

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School Newsletter

Issue 1

Aug 7, 2019

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School forms leaders of tomorrow
by expanding minds, touching hearts and nurturing spirits
through the traditions and teachings of the Catholic faith.**

Hello, Our Lady Families,

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! I hope that you enjoyed the little extra time during summer break compared to what we have been accustomed to the last few years. The teachers and staff have been preparing for this day for a while now and are excited to begin this new journey of a school year. As always we ask for God's blessing for a safe, healthy, and successful school year for the entire Our Lady community.

We are pleased and happy to report that enrollment saw a significant increase this year. We have enrolled **298** K-8 students, which includes an incoming Kindergarten class of 39! Our Pre-school and Pre-K programs have a current enrollment of 69 students which brings our grand total to **367** Crusaders! Thank you to all of our families for trusting your children with us. We are grateful for your support of our school and thankful for your choice to be a part of our community.

You may see some new faces around campus this year. I'd like to welcome the following new members of our faculty and staff for the 2019-2020 school year:

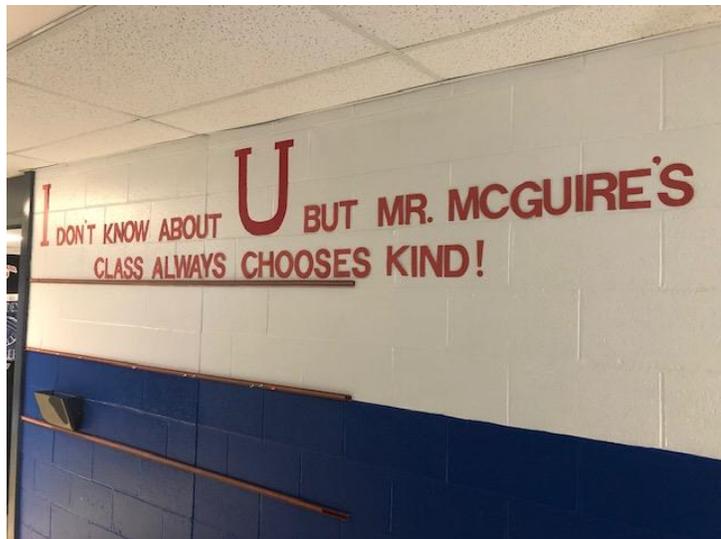
Ms. Hanna Gish (8th Grade Homeroom and MS Social Studies)
Mrs. Susan Stengel (Physical Education)
Mrs. Patty Spellman (Kindergarten assistant)
Mrs. Tanya Harp (Childcare Ministry assistant)
Ms. Taylor Wilson (Pre-K assistant)
Ms. Jelsena Smith (3rd & 4th grade assistant)
Ms. Jen Smallwood (2nd grade assistant)

In addition to some new faces, there are a few other changes that you should be aware of for the upcoming year. A recess time has been built back into the schedule for our 6-8th grade students. I feel that it is very important to give our student a short break during the day to get out of the building. I would also argue that it will be just as beneficial for our middle school faculty as well. We are hoping this will give our students both a mental break and a period to work off some energy.

On the academic side, the Archdiocese of Indianapolis Office of Catholic Schools has made a change to the grading scale. This was done to make our Archdiocesan elementary schools more aligned with our high school grading scales. The new scale is as follows:

93-100 A
85-92 B
76-84 C
70-75 D

Our theme for the school year is “Choose Kind”. At the closing faculty meeting last May, the staff and I spent a lot of time thinking through this. We could not think of a better lesson to impart on our students than kindness towards one another. This will be an intentional message we focus on throughout the year, not simply a mere slogan that fades into the background. The teachers have hit the ground running with it and have worked it into their classrooms and hallway spaces. We also plan to create a centralized location where we can chart all the examples of kindness that occur throughout the year. A visual hub was seen as a vital piece of this theme. We want our students, staff, parents, and visitors to see it grow throughout the year. I will update you further as that piece starts to take shape. We couldn’t be more excited about it!



