



Ignatian Information

We, the community of St. Ignatius School, in the tradition of Mother Marie Rose and St. Ignatius of Loyola, provide a faith-centered Catholic education guiding God's children toward building a just and compassionate world.

August 14, 2023

Upcoming Important Dates

- **August 31** - Supply Drop-Off, Meet & Greet, Uniform Exchange, 3:00-7:00PM
- **September 5** - First day of

Greetings St. Ignatius Families,

I pray that your summer has been filled with much needed rest and enjoyable family adventures. I enjoyed a flexible schedule and the peaceful pace of summer. We are all excited to welcome back our students and families! As we begin a new school year, I would like to introduce this year's theme: *"Rejoice! This is the day Lord has made," from Psalm 118:24.* Theme postcards will be handed out at our Back-to-School night. Throughout the year, you will see and hear this theme frequently, and we will invite our students to reflect on it regularly. We hope it provides a strong focus for our entire school community throughout the upcoming school year. The information and forms provided below will help your family navigate the beginning of the

school, Noon dismissal

- **September 6-19**
- Renaissance STAR Testing
- **September 7** -
Back to School Night, 6:30PM
- **September 10** -
St. Ignatius Foundation Golf Tournament

Important Links:

[St. Ignatius Parish Middle School Site](#)
[Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon](#)

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school year. Please take time to read through the information as you prepare for the new school year.

SCHOOL SUMMER PROJECTS: As you know, one wing of our school flooded in early May with a severe thunderstorm. On Father's Day, another severe thunderstorm rolled through and again flooded the same classrooms and library. One of the challenges with flood water is its ability to soak into drywall and potentially grow mold. Therefore that wing of our school and library have undergone major deconstruction to ensure any possible mold growth is removed safely. An abatement team safely removed drywall made with asbestos materials. Air testing has been done to ensure the spaces are now completely safe for occupancy. Crews will work long hours to reconstruct the classrooms and library before school resumes in September. The reconstruction of the impacted hallway walls will take place over the upcoming weeks with final cosmetic finishes added next summer. Luckily, our insurance will cover the deconstruction and much of the reconstruction costs. We, as a school, are responsible to pay for repairs to the pipes to fix the issue plus any cosmetic finishes not covered under the insurance claim. During our time investigating the cause and best course of action to fix this issue, we discovered that there was a break in the large main pipe leaving the school building. In fact a tree at the sidewalk had completely taken over the pipe causing a total blockage, in addition to many years of debris caught in the pipe under that part of the school that connects to the sinks in each classroom. Both the exterior broken pipe and debris from the pipes under that wing of the school have been completely cleared and repaired. However, fixing the issues has come with a large price tag of just over \$50,000!

ST. IGNATIUS SCHOOL FOUNDATION: The St. Ignatius School Foundation is an endowment with a mission of keeping St. Ignatius School accessible, economically diverse, and affordable. Their annual gift allows our school to offer need-based tuition assistance to families. This year our St. Ignatius School Foundation will split the proceeds from their [golf tournament](#) 50/50 with the school. Receiving **50% of the golf tournament proceeds**, in addition to the annual

support from the Foundation, will most certainly help offset some of the pipe repair costs. Please help our school by supporting this year's [golf tournament](#) on Sunday, September 10th. Ways you can support the golf tournament include signing up to play golf, putting together a foursome to play, getting together as a grade level to sponsor a hole, volunteering at the event, and/or donating [raffle prizes](#).

- The Foundation's annual [golf tournament on Sunday, September 10th](#) will be held at the Stone Creek Golf Club in Oregon City.
 - Registration opens at 11:00 AM with the tournament getting underway at 1:00 PM. Please consider signing up your foursome for the golf tournament.
- The foundation is in need of 'prize' support for their baskets through donations of gift cards, new golf items or equipment, or other new items suitable for prize baskets.
 - *Prize donations may be dropped off at the school during the first week of school- September 5-8.*
- If you or your employer is willing to be a sponsor, they are in need of sponsorships too.

