



*Saint Elizabeth Parish School  
120 Saint Elizabeth Drive  
Chester Springs, PA 19425  
610-646-6540*

July 21, 2023

Dear Parents,

Blessings to all our families! Saint Elizabeth Parish School is grateful to include you in our community of learning, serving, and loving in the tradition of a Catholic education. Our goal is to empower our students to unleash their potential through a vigorous pursuit of knowledge, service to others, a global perspective and leadership opportunities. It's a commitment to the virtues of hospitality, compassion, integrity, and respect for the inherent dignity of all. Each of you knows how important it is that you participate fully in the life that is Saint Elizabeth's. Being involved is an essential part of a Catholic education. Together with our Home & School Association, we encourage and create opportunities for your involvement along with events for your enjoyment. Keep an eye out for future sign-ups for volunteering to share your talents with St. Elizabeth. Whatever inspires you to give, your support helps us provide students with the tools to experience life-changing academic excellence, deep faith, and enduring success.

On behalf of the Saint Elizabeth Parish School Faculty and Staff, we extend heartfelt thanks to our families for their ongoing support of our Catholic School. Our teachers set high expectations for all students and spend the time necessary to ensure each student's success. Not only are Saint Elizabeth teachers prepared and organized, but they also engage students and help them to look at issues in a variety of ways. Special thanks to our students for creating a welcoming community. Our children learn that when you love people, you see all the good in them. If relationships between faculty and students, while not always perfect, were not based on mutual respect and admiration, we would not be the strong community we are. We encourage parents to reach out to our educators with any thoughts or questions.

Building on that community will be our challenge moving forward. We will work to make St. Elizabeth the most exciting place possible where students grow into the faith filled scholars, artists, activists, athletes and leaders they wish to become.

Updates:

- Our grade configuration for next year is 2 sections of Pre-K taught by Mrs. Amy Mermelstein and Mrs. Lori Holmes, each with a full-time aide. PreK

aides are Ms. Mary Booth and Mrs. Pat Kasper. We will also have 2 sections of Kindergarten: One taught by Ms. Emily Benner with a ½ day aide, Mrs. Melissa Honold and the second taught by Mrs. Carly Kee who will also have a ½ day aide; 1<sup>st</sup> grade will be taught by Mrs. Jennifer Dawson; 2<sup>nd</sup> grade taught by Miss Meghan Hickey; 3<sup>rd</sup> grade taught by Mrs. Melissa Nemic; and 4<sup>th</sup> grade taught by Mrs. JoAnna Shope. Our Middle Grade teachers will continue to teach in their specialty subject areas: Mrs. Sandra Schoen is our Honors Math teacher for 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades; Mrs. Elizabeth Hogarth (5HR) teaching 5<sup>th</sup> grade Math, Religion, ELA and 6<sup>th</sup> grade ELA; Ms. Maria Fraser (6HR) teaching 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Science, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade Math, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra; Mr. Andrew Shirker (7HR) teaching 6<sup>th</sup> Social Studies, 7<sup>th</sup> grade Religion and Social Studies, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies and Foundations of Algebra; Ms. Jennifer Nangle (8HR) teaching 5<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Religion, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Science and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Religion; Mrs. Carolyn Blank teaching 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade ELA; Mrs. Sarah Schmalbach and Mrs. Barbara Nawn will be back teaching their respective special area subjects. Dr. Mary Ellen Carnuccio and Mrs. Louise Shanley will both continue as our Media team with Dr. Carnuccio supporting Library and Mrs. Shanley, a Google certified teacher, teaching Music and Technology.

- We bid farewell with our appreciation and thanks to Mr. Stephen Pochadt, who will be moving to a new teaching position; and Senora Garcia who has accepted a full time Spanish position at Perkiomen Valley High School.
- We are currently interviewing for both our part-time Kindergarten Aide to partner with Mrs. Kee and our part-time Spanish teacher for Grade 4 to 8. Spread the word!
- We continue to utilize our three teachers on staff who are certified as Wilson Reading tutors which enables us to supplement our Reading support program to provide the specialized support that some of our students need. This year in our Early Childhood classes, teachers will combine the Heggerty phonics program and Foundations to strengthen the phonemic skills of our youngest students. Foundations will also be used as our spelling program in the Early Childhood grades. Go Guardian has also been installed this summer to unify our filtering, classroom engagement, and tech safety tools into a single suite. GoGuardian's suite of tools helps us maximize the learning potential of our 1:1 school technology program.
- Check the website for stationery lists and summer reading lists and reports. They are located under the *Student Portal* tab according to the grade your child is entering.

- Once the school year starts, please check our weekly communication emailed via Flocknotes and posted under the *Parent Portal* tab on our website along with flyers for upcoming events and information. Our communication is updated every Thursday.

Throughout the summer, if you are in need of further information, please feel free to call the office at [610-646-6540](tel:610-646-6540). Our “open” school office hours for the summer are Monday to Friday from 7:30 AM-3:30 PM.

Important dates to remember...and “Save the Dates!”

- **Thursday and Friday, August 24 & 25, 2023** - Look for the August Parent letter for the latest updates, and Class Assignment letters in the mail.
- **Thursday, August 31, 2023** – HSA Welcome Playdate at Hickory Park (9:30 to 11:30 AM)
- **Tuesday, September 5, 2023**–
  - First Trimester begins
  - Opening Day of School for Grades 1-8 (full day)
- **Wednesday, September 6, 2023** –
  - Pre-K 4 and Kindergarten Orientation
  - **Opening Mass at 11:15 AM**
  - Back to School Night for Parents: **Pre-K 4 at 6:30 PM, Grades K-1 at 7:00 PM and Grades 2-3 at 7:30 PM**
- **Thursday, September 7, 2023**–
  - All grades report to school (full day)
  - First Day of School for Pre-K 4 and Kindergarten
  - Back to School Night for **Grade 4 at 6:30 PM** in the classroom  
**Grades 5-8 at 7:00 PM** in classrooms
  - **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meeting 6:30 PM in Social Hall**
- **Sunday, September 10, 2023** – HSA Welcome Back Picnic/Prayer Service **3:00 PM**
- **Wednesday, September 13, 2023** - HSA Leadership Meeting 7:00 PM in St. Matthew Conference Room
- **Monday, September 18, 2023** – Hot Lunch and Pretzels begin
- **Friday, September 22, 2023** – Professional Development Day – **No School**

Be safe; stay well! Enjoy your children and the rest of these lazy days of summer.

God Bless,

*Diane M. Greco*

Dr. Diane Greco  
Principal

