

Dear OLSS Parents,

As summer is winding down it is time to begin looking forward to a brand new and exciting school year.

As always, Our Lady star of the Sea Elementary School is committed to offering your child a well-rounded education firmly rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ. The administration, faculty and staff will continue to offer our students the best education with an emphasis on Faith, Learning and Service.

As we welcome many new families to OLSS for the 2018 – 2019 school year, we invite **ALL** parents the opportunity to become actively involved in your child's education. There will be many opportunities for parental involvement throughout the year, please consider volunteering.

The school office will be open Monday August 27 – Thursday August 30 if you have any last-minute questions or concerns.

I am very excited that we have 5 new staff members joining us this year. I know you will join us in making them feel welcome as they begin their new careers at OLSS.

- Mrs. Susanne Tornello will be spear-heading the new Resource Room. Mrs. Tornello is a certified Special Ed teacher and has worked in various Catholic schools on Staten Island. We are blessed to have her on staff.
- Mr. Jonathan Fox will be our new Grade 5 ELA teacher. Mr. Fox comes to us with a degree in Poetry and an enthusiasm for reading that I am confident will foster a love of learning in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade!
- Mrs. Kristy Britz will be the teacher in the new Pre-K 4 (3 day) classroom. Ms. Kristy is no stranger to us, as she has been one of our regular subs for the past few years. Kristy will be an awesome addition to our already dynamic Early Childhood team.
- Mr. Santo Marotta will be our new Art teacher. Mr. Marotta came to us very highly recommended. He is currently teaching at the Snug Harbor Art Lab as well as being an artist whose work is known on S.I. Santo's main love is comic book characters and animation.
- And lastly, Mrs. Mary Hardman will be the teacher's aide in Pre-K 4 assisting Ms. Kristy with her new classroom! I cannot say how excited we are to have such talented educators joining our family this year.

The first day of school for student in grades K – 8 will be Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 7:50 am. All students must be in O'Mara Hall no later than 8:10 am. Please remember the drop – off routine. No one is to exit their cars to assist their child into the building. If you must assist your child, we ask that you park in the lot and walk your child into the building. All cars must enter on Amboy Rd. by the Rectory. DO NOT enter using the driveway near the church.

Pre-K 4 will begin Monday September 10<sup>th</sup> and Pre-K 3 will begin Tuesday September 11<sup>th</sup>. All Pre-k students are to arrive and dismiss through the "red doors" in the early childhood wing.

Please visit our updated school website, [www.olss-si.org](http://www.olss-si.org), for the up to date calendar and to access our online grading and report card system. The link is titled "cornerstone" under "affiliations" on

our main page. All new families must be issued a username and password from the school office before they can have access. This link is the only way to access the system. Do not attempt to go through google or any other search engine.

**Quick Reminders:**

- All students grades K – 8 must be in summer uniform. Uniform shorts and skirts MUST be worn with white sneakers and white socks. All sneakers must be plain white and not have any color marking (ie, Nike swoosh, Adidas lines, Converse trim). Any student wearing pants must wear their school shoes. Sneakers are NOT permitted to be worn with pants.
- Over the course of the first few weeks of school, many notices and forms will be sent home. Please return all forms on a timely basis.
- All students MUST be up to date with their immunizations in order to attend OLSS. Please submit all necessary proof to the school nurse the first week of school. Failure to do so may result in your child being exempt from attending class.

We look forward to another exciting and fun-filled year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Roland

Mrs. Gandelman