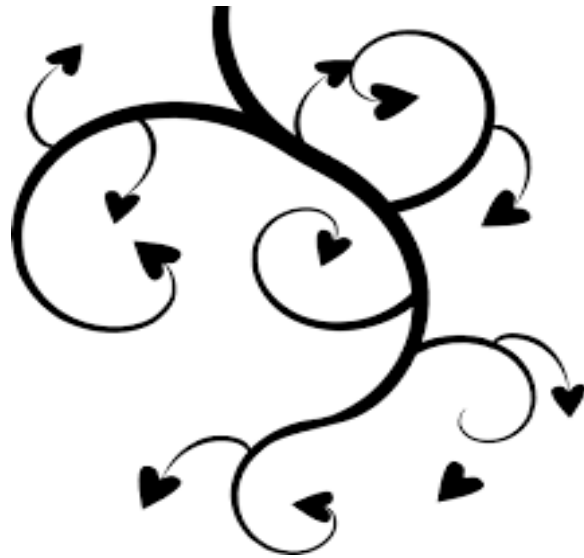


St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception School



You Always Have A Choice

Choose Kindness!

2019-2020

Homeroom Teacher: Mrs. Alyson Messier
Instructional Assistant: Mrs. Annie Fregulia

Welcome back to school and welcome to 8th grade! This is an exciting and important year for both you and your child as they prepare to transition into high school. This is also the year we look to your child and his or her classmates to serve as leaders of our school community through their actions and attitude.

Communication At A Glance

amessier@csdo.org (parents use this email)

amessier@st-mary.net (students use this email)

Office Hours

Please email me to set parent/teacher meetings.

Before school: between 7:30-7:50

After school: between 3:15-4:00

I am not available to meet on Wednesday afternoons due to faculty meetings.

Daily Communication

Class Website- This site will hold important 8th grade information about events and graduation.

Homework Site/Student Planners- Homework assignments, tests and projects will be listed here. Homework site is found as a link on the class websites.

Scholar Folders- Behavior and academic tracker.

Weekly Communication

Friday Folders- Corrected and recorded student work.

Monthly Communication

Junior High Newsletter- Academic overviews by subject, class and school information.

Daily Communication

Email is my preferred means of communication and will be returned within a 48-hour time period. Please remember that if you email me just before school starts or during the school day I will not answer any emails during the school day. If there is something urgent that needs to be communicated please contact the school office, all messages will be given to me. The school office number (925) 935-5054

Class Website- Our class website is found at st-mary.net click on classrooms and find 8th grade homeroom. This is a place where you will find the homework, projects and tests assigned to your child. We will also post important information regarding 8th grade events and graduation.

Scholar Folders- The Scholar Folder is a convenient way for students to keep track of missing assignments and personal conduct record. The Scholar Folder gives parents and teacher's immediate visibility and information on each student in order to provide optimal support for student achievement. Parents are asked to sign the Scholar Folder weekly (sent home on Friday's). **For a more detailed and updated description, please read about the Scholar Folders in the Junior High Handbook.**

Weekly and Monthly Communication

Weekly Folders- Friday folders will be sent home each Friday with corrected tests, quizzes, and assignments. A parent signature page will be attached to each folder and will require a parent/guardian signature. Folders must be signed and returned on the following Monday. If your child loses his or her folder, they will be required to replace it.

Newsletters- A monthly newsletter will be sent home via email to 8th grade parents. Class information, updates, important dates, and academic subject information will be included in the newsletters. If you do not have an email address please let me know.

Student Communication- As 8th graders, we expect students to take responsibility for their own learning. This is a critical step in preparing your child for what they will experience in high school. If your child has questions regarding assignments or grades, please encourage him or her to speak with their teacher(s) directly. Subsequently, if you need to follow up, please email us, and we will respond to emails within 48 hours.

8th Grade Leadership Responsibilities

Faith Families- Students will be in charge of Faith Families for many activities this year. They are expected to be prepared, have all necessary supplies, and demonstrate sound leadership qualities. This is a significant part of their religion grade because it provides an opportunity for our 8th graders to demonstrate and model Catholic teachings and to shine as thoughtful, Catholic leaders. It's important that the 8th graders are present at each faith family gathering; please try to avoid scheduling appointments on Monday afternoons.

Kindergarten Buddies- 8th graders will have Kindergarten buddies to work with this year. They will read to their buddies, write with them, and complete both academic and religious activities together. The goal is to have each 8th grader be a leader and a positive role model for his/her Kindergarten buddy.

Junior High Grading Policy

A point system will be used to keep track of student successes in all classes. Objective evaluation reflects the percentage earned and a letter grade based upon the Diocesan scale. There are two types of assessments under the general summative category.

