



Academy of Our Lady of Grace

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September 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a brand new school year! The 2023-2024 school year is set to be a great one with some exciting changes at AOLG. A warm welcome to our new families, as well as our returning families. Our team of administrators hired new teachers and staff to fill some vacant positions. These new individuals meet the criteria and are eager to support the academic, spiritual, and social needs of our students. "Back to School Night" is a perfect time for you to get to know them. I encourage you to mark your calendars for this important evening on Thursday, September 14th at 6:30 p.m. in the school gym. At least one parent should attend and no children are permitted. There will only be one session so please plan accordingly for parking. We will be hosting a variety of vendors, activity sign-ups, and local community leaders in the cafeteria. Our goal is to provide you with as much information as possible for a smooth and successful school year.

Some additions to our curriculum include new resources. We purchased a new Language Arts program from Sadlier for grades K-8th. This will support the reading, writing, and grammar curriculum and target the needs of our students based on Map Growth Scores, teacher input, and student needs. SPOTS will be the official Social Emotional curriculum for grades PreK-3rd. Teachers will introduce one of the eight emotions and develop lessons, crafts and will also read aloud for the children.

You will be receiving a SchoolMessenger with information about our lunch service, RPM Dining. You now have the option of using the online portal to order. By being able to pay online, this will limit the paperwork for you and the company. Students are only permitted to purchase school lunch or bring a nut-free lunch from home. **We will not accept drop-off lunches from home, Uber Eats or fast-food lunches during the school day.** We ask that you plan accordingly to avoid any unnecessary disruptions.

We will also be sending home for any new parents and those who have children in Kindergarten, the access login and temporary password for PowerSchool, our online student information system where you can gain access to your child's academic grades. It is your responsibility to log-in and become familiar with the portal. This will assist you with teacher feedback on assessments and missing assignments. We strive to be as transparent as possible. If you have issues logging in, please email Mrs. Amaro at amaro@aolgfairview.org. SchoolMessenger is our online communication system which requires updated information. A form will be sent home for you to complete. Please ensure you fill it out and return it by the date indicated. Through SchoolMessenger, you will be receiving, via your email address, pertinent information about school activities, etc. For urgent information, such as school closings or an emergency, you will receive an automated phone call.

The remaining funds from our security grant secured us new panic button devices for emergencies. The panic buttons will be used by the faculty and staff for any emergency that requires immediate attention. This will give us the resources to act quickly in the event of an emergency. During our first few weeks, the school is required to practice a fire drill and security drill in accordance with the State of New Jersey. Should your child come home with questions or concerns about these drills, please address his/her teacher.

If your child's medical records are not up to date, you will be contacted by the school nurse. If you did not submit the updated medical and immunization requirements, we kindly ask you do so by September 11th. All required state immunizations are mandated. There are specific requirements for PreK and Kindergarten students, as well as those students entering grade 6. Please refer to the information enclosed in your child's Summer Packet regarding this. AOLG has the right to remove a student if the requirements are not fulfilled. If you have any questions, please refer to this link from our website: <https://aolgfairview.org/school-nurse>.

I loved seeing all the postcards this summer! It made me happy that our students have traveled near and far and showed their "Royal Spirit." I am proud to serve the school community as principal and am eager to start a new school year. May God watch over our school and place us in His loving hands. I hope to see all our families at our kick-off on Friday, September 8th!

Sincerely,

Mrs. D'Amico