



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL OF PISCATAWAY

13407 Piscataway Road, Clinton, MD 20735
www.StMarysPiscataway.org
(301) 292-2522

March 9, 2021

Dear St. Mary's Family,

Thank you all for assistance with completing the survey gauging your interest in returning to a hybrid school environment in the fourth quarter. We are committed to making sure all of our students are receiving everything that they need to be successful. This year has not been easy, but I am constantly amazed at the resilience of the students and the faculty and staff.

As we look towards the future, we do want to offer a hybrid option for the remainder of the 2020-21 academic year for those families who would like to send their children back. Each class will have a maximum of 6 students allowed in each class, with the exception of pre-kindergarten and eighth grade. This hybrid option will have students in the school building two days a week (Tuesdays and Thursdays). The other three days will be virtual learning. Parents may also opt for their children to remain in a virtual environment all 5 days a week.

Please read below carefully for details on how the hybrid option will work. We want you to make the most informed choice for you and your family:

Kindergarten-Eighth Grade:

- Students will come to school in their regular class day uniform to be purchased from Carousel in Waldorf, MD. Pre-Kindergarten students will wear PE uniforms. All other students will not be wearing PE uniforms.
- Students should come to school with a fully charged device each morning.
- Drop off will begin promptly at 8:00 am and pick up will be at 2:30 pm.
- Students will wear masks the entirety of the school day. The only exception will be while they are eating their lunch or drinking from their water bottle.
- Lunch will be in the classrooms.
- Students should have things in their lunches that they can open independently without assistance.
- No items will be heated up for students.
- Teachers will maintain social distancing during their instruction and throughout the day.
- All students (in-person and virtual) will still be logging in and participating in their Google Meet classes. Students will be navigating independently.
- No one-on-one instruction.
- Students will not be turning in physical papers. Papers completed during the school day will still be uploaded to Google Classroom when students get home.

St. Mary's School, rooted in Christ, supports the development of students, their families, and the community. Building on our tradition of excellence, we continue to grow in faith, knowledge and love by recognizing the worth and dignity of each individual as a child of God.



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL OF PISCATAWAY

13407 Piscataway Road, Clinton, MD 20735
www.StMarysPiscataway.org
(301) 292-2522

Prekindergarten:

Half of the students will be assigned to Group A, which will come in for live instruction on Mondays and Tuesdays. The other half will be assigned to Group B, which will come in for live instruction on Thursdays and Fridays. On days students are not in the school building, they will be learning at home virtually.

- Students will come to school in their full uniform (PE uniform) to be purchased from Carousel in Waldorf, MD.
- Students should NOT bring their devices to class. While Mrs. True is on with virtual learners, in school learners will be working on table activities with Ms. Pat.
- Drop off will begin promptly at 8:00 am and pick up will be at 12:00 pm.
- Students will wear masks and a shield the entirety of the school day.
- Parents/visitors will not be permitted in the school building at this time.

Please work with your children to stress the importance of following CDC guidelines concerning social distancing. Students need to be able to wear their mask correctly for a prolonged amount of time and stay 6 feet away from all others at all times. Students who are unable to comply with these regulations will need to continue to learn virtually. If your child will be coming back, please practice wearing masks and socially distancing for an extended period of time.

Daily Procedures (All hybrid students):

- Parents will complete a health screening daily on Google Forms by 7:30 am. PK parents have an additional verbal questionnaire to answer at the door.
- Students will have their temperature taken at the entrance (any student with a temperature at or above 100.3 degrees will not be allowed to come into the building for in person learning). Students in grades 4-8 will enter the building via the Parish Hall. Students in grades K-3 will enter the building via the main entrance. Students in PK will enter through their classroom.
- Students will go directly to their classroom. Each student will have a designated area in their classroom where they will learn. Students in eighth grade will learn in the Parish Hall. Students will have their materials in a storage crate/container that they will keep with them at their desk. Lockers and coat closets will not be used.
- Students will not be allowed to use the water fountains. Please send the students to school with water bottles for the school day.
- Unfortunately, at this time we will not be offering Before and Aftercare.



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL OF PISCATAWAY

13407 Piscataway Road, Clinton, MD 20735
www.StMarysPiscataway.org
(301) 292-2522

Students need daily:

- Students will be asked to provide a “milk crate/storage container” for under their desk to place belongings.
- A fully charged device and charger. (grades K-8)
- Headphones (grades K-8)
- All books and materials that they will need for the day.
 - Teachers will send a list of what materials will be needed home weekly.
- Water bottles
- Appropriately fitting mask (they should have an extra mask as well)
 - Mask guidance from the CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/effective-masks.html>
- Personal Hand sanitizer or antibacterial wipes
- Face shield (mandatory for PK/optional for grades K-8)
- A box of tissues
- A change of clothes for accidents (PK and Kindergarten only)

The comprehensive plan that accompanies this letter is attached to this email. The plan contains cleaning protocols and more details to procedures. This letter just includes a snapshot of the programs offered with commonly asked questions/concerns.

Families will receive one more survey to confirm their participation in the hybrid vs. virtual learning programs. That survey is due no later than Friday, March 19, 2021 at 3:00 pm. At that time, any students who are not enrolled in either program, will automatically be enrolled in virtual learning for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. We are unable to accommodate switching you to in person learning once you have chosen virtual learning for the fourth quarter of the 2020-2021 school year.

We will be hosting a question-and-answer session to answer as many questions as possible on Monday, March 15, 2021 at 6:30 pm. The Zoom information will be located in the body of this email.

Thank you all for your support as we navigate this pandemic together.

Your servant in Christ,

Lysie K. Reavis
Principal

St. Mary's School, rooted in Christ, supports the development of students, their families, and the community. Building on our tradition of excellence, we continue to grow in faith, knowledge and love by recognizing the worth and dignity of each individual as a child of God.