

Important Dates:

8/31 Walk Through Day
9/1 Walk Through Day
9/2 1st day A-K
9/3 1st day L-Z
9/4 All Students

Absent/Tardy: 347-2231
Preschool Absent: 347-4450
Early Dismissal: note to teacher
Aftercare: 371-0371

Visitation Family,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 School Year! Welcome all families, whether this is your first year or your eighth year! My name is Mrs. Holly Aug and I am the principal here at Our Lady of the Visitation. This year we have 770 students including our first class of Preschoolers! This is my fourth year as the principal of Our Lady of the Visitation! Our staff is ready and eager to help your child through the learning process this year. A newsletter will be sent out through Rediker each Wednesday once school starts. You may want to keep today's letter handy as it has a great deal of information in it about the first days of school.

Monday and Tuesday are Walkthrough Days for all students from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Students in all grades K through 8th grade can visit school with an adult and walk through the building. Preschool will follow their guidelines. If you have student supplies, you can bring those into your homeroom as well. The idea is for students to visit the school, a place they have not seen in months. That way they will feel comfortable returning. **You must sign up for a specific time for the Walk-Through Days.** Attached is the link to sign up for walkthroughs. Preschool received their sign ups in a separate email. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d45afaf2aa2f85-classroom1>

The new Thirsty Cards for cafeteria drink purchases can be purchased in the cafeteria on Monday and Tuesday from 9 to Noon. They can also be purchased through school daily. See the attachment on the cafeteria.

Staggered Start Days:

Only students with last names A thru K will begin on Wednesday, September 2nd. Only students with last names L thru Z will begin on Thursday, September 3rd. Please have students in homerooms by 8:15 a.m. They are tardy at 8:18 a.m. A homeroom teacher may have contacted you to switch days to allow for appropriate amounts of students on each day. Your child will attend only one of those first two days. All students will report to school on Friday, September 4th. It is recommended that you send and pick up your child in the normal way that they will be transported on those first days. It helps create routine from the start. Please take all of your first day pictures at home. When possible, we do NOT want parents in the building.

Carpool:

Scroll down to see the bottom of this webpage to see the videos explaining our carpool procedures. <https://olvisitation.org/school/Visi-Vitals/CarPool>

- If you have **only a kindergarten student for pickup** (no other grades), you can pick them up at the bell tower near church at 2:50 p.m. Please let your child's homeroom teacher know if you are choosing this option.
- If you have a preschooler and someone in the main building, pick up the preschooler first, then proceed to the main building for the carpool. Kindergarteners can be released with preschoolers if you have one in the family. Please let your child's homeroom teacher know.

New to Visitation or a Program? Don't know where the new Nurse's Office is?

Please see the attached video, to see locations of Carpool /Before Care/After Care/ bus riders arrival/ Nurse's office new location. [Orientation Video](#)

We will have extra staff members on duty at carpool and bus dropoff to help new students find their way to their homerooms.

Before care:

Park in the Werk Road parking lot. Your child should enter using the back auditorium doors next to the canteen. Before care begins at 7:20 a.m. Your child may pack a small hand held breakfast and drink. The cost for before care is \$50.00 a semester or \$100.00 for the year. The first payment is due

September 11th. Please write a check payable to Visitation and put it in an envelope marked Before Care. If you need before care services, please use the link below to register before school starts:

<https://forms.gle/VhumUzvnmhHuzF3vFA>

Mass:

Grade levels will take turns attending mass each week. The others will watch remotely from their classrooms. Once we have enough Eucharistic Ministers trained, we will allow all eligible students to receive the Eucharist on Tuesdays, whether they are present in church or not.

Attendance:

Please put the attendance numbers in your cell phone. A parent MUST call a child in sick or tardy by 8:30 a.m. You are tardy if you are not in your homeroom by 8:18 a.m.

- **K-8: 347-2231**
- **Preschool: 347-4450**

Meet the Teacher Night:

This will be virtual this year. Teachers will send out a video introducing themselves and their subject areas. Eventually, our website will have quick introductions on it as well.

Lunch/Cafeteria:

There is NO hot lunch program to begin the year. Students must bring a packed lunch every day. If a student forgets their lunch, box lunches will be available for purchase in the cafeteria and issued a charge.

Milk/water can be purchased with our new "Thirsty Card". Each drink item is \$.50. A Thirsty Card can be purchased for \$10 and then punched at school with each use. See attached cafeteria flyer for more details. Thirsty cards will be on sale in the cafeteria on Monday, Aug. 31st and Tuesday, Sept. 1st from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Checks made payable to Our Lady of the Visitation or cash.

Students will be eating in the cafeteria or in the homeroom, taking turns. They are spread @ 6 ft. to allow for mask removal in both situations. Only students eating in the cafeteria can purchase ice cream/snacks. All students can purchase milk/water. Each homeroom teacher will provide a rotation for the students so they know when they are eating in the cafeteria. Preschool student will eat in their building every day.

Mask Guidelines:

1. Cloth Mask Covering - Neck Gaiters are acceptable.
2. Clear shields alone are not allowed. They would have to be worn with a cloth face mask.
3. Masks need to have small print, solids, stripes. Masks may not have large mouths, single animal faces, scary faces, or writing on them.
4. Students should be shown proper removal of masks by using straps.
5. Bobby pins can be used to lift straps up off the ears if irritated.
6. Lanyards can be used to hold masks at lunch, etc. There are also some necklace type items that are shorter than some are purchasing. Lanyards are NOT required. Please make sure names/initials get put on lanyards.
7. Masks are required for students in K-8.
8. All staff should wear masks. Clear shields may be worn by staff when a facial expression is needed to teach a lesson. Ex. Spanish, phonemes, a quick smile or drama for effect, etc. These should be exceptions, not the norm.
9. Mask breaks guidelines for each grade level will be provided by the teacher. All students should not have masks off at the same time other than lunch.
10. Both students and staff are encouraged to change masks as needed.
11. Students will wear masks during recess.

Personal Hand Individual Sanitizers:

Students do not need these. However, many feel more comfortable with them. Due to the number of students/staff with respiratory sensitivities to the scents, we are asking for unscented sanitizers.

Water Bottles:

Water bottles need to be a plastic bottle where the liquid can be seen and there is some kind of sippy lid on top. We recommend using a new, clean sock for the bottle to avoid sweating on the desk. No Yetis, Contiga metal bottles, etc. The water fountain mouthpiece has been disabled. Students who do not have a water bottle can purchase one or will be given a plastic up to use for the day.

Hair Styles:

All hair must be natural in color. No mohawks, fades, shaved emblems, etc. All hair must be out of the face without having to push it back regularly. No distracting hair styles.

Morning Drop-Off:

All students can be dropped off beginning at 7:45 a.m. Please do not drop off students unless you know the student was able to get in the building. The building is locked until 7:45 a.m. Students will report directly to their homerooms. Students are tardy at **8:18 a.m.** Preschool and kindergarten students get dropped off at their building located underneath the church. Kindergarteners who ride the bus will go to the MPR where an adult will walk them to class.

IF you, the driver, needs to get out of the car to help open the trunk, unbuckle a child, carry in a project or birthday treat, PLEASE PULL TO THE CENTER OF THE LOT. Do not back up the traffic. Please pull as far forward in line to the end of the library building to get more cars off of South Road.

Aftercare:

Pick up your students in the MPR by 6:00 p.m.

Afternoon Pickup:

We believe Carpool is going to be more crowded this year. Many parents are avoiding the bus due to Covid. Cars park in single file lines facing the baseball field at Werk and South Rds. Carpool #1 (turning right) lines up near the building in rows and is dismissed at 2:55 p.m. Carpool #2 (turning left) lines up near South Road in rows and is dismissed at 3:10 p.m. Parents should come out of their cars and flag down their children. Once it looks like most everyone is in their cars, we will begin dismissing one row at a time. Your line should not begin going unless a staff member guides you to go. Please share this information with grandparents, babysitters, etc. **Please do not come too early for Carpool #2 as there won't be enough room in the parking lot.**

Bus Riders:

Please contact your local district transportation department for guidelines on the bus.

- Three Rivers: 467-3215
- Oak Hills: 574-2950

8th Grade Shadow Days:

No shadows are allowed until October in any Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese. Plans for shadow days are published on individual high school websites. The recommended shadow days are October 16th and November 3rd as these are off days.

Air Conditioning:

Yes, it is really happening! Currently Preschool, Kindergarten, 1st and 5th grades have air conditioning. We hope to have 2nd and 3rd completed soon. Other grades will be added soon as well. If anyone would like to write a thank you note to the donor (students will be writing some in school), please just mark it A/C donor and send it through school. A huge thank you to those who are helping with installation as well!!! If you want to write a letter to the install crew, just mark it install crew! Your child's homeroom teacher can collect the thank you notes.

Covid:

Our school will be following the advice of the Hamilton County Public Health Dept.(HCPHD) and other agencies (American Academy of Pediatrics, Children's Hospital, CDC, etc.) for Covid related issues. Whether you agree or not with them, schools are given guidelines to follow, just as many places of business have. In addition, many of you have experienced glitches in procedures as you return to work. Please be patient as we also work out our glitches.

When we have a probable or confirmed case of Covid-19, we will be calling the HCPHD to guide us. Each school has a rep with a specific number to call. Depending on that call, the student and anyone within 6 feet could be asked to quarantine for 10-14 days. We can't get overly upset when this happens. Chances are that someone will have to quarantine. Our goal is to keep cases to a minimum by following many precautions and teaching the students about them as well. If you are choosing to return in person, then this risk of quarantine comes with it. It's just like lice and chicken pox...we don't always know when we are exposed until it is too late. We have to focus on keeping everyone healthy and safe. Please be responsible hand washers and mask wearers! I highly recommend your family has a plan in place for quarantining/supervision in case this happens to your children. We have to follow the Health Department guidelines as to which students need to quarantine and which parents need to be contacted.

Remote Learning:

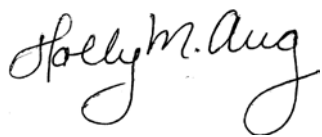
Please see the attached letter regarding remote learning for Grades K-8, if it becomes necessary.

Starting School Jitters:

Your child will follow your lead on how you are handling the return to school. If you are calm and assuring, it helps them to be calm and assuring. Pack the backpack and get the clothes laid out in advance of needing them. Know where the socks/shoes are before going to bed. Also remember, your children are listening to you. If you are saying, "What are mommy and daddy going to do tomorrow without you?" They take that as an invitation to worry about you or they think you are going to Kings Island and then out for ice cream! If you start wondering aloud about Covid, getting sick, quarantining, etc. your child will wonder as well. Acknowledge their fears, but also assure them we are all doing our best to be safe. Kids need coping skills. Don't take away their fears, help them to deal with them. The staff spent a lot of time at our In-services learning about how to handle the return to school with these students. Mentally, they have all struggled over the last five plus months. We are recognizing that and trying to meet their needs. The teachers have planned special get to know you activities for the children. We want to build relationships with them and make them feel secure and comfortable. Don't focus on what won't happen this year with your children. Focus on how they get to see their friends, go to recess and be with their teachers. Lastly, tell them there is a God who loves them and cares for them. It is vital that we instill in the children that our faith is greater than our fears.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Phil: 4: 6

Let's work together to make it a great year!



Our Lady of the Visitation

Thirsty Cards/Cafeteria

2020-2021

- Thirsty Cards can now be purchased to buy milk/water. Each card contains 20 milk and/or water purchases for \$10.
- Milk/water is available all days of the week for all students.
- Milk/water can also be purchased with cash.
- Thirsty Cards may be purchased at student Walk -Through Days, Aug. 31st and Sept. 1st from 9 to noon in the cafeteria. They are also available to be purchased through school throughout the year.
- To purchase through school, send money or check payable to Visitation Cafeteria. Include child's name and homeroom on it. Please allow 24 hours to process. It will NOT be available the day it is turned into the office. A child may want to bring money in for that day.
- Please put your child's name on The Thirsty Card immediately.
- Students will rotate turns eating in the cafeteria. When your child does not eat in the cafeteria, they will eat in their homerooms. The purpose of this rotation is to make sure your child is 6 feet away from another person.
- On days when your child is in the cafeteria, snacks, drinks and ice cream are available for purchase.
- Parents, the cafeteria in need of some additional volunteers in the cafeteria to help out with snacks, ice cream, milk and water. Pick one day a month that you feel comfortable with volunteering (ie: the first Tuesday, second Wednesday, fourth Thursday, etc.) or you may volunteer a few times a month, your help is greatly appreciated!!! We are short volunteers this year!!
- Volunteers: We will ask you to arrive on your schedule day(s) @ 10:30. Please come to the back door, there is a doorbell to ring to let you in. You are required to wear a face mask so please bring one you are comfortable wearing. I will have masks in case you forget. For now, I will still ask you to wear a hat or visor as well. Upon arrival your temperature will be taken. You may place personal belongings in the back store room and proceed to wash your hands before working.
- We are successful with our volunteers and appreciate any time you can offer.

Linda Good

lgood @olvisitation.org



August 28, 2020

Our Lady of the Visitation Families,

Our teachers have spent the summer preparing for the possibility of remote teaching and feel confident in providing the best possible education for your child. We understand that remote learning is difficult on parents and students. We have plans to make this transition as smooth as possible should it be mandated by the State or Archdiocese. As parents and team members in your child's education our teachers are hoping to work together to help students get the most of remote learning. We will do everything in our power to have the children physically in the classroom with a teacher. However, if this is not possible due to new mandates we have provided our plan for remote learning below.

Your child will be given grades during remote learning. Please talk with your child about the quality and timeliness of the work they send in. Keep communication lines open with the school, we are here to help. Please do not wait if the problem is too large.

Please be patient as we continue to find ways to make remote learning the best it can be for all students. We have purchased additional Chromebooks and technology to provide all students K-8 with a device to take home for remote learning. However, these are on backorder as the demand is high across the country. We will continue to keep you informed as things progress.

Sincerely,

Leah Cook

Assistant Principal



Remote Learning Expectations for Students and Parents

Parent Expectations:

- Keep an open and positive mind so that your child feels the same way about remote learning.
- Set a schedule for your child. Children thrive and do well on schedules. Set a time for school work, breaks, meals, etc.
- Enforce that your child is attending all live classes. Attendance will be taken. If your child cannot attend a live class, you must email the teacher and let them know before the live class so that they may be excused without attendance penalties.
- Create a distraction free environment for your child.
- Communicate with your child's teacher. Your child's teacher is your partner in your child's education. Don't wait to communicate any problems that may arise. Teachers are open to feedback.
- Check in with your child. Check that they are completing quality work on time. Ask to see their work when possible.
- Check Rediker on a weekly basis to ensure your child is completing quality work on time. (grades 4-8)
- Grades 4-8 will post missing work as zeroes in Rediker to catch student and parent attention. Your child should complete the missing work and inform the teacher when it has been completed and turned in. If there are questions about the missing work, students can email the teacher.
- In grades 6-8, students are responsible for checking their email daily. If there is an unresolved issue and/or a student is not responding to teacher communication, the teacher will reach out to the parent. However, the student will be the first line of communication as we work to foster responsibility and independence.

K-3 Student Remote Learning Expectations:

- Check student syllabus for weekly assignments.
- Complete assignments on time and always try your best.
- Student work must be turned in on time. Late or incomplete work may affect student grades.
- Attend and participate in all scheduled class meetings.

- Watch all instructional videos provided by teachers.
- Be available to attend class and complete assignments 8:30-2:40 unless a parent has communicated with your homeroom teacher a reason for your inability to do so.
- Attend live Viking social groups monthly. (These are social groups led by Visitation staff to help build student relationships and improve the mental health of our students. These small groups will meet monthly. Visitation staff will contact students to let them know when their small group is meeting.)

K-3 Class Meeting Expectations:

- Attend all class meetings on time.
- Find a quiet area where you can sit up and be attentive during class.
- Keep all toys and distractions away from the computer.
- Start the meeting with your microphone off, unless directed by the teacher.
- Keep the chat box free of any comments unless directed by the teacher.
- Participate in class discussions.
- Stay logged on for the entire class period.

4-8 Student Remote Learning Expectations:

- Check every Google Classroom page for each class daily.
- Student work must be turned in on time. Late or incomplete work will affect the grade on the assignment. Missing work will receive a zero. Work that is incomplete or poorly done will receive a zero. All work must be completed by 10pm.
- Work is to be completed **individually** using **only the resources given** by the teacher (unless a teacher indicates otherwise). This means if a teacher says to use your textbook to answer questions, you may NOT use the internet to look up answers. All work should be done using your **school issued Chromebook**.
- Students must email the teacher with any questions about assignments and give the teacher a reasonable amount of time to respond. However, please ask three other classmates for clarification before contacting your teacher.
- Attend any required meetings scheduled that day on time.
- Check student email daily.
