

Dear Vicksburg Catholic School Families:

We hope you and your family are having a wonderful summer and you get in a few more fun filled events. School will be here before you know it! Listed below are very important dates and deadlines, please read very carefully so you and your children will be prepared for the 2018-2019 School Year. We look forward to seeing you very soon.

Sincerely,
Mary Arledge & Buddy Strickland

- ❑ **July 27, 2018** – Deadline for parents/guardians to complete any outstanding enrollment and business matters and turn in immunization forms, if due. **This is a friendly reminder that students on the past due list will not receive schedules/homeroom assignments and will not be able to start on the first day of school.**
 - Online enrollment forms must be completed for every student. These mandatory forms look very similar to previously submitted registration forms but also include additional information: pickup permissions, emergency contacts, sign up for after-school care programs and much more. Please check your email inbox and respond quickly. *One link per student will be emailed to your family's primary contact email address. Check your spam and junk folders if you do not receive an email by July 18th.*
 - Sign into your FACTS account to make any needed payments (<https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3G06M>). Call Customer Service (866) 441-4637 for assistance or if you have questions about your account.
- ❑ **July 30, 2018**
 - Homeroom assignments (Grades PK-6) and class schedules (Grades 7-12) will be published online via PlusPortals at 5:00pm.
 - Orientation/MacBook Pickup for SAHS 7th Graders & New Students (5:00pm – 6:30pm).
- ❑ **July 30 – August 6, 2018**
 - Very limited administrative and business office hours. Faculty, staff and administrators will be attending preparation meetings and training.
- ❑ **August 1, 2018**
 - Meet The Teachers Night – St. Francis Grades: PK, K, 1st & 2nd (6:00pm – 7:00pm)
- ❑ **August 2, 2018**
 - Meet The Teachers Night – St. Francis Grades: 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th (6:00pm – 7:00pm)
- ❑ **August 7, 2018**
 - First day of classes for 1st – 12th grades. Doors open at 7:15am. Tardy bell rings at 7:45am. Pick-up time is 2:55pm-3:15pm. Pre-K and Kindergarten will have a phase-in as announced at Orientation.
- ❑ **August 20, 2018**
 - “Back to School” - Meet The Teachers Night – St. Aloysius Grades: 7th – 12th (5:30pm – 7:30pm)

What are the school holidays and early dismissal days?

- Refer our website (www.vicksburgcatholic.org). Individual dates for holidays and other events can be viewed on the detailed calendar by clicking the “Calendar” link at the top of the home page. Navigate to “Life and VCS” and click on “Academic Calendar” for the year at-a-glance. **Please note that September 4, 2018 is now a regular attendance day. The Diocese in-service has been changed to February 4, 2019.**

What school supplies do we have to buy?

- All students, grades PK-12, may have a book bag. **Rolling book bags are not allowed!**
- Grades PK-6: Teachers purchase the needed supplies for the class. Parents pay the supply fee as part of the book/building/activity fee through their FACTS account. Students must provide own earbuds for use with iPads in the classroom. Mandatory protective covers will be purchased from school later for grades 3-6.
- Grades 7-12: Students should bring basic supplies on the first day of school such as paper, pencils, and pens. Each teacher will list required supplies on the class syllabus. Students must provide own earbuds/headphones and padded carry protection for their MacBook. Mandatory protective covers will be purchased at Orientation. A combination lock will be issued on the student’s locker. Replacement locks are \$10.

What are the uniform requirements?

- Refer our website (www.vicksburgcatholic.org). Navigate to “Life and VCS” and click on “Uniforms” for a description of the new uniform dress code along with ordering information.

When do we put money in our child’s cafeteria account for lunch and break purchases?

- A new portal will be announced soon for parents to check purchases and deposit money to student cafeteria accounts online. VCS will continue to process payments made to the school offices at 1pm each school day. Include the name and grade of the student(s) and amount to be applied to each student on your remittance. Make checks payable to VCS.
- Remaining balances from the previous school year are automatically carried forward to 2018-2019.
- Menus, price lists and additional information is on our website. Navigate to “Life and VCS” and click on “Cafeteria Services.”

When are school pictures?

- **August 16, 2018** - Bruckner Photography will be taking school pictures of all students (PK-12th grade) for ID cards and yearbooks as well as senior portraits with traditional tux/drape poses.
 - Proofs will be sent a few weeks later for ordering picture packages.
 - Student ID cards are required for game admission and making cafeteria purchases.
 - St. Aloysius students must wear their full dress/mass uniform to school on picture day.
 - Please make sure your child is present this day as the make-up day will be at the end of September.

How do I let the school know where my St. Francis child will be picked up after school?

- Parents/guardians will indicate their choices from the available options on the online enrollment forms due by July 27th, including registration for the optional After School Care Program.

When do we need a parking decal?

- St. Aloysius students who will be driving a vehicle to park on campus in the 2018-2019 school year must purchase a decal and reserved parking spot. The vehicle’s tag number, etc. must be provided. Decals are to be purchased in the St. Aloysius office according to the following schedule (9:00am – 1:00pm each day):
July 24th – Seniors Only · July 25th - Juniors & Seniors · July 26th - Sophomores, Juniors & Seniors

What about summer reading?

- Don’t forget to complete your summer reading requirements before the first day of school. Summer reading lists for Grades 2-12 and the assessment instructions are on our website.

How do I keep up with school news and information?

- The school’s website is www.vicksburgcatholic.org. Explore the site and calendar often as new information is continuously added.
- Install the VCS Mobile app on your Apple or Android smartphone. Search for Vicksburg Catholic School in the AppStore or GooglePlay. Calendar events, news items, FaceBook, Instagram and Twitter feeds are available in a convenient platform. The school can also send you push notifications.
- The school may use mass notification through SchoolMessenger, including phone calls and emails to primary and secondary addresses. All contact info is derived from student online registration/enrollment forms. Make sure to update your information on the online enrollment forms due July 27th.
- ParentPlus & StudentPlus Web Portal log-on credentials for returning students/parents continue from last school year. Username is your primary email address. You may have to reset your password if you have not logged in recently. New student activation information will be emailed by July 30th.

New faces on campus!

Welcome to VCS: St. Aloysius Teachers – Robyn Beamish and Rebecca Weeks. St. Francis Custodian – Shirley Rogers. Development Office Staff – Lindsey Bradley.