Please make note that after many years of no changes in prices, the price of lunch in the cafeteria has increased to \$3.20. This decision was not taken lightly, but in the end it was one we had to make. I would like to remind families here at the beginning of the year that you can earn back your \$50 cafeteria fee by volunteering to assist in the lunchroom 5 times during the year. I know that I speak for

the cafeteria staff when I say that they can always use the extra help. If you have questions about volunteering in the cafeteria, please contact Sandy Gilland at sgilland@olphna.org.

We have quite a few events on our school calendar during these opening weeks of school. Please make note of the following:

- The Back to School Pool Party sponsored by the PTO will be this Saturday evening from 7:30-9:30 PM at the Clarksville Cove. Admission is completely free, please come join us for a night of fun!
- Middle School Parent night will be Monday, August 12th at 6 PM. All middle school families are welcome to attend, but we would at minimum like our new middle school families to join us. This is the perfect opportunity to learn more about what life in middle school is like and to meet the team of teachers.
- Parent night for grades 1-4 will be on Wednesday, Aug 14th. Please join us in the gym for a short introduction at 6:15 PM. There will be two sessions for you to meet with teachers, 6:30-7:15 and 7:15-8:00 PM.

Want to find ways to connect with our school through social media? If so, we have you covered. The school maintains a Facebook page for the school and one for the PTO. The PTO page is especially helpful for information about upcoming school events. I also have a Twitter account that I try to frequently update whenever I see something special going on inside the building. Finally, we have a Google Doc which we call our "Our Lady Shout-Outs." I will include the link below and it will be linked at the bottom of all of my weekly newsletters. This is your chance to highlight a member of our school for some well-deserved recognition. It can be a teacher, staff member, coach, students, whatever! I will receive the notifications in my email and make sure to recognize that individual. This is a really cool part of my job and I love sharing that news, so please send them my way! None of these are required in any way, but we have a fun time updating them and giving the outside world a little peak at what goes on within our walls on a daily basis.

[Our Lady PTO Page](#)

[Our Lady School Page](#)

[Principal OLPH Twitter](#)

[Our Lady Pride Shout-Out](#)

Once again, welcome back! I look forward to communicating with you on a weekly basis. I want to be as approachable as possible to our families. Should you ever have questions or concerns, please reach out. I look forward to hearing from you. I wish all of our families a wonderful start to the school year.

God Bless,

Steve Beyl
Principal

[#OurLadyPride Shout-Out](#)
[@PrincipalOlph \(Twitter\)](#)
sbeyl@olphna.org

PRESCRIPTION AND NON-PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS IN THE OFFICE – If your child takes any medication during the school day, please bring it to the school office and fill out a permission to give medication form. All medications, Rx or over the counter, should be in the original bottle labeled with your child's name.

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION – Please send any Boxtops for Education you have collected to the school office. Boxtops EXPIRE. So parents, relatives, etc. please tear off the Boxtops coupon BEFORE you put that box of Ziploc bags in the pantry. We want people to raid their pantries and remove Boxtops even if the product has not yet been opened. NOTICE: We no longer collect Campbells Soup Labels for Education!

OFFICE HOURS – The school office is open each school day from 7:15 AM until 3:15 PM. To reach the receptionist or Connie Andres, please email schooloffice@olphna.org or call 812-944-7676. You may leave a voice mail anytime during the day or night on the school's phone.

CALENDAR

Monday, August 12

Middle School Parent Forum, 6:00-8:00 PM

Wednesday, August 14

Grades 1-4 Parent Night, 6:00-8:00 PM

Thursday, August 15

Holy Day – Feast of the Assumption – All School Mass, 8:00 AM

Tuesday, August 20

7th Grade to Providence High School

Aug. 26-29

8th Grade Trip to Washington, DC