

Memo to Families ~ Please read

As we are a little more than halfway through our summer session, we wanted to remind you of some important points to keep in mind for the rest of the week:

- ⇒ **Arrival and Dismissal:** We have almost 200 children in the Summer Program, and a very busy parking lot. We, as staff, observe our children coming and going each day and feel that the following procedures are imperative for ensuring the safety and well-being of each child. Please note the following:
 - **Arrival**
 - Grades 1st through 4th: Children **must** be walked into the auditorium by an adult.
 - Grades 5th through 8th: Children are permitted to walk into the auditorium by themselves.
 - **Dismissal**
 - ALL grades: All students must be picked up in the auditorium by an adult.
 - If someone else other than a parent will be picking up a student, we will need to have this noted in writing by the parent. It is *very important* that our volunteers are aware of who is permitted by the parent to pick up, and our procedure and policy is absolutely standard for programs involving children. We cannot assume for any reason that an adult not on that list is permitted by you to pick up.

Please know that these procedures are in place for one reason: to keep your child safe. Because this is of the utmost importance to us, following these directives is mandatory for inclusion in this program. We know that parents appreciate the intent and purpose of these policies, and we appreciate your patience as following them does require additional time and patience on everyone's part.

- ⇒ **Dress Code:** Please observe the dress code as stated in our handbook and reiterated in the letter that went home this summer. The main issue we are seeing is children coming to class in flip flops. Unfortunately as per past experience, we know that children can easily trip and fall and hurt themselves as they are going up and down stairs, walking to Mass etc. while wearing flip flops. From this point forward, parents will be called to come and bring a change of clothes/shoes if a child is not within the dress code guidelines.
- ⇒ **Calendar:** We will be sending home our calendar with sacrament dates etc. this week. It will also be on the web site under the Summer Program page here, which is where you can also find other pertinent information and news: <https://parishofsacredheart.org/summer-program>

The points above are important, but I think it is just as important to let you know how well the children are doing in our summer session. Father John and I have been so impressed with their reverence and participation in Mass especially! Our regular "daily Mass people" have commented on this as well. ☺ I also want to thank all of you for your commitment to this program, which is clear from the excellent attendance and observance of our policies and procedures demonstrated each day by our children and families.

Finally, I want to thank our catechists and volunteers for their commitment to the Summer Program – without them, Sacred Heart simply could not offer it. They give up so much time and effort to our children, and our catechists especially work hard both inside and outside the classroom to make their classes engaging, enriching and fun for their students. We deeply appreciate what they bring to Sacred Heart, and their generosity in offering their time and talent to our program.

As always, if you have any questions as we go through our second week, please let me or Mrs. Raimondi know. Thank you and we hope all of the children have a wonderful second week!

Mrs. Jessica Donohue – Director of Religious Education