



# ST. CECILIA SCHOOL

*Plant your roots in Christ and let Him be the foundation for your life.*  
--Colossians 2:6-7

September 2, 2009

Dear Parents:

Welcome back to a new school year! It was wonderful to see so many of our families at Monday's *Jump Start the School Year*. We are looking forward to a great year, and we wish to extend our deepest gratitude to our parents for sharing the wonderful gift of your children.

### Annual School Theme

Our school theme this year is *Plant your roots in Christ and let Him be the foundation for your life*. The teachers have incorporated the theme into their classroom decorations and will be presenting lessons through the school year designed to teach our children that as members of a Catholic community we are rooted in Christ.

### New Faces on Campus

We welcome our new science teacher, Ms. Jen DeGrave, to St. Cecilia School this year. Ms. DeGrave will be teaching science to the students in grades four through eight and will also be a co-moderator for the Academic Decathlon. We also welcome back Mr. Bob Kaiser as a volunteer aide. Mr. Kaiser will be assisting in our third grade classroom on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

### Regular Happenings Around Campus

**Morning Assembly:** We will be continuing our daily morning assembly on the blacktop. A warning bell will ring five minutes before the start of school (7:40 M, T, Th, F and 8:40 W). Students will go to their class lines and quiet themselves for prayer. At 7:45/8:45 the student body will join in prayer, flag salute, school pledge, and school announcements. Each grade level will be responsible for leading the prayers for one month on M, T, Th, and F. Student Council will lead all assemblies on Wednesdays. Parents who drop their children off in the morning are always welcome to stay for morning prayers.

**School-wide Liturgies:** In general, we will be attending school-wide liturgies on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. Occasionally, due to special liturgical celebrations and/or school vacations, the Mass dates may vary. School-wide liturgies are included on the monthly calendars. Students attend daily mass during the first, third, and fifth weeks of each month. Currently, the days for the classes to attend daily Mass are listed below. As the teachers work through their class schedules during the next two weeks, adjustments may occur to this schedule and that information will be published in the parent newsletter. Thank you for your understanding and patience as we work through new schedules and make the adjustments a new year brings!

Mondays	Kindergarten, Third, Fourth, Eighth
Tuesdays	First, Sixth, Seventh
Thursdays	Second, Fifth

### Parent Volunteers

A gentle reminder...any adult participating in school activities, e.g., yard duty, field trips, after school sports, etc., must have fingerprint and safe environment clearance. Please contact Mrs. Warren in the Business Office for the paperwork if you have not yet completed these clearances.



**Free Dress**

Any student who attended Jump Start the School Year night will have free dress on Friday, Sept. 4

**Innisbrook Gift Wrap**

The Innisbrook Gift Wrap fundraiser information officially began on Monday, August 31<sup>st</sup>. The students attended an assembly for this fundraiser today and are bringing home all the information for you. Participation is voluntary, and I hope all our families will consider supporting this fundraiser as it is one of the three major fundraisers of the school year. Proceeds from our three major fundraisers provide monies for the capital improvements (including the physical plant, technology, textbooks), PTG budget, and the development program/endowment.

**School Pictures:**

Our annual school picture day is next Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. Students are to wear formal uniforms on that day. Information regarding school pictures and ordering forms are included in today's envelope.

**School Uniform Code**

Please note the following as you assist your child in preparing each day for school:

- Boys and Girls Shoes: Students are to wear tennis shoes or oxford-style shoes to school. All shoes must have laces, straps or Velcro closures (this helps the shoes stay on the feet during PE and recess activities.) Colors are limited to predominantly one color. Colors include: white, navy blue, black, or brown. Shoes must be free of designs including, but not limited to, patterns, stars, flowers, and characters. Shoes that have rollers on the bottom and/or illuminate are not allowed.
- Boys and Girls Socks: all socks must cover the ankle bone. Colors are limited to: white or navy blue. Girls' tights must be white or navy blue.
- Boys Belts: must be worn daily. Belts must be one of the following solid colors: navy, black, khaki, or brown.
- Haircuts: many of our students enjoy the summer months as a time to let their hair grow out; now that school is officially open, the students need to wear hairstyles that do not cover the eyes. Dyed, bleached, or colored hair is to be brought back to its natural color. The boys need to have haircuts that are neat, evenly tapered and do not cover the ears or top of the collar. Spiked styles may only be worn at a maximum of one inch. Sideburns must be neat and trimmed; sideburns should be no longer than middle of the ear.

The full dress code will be published and distributed at Back to School Night. Revisions to the handbook that are in effect for the 2009-2010 school year will also be distributed at the Back-to-School nights. We will be enforcing the uniform code beginning today, and we are looking forward to a great start of the school year with all parents, students, and staff on board with the school policies. Thank you for adhering to the school uniform policies.

We are off to a great new year – thank you for being a part of it!

Very truly yours,

  
Mrs. Mary Alvarado  
Principal