Thank you for helping the St. Ignatius School Foundation with their mission in supporting our school. Funds raised help support our students in their learning journey here at St. Ignatius School.

SCHOOL CALENDAR ADJUSTMENT: The Archdiocese of Portland's Department of Catholic Schools is undergoing a restructuring process this year and has postponed our school's accreditation self-study writing process to the 2024-2025 school year. Therefore 'no school' days for accreditation on the calendar of Important Dates sent home in June will now be school days this year. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. [This link reflects the updated school calendar.](#) The calendar has been updated in SchoolSpeak.

CLASS COLOR SHIRT ORDER FORM: Please fill out the form for your child's shirt size through this link:

<https://forms.gle/w4eYgxCoD9g2BeMd9>. We need to place our class color shirt order before school begins to have them back to us for our Jog-a-thon on Friday, September 29th.

STAFFING UPDATE: Our middle school math teacher, Mrs. Long, has resigned for the upcoming school year. We wish her well in her next adventure. We are actively searching for a middle school math teacher. If you know of someone that may be interested in this job, please send her/him our way.

HOT LUNCH PROGRAM: We are excited to welcome back Leia's Café as our hot lunch service provider for the 2023-2024 school year. Hot lunch is served on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Our first day for hot lunch will be Tuesday, September 19th. We will send the menu and ordering link to families the first week of school.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS: Looking for a great way to serve some volunteer hours before the school year officially begins? Join us on ***Sunday, August 27th from 1-4 PM to beautify the campus!*** We need many hands to help move furniture in the school, weed the flower beds, plant new plants along the back cement bench, water plants, pick up litter from all over the campus, blow off the turf, move dirt for planters, and any other needs that may arise.

There are many opportunities throughout the year for parents to volunteer. Volunteer opportunities for the parish and CYO count for your fairshare hours. Volunteer hours are tracked by each family through [HelpCounter](#). Volunteer events for the school include our major fundraisers such as the Jog-a-thon, Turkey Bingo, and our school auction. Volunteers are needed in the building for classroom specific projects, Art Literacy, lunchroom serving, and [recess monitoring](#).

Parent volunteers must pass a background check every two years, complete watching videos for domestic violence and harassment, and be up-to-date on C.A.S.E. training.

- Volunteers in the school will need to sign in through the office and obtain a Visitor's badge.

- All volunteers will need to complete the [annual online C.A.S.E. module](#) to be up-to-date on their C.A.S.E. training before volunteering for events with students.

New volunteers will need to complete an in-person C.A.S.E. training through the archdiocese. Our first C.A.S.E. training session here at St. Ignatius School is [Wednesday, September 13th from 6:30-8:30 PM.](#) [Please register through the Google Form link, so we can prepare accordingly.](#) Volunteers can also register and take a [C.A.S.E. training at any parish location.](#)

FAIR SHARE REQUIREMENT 2023-2024:

- Fairshare Fundraising Goal is for each family to fundraise \$400 per family or \$200 for single-family households through the Jog-a-thon, auction, or event ticket sales.
- Each family is asked to solicit one new item or service for the annual auction with a value of \$50 or greater.
- Fairshare volunteer hours may be served as a volunteer for the school, church or CYO in some capacity. Each family is asked to serve at least 30 hours per year, 15 for single family households.
- Fairshare volunteer hours are tracked through [HelpCounter](#).
 - [Directions for accessing HelpCounter](#)

Fairshare hours must be reported to the school by May 31st. Unfulfilled hours will be billed at a rate of \$30 per hour which must be paid by June 12th.

MEET AND GREET: Our Meet and Greet-supply drop-off will be on Thursday, August 31st from 3:00 PM-7:00 PM.

