



MATER DEI

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

2018 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON
SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

Mary, May We Be A Reflection Of Your Hope And Peace

August 28, 2020

Dear Parents,

Good afternoon! The reopening of Mater Dei Catholic School is around the corner. The excitement is growing as the faculty and staff continue to prepare to welcome your beautiful children to a new year! Now that all our families have chosen their instructional model, we are preparing the class lists, finalizing schedules, spacing desks 6' apart, testing cameras and microphones to prepare for our students who will be joining us in-person, and for our students who will be participating in eLearning program.

We want to remind you that all the summer President/Principal's Pens may be found on the MD website under the ***Task Force for Health and Safety 2020*** along with the ***Mater Dei Health and Safety Plan***. This is the seventh President/Principal's Pen since July 1, 2020. Each Pen contains information you need to know about the opening of school.

Supplies and Emergency Boxes or Bags

During one of the Zoom meetings, a parent asked us about the possibility of dropping off classroom supplies that teachers requested as well as the students' emergency bags or boxes. Information regarding the Emergency Box or Bag and the teachers' supply wishes can be found on the Stationery Lists on the [website](#). On Tuesday, September 8th, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, you are welcome to deliver these items to school. We will follow the same procedure as the spring pick-up of your children's belongings. There will be tables set up in the schoolyard by grade beginning with Pre-School and ending with Grade 8. Please enter the property off Third Street and drive through the schoolyard. The tables will be clearly marked with the grade and section. We ask you to step out of the car and put your supplies on the table of your child/children's grade and section. We request that you put your child's name on the supplies and the Emergency Box or Bag.

eLearning Schedule and Materials Pick-Up

We are currently completing eLearning schedules and other important information for our families who have chosen virtual learning. There are several important aspects we want to share with you today.

We will launch Mater Dei's eLearning Program Monday, September 14, 2020, beginning at 8:45 AM. You will receive detailed information, including all eLearning expectations, by the end of next week. Parents are invited to pick-up textbooks and iPads on Tuesday, September 8, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. We ask you to enter the property off Lansdale Avenue and pull around to the front of the school. There will be volunteers to greet you, and they will take your name, bring your family's books and iPads to your car.

Mater Dei Health and Safety Plan 2020

The Task Force is in the process of updating the *Mater Dei Health and Safety Plan*. We will post the revised version prior to the start of school. We will notify you when the document is posted for your review. Any changes or clarifications will be indicated in red for your easy access. You can expect very few changes from the original document.

Again, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the members of the Task Force for all they have done over the past several months.

Holy Hour

The faculty and staff of Mater Dei Catholic School will participate in two professional development days next week. After a summer of doing our very best to prepare for the safe return of our children, preparing a detailed Health and Safety Plan of new policies and procedures, organizing 9 Zoom meetings to meet with hundreds of parents to share the plan and answer your questions, preparing classrooms to meet the new requirements, and making adjustments to the building to ensure the safety of our children, we truly believe that the most important thing for us to do now is to pray to our good gracious God.

To that end, the faculty and staff will be participating in a Holy Hour on Tuesday, September 1, from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM. We will gather in Saint Stanislaus Church to ask God's blessing on the 2020 - 2021 school year, to pray for the health and safety of the MD community, and to pray for the special intention of all our MD families. We will also be asking Mater Dei, Mother of God, to help us as a school community to be a reflection of her hope and peace.

Thank you for sharing the gift of your children with us. We are looking forward to seeing them, whether it will be face to face or through Zoom. It is time for us to get back together as a Mater Dei family!

Have a great weekend!

Most sincerely,

Miss Diane E. McCaughan
President

Miss Elizabeth A. Waltrich
Principal