

DMCS Summer eNewsletter August 20, 2020

Dear Parents-

The last weeks of summer are going fast! Our summer care programs are coming to a close on Friday and next week all staff is back in the building for our workshop week. There is much to do and it is exciting to feel the energy and life in the building once again.

We are working to put the final touches on room organization and hallways so that we are set to welcome students back. We look forward to teaching face-to-face while putting our mitigation plans into effect. While we know that things will look a bit different this year, we are confident that our excitement about seeing our students will help us all adjust to the new routines quickly. The human person is so resilient, we know that soon the strangeness will subside.

Each week I attend several web-based meetings with organizations such as Rice County Public Health, Faribault Schools, and the Archdiocese to keep me up-to-date on the current information around Covid-19. This week we talked a lot about what occurs when a student or staff member is diagnosed with Covid-19. I know that is a concern for everyone, and it is realistic to understand that we need to prepare for that event. I was grateful to hear that in schools in our diocese that have had this occur, the public health officials have been very helpful in discerning next steps. They have also affirmed our mitigation strategies as appropriate and well thought-out. It gives me confidence to know that we can do this and we will get through this challenge by working together to stay healthy and keep each other healthy. I am grateful to be traveling this challenging road with all of you.

As we complete our plans this week, we are thankful to have hired a new preschool teacher, Summer Voegel. We welcome her and her family to our school. (see her bio in this newsletter). We continue to look for a kitchen assistant and a school age childcare assistant. If you know of anyone who might be interested in either of these positions, please have them contact me.

As you and your family prepare for back to school, here are some key points to think about from Dr. Jules Nolan.

Key Points to Prepare for Back to School:

- Model positive attitude - even if you are uncertain.
- Discuss your concerns with partners or friends in private.
- Our children feel confident when we model confidence.
- It is possible to be afraid and BRAVE at the same time.
- Practice wearing masks and social distancing. Normalize this. It shouldn't be any scarier than other measures we take to ensure safety.
- Anticipate lower initiative and less persistence with school work
- Anticipate temporary emotional and behavioral regression and "immature" comforting rituals.
- Focus on relationships for the first several weeks of school (teachers and others at school).
- Resilient children have a couple of friends (don't need a large friend group) and feel like they belong in their schools.
- Talk about emotions and expand the emotional vocabulary of your children.

We look forward to welcoming all of you back to the building for your Back-to-School meetings. See page 2 to sign up for your child's class visit! In the next few days you will receive a Back-to-School email. This email will include: September Lunch Menu, Application for Free & Reduced Lunch, Before & After Care information, Friday T-shirt order forms, and more.

We can't wait!

Blessings to you-

Mrs. Ashley

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Phil 4:13



Hello DMCS!

My name is Summer Voegel, daughter of Jack and Debby Johnson. For about the last 10 years I've been a Licensed Child Care Provider in Rice County and have loved every moment of it. I had the honor of being the Vice President and Treasurer for the Rice County Child Care Association for many years. My husband, Keith graduated from Shattuck St. Mary's and is a Rice County Sheriff Deputy. We have three children excited to join DMCS this year. My stepdaughter Madeline will be going into 4th grade, son Maverick 4th grade, and our youngest Miley going into 2nd grade. I live in my hometown of Faribault, MN and graduated from FHS in 2002. I continued to college and graduated from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (Elementary Education Bachelor's Degree) as well as a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction (K-12) from the University of Phoenix in Arizona. We are very excited to be part of the DMCS family and I'm even more excited to teach as our children are the hope of the future and our theme this year fits perfectly as the "Vision of Hope." One of my favorite bible verses is: Above all else love each other deeply (1 Peter 4:8). I love meeting new people and I can't wait to meet you all! ~ Summer

**School begins on Monday, August 31st for all Grade 1-5 students.
Preschool and Kindergarten begin on Wednesday, September 2nd.**

Back to School Orientation/Meet the teacher!

Mark Your Calendars & use the links below to sign up for your classroom visit:

Preschool Parents **Thurs., Aug. 27th or Mon., Aug. 31st**

Kindergarten Parents **Thurs., Aug. 27th, Mon., Aug. 31st, or Tues., Sept. 1st**

Grades 1-5 Parents **Thurs., Aug. 27th**



PS-D	Mrs. Anne Dienst	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d4daeea2aab9-preschool3
PK-V	Mrs. Summer Voegel	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4ca4af22a1f5c07-pkv
KR-M	Mrs. Elodie Metro	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094AA8A822A0FA7-krm
KR-V	Mrs. Mary Van Thomme	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4FA9AA29A2F94-back1
K-E	Mrs. Jolene Ell	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A4EABA622A0FD0-fall3
K-G	Mrs. Angie Gareis	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d4faea822a6fd0-kindergarten
1-W	Ms. Anna Washburn	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050849afab22a4f49-mswashburns1
1-B	Mrs. Janet Brown	Mrs. Brown's 1-B Back to School Meeting Sign Up
2-H	Miss Kayla Halvorson	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050849AFAB22A5FD0-back
2-W	Miss Michell Wegrzyn	https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/70A0E4CA9A82AABFE3-back
3-D	Mrs. Gloria Duban-Reuvers	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f054cabac29a4f49-back
3-M	Mrs. Mary Jo Miller	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044FACAA23A3FA7-back
4-D	Mrs. Cecile Dokkestul	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F054CABAD28A3FD0-back
4-P	Mrs. Dana Pemrick	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e044fa5aa2ea1ff2-back
5-I	Mrs. Nancy Ivers	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050544AFAB29AAFD0-back
5-O	Mrs. Katie Opsal	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B4DA8AB2EA0F94-back



**Parents of students in Grades K-5:
Required student supplies for all K-5 Students**

- Backpack - Standard size
- Gym shoes ([to be left at school](#))
- Paint shirt to fit over school clothes ([to be left at school](#))
- 1 ream of 8.5" x 11" 20lb white copy paper
- Clorox wipes
- Headphone for computer ([to be left at school](#))

Blood Drive
Bethlehem Academy & Divine Mercy Catholic Church

Location: Divine Mercy Catholic Church
139 Mercy Drive
Faribault, MN 55021

Thursday, August 27, 2020
8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Bethlehem Academy to schedule an appointment.

Special offer from our partners at Amazon: To thank you for coming to give blood Aug. 1-Sept. 3, we'll send you a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card* by email. *Restrictions apply, see amazon.com/go-legal. Terms and conditions apply; visit rcblood.org/together

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App
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