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Pre School & 4–8 Grades 901 W Prospect St ~ Durand, WI 54736 P: **715.672.5617** ~ F: 715.672.3931

August 4, 2023

Dear Families,

As we prepare for a new school year, we are all using "knee mail" asking for the Father's wisdom, the Son's love and the Holy Spirit's guidance for another Faith-filled year! We are so blessed to have our Parishes support our Catholic School, our school, like the Church, is hard to market...it just needs to be experienced!

You will see new faces and familiar faces with new roles and new opportunities at Assumption!

Welcome

Ms. Lily Rotering: will be teaching 5, 6, 7 and 8 Social Studies and will be the 7th grade homeroom teacher and library manager. Lily hails from Texas, where she earned her B.S. in History Education. She has worked in the business world for the past few years and wants to return to teaching. She is the mother of Everett, Merritt and Juliett Watley-Rotering.

Dr. Deb Bauer: will be teaching Religion 6, 7 and 8. She is a Consecrated Woman of Regnum Christi, holds a Bachelor degree School Health Education from-UW-La Crosse; Bachelor of Pedagogical Science from Anahuac University, MEXICO; an M.A. Theology and Pastoral Ministry with Specialization in Catechetics from-Franciscan Univ. of Steubenville and a Ph.D. in Education from Capella University-Professional Studies in Education. She comes with a plethora of experience in parishes and schools, beginning in 1994 when she was part of the Student Evangelization Network Team at Franciscan University and then went to work as a DRE Youth Minister St. Brons Plover, WI. For the past 7 years, she has been the Director of Formation at The Highlands School, Irving, Texas. She attended Assumption Catholic School, when it was St. Mary's. **Mrs. Ann Turner:** is a familiar face to Assumption Catholic School and will be coming back to teach K-8 Art

and also teach English and Literature as the homeroom teacher for 5th grade. She has a strong Fine Arts and Literature background and is very excited to be reuniting with our Assumption Family.

Mrs. Sara Mack is moving into a shared library position, checking out books and holding library classes for students in 4K-5 grades. She will also help with First Communion and First Reconciliation and serve as our teacher/instructional coach for our Super Kids K-2 Reading program.

Mrs. Jen Weber, wanting to cut back her hours, will retain her role as our 6-8 Science teacher, add 5th grade science, but will transition out of a homeroom role. Though their teaching roles remain the same,

Mrs. Taylor Wayne will assume the 8th grade homeroom position and **Ms. Ashley Meland** will welcome the 6th grade homeroom students on their big move "down stairs".

Please be sure to introduce yourself at open house and welcome all new and familiar faces in their new roles!

New Textbook Series:

We are committed to providing a rigorous curriculum for academic success so with the stamp of approval from Father Emmanuel and the Education Committee we were able purchase a new **Religion series** titled "Word of Life". We are excited about this series as it uses four threads throughout it including Learning through Discipleship - Catechesis that shows why the faith matters and it nurtures a deepening integration of the faith in daily life through discipleship.

This year also brings a new **Reading Program** to our K-2 students titled "Super Kids". It is a comprehensive English language arts curriculum using evidence-based literacy practices. The students in grades 3-6 will implement "Word Wisdom" which is a research-based instructional program that increases reading fluency and comprehension; strengthens reading and writing across subject areas and improves overall academic success. We are excited to implement both of these new textbooks into our curriculum.

CALENDAR:

Enclosed please find another school calendar in case you misplaced the one sent earlier.



<u>ASSUMPTION SUMMER READING CLUB:</u> In May, our Kindergarten through grade 5 students were invited to join the Summer Reading Club! If you participated, <u>make sure you return your completed log and bring it to your classroom on open house night!!!</u> There will be treats for those qualifying!