- **Assessments FOR learning:** (formative 10%) an evaluation tool used to guide and monitor the progress of student learning during instruction. Its purpose is to provide continuous feedback to both the student and the teacher concerning learning successes and progress toward mastery.
- **Assessments OF learning:** (summative 90%) an evaluation tool generally used at the end of an assignment, unit, project, or chapter. Summative assessments are more formal kinds of assessments (e.g., unit tests, final exams, projects, reports, and presentations) and are typically used to evaluate student mastery of intended learning outcomes.

Absent and Late Work Policy

Absent Work- A student has the same number of days absent to turn in make-up work. For example, if a student is out for three days, the student has three days after returning to school to turn in missed assignments. Once a student exceeds this number of days, the make-up work becomes late work. Please note that long-term assignments/projects still need to be turned in on the due date unless arrangements have been made with the teacher. Assignments will **not** be compiled and given to students for non-illness related absences such as, vacation, and sporting events. Upon their return, students will need to meet with teachers to gather missing assignment information.

Late Work- Teachers will accept formative assignments submitted late for a possible point reduction within 1 week of the due date of those assignments. Students will have (7) school days to submit or complete all summative assessments. Any assessment completed past this timeframe will receive a maximum score of 70%. It is the student's responsibility to communicate with the teacher if more time is needed. If a student is absent for a quiz or test, it is his or her responsibility to schedule a time to take the assessment. In 8th grade if the test or quiz had been assigned ahead of time (one week or more) the student is expected to take the test or quiz on the day of their return (if that class meets on the day of return).

Formative and summative late work may only be **submitted up to 7 days after** the assignment due date for credit.

High School Admission's Process

As you and your child decide which high school they will be attending next year it is important to stay ontop of deadlines for admissions/ registration. I will post any information that is given to me by Carondelet, De La Salle, and the local public schools. For those who have a child applying to Carondelet or De La Salle, information regarding admissions has been posted on the school's websites. Principal and teacher recommendations are due to Mrs. Messier no later than November 1st.

8th Grade Special Events and Graduation

This year is full of special moments all accumulating to graduation. We will be in constant contact, updating our class website with important information about the special events and graduation. We will also be sure to update you through our monthly newsletters and when appropriate group emails. If for any reason you do not receive my emails please check spam, if you still are not receiving my emails please contact me so we can fix the communication error.

Junior High Handbook

Please thourouly read through the Junior High Handbook, Back to School Packet, and each subjects syllabus with your child. A Junior High Signature page acknowledging that parents and students in junior high have read and understand the information that has been provided. The Junior High Signature page is due to the classroom on Friday, August 30th.

A SPECIAL NOTE TO EIGHTH GRADERS

As an eighth grader, it is your big year as the leaders of our school community. Remember, you will be seen as a role model to those around you (in and outside of school). So, as this year progresses, it is your job to display qualities that we as Catholics strive to emulate in the name of Jesus Christ.

8th Grade Important Dates

2019-2020

All dates and times are subject to change. Any changes made will be communicated through the class website and email. Additional events may be added through the year.

- September:** 13th- Dance @ St. Isidore's- Danville
- October:** TBA- Diocesan Youth Day for 8th Graders
25th- Boo Fest 3:00-4:30 (7th/ 8th Graders Required Time 3:00- 5:00)
- November:** TBA- Graduation Meeting in 8th Grade
- December:** 6th- Ice Skating Field Trip
6th- 8th Grade Dance @ St. Mary
- January** 16th- Graduation Photos
- March** 12th- Spring Fling Junior High Dance
- April** 9th- Last Supper- 8th Leads
- May** 8th- Graduation Dance hosted by St. Isidore's (Semi-Formal)
21st- St. Mary Graduation Dance
22nd- Field Day- 8th Leads
26th- 8th Grade Retreat @ Lafayette Retreat Center
27th- Farewell St. Mary Car Parade
8th Grade Picnic @ Larkey Park
28th- Faith Family Baccalaureate Mass 10:00 am
Baccalaureate Brunch
29th- Graduation 5:00 pm

Junior High Teachers 2019-2020 School Year

Alyson Messier: 8th grade homeroom/ELA _____ amessier@csdo.org

Jen Guidi: 7th grade homeroom/Math _____ jguidi@csdo.org

Candace Bacon: 6th grade homeroom/Writing _____ cbacon@csdo.org

Lisa Sanders: Math/Technology _____ lsanders@csdo.org

Paula Bryant: Writing _____ pbryant@csdo.org

Carl Alioto: Social Studies _____ calioto@csdo.org

Mandi Williams: Science/PE _____ mawilliams@csdo.org

Chad Mortensen: PE _____ cmortensen@csdo.org

Teresa Drouillard: Music _____ tdrouillard@csdo.org

Sonia Hernandez: Spanish _____ shernandez@csdo.org

Carrie Klein: Art _____ cklein@csdo.org

Annie Fregulia: Instructional Assistant _____ afregulia@csdo.org

Linda Zahorak: Resource Center _____ lzahorak@csdo.org

Catia Saroni: Resource Center _____ csaroni@csdo.org