

# ¿Qué Pasa? / What's Up?

Family Bulletin #2

[www.saintelizabeth.us](http://www.saintelizabeth.us) "Photo Gallery"

August 31, 2017

## Dear Families,

Here is a little prayer I try to say every morning when I invite the Lord to be with me for the day:

Lord, I offer you this day,  
all I think and do and say.  
Uniting it with what was done  
on earth by Jesus Christ your Son.  
Amen.

Thank you so much for attending Back to School Night! Since we prepare this newsletter on Mondays, please know that I appreciate all the parents who came to learn about your children's education programs this year. I am grateful for the very warm welcome I have received at St. Elizabeth School! I am delighted to see students in their proper uniforms and treating each other with friendship and respect and to see so many parents involved and supportive of our school rules.

As I stated yesterday at Back to School Night, this is an important year for our school! We have new and wonderful staff, we are blest to be part of the new Diocesan network of schools, which begins next year, and, so importantly, we are so blest as we welcome new students and families into our St. Elizabeth family!!

As your principal, please know that I am committed to working with you to provide a safe, enriching and respectful environment for all--our parents, teachers and staff, and students. In this holy work of educating God's children, we all must come together. All are called to be our "best selves" and to do everything we can to support one another to build up our school. I look forward to getting to know each person in our community in the coming year.

## Prayers, Please!

Please keep Mrs. Alma Morales in your prayers. Ms. Morales worked in Admissions/ Office Assistant in our front office at St. Elizabeth School, and an important part of our school community for many years. She is currently experiencing serious health issues. We ask our loving God to provide strength and comfort to her at this difficult time. If anyone would like to send a card to the office, we will be happy to see that they are delivered to her.

## Traffic Notes

Please drop off your children after 7:30 AM on the 34th Avenue side of the school, NOT on the residential side on 33rd Avenue. Our neighbors have to be able to access their driveways at all times. Please let's be good neighbors and not double park/drop off on that side of the school.

When you drop off on 34th, please use the crosswalk and obey all regular traffic rules! Driving on the wrong side of the street, double parking, and telling your child to run across the street through traffic, even stopped traffic, is DANGEROUS to everyone around you, including your own child/ren. If you need more time for dropoff, you might leave a little earlier to allow for the time needed for safety. We don't want one of our precious children to get hurt to teach us to be safe. SAFETY FIRST!

## First Round of Testing Almost Complete!

We are in the process of administering the Star tests to our K-8 students to establish benchmark scores to mark the beginning of the school year. This testing is not part of their report card, but helps us track progress and determine areas of academic strengths and challenges to work on. This testing will be repeated at intervals throughout the year to assess progress. Results of this benchmark testing will be shared with you at Parent-Teacher conferences in October.

## Academics

Please be sure your child completes any and all homework assignments and spends at least 15-20 minutes reading each night. For our youngest students, this could mean reading to them or looking at picture books and talking about the pictures. This can be done in either English or Spanish—just keep them reading!!!

## Routines, Schedules, and Uniforms

Now is the most important time of the school year to set up positive routines and to organize your schedules. It is so important to get your children to school on time, with a nutritious snack and lunch, and to get them off to a good start by making sure they are in complete uniform. We understand that Dennis Uniform has been behind filling our orders, so we are allowing a little extra time for those items to come into stock for some of our families. Overall, our students have started off wonderfully with their uniforms. Be sure to mark your child's name on his/her sweaters, fleece jackets, and all of their school supplies. This helps alleviate confusion over matching clothes and supplies. Thank you for your cooperation and support. **On Tuesday, we will start working on keeping uniform shirts tucked in!**

## Yearly Asbestos Notification

We are required by the Diocese of Oakland to inform our parents of the presence of asbestos in our school building and to assure you that any work done involving asbestos is done according to diocesan and EPA guidelines. There is asbestos in the tiles of the flooring in the school building, but it is covered and in good condition. No work involving any areas containing asbestos was done in the past year.

**Safe Environment for Children Program**

It is our year for all parents, teachers, and volunteers to be certified/recertified in our Safe Environment for Children Program. This is a diocesan-mandated program that helps assure that our school communities are as safe as possible and that we all know the signs for potential abuse so that we may work together to keep our children safe. The training online may be completed by logging onto [virtusonline.org](http://virtusonline.org). Once completed please print out the certificate and give to the office. In addition, beginning this year, volunteers and parents must be fingerprinted in order to help in the classrooms, attend field trips, and work in any capacity on campus or where children are present. More information to come.

**Reminders**

Sept 1<sup>st</sup> Noon Dismissal

Sept 4<sup>th</sup> No School- Labor Day

Sept 5<sup>th</sup> Mother Pia Program Begins

Sept 17<sup>th</sup> Family Mass 10am

Sept 24<sup>th</sup> Parish Festival