ATHLETIC NEWS:

- Sports Physicals: Remember: All students in grades 4-8 participating in school athletics will need to have a physical form or alternate year form and other enclosed forms on file before practicing team.
- Sports schedule: For more information, contact our office
 - o 7/8 Volleyball: Practice begins: Wednesday, August 23nd 6:00-7:30 Durand Campus
 - o 4/5/6 Volleyball: Practice begins: Tuesday, August 29th from 3:30-5:00 p.m. Durand Campus
 - o **M.S.** (6-8) Cross Country CC- 1st practice--August 24 at DHS 3:35-5:00. If anyone is interested they should pick up the information packet at the high school office which includes the physical form and other forms that would need to be filled out along with the cross country information sheet from Coach Bryan Bauer.
 - o **M.S. (7-8) Football**: Equipment handout- Thursday, August 10 5:30 -7:30 at DHS small gym Practice begins Monday, August $14^{th} 3:30 5:30$

Reminder: *If you have not yet signed into a Google account or if you have not signed your athlete up for a sport, contact Athletic Director: Loren/Kari Reckin at: <u>assumptionathleticad@gmail.com</u> All of our athletic games and practices are on a Google Calendar that is easily downloaded to a cell phone or computer. The family newsletter has a calendar each week as well, but using the Google calendar, you would be notified immediately of last minute changes. This opportunity is available for all families. A Gmail account does work best with the Google Calendar...just email <u>assumptionathleticad@gmail.com</u> and we'll help you.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT - OPEN HOUSE:

On Tuesday, August 22^{nd} we will host a Back to School Night from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. for parents and students at both campuses. Be sure to take this opportunity to meet your child's teacher(s), see their classroom and bring in school supplies; all helping to ease their **first full day on Thursday, August 24**th.

- This night will also allow you to make tuition payments return *Medical release form*, *Milk form and free* and reduced lunch forms and Fall Festival Mass help form.
- Noah's Ark parents are asked to please wait until their child's conference to bring in paperwork, snacks or extra clothes. More details regarding the conference are detailed in the enclosed letters.
- Parents of 6-8 grade students can meet with Mrs. Heitman to learn about our Forensics (4N6) program.

BUSSING: Pape School Bus, Inc. is the school district's school bus transportation provider. They are located at N6463 Commerce Lane, Arkansaw, Wisconsin 54721 and their phone number is 715-672-3636. Please find below, information from Pape Bus Service regarding bussing to and from school, Please complete the Student Transportation Form found online at: https://www.durand.k12.wi.us/page/transportation/ forms should be completed by August 18th.

The form must be completed ONLY if one or more of the following apply:

- Student did not ride the bus last school year
- New to this school or registering a new student
- Attending same school as last year, but moved to a new address
- Attending same school as last year, but need to update pick-up/drop-off
- Need to update contact info
- Need to cancel transportation

FALL FESTIVALS:



Holy Rosary- Lima Fall Festival: will be Sunday, August 27th beginning with Mass at 10:00 a.m. Our students will be helping with the liturgical roles at Mass; please complete and return enclosed form, and thank you in advance. Other highlights at the Festival will be:

- Beef dinner will be from 11:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. (it's very delicious!)
- Cash raffle, gun raffle, basket raffle, cattle and corn raffle
- Booths and games Come join in the fun and fellowship!



<u>Sacred Heart – Mondovi Fall Festival</u>: will be Sunday, September 17th – starting with Mass at 10:00 at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds - more to follow



St. Mary's Durand Fall Festival: will be Sunday, September 10th starting with 8:30 Mass. Our *students will be helping with the liturgical roles for this Mass also* with brunch and the festival to follow. More information will be shared as the planning process unfolds, but **Save the date!**

FAMILY UPDATES:

Enclosed, please find The Diocese of La Crosse, Comprehensive Medical Release and Permission Form, please fill this out in its entirety and return at Open house. This form helps us with various things:

- 1. Updates our database with your email, phone numbers and addresses.
- 2. Gives alternate emergency contact information in case you cannot be reached.
- 3. Provides us with some helpful medical history.
- 4. And allows us to use a "short form" for our field trip permission slips.

We will be sending family envelopes to households just as we did last year unless you let us know differently.

