

CONTACT INFORMATION

ADMINISTRATION:

PASTOR

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MRS. MICHELLE CLARKE

MRS. CARMEN DESANTIS

MRS. ALICIA HENRIKSON

KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS:

MRS. KAITLYN GETTY

MRS. JENNIFER KEITH

MRS. BETH ROEBUCK

KINDERGARTEN AIDES:

MRS. RENEE KROTO

MRS. ANDREA WENDLING



We hope you found this to be a helpful resource for Kindergarten preparation. If you need additional information, please call the St. Gabriel School office at: 440/354-7858 Please visit our website at: www.St-GabrielSchool.org

Welcome!



St. Gabriel School

Kindergarten

Guide Book

2023-24



First Day of School with Mrs. Keith 2019



Welcome to St. Gabriel School! We are grateful for the opportunity to show you a little more about how we hope to partner with you to fulfill your son or daughter's educational and faith development.

St. Gabriel School (SGS) offers full-day Kindergarten five days a week. Our Kindergarten classroom teachers and Kindergarten aides provide daily instruction, supplemented by weekly instruction from our school's Related Arts Classes: Art, Technology-Media, Music, Physical Education, Grizzly Explorers, and Spanish teachers. Classroom instruction is infused with our mission of **Being CHRIST ~ Every Day ~ Everywhere through teaching, learning, leading and serving**. We seek to help students grow in deeper and clearer awareness that they are children of God who are loved and blessed with unique gifts and talents, and who are called to go forth as disciples of Christ.

WHAT IS THE AGE CUT OFF FOR STARTING KINDERGARTEN?

- According to the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) state law, your child must be five years old by September 30th to begin Kindergarten at St. Gabriel School.

WHAT TIME IS THE OFFICIAL SCHOOL DAY?

- Full-day Kindergarten: 7:50 AM to 2:30 PM

WHAT TIME CAN STUDENTS ENTER THE BUILDING?

- Teacher supervision is available and doors are unlocked at 7:20AM. Students may enter the school building at this time.

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILD IS READY FOR KINDERGARTEN?

- Our goal is to work together with you to ensure that your child has a successful Kindergarten year as the foundation for all grades to follow. Research and our own experience show that children are generally ready for Kindergarten at the age of five years, even with great individual variance.



Walkathon 2019 with Mrs. Slowey



IMPORTANT DATES & INFORMATION

May be completed now:

New Student Application
www.St-GabrielSchool.org
We encourage all Learning Loft Families to complete this application process prior to January

Mid December

Tuition for following year established and shared.

February 1-11:

Learning Loft Applications reviewed and Next Steps emailed as processed.

February 14

Open Enrollment Begins for any remaining openings

March/April

Sign Up for Kindergarten Assessments sent.

TBD

Mandatory Kindergarten Assessments

August 21

Kindergarten parent & student orientation will be one day prior to school starting.

Visit website for more Information and updates :
www.St-GabrielSchool.org /
Admissions



DO THE CHILDREN WEAR GYM UNIFORMS?

- Kindergarten students do not wear gym uniforms; they will wear their regular school uniforms on gym day. They wear gym shoes to school on gym day. Girls wear shorts under their jumpers everyday.

WHAT RELATED ARTS CLASSES DO THEY ATTEND?

- Kindergarten students attend Phys Ed once a week and Technology-Media, Art, Music and Spanish, and Grizzly Explorers classes on a two week rotation.

KINDERGARTEN FAITH FORMATION

- Our Catholic faith is what sets us apart and is interwoven through each and every day with prayer, role modeling, instruction and teachable moments. Children attend Mass on Holy Days. Children's Liturgy of the Word is offered on Wednesday mornings. The students learn about the parts of the Mass, hear the Gospel, learn songs, and prepare to join the all school Mass during Lent on Wednesdays and remainder of year.

DO THEY NEED SCHOOL SUPPLIES?

- Kindergarten students will need a backpack, water bottle, and lunchbox. Virtually all school supplies will be provided.



First Day of School Opening Prayer & Blessing

CAN I VOLUNTEER IN THE CLASSROOM?

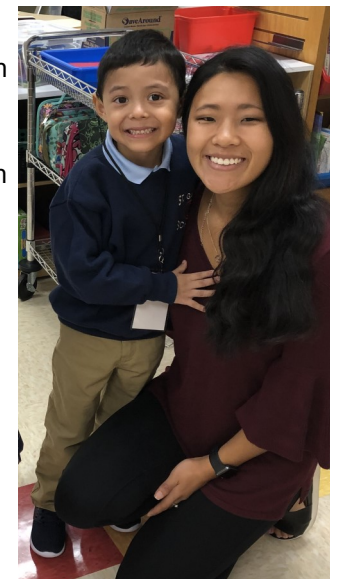
- There are a number of volunteer opportunities to be involved with your child's experience at St. Gabriel School. Needs ranging from lunch room aides and field trip chaperones will be communicated by your child's teacher throughout the year. In order to protect our children, **all volunteers must fully complete a VIRTUS training and BCI/FBI background check BEFORE volunteering.** VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" is an education, safety and prevention program required by the Diocese of Cleveland for all employees and volunteers. A schedule for VIRTUS training and fingerprinting sessions will be available on parish website.



