



***Inspiring Hearts and Minds***

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July 12, 2018

Dear IHM Families,

As we are preparing for a new school year at Immaculate Heart of Mary School, I want to personally welcome your family to another great year of learning and growing in knowledge and faith. We are excited to be starting our new Early Childhood Education Program, with Mrs. Stephanie Esser as the lead teacher. We have had a busy summer at Immaculate Heart of Mary School. We have completed projects and improvements to our building and hired several new staff members.

I would like to extend a special welcome to the many new families in our ECE and 4K programs, our K-8 school, and siblings of our current students. We are excited that you will be a part of our school family here at IHM, and look forward to getting to know you better.

I would like to impress upon every family the importance of having a working email, and checking it regularly (at least every Wednesday!) for communications from IHM School. The teachers and office communicate primarily through email, and every Wednesday you will receive an Eagle Express email with school communications, and perhaps a green folder in your child's backpack, if there are any hard-copy forms to share. If you don't have an email, or don't check it regularly, you will very likely miss important information. Gmail accounts are free, and public libraries have free access to computers, or you are welcome to come to IHM to use our computers to check your email!

I am sad to tell you that Mrs. Emily Riege, our 4K teacher that started the 4K program, is moving on to to teach Kindergarten in the Sun Prairie School District, where her own children go to school. We will miss Mrs. Riege, and thank her for her hard work, enthusiasm, and love of IHM families and students. We have started the process to find a replacement for Mrs. Riege, and I am still in the process of hiring for our Wraparound teacher, and Middle School math teacher. I will let you know as soon as we fill those important positions. I have also hired a new Physical Education teacher, Mrs. Nicky Booth. Mrs. Booth taught at Edgewood Campus school previously, and is excited to be teaching at IHM, her home parish. Welcome to Ms. Booth, and thank you to Mrs. Riege, Mrs. Davies, Mr. Lange, and Mrs. Schumacher for serving IHM families with so much love and devotion.

Over the summer, we worked on some projects and improvements to our building. We moved all of the books and shelves in the library to put down new carpeting and then moved it all back in again. The HSA also purchased new furniture for the library. Mrs. Jasica's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classroom also got a beautiful new tile floor. The most exciting project (especially to the students) will be happening on in early August, when the old playground comes down on the 7<sup>th</sup>, and the new one goes up on the 10<sup>th</sup>! We need volunteers to be here for those day to help – if you are interested, please email me. Many thanks to the parents that helped with designing the new playground, and to all who supported the build with their time, and treasure.

This mailing has information on many things you may be wondering about as we begin this new year. The full calendar is available on Google Calendar, if you have it, or the IHM website at [www.ihmcatholicschool.org](http://www.ihmcatholicschool.org) under Quick Links (full calendar), but to start here is a list of the days you may want to put on your calendar:

- The online Registration Form link is included in this email. Please look for the registration, and complete it as soon as you can. All levels, ECE through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, need to complete the registration process online. Please let the school office know if you need help completing the process.
- If you are a Monona Grove School District resident and have specific questions regarding busing, please call Nelson Bus Service at 608-221-8417.
- We will be kicking off the new year with Back to School Night on Tuesday, August 28th! This is an open house style evening, drop by when you can between 4-6 PM. The purpose of Back to School Night is to gather as a school community, have the opportunity to meet new families, renew old acquaintances, learn about the HSA, meet your child's teacher and bring in school supplies.
- That same evening there will also be a Middle School Orientation Tuesday, August 28th from 5:30-6:00. Orientation is compulsory for ALL 6th Grade and NEW 7th & 8th Grade students and parents to cover the exciting new adventures that await in Middle School!
- Also that same evening, Tuesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-5:30 PM will be the Early Childhood Education Program Orientation. Please attend to meet the teachers, learn the logistics, and get your questions answered!
- The first tuition payment for the 2018-2019 school year will be automatically deducted on August 20th. If you turned in your forms recently, your account may take more time to set up, payments may start September instead, and your payments will be divided among the remaining months.
- School begins for:
  - Grade K-8 on Thursday, August 30th at 8:10 AM with a full day of school.
  - ECE begins their classes on Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>. 4K also begins, with a staggered start (half start on Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>, the other half on the 5<sup>th</sup> – the school district mailed you your start date this summer.) Wraparound service for 4K will begin on the day your child starts.

Thank you for your continued support of Immaculate Heart of Mary school. I can't think of a better investment for the future of our children and community than in Immaculate Heart of Mary School. I am looking forward to the next chapter in our Immaculate Heart of Mary story. Please feel free to contact me with any questions through email at [cmeiller@ihm-school.org](mailto:cmeiller@ihm-school.org) or at the school office 608-222-8831. I really look forward to meeting all of you, and working with you through the year. I hope to see you at Back to School Night on August 28<sup>th</sup>!

Peace and Blessings,  
Callie Meiller, IHM Principal