

**St. Jude Elementary School
Student-Parent Handbook Addendum**

Course of Study Addendum

St. Jude School offers the **core subjects** of Religion, Reading, Math, Language Art, Social Studies and Science.

We also offer weekly special classes of: Computers, Art, Music, Library, and Physical Education.

A detailed explanation of the curriculum offered can be found on the Middle States link at: www.msa-cess.org

Grading - Report Cards Addendum

Student Evaluation

The school makes available to families a variety of reports about students' progress:

*Teachers administer chapter and unit test in most subjects. Tests are usually sent home to be signed by a parent/guardian and returned to school. Other forms of assessment such as book reports or presentations may also be administered.

*An interim report is mailed home should parents/guardians need to be alerted concerning academics or behavior. This is the parents'/guardians' invitation to contact the teacher to discuss the reasons for the poor work and to discuss remedies. Additional in-between calls are not required but both teachers and parents/guardians are encouraged to communicate whenever they deem necessary.

*Report cards are issued quarterly in grades 1-8 according to the school calendar. Parents/Guardians are asked to examine the report card carefully so that strengths can be commended and signs of weakness may be detected early. Proper action can then be taken both at home and at school. Parents/Guardians are asked to sign the report card and return it each of the first three quarters so that the teacher can be sure that the parent/guardian saw the report.

Grades 1-3 receive letter grades; grades 4-8 receive number grades. Report cards reflect results of oral and written tests, class work, homework, class participation and teacher observations. Teacher comments that accompany each grade may reflect on behavior or academic effort.

*Standardized tests, viz. The Terra Nova, are administered in **March** in grades 3, 5, and 7. The In View Test of Cognitive Skills is also administered. A report of the results is sent home in the family envelope before the end of the school year. Grade 8 takes the Holy Redeemer High School placement test during the winter.

National Junior Honor Society

The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) was established to recognize outstanding middle school students. NJHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, Character and Citizenship. Any student achieving 85% or above average for any three of the last four quarters will receive an application to join during the fourth quarter of the school year.

Extra-Curricular Activities Addendum

Extra-Curricular Activities

In addition to the curriculum offered at St. Jude School, students have the opportunity to participate in extra-curricular activities according to their ability or interest. Commitment is required for each of the following:

Athletic Program - The school sponsors basketball programs for boys and girls in grades K-8.

Academic requirements are in the Sport Association by-laws. These are reviewed with the students at the beginning of the season. Students are thereafter expected to maintain satisfactory grades and to exhibit proper behavior at all times.

The importance of academic and moral development far exceeds the recognized advantages of participating in extra-curricular activities. Priorities must be set and maintained.

1. Forensics - A forensics program is available to help students in grades 5-8 develop good speaking skills beyond those learned in the classroom. After school practices are required. Diocesan competitions are held several times a year.
2. Sign Language Club - Open to students in grades 4-8, students meet every Tuesday in the Music Room at 3:00 and are dismissed from the Music Room. The moderator, Ann Papciak, is a certified teacher of persons with hearing loss. Lessons consist of American Sign Language instruction as well as performance of ASL with music.

Athletic Eligibility Addendum

Ineligibility for Interscholastic Sports and Extra-Curricular Activities

Students are ineligible for participation in any extra-curricular meetings, practices, games or competitions for a period of fifteen calendar days if they earn a d, u or a negative comment with an asterisk.

Students are ineligible for participation in any school extra-curricular meetings, practices, games or competitions for a period of 25 calendar days if they earn an f.

A notice signed by the principal and teacher will go home in the event that a student is found to be ineligible. At the end of the period of ineligibility, another signed note will go home indicating if the student has improved in work, and/or behavior and if the student is subsequently eligible again. It is possible that, if the work or behavior has not improved, the student's ineligibility will continue. Notice will also be given to the moderator/sports association chairperson.

St. Jude Uniform Policy

Uniform Schedule.

The optional summer uniform may be worn from the first day of school until October 15th and then from April 15th until the end of school. The winter uniform must be worn from October 16th until April 14th. The principal reserves the right to change the dates if the weather changes.

Optional Summer Uniform for boys or girls in grades K-8

- Khaki shorts (boys or girls), khaki skort (girls)
- Hunter green or white SJS golf shirt (**tucked in**)
- White, hunter green, or khaki ankle socks (socks must be seen)

Boys Winter Uniform for Grades K-8

- Khaki dress pants (no cargo or jean-like pants)
- Hunter green long or short sleeve polo shirt with logo for **Kindergarten ONLY**
- White long or short sleeve dress shirt (tucked in) for **grades 1-8**
- Hunter green V-neck vest with school name for **grades 1-8**
- Green/grey/gold tie **MUST** be worn by grades 4-8
- Brown or black plain buckle belt
- Solid, neutral color socks
- Brown or black leather dress shoes (NO boots, sneakers, or sneaker look alike)
- A watch, religious medal, holiday pin (week of holiday) may be worn
- Hair must be above the collar, above the eyes and ears must be seen - no fade cuts or dyes/bleaches are allowed

Girls Winter Uniform for Grades K-8

- Green plaid wrap around kilt skirt, may be worn with one pin for grades 4-8
- Green plaid jumper for grades K-3
- White, Peter Pan collar, short or long sleeve blouse for grades K-3
- White long or short sleeve Button-down Collar blouse for grades 4-8 **tucked in**
- Skirt may be no shorter than two inches above the knee
- Green V-neck sweater vest with school name for grades 4-8
- Optional green cardigan sweater with school logo for grades K-3
- Khaki slacks -NO Skinny pants/jeans. White blouse and green sweater vest must be worn with the slack option.

- Hunter green knee socks or tights
- Dress shoes: black, rubber sole. Beige/brown Sperry is an option but they MUST be plain. NO sparkles, colors, etc. Flynn O'Hara does sell the Sperry shoes. Remember NO boots, sneakers, clogs or crocs may be worn.
- Brown or black belt for slacks
- Clear or pale pink nail polish is allowed
- No make-up is allowed
- No fad cuts or dyes/bleaches are permitted
- No hairspray may be brought to school
- One pair of earrings, a watch, one bracelet, one necklace and one holiday pin (worn the week of the holiday) may be worn
- No dangling earrings are permitted

A simple headband or bow is permitted. NO bandanas, or animal like headbands permitted

Pre- K Students will wear the gym uniform as listed below.

Gym Uniforms (worn to school on gym day)

- St. Jude t-shirt or sweatshirt (no hoodies except for St. Jude Sport)
- St. Jude hunter green shorts (during summer uniform time) or sweatpants
- White ankle socks
- Sneakers

Discipline

St. Jude School adheres to the Discipline Policy set forth by the Scranton Diocese. Please refer to pages 13-16 of the Diocesan Student/Parent Handbook.

Communication Envelope

Regular communication is essential to an effective partnership. To facilitate that communication between school and home, a large family envelope is sent home weekly. It may contain information from the administration, teachers, PTG, Sports Association, cafeteria, etc.

Parents/Guardians are asked to 1) empty the contents, 2) read them over promptly, 3) sign and date the envelope and 4) return it to school the next day. They are welcome to send communication in the envelope.

If an envelope is lost or in bad condition, a family must send in \$.50 for a new one. No further information will be sent home until a new envelope is purchased. Since communication is so important, families are requested to purchase replacements promptly.