

St. Cecilia School

O A K L E Y

July 3, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Happy Summer and Happy 4th of July! I think that this might be my earliest summer letter to families, and although the start of next school year is weeks away, having some start of the year information earlier is always better than later.

Please use this letter to help guide you as we collectively prepare for the start of our 2025-2026 school year. As we get closer to the start of the year, be sure to note any One Call messages that we send (call, text, email) and any newsworthy updates that we place on our school website, such as important forms that will need to be completed by all families. Families that wish to opt-in for text messages on these alerts should text the word ALERT to 22300. If you are not receiving One Call notifications or if your contact information needs to be updated, be sure to contact the school office. Parents are also encouraged to follow-us on our Facebook page.



St. Cecilia Festival - July, 18, 19, 20

Thank you in advance to all parents who have signed up to volunteer to work this year's festival. We look forward to seeing school families in attendance at Oakley's Summer Party. Reminders will be sent to families and volunteers closer to this weekend. We'll hope that one of our families is the winner of the \$10,000 Grand Prize!

Welcome New Faces

We are excited to welcome many new students and their families to St. Cecilia. We can assure these families that they will be joining a wonderful school community that will be welcoming and helpful during your transitions. We can also assure you that your children will be receiving a top notch education led by a dedicated team of staff. Although teaching assignments are outlined later in this letter, we would like to especially welcome the following new staff:

- Mrs. Katherine Cummins, Speech and Language Pathologist
- Mr. Dylan Weitzman - Grades 5 and 6 Social Studies; K-5 Intervention
- Mr. Andrew Besong - 3-6 Religion; 4 Science

Summer Projects Update

We always have summer projects to complete at St. Cecilia, hoping to continue to make and keep our learning spaces inviting ones in which to teach and learn. In addition to some cosmetic painting and furniture purchases, this year the scope of our projects focused on installing new hallway doors and installation of additional cameras within the building and on campus grounds.

Start of the Year - Important Dates

Monday, August 4, 2025 - The School Office Opens

- Hours 8AM - 3PM; Beginning the first day of school, school hours will be 7AM - 3:30PM

Sunday, August 17, 2025 - 12:00 PM, Gym - Meet the Teacher **PK & K** (ALL parents should plan on attending; children are welcomed as activities will be planned for them - attendance will be taken)

***Parents may bring and drop off your child's school supplies*

Sunday, August 17, 2025 - 1:30 PM, Gym - Meet the Teacher **Grades 1, 2 and 3** (ALL parents should plan on attending; students are encouraged to attend as well - attendance will be taken)

**Parents may bring and drop off your child's school supplies*

Monday, August 18, 2025 - 6 PM, Gym - Meet the Teacher **Grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8** (ALL parents should plan on attending; students are encouraged to attend as well - attendance will be taken)

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Wednesday, August 20, 2025 - First Day of School

- PK parents, the first week of school will be half days for preschool children; this will be discussed at PK Meet the Teacher
- K parents may drop off their child in the classroom the first week of school *only*

Supply Lists

[Lists for each grade are posted on our school website.](#) Parents are responsible for purchasing your child's supplies. Parents should plan on taking advantage of **Ohio's Tax Free Holiday, which starts Friday, August 1st and ends Thursday, August 14th.** Go to tax.ohio.gov to learn more about what does and does not qualify.

Student Academic Summer Work

Parents are reminded that students were assigned work to be completed over the summer months. All students are required to have all of this completed by the first day of school.

School Hours 2025-2026

- Students will be permitted in the building beginning at 7AM; morning drop-off routines must be followed with only PK parents/guardians permitted in the school building (separate the main office)
- **Parents should get their children to school by 7:30 AM;** students not in the homeroom by the start of morning announcements will be considered tardy.
- Breakfast will be served 7:00 to 7:30 AM
- Dismissal K-8 - 2:55 PM & 3:05 PM; buses will pick up on Taylor Avenue in front of the school; cars are expected to follow the traffic pattern established along the fence and cones positioned throughout the lot; traffic flow is always directionally ONE WAY in the main lot
 - Parents should be vigilant and courteous ensuring the safety of all school children at dismissal; staff will assist with supervision
 - **Dismissals will be staggered with students K-3 being released beginning at 2:55PM and grades 4-8 beginning at approximately 3:05PM;** this will allow the lot to clear and allow for spaces to be available. Please ensure that patterns of late pick-ups do not occur as staff often have meetings after school
 - **Parents should always park when picking up their children. This is courteous and streamlines traffic flow, making dismissal safe for ALL.** It goes without saying that speeding, and playing excessively loud and or inappropriate music are unacceptable. Parents should not try to back in their cars unless arriving early and dismissal has not begun.

Fall Sports

We hope that you all are having a refreshing and physically active summer. Girls Volleyball practices will hopefully begin in early August (location TBD), with games beginning at the end of the month. Coaches will be reaching out within the next few weeks via email with practice times and dates. We are still accepting late registrations for anyone that's still interested in joining!