- We adhere to the ODE state law as mentioned above, that sets the requirement that a child be five years old by September 30.
- We share the goal of setting your student up for success. Kindergarten assessments are conducted in late spring to identify your student's starting point for learning, allowing for classroom differentiation. Additionally, it allows us to uncover any potential concerns. No preparation is required for this one hour session. The Kindergarten teachers and school staff facilitate the process easing your student through the assessment. A sign up link is forwarded via the **Next Steps** email to parents for scheduling. Parents are invited to stay in our hospitality room during the assessment time or may elect to drop off and pick up. Results will be compiled and in turn are mailed to parents directly.

WHAT IS THE KINDERGARTEN TIMELINE FROM THIS POINT?

- Applications for the upcoming school year can be accessed on the school's website at www.St-GabrielSchool.org. Applications accepted at any time with a target deadline of February 1st.
- You will be notified of your child's acceptance with a **Next Steps** email for the upcoming school year by mid to late April. The **Next Steps** email will have important Kindergarten information and sign up for Kindergarten Assessment appointment in late May.
- One day in late August, close to the start of school, there will be a fun Kindergarten Orientation Morning. All students and parents will be invited to meet their new teachers, classmates and other parents before the new year starts.



First Day of School with Ms. Myers 2019



IS TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED?

- Mentor, Painesville City and Riverside School Districts provide bus transportation to most areas surrounding St. Gabriel School. We make every attempt to ensure a smooth communication process with the transportation services at school districts, however, we do not have any control over their bus routes. During the current school year, Mentor, Painesville, and Riverside provide transportation to and from full-day Kindergarten, however, bus routes are subject to change each year. Mentor SD requires a transportation request be filled out. This form will be in the **Next Steps** email.

WHAT IS THE PROCEDURE IF I AM DRIVING MY CHILD TO AND FROM SCHOOL?

- Car riders will be dropped off in the (back) north side of the school—the C-9 Doors. You will follow the line of cars around the back of the building. Please make sure your child is sitting on the passenger side of the car so that the line of traffic can move quickly. There will be teachers at the door to greet them and make sure they know how to get to their classroom. Please practice taking the seatbelt on and off to make this transition smooth and comfortable.
- At dismissal, car riders will be dismissed through doors A₃, A₄, and Kindergarten Doors near playground based on their last name. Parents must park and wait in or next to their cars until all buses have cleared the parking lot. Parents will be motioned when to line up to meet their child at the door. After School Grizzly Cub Care (optional after care—see below) students will be escorted to their assigned classroom after car riders leave.

WHAT IS THE OPTIONAL AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM AVAILABLE?

- We are pleased to offer our Grizzly Cub Care program.
- Cub Care is staffed by school teachers and aides from 2:30-6:00 PM to provide care, supervision, recreation and education for St. Gabriel students in grades Kindergarten through 6th. Snack is provided.
After an annual family registration fee, parents pay an hourly fee per child to use the service after school. Registration can be found online.
- The program is open for the vast majority of days—please see calendar for days closed (usually corresponding to breaks and special events). Students are picked up anytime at or before 6 PM



DO THE CHILDREN GET A SNACK OR WATER BREAK DURING THE SCHOOL DAY?

- Yes, the children have a snack break every day in Kindergarten. The snack is provided by the school (parents pay a snack & supply fee at the start of the year). Children bring a water bottle to school each day, and there is also a bottle filling station available.

WHAT IS THE KINDERGARTEN UNIFORM POLICY?

- Girls: light blue blouses with jumpers or khaki slacks; navy sweaters or sweatshirt with St. Gabriel logo (optional); shorts under jumper required.
- Boys: Light blue knit polo shirts with khaki slacks with belt; navy sweater or sweatshirt with St. Gabriel School logo (optional).
- Refer to the Schoolbelles Buying Guide (www.schoolbelles.com)
- Girls and Boys: Athletic shoes may be worn. Sandals, high top sneakers, boots or slippers are not permitted. Socks must be worn. Refer to shoe guide on website for detailed parameters.
- St. Gabriel logo sweatshirts can be purchased through the SGS Parent Teacher Union (PTU) throughout the school year. There is an online ordering link on school website under Parent Info tab.
- PTU sponsors a used uniform giveaway throughout the year—watch the church bulletin and e-communications for further details.

WHAT ARE THE LUNCH PROGRAM PROCEDURES?

- The children start out the school year by packing a lunch every day and eating in the cafeteria. The children may purchase milk. When lunch room routines are learned, students may partake in the hot lunch program. At that time, children may buy lunches and the children will learn how to go through the lunch line. You may put money in your child's lunch account through our online payment program or simply send a check made out to St. Gabriel in labeled envelope for lunch. Kindergarten children are not permitted to purchase from the a la carte menu when available.

