



The Sacred Heart of the Matter



Our Mission

In the context of a Christian community, Sacred Heart Grade School strives to help students fulfill the potential of their God given talents and abilities by guiding them to develop themselves spiritually, intellectually, physically, emotionally, aesthetically, and socially.



Charleston, WV ~ Sacred Heart Grade School ~ September 2016
Dear parents and students,

Very suddenly it is September and fall will soon be upon us! As it does each year, September sees us settled into classrooms and new routines. We find our minds less taken up with concern for the new and more open to the opportunities that await us during this school year. Lessons, classes, activities, and trips have been planned to help our students learn and grow, and yet we are challenged to do more during our year together.

An image and question came up during Mass last Sunday that stuck with me: If we are to be human billboards for God's love and mercy, what will our board say? Pope Francis has challenged us to share ourselves during this Year of Mercy through the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Will we feed the hungry and give drink to the thirsty? Will we visit the sick and give alms to the poor? Will we comfort the sorrowful and forgive injuries? Will we instruct the ignorant and counsel the doubtful? We are all called to reflect on these works and to take action.

When I see our students' smiling faces each morning, their billboards say "love", "peace", "openness", and "hope". Their spirit shines through and lights the halls and classroom of SHGS. That same generous spirit of love filled our gymnasium in June with vanloads of supplies for our neighbors affected by flooding. With the change of season, we are called again to consider how we will show love and mercy. As the temperature cools and our minds settle, let us take the time to reflect on our next step in the journey of mercy. What will your billboard say?

In peace,
Mrs. Malinoski

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT & FLOOD RELIEF

SHGS Back to School Night is scheduled for Wednesday, September 7. We will begin in the church at 6:30 p.m. and will then move to the school for classroom sessions with you child's teacher. There will be two parent sessions for each class. Please note the following:

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

SCHOOL LUNCH SHELTER-IN-PLACE DRILL	2
SCHOOL PICTURES	2
IMPORTANT REMINDERS	
TERRA NOVA SPECIAL BEGINNINGS	3
THANK YOU SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE	4



ECE classes will meet in the classroom in the Sacred Heart Center.
Pre K classes will meet in the classroom in the Sacred Heart Center.
All 4th grade classes will meet in the Reading Center.
All 5th grade classes will meet in room 303 (5A).



Childcare from CCHS will be available in the gym.

During this evening, will be collecting small household items for our neighbors in the Elkview and Clendenin areas who are beginning to move back to their homes after this summer's flooding. Toasters, irons, handheld vacuums, hair dryers, mixers, and alarm clocks are items of need. Thank you for your generosity!

TRAFFIC! TRAFFIC! TRAFFIC!

Thank you for your flexibility and understanding as we continue to navigate our drop-off and pick-up procedures! Construction at CCHS called for some procedural changes, but the traffic seems to be flowing well now. Please remember:

Follow us on Twitter
@SacredHeartGS or text
"follow SacredHeartGS"
to 40404 to receive text updates.

- ♥ During the morning and afternoon, the right hand lane on Leon Sullivan is a moving lane. There is no parking allowed in this lane.
- ♥ The Charleston Police Department has asked that no afternoon pick-up line form until 2:30 p.m.
- ♥ Always cross at the crosswalk. Crossing in the middle of the street is very dangerous!
- ♥ Walking in the alley during arrival or dismissal is not permitted.
- ♥ Please keep our alley a cell free zone during these times as well.

SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

The first lunch statements will be sent home on Friday, September 2 in Friday Folders. Your child's statement will reflect the number of lunches and/or milks purchased by your child, as well as any additional lunches charged when volunteering in the cafeteria, or by family and friends attending parent or golden friends lunches.

Please return payment to the office or your child's teacher in an envelope with your child's name, homeroom, and lunch number written on the front. Please make checks payable to Sacred Heart Grade School.

SHELTER-IN-PLACE DRILL

On **Friday, September 16, at 9:30 a.m.**, SHGS will hold a Shelter-in-Place drill. The drill will last approximately 15 minutes. Signs will be posted on our doors indicating that we are sheltered. Entry into the school during the drill will not be allowed. **In the case of a real emergency**, you will be alerted via text through our Twitter feed and kept informed throughout the process.

Follow us on Twitter @SacredHeartGS or text "follow SacredHeartGS" to 40404 to receive text updates.

SCHOOL PICTURES

It's school picture time! School pictures will be taken on :

Tuesday, September 13 — grades 2,3,4, and 5
Wednesday, September 14 — ECE, PreK, Kindergarten, and 1st grade

Please follow the guidelines outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook for out of uniform dress. Students may choose to dress up or dress down.

As always, thank you to Mike Hall, for always making SHGS school pictures so wonderful!



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Family Name/Car Pool Signs need to be clearly displayed on the dashboard of your car for the drive through dismissal line. Please create a sign approximately 4"x12" with your family name or the name of your carpool in large, dark, block letters. Please remain in your car during the drive through process and allow the teachers to help those students who need assistance. Both of these steps will help us to keep the line moving quickly during dismissal.

Liturgy Note: On Fridays, students need to be in their classrooms by 7:50 a.m. so they will be on time for the parish/school liturgy. Please remember that there is **no flash photography during Mass**. Though the children are involved, this is a religious service, not a production. There is time to take pictures with the class after Mass at the front of the church. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Non-Custodial Parents who wish to receive copies of their children's progress reports and report cards should send 10 self-addressed stamped envelopes to the school office by September 15.

PVA General Meeting: The first General Meeting is planned for Wednesday, September 7 at 8:05 a.m. in the school cafeteria.

Virtus Training must be completed by all volunteers before they can volunteer at the school. Online training is available at www.virtusonline.org. Details can be found on this website. Once you receive this training, you do not have to take it again.

YMCA van: Students who ride the YMCA van after school must have written permission on file at the school indicating the days they will be riding. Any changes during the course of the year to a child's van dismissal schedule must be submitted in writing to the school office.

Ren Web forms should have been completed by August 26. Please contact the office with questions or problems.

EXCELLENCE!

Last spring, our students took the TerraNova3 assessment. Below is a snapshot of our performance by grade level. As always, we are proud of our students' continued excellence!

GRADE	READING	MATH	TOTAL SCORE
Kindergarten	92*	81*	96*
First	79*	71*	85*
Second	87*	85*	93*
Third	86*	84*	91*
Fourth	85*	83*	92*
Fifth	83*	82*	87*

*NP of the Mean MNCE:

*The average kindergartener at SHGS performed in the top 8% in reading, top 19% in math, and top 4% total score in the nation.

*The average 1st grader at SHGS performed in the top 21% in reading, top 29% in math, and top 15% total score in the nation.

*The average 2nd grader at SHGS performed in the top 13% in reading, top 15% in math, and top 7% total score in the nation.

*The average 3rd grader at SHGS performed in the top 14% in reading, top 16% in math, and top 9% total score in the nation.

*The average 4th grader at SHGS performed in the top 15% in reading, top 17% in math, and top 8% total score in the nation.

*The average 5th grader at SHGS performed in the top 17% in reading, top 18% in math, and top 13% total score in the nation.



SPECIAL BEGINNINGS

On Friday, August 19, Father Don, the entire student body, faculty, and staff met on our new playground for a special blessing. Father Don tested the May Pole before the blessing and displayed that the playground was indeed ready for play! Gala Committee chairs and other parent supporters were able to join us for the special morning. A special thank you to committee chairs Ann Bollinger, Brandy Messer, and Kip Wilcox for their support of our amazing playground project! We would also like to thank Mr. Craffey, Mrs. Maier, and of course Monsignor Sadie, for their direction and support throughout the project.

“Play is really the work of childhood.”

-Fred Rogers



THANK YOU

- ♥ To Mr. Craffey, Mrs. Erskine, Mrs. Jarrell, our devoted teachers and aides as well as current and former students who worked tirelessly in preparation for the first day of school. Many of our teachers had to unpack boxes they had just packed for the 1033 move and were also relocated to different rooms. Thank you for your passion for our children and our school!
- ♥ To our custodial, maintenance, and cafeteria staffs for our clean building, shiny floors, and delicious hot lunches!
- ♥ To Father Don and Father Brian for brightening our days and strengthening our faith by visiting our classrooms throughout the day.
- ♥ To the Charleston Police Department for their assistance and creativity with our beginning of the year traffic challenges.
- ♥ To the PVA for hosting a delicious teacher luncheon, for supporting our parents with a first day of school reception after drop-off, and for planning a Back to School pool party at Greenbrier Pool that was a splash!

CONDOLENCES

To the Pray family in the loss of Zoe and Ellie's maternal grandmother.
To the Panaro family in the loss of Ms. Panaro's maternal grandfather.

We pray that in this time of loss, you will feel God's love and find comfort in the presence of the Lord.



SEPTEMBER

Monday, September 5	Labor Day-No School
Wednesday, September 7	PVA General Meeting 8:05 a.m., cafeteria Back to School Night, 6:30 p.m., church
Thursday, September 8	4th grade Parent Lunch, 12:20, cafeteria
Tuesday September 13	School Pictures: grades 2,3,4,5
Wednesday, September 14	School Pictures: ECE, Pre K, Kindergarten, 1st grade
Friday, September 16	Shelter-in-Place drill, 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, September 21	4th grade Outdoor Classroom, Camp Virgil Tate
Friday, September 23	Progress reports go home
Friday, September 30	Popcorn sale- \$0.25

SHGS will be having a winter coat drive in October for our neighbors in need in the Elkview area.



Details to follow soon.