Please email Mr. Smith tsmith@stcecieliacincinnati.org if you have any questions regarding the upcoming season or any other athletic questions. Thank you and see you all back at school soon!

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School Uniforms - Schoolbelles

Parents can find information regarding our school uniform policies as well as a link to Schoolbelles located under the Quick Links [on our school website](#). should they need to order any uniform items. An in person shop can be found at 1751 Monmouth St., Newport, KY 41071. Please call Schoolbelles Customer Service at 1-888-637-3037 with any questions regarding orders placed in the spring. One item to note is that boys in grades 4-8 are required to wear ties on Mass days. Uniform acceptable ties can be purchased through Schoolbelles or in the school office.

Parents are reminded to carefully review our uniform policy for the upcoming school year and begin to phase away from summer styles (hair length, hair designs, hair coloring, etc.) that may not align with our uniform expectations.

School Spirit Wear

Parents may purchase spirit wear items at <https://www.rokkitwear.com/school/23708-st-cecilia-school>

Champions - Latchkey After School Child Care

Our child care service runs from 3-6 PM and is available to students grades K-8 Monday through Friday. Champions will be handling all after school child care for the 2025-2026 school year. Parents interested in this service should see the included fliers, which share additional information on their programming. Parents should note that there is considerable funding available to help offset some or all of the costs for this service. Representatives from Champions will assist families interested in childcare and potentially accessing available funding should assistance be needed. Please direct any questions to Heidi Malone at heidi.malone@discoverchampions.com or Emily Ford at Emily.Ford@discoverchampions.com

CAFETERIA - SYCAMORE NUTRITION SERVICES

All Families are required to complete and submit a current school year Free and Reduced Meal Application regardless of eligibility. This ensures that we are able to continue our relationship with Sycamore Nutrition and be eligible for funding.

If you choose to pack your student's lunch, snacks and beverages, including milk are available for purchase. **Fast food, candy and canned soft drinks are NOT permitted in the cafeteria during lunch.*

Please use the following links, which are also posted on our school website.

- [Website Information](#)
- [English Application](#)
- [Spanish Application](#)

Please note that Sycamore Schools are hiring a part time position to assist in the kitchen; see included flier if interested.

Homeroom Teachers

PK - Miss Samantha Dailey

K - Miss Alyssa Rupert

1 - Miss Catherine Datillo

2 - Miss Chanelle Centers

3 - Miss Amanda Scwheppe

4 - TBD

5 - Mr. Dylan Weitzman

6 - Mrs. Shannon Costanzo

7 - Miss Sarah May

8 - Miss Meghan Dorato

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*All other staff members and their assignments can be found on the school website under “[Teaching Assignments](#)”

Best Wishes and Congratulations

Prior to staff finalizing their school related responsibilities, teacher Miss Mary Shannon approached me to share the difficult decision that she had made not to return to St. Cecilia or the teaching profession for next school year. She is grateful for her time at St. Cecilia, having enjoyed teaching our school children and made many friends with her colleagues. An opportunity outside of teaching presented itself, and after prayerful discernment, Mary accepted a new job.

Just this week, I had a phone call from Mr. Jayden Lawrence, who like Mary, was offered a new position (in a public school setting) that he felt he could not turn down. He was also thankful for his time at St. Cecilia for all of the same reasons as Miss Shannon. Although we are sad to see both of them moving on, we are excited for the new opportunities that are ahead for them, and we certainly wish them well. We are confident we will continue to see them at various St. Cecilia functions.

You may notice new name as our 6th grade homeroom teacher, but she has a familiar face. Congratulations are in order for Mrs. Shannon Costanzo (formerly Miss Regan) who married her husband Cody in mid-June in a wedding ceremony held in Ireland. Be sure to congratulate her at the Festival in just a few weeks as she and her husband will be working a booth during the event.



2025-2026 School Calendar

Our school calendar can be found on our school [website's homepage](#).

Please note that parents who regularly pick up their child late from school will be required to register their child for latchkey so that proper supervision can take place after school hours. Parents are equally reminded that it is not appropriate to use the Oakley Branch Library for Child Care.

Immunization

Seventh grade families are reminded that it is Ohio Law (ORC 3313.671) that all incoming 7th graders must have written documentation from a health care provider of a Tdap booster (tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis) and one dose of meningococcal (serogroups A, C, W, and Y). Please obtain a complete updated immunization record from your primary care physician, and send a copy of this record to school. **This must be done by Tuesday, September 23, 2025.**

Ohio EdChoice / Jon Peterson Acceptance Letters

For those already on one of Ohio's scholarship programs, be sure to accept your child's scholarship and turn that form into the office. If you have any questions, email Mrs. Ringler at sringler@stceciliacincinnati.org

I hope that you have had a wonderful summer. I look forward to seeing you soon, and don't hesitate to call or email me if you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael Goedde".

Mr. Michael Goedde

Principal

mgoedde@stceciliacincinnati.org