- *Families may enter from either school entrance to visit their classrooms, meet their teacher, and drop-off supplies.*
- [Click here](#) to view all of the school supply lists by grade level.
- *Please visit our School Advisory Council/Parent Association table in front of the school to learn how you can become involved and volunteer for events.*

- *New families may pick up their family name sign at the Meet and Greet, or it will be sent home in their student's backpack the first week of school. The family name sign is prominently displayed on the vehicle's dashboard or side window for use in the dismissal carline.*

UNIFORM: There will be uniform exchange tables available outside for our Meet & Greet event and in the cafeteria the first week of school. You may drop off clean uniforms you no longer need in a bag and/or you may pick up uniforms available on the tables for the upcoming year. Some important uniform reminders are:

- *Uniform shorts, skorts, or skirts must nearly reach the student's knees.*
- *Uniform pants, shorts, skorts, or skirts must be properly hemmed and not cut-off to the correct length.*
- *Uniform pants, shorts, skorts, or skirts must be the correct style and material.*
- *Hairstyles and colors must be your natural color and non-distracting.*
- *Visible drawings or temporary tattoos on exposed skin are not allowed.*
- *A small amount of school appropriate jewelry is allowed. Hoop earrings or dangling earrings are not allowed.*
- *Smart watches capable of sending and receiving messages may not be worn during the school day.*

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: *Tuesday, September 5th*

- *Doors will open after the first bell at 8:20 AM, so our day can begin at 8:30 AM with morning announcements (middle school students officially begin their day at 8:25 AM).*
- *We will **dismiss at 12:00 PM** on the first day of school.*

Only parents with kindergarten students will be allowed to walk their child up to the front doors of the school building on the first day.

Preschool families must always bring their preschool student directly to a preschool staff member at the preschool door.

We'd like to encourage you to treat the first day just as you treat any other day for pick-up, so if you plan to normally drive through the carline, please do so. This will help the dismissal process to go smoother and will help settle students into their routine more quickly. It will also likely get you going with your afternoon much faster!

Please [click here](#) for a reminder of the arrival and dismissal details, including a reference video at the top of the page, for the carline and walk-up options. One way to help with the flow of dismissal is to take a right onto Powell when leaving campus or take a left when leaving the campus parking lot and drive around to the light on 43rd to travel left onto Powell.

FORMS:

The forms you need to fill out electronically are linked below. Please let the office know if you would like to pick up paper copies of the forms to fill out and turn in.

Forms for electronic submission:

- [Handbook agreement form](#)
- [Google Suite Use permission form](#) for grades 3-8, available for electronic submission
- [Walk or bike home permission](#) form
- [Class Color Shirt](#) order form

Forms to fill, print, and turn in to the school office or classroom teacher:

- [Technology use in school](#) form
- [Media Release](#) form
- [COVID-19-permission](#) to test symptomatic students at school
- [Emergency Card](#) & photo- *families only need to provide the Emergency Card with current family photo starting this year and*

moving forward

BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL CARE & AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS:

- Please remember to sign up for before school and after school care as needed through [Vermont Hills Family Life Center](#). Before school and after school care through Vermont Hills Family Life Center is available for students in kindergarten through 5th grade.
- Preschool before and after care is provided and managed through the preschool program.
- Afterschool Programs: *Registration flyers for afterschool programs are linked here and in their own section below.*
 - [M.U.S.E. Band](#) will be back on campus for students in 4th-8th grade on Mondays.
 - [Portland Drama Club](#) will be back for students in 4th-8th grade on Wednesdays
 - Choir with Mr. Mackenzie for students in 5th-8th grade on Tuesdays
 - [Chess America](#) will be back for students in 4th through 8th grade on Wednesdays.
 - [Yoga Playground](#) may begin if there are enough students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade signing up for the class on Wednesdays
 - [Play Fit Fun](#) will return for students in kindergarten-8th grade on Thursdays

HANDBOOK:

Please take time over the next few weeks to read the Parent-Student Handbook with your students. [Click here](#) for the link to the Parent-Student Handbook . You will be able to electronically sign and submit this year's handbook agreement form directly from the handbook

webpage. *Handbook agreement forms are due by Tuesday, October 3rd.*

Changes of note in this year's handbook are:

- Updated uniform guidelines including guidance on smart watches and hair colors.
 - *Cell phones and smart watches capable of sending and receiving messages may not be used or worn during the school day*
 - *Pants and shorts must be hemmed meeting the correct length requirements*
 - *Cargo pants or pants with side pockets are not allowed.*
 - *Long sleeve shirts under polo shirts must be the same color as the polo shirt*
 - *Hair colors must be the same as naturally occurring hair colors*

COMMUNICATION:

As our year is set to begin, I want to remind you that the majority of our school communication is delivered through the weekly Ignatian newsletter. Our *Ignatian newsletter* will be sent out via email with a link to a webpage for the newsletter. The link will be available online through our school website too. Each Friday, the Ignatian newsletter summarizes some of the most important news about the school and upcoming events. You will want to make sure that you're reading the Ignatian newsletter weekly to receive critical information related to your child's school experience.

STAR TESTING:

As an archdiocesan school, we will continue to use Renaissance Learning's Star tests to monitor student growth. We will use at least three testing windows throughout the year so we can gauge student progress and use the data to inform and guide instruction. It's important for students to be in school, but even more so, during the

testing windows so we can accurately assess student progress. The testing windows are as follows:

- September 6 - 22
- December 4-15
- April 1-12

We look forward to seeing you all at ***Back-to-School Night on Thursday, September 7th at 6:30 PM.***

Peace be with you always.

Carol Pausz

Principal

After School Programs

M.U.S.E. Band Registration Flyer:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aWDcDFJWCKpFJFCqJl8acUwB9YKcKpkV/view?usp=drive_web

M.U.S.E. Band Registration Form:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g88lPA04eBuwGP7wnS0zMHSOKOwN3oCM/view?usp=drive_web

Portland Drama Club, Finding Nemo:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CXZtBARx1NMVEYhTe8oSfWvITl4GT00f/view?usp=drive_web

Chess Club: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1l73s4rZY_PbJa0rVpARSkXwPBJy_Ke_/view?usp=drive_web

Yoga Playground:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1l35Y1flovYm9m04D3pvti5AK00waVQTm/view?usp=drive_web

Play Fit Fun:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hJunMMo9GffOgrd2X9NLqTh3J7s82Mh7/view?usp=drive_web

Ways to support St. Ignatius School

We want your empty cans and bottles!

Supporting the school is easy!



- Pick up a bag at the Meet & Greet or request one from the school office, school@sispx.org
- Fill the bluebag with refundable plastic, aluminum, and glass
- Return your blue bag to any BottleDrop location, the label on the blue bag will open the secure door



You can help St. Ignatius School earn donations just by shopping with your Fred Meyer Rewards Card! Fred Meyer donates over \$2.5 million per year to non-profits.

Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your card to St. Ignatius: <https://www.fredmeyer.com/>.

You can search for St. Ignatius School or use our number "87137". Every time you shop and use your reward card you will be helping St. Ignatius school, you will still earn your rewards points, fuel points, and rebates. Thank you for supporting St. Ignatius School!

St. Ignatius Parish Family Day at Camp Yamhill

St. Ignatius Church is hosting our first "Family Day" next fall. The event is for all ages and will take place at Camp Yamhill on Saturday, Sept. 30, 2023, from 9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. The day will include fun for all ages. If the weather permits there are outdoors activities like canoeing and river-hiking. We will conclude the day with mass and dinner. Attendance is limited to 100

participants this first year so if you want to attend, please sign up early. Attached is the flyer and here is the link to sign up: [Family Day at Camp Yamhill \(sipdx.org\)](http://sipdx.org).

The planning committee is also looking for teens and adults to help lead activities and/or assist with food. Duties are minimal and we appreciate any help! This is an especially great way for teens, especially those who will be getting Confirmed next year, to have a role.

Questions? Contact Beth Schaller at bschaller@sipdx.org.