

St. Francis of

Accredited by the NEASC
Commission on
Independent Schools



Assisi School

850 Washington Street
Braintree, MA 02184
(781) 848-0842 • Fax: (781) 356-5309
www.sfab.org

We are a Catholic community of faith striving to follow Jesus, pledging each day to do our best imitating by St. Francis of Assisi as "instruments of peace." Our goal is to maintain a safe and healthy environment and to be academically prepared for this technological age.

August 2012

Dear Parent(s) and/or/Legal Guardian(s):

Greetings! I hope this letter finds you enjoying the summer break and eager awaiting another successful and rewarding school year.

On behalf of the administration and faculty at St. Francis of Assisi School, we appreciate the opportunity to serve your family in the spiritual, academic and social development of your child. Together, we are dedicated to your child and to the Christ-centered vision of our school.

I want to once again express my appreciation for such a warm welcome to SFA. I am most fortunate and honored to have been selected the principal of such an extraordinary faith-filled school community

St. Francis of Assisi School not only offers a quality Catholic education in both faith and academics, but more importantly an investment for life. Throughout this academic school year, SFA will join other Catholic schools across the nation in our celebration of our existence with the theme of Catholic School: "Raise the Standards".

Our school takes pride in its highly qualified and dedicated faculty, as well as recognizes the importance of education as being the strong partnership between the home and school. It is our belief that parents are the primary educators of their children and we seek to supplement the witness of parents and their faith communities through the education of the child. Together, our goal is to continue our mission in providing the best possible Catholic education for each student.

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At this time, I want to draw your attention to some general information needed to provide your child with things that will make life at St. Francis of Assisi a safe, healthy and pleasant experience.

General Information:

- Classes resume for grades 1 – 8 on Tuesday, September 4th. School begins at 7:50 AM. Therefore, children should arrive between 7:40-7:50 AM.
- The first four days (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday) will be early dismissals at 12:00 noon. Please provide children with a snack and juice/water.
- Starting on Monday, September 10th, school will be in full session for grades Pre-K to 8 from 7:50 AM to 2:00 PM. For those interested, hot lunch will begin.
- *Please be aware that children will be marked tardy if they arrive after 8:00 AM and this will be documented and appear on their permanent record card.*

Pre-K & Kindergarten:

Our Pre-K/ Kindergarten “Open House” will be held on Sunday, September 9th from 10:00 to 11:00 AM. It is an opportunity for the children to meet their teachers and classmates before the actual starting date, as well as parents will become acquainted with the classroom and informed of classroom/school procedures and the curriculum. Most importantly, it will make this educational milestone a family experience. Additional information will follow from the homeroom teacher. I encourage you and your family to attend the liturgy at 9:00 AM at St. Francis of Assisi Church before coming to the school. *Please note: parents must remain with their child at all times.*

Kindergarten and Pre-K5 & 3 day classes will begin on Monday, September 10th. Pre-K2 classes will begin on Tuesday, September 11th. (Please see schedule below.)

- (KF-Full Day) 7:50 AM to 2:00 PM
- Pre-Kindergarten
- P3F Full Day Program (Mon., Weds., and Fri.) 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- P3H Half Day Program (Mon., Weds., and Fri) 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon
- P2F Full Day Program (Tues. & Thurs.) 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- P2H Half Day Program (Tues. & Thurs.) 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon

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- P5F Full Day Program (Mon. – Fri.) 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- P5H Half Day Program (Mon. – Fri.) 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon

Back to School Meeting (Grades 5 – 8):

Once again this year, the middle school (grades 5 – 8) will hold their Back to School Meeting on Sunday, September 9th. Following the 10:30 AM Liturgy, parents and their grades 5-8 students are invited to the school to see the classrooms, meet the teachers, hear their expectations for the upcoming school year, and perhaps get a chance to sit in their child's desk. It will also be an opportunity to connect with other parents, sign up as a volunteer, complete a CORI form, or just stop by so we may say welcome back to SFA. We look forward to seeing each of you on this morning.

Expectation Night (Grades 1 – 4):

Our "Expectation Night" for grades 1 – 4 only will take place on Wednesday evening, September 12th at 7:00 PM. This evening will give you an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and learn of plans and curriculum for the year. Please mark your calendar and make plans now to attend the parent information meeting, as this is an important even in the life of your child and his/her teacher. We are well aware that many of our parents have more than one child; however, this format seems to work the best for all involved and accommodations will be made (for example: the teacher will repeat the presentations, as well as have a handout of expectations).

Absences:

On each day of a student's absence, parents must call the school absentee line X30 between 7:30 AM and 8:30 AM. If we do not receive a phone call from you, we will contact parents at home and work. This is also expected if a student will be late for any reason. This procedure protects your child and it is state law.

Bus Schedule:

The bus schedule will be printed in the Braintree Forum for the next two weeks.

Communication:

Every Thursday, you will receive an email blast. Your child will also bring news from school in an envelope. This will be any materials from the community, or materials that

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we were not able to email. I ask that after you read the material(s), your child returns the signed envelope to school the following day. In addition, Connect Ed communication (via telephone) will be utilized to announce meetings, open houses, special events, and no school days due to inclement weather.

Please note: SFA School has gone green and is paperless. Once again this academic school year, we will be utilizing our school's website (www.sfab.org) as a more efficient and effective communication tool by posting all of our letters, calendars, and lunch menus.

Mark Belongings:

Please put your child's name and name of the school in book bags and lunch boxes. Putting your child's name on belonging will save you money!!!

Safety Precautions:

We ask that parents **do not** park their cars in the school yard parking lot or in the Cumberland Farms' parking lot while dropping off students in the morning or waiting for them at dismissal time. Since we have limited parking, we ask that you drop off and pick up children quickly, allowing other parents a parking space.

Uniforms:

Children in grades Pre-K to 8 are required to be in full school uniform unless permission has been granted by the principal. *Please note: all students must be in uniform on the first day of school.*

Visitor(s)/Parent(s):

Visitors and parents must sign in and out at the office window. No parent or visitor may go to classrooms or other areas of the school without permission from the front office. *Remember this if for the safety of all children. No exceptions!*

Yearly Academic Calendar:

You will find the yearly academic calendar indicating vacations, no school days, and early dismissals posted on our school's website. This piece of communication will enable you to schedule your family vacations along with school vacations.

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Please note: changes may occur throughout the school year. The school administration reserves the right to make changes throughout the school year.

Extended Day Program:

Our extended day program will begin on Tuesday, September 4th. Please contact the school office for additional information. Packets will be available in the school office and on our school's website. Registrations for Pre-K and Kindergarten will take place at the Sunday "Open House." *Please note prices: 2:00 – 6:00 PM is \$20, 12:00 – 6:00 PM is \$25.*

Once again, enjoy the remaining days of summer and I am looking forward to meeting you in the very near future.

God bless,

Brian M. Cote
Principal