please be sure all tuition payments are submitted in a timely fashion to avoid late fees. Keep in mind that the ***next scheduled payment date will be September 20, 2018.***

As a Catholic School community, we are called to bear witness to the message of Christ. The Values Infusion Program engages us to raise awareness of Catholic values and integrating them into our curriculum and daily school and home life. Each month will focus on a different value and the value for the month of September is Faith and we ask ourselves this question, "From whom have you received the gift of faith?" Our teachers and students will reflect on this question and discuss the value of faith and I hope this conversation can be continued at home!

This year we will also partake in a special year-long project about our patron saint...***St. John the Theologian***. Students will perform quarterly activities in an effort to bring us closer to getting to know him and his relationship to Jesus Christ as one of His Disciples.

I am looking forward to working with all of you, and together with you, our faculty, and myself, we hope to have a successful and exciting year here in St. John's School.

Let us continue to work together to give our students the best possible Catholic Educational Experience they'll ever receive!
GOD BLESS YOU ALL!

Sincerely through Christ,

Mrs. Melissa M. Moore, ADV. CERT. SBL/SDL, MS ECEd
Principal

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