



# MATER DEI

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL

2018 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON  
SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

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

September 3, 2020

Dear Parents,

Mater Dei Catholic School will open the doors for the 2020-2021 school year beginning Wednesday, September 9th. We have been working really hard to prepare for our children to come home after many months, and we are excited to welcome all the new students who will be joining the Mater Dei family!

### ***Important September Dates***

**Tuesday, September 8 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Lansdale Campus**

- Supply Drop Off in Schoolyard - Tables will be lined up around the schoolyard with Grade signs.
- PreK3 and PreK4 parents will pick up your child's Information Folder at the PreK table.
- A meeting for all parents who will be registering to use the CARES Program will be held at

**Tuesday, September 8 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Hatfield Campus**

- PreK 3 and PreK4 parents are welcome to drop-off their supplies at the Childcare Center. Your child's Information Folder will be at the Child Center for you to pick-up.

**Tuesday, September 8 CARES Information Meeting 7:00 PM**

- An Information Meeting for parents who will be registering their child or children for our CARES Program will be held on Tuesday, September 8 at 7:00 PM through a Zoom meeting. We will review the newest policies and procedures as outlined in the Mater Dei Health and Safety Plan. To receive a Zoom link invitation to this meeting, please [click here](#) to register.

**Lansdale Campus - First Week of School Schedule for PreK to Grade 8**

- Wednesday, September 9
  - First Day of School for Grades 4 to Grade 8
- Thursday, September 10
  - First Day of School for Kindergarten to Grade 3
- Friday, September 11
  - First Day of School for PreK3 and PreK4

**Please Note: Your child will only attend school one day next week, as the schedule indicates. We are having this scattered opening to allow time for the students to become familiar with the new policies and procedures outlined in the *Mater Dei Health and Safety Plan*.**

### **Hatfield Campus - First Week of School Schedule for PreK3 and PreK4**

- PreK3 and PreK4's first day of school will be Wednesday, September 9th.
- The students will have school:
  - Wednesday, September 9 (for 3 and 5 day programs at Hatfield)
  - Thursday, September 10 (for 5 day programs at Hatfield)
  - Friday, September 11 (for 3 and 5 day programs at Hatfield)

### **Kindergarten - Back to School Night Wednesday, September 9, 7:00 PM**

Kindergarten Back to School Night will be on Wednesday, September 9, at 7:00 PM via Zoom. You will receive the invitation to the Zoom meeting Wednesday morning. This will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher and explore what the life of a kindergartner looks like at Mater Dei. The faculty will provide all the necessary information you need to know about the first day of school.

### **PreK3 and PreK4 Hatfield and Lansdale Campuses Back to School Night Thursday, September 10 7:00 PM**

Back to School Night for the Mater Dei PreK Program will be Thursday, September 10. This is the night before the PreK's first day of school at the Lansdale Campus. The PreK faculty will introduce themselves to you, and they are excited to share our amazing PreK Program with you. You will receive a Zoom invitation for the meeting early Thursday morning. We are looking forward to meeting you on the Zoom call Thursday at 7:00 PM.

### **eLearning Program Information**

***eLearning Materials: Due to the delay in receiving the iPads needed to expand our one to one program to all students in PreK3 through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, eLearning materials will be ready for pick-up on Friday, September 11 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. Please note this new date.***

### **Welcome to eLearning Conferences**

In order to prepare students and families for eLearning, homeroom teachers will be holding conferences via Zoom on **Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>**, and **Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>**. This will allow teachers to introduce themselves to your child and welcome each student to the new school year. Please review the SignUpGenius below and select your child's teacher to schedule your conference. When registering, we ask

that you provide an email address, and you will be sent a Zoom link invitation to the conference. [CLICK LINK HERE WITH DIRECTIONS FOR SIGNUPGENIUS.](#)

### **Art Supplies for eLearning Students in K to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

- Due to the new safety procedures outlined in the Health and Safety Plan, we needed to make many adjustments to how we are able to continue to provide engaging experiences for your child. Miss Corkery has spent a great deal of time figuring out ways for students to experience Art class virtually. It would be helpful if students in our eLearning program had access to the materials on the list provided to be able to participate in Art class alongside their classmates via Zoom. Please see the [Art supply list](#) that has been prepared for you. You will notice that links have been included to give you an example of the item. However, you are most welcome to purchase these items anywhere that is most convenient for you.

### **Photos of eLearning Students**

- We are committed to ensuring that all of our students feel like they are part of the Mater Dei Community, whether parents have selected an in-person or eLearning model for their child. To promote this idea within the classrooms around the building, we would like to mark the space reserved for your child in his or her classroom. To accomplish this, we ask that parents please email a picture of their child to Miss Corkery at [mcorkery@materdeicatholic.com](mailto:mcorkery@materdeicatholic.com) by **Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup>**. Please be sure the photos are from the shoulders up with a plain background behind them, such as a single color wall. In addition, if your child is in Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, it would be helpful if your child is wearing his or her school uniform. A sample picture for size and reference is below.



### **Zoom Accounts**

- Each eLearning student will have the Zoom app loaded onto their Mater Dei issued iPad to be used to access live classroom instruction. These accounts will be created for your child with a Google account for a more straightforward sign-in process and while having the ability to participate in a Mater Dei classroom from home. Please know that we are committed to protecting the privacy of our students and teachers while also allowing students at home to participate in classroom activities. Therefore, we ask parents to refrain from taking or sharing pictures or videos of your child on a Zoom call during live instruction where other students or teachers could be identified. We appreciate your understanding of this very important matter.

The entire Mater Dei faculty and staff are most excited to welcome all of our students and families to the 2020-2021 school year. We thank all of our parents for entrusting to us your most valuable gifts and very much look forward to a bright year ahead! Be on the lookout for an email over the weekend which will include a sneak peek into our classrooms as well as featuring our dedicated teachers. Please be sure to share these videos with your children to let them know how much we are looking forward to opening our doors very soon.

With gratitude,

Miss Diane E. McCaughan  
*President*

Miss Elizabeth A. Waltrich  
*Principal*