HOT LUNCH NEWS:

Parents are <u>strongly encouraged</u> to fill out the enclosed forms for Free and /or Reduced lunch. This is a federally funded program that not only helps alleviate the cost of hot lunch for your family, **but also helps you and our school qualify for various grants and assistance.** You may return this to our office or at open house in a sealed, marked, confidential envelope. Please know that information **always remains confidential**.

• Your lunch account balance is reflected on the sticker below unless your balance is zero. Meal cost will remain as they were pre-pandemic at \$2.75.

The first semester milk information for $4K-8^{th}$ grades is enclosed as well. Be sure to return it with payment on or before Back to School Night.

MUSIC NOTES FROM MRS. BULLARD:



I hope you've all been having a wonderful summer vacation! Now it is time to start getting excited about returning to school and participating in our band and choir programs! Attention **fifth graders** - remember, you are now able to sign up for band. I will be available to answer questions about beginning 5th Grade Band. i.e. instrument rental/purchasing, band lessons, practice time,

etc. during "Back to School Night" Tuesday, August 22nd. A variety of band instruments will be on display during that time. If you have your own instrument already, or are using a relative's instrument, you can bring that in and we can look it over to discuss its condition. See enclosed letter from Mrs. Bullard and she hopes to see you during "Back to School Night".

NOAH'S ARK:



Welcome letters are enclosed for all registered 3 and 4 year olds from Mrs. Spindler and Mrs. Tulip. Our 3-year old program is full, but a waiting list of names is being formed. We do have two openings in our 4K so registrations are still being accepted for children who turn 4 years old, before September 1st, 2023. If you know of a family who has "little ones", refer them to the school office.

PARTNERS IN FAITH:

Enclosed please find a calendar with ideas to help stay focused on faith and family during your summer countdown. Some great ideas!

TUITION:

- Tuition statements are enclosed; they reflect your 2022-23 TRIP totals. If you did not purchase \$1000.00 in SCRIP cards in 2022-23, your statement will reflect your choice of deferment by adding \$300.00.
- You can make tuition payments on "Back to School" night or beforehand if you prefer. You can also make online payments as well! We have several parents using this option and they really like the convenience. Let us know if we can help you with the process.



\$CRIP:

Don't forget to buy SCRIP - it's easy and sure helps both yours and the school budgets! Last year we deposited \$16,500.00 in TRIP funds – well done.

Online purchasing use is growing!!! Use SCRIP to purchase everyday items and reduce your tuition at the same time. An order form is included for your convenience. Confused about SCRIP or not sure how it helps reduce your tuition? Please call, we would love to answer your questions.

VACCINATIONS:

Attention parents of 6th grade students: There is a slight change from the information that was included in student's report cards, mailed in June, regarding the immunization requirements. The Tdap is now extended to the start of the 7th grade year, not the 6th grade year. Kindergarten, please revisit requirements sent and return on Back to School Night so our records are up to date. Contact the office for any questions.

YEARBOOK:

If you ordered a yearbook, they will be on your oldest child's desk at Back to School Night. It is fun looking back at the memories of 2022-23. I hope you enjoy it. Thank you to the 8th grade class and ACS teachers under the guidance of Ms. Meland for putting this together. Extra copies available to purchase if you did not order-\$35.

I am excited for the students to come back to school and I am thankful you have entrusted your child to us. Like you, we see them as treasured, valued children, blessings from God.

Thank you for choosing Assumption Catholic School! We always welcome prayers for our school, our families and our staff.

Our faculty is committed to working with you to fulfill our mission of Faith • Academics • Service

PLEASE PRAY:

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☐ For our families who have suffered illness or loss over the summer or over the course of the year. May God grant them the virtues needed to bear suffering without being broken by sorrow.

☐ Our staff, students and families, that Faith, Hope and Love continue to grow in their hearts.

With Blessings of Peace and Joy,

Mrs. Mary Lansing Principal

Enclosures to return and things needed at back to school night:

- Fall Festival Mass help
- Medical release forms
- Milk form & payment
- Payments for tuition and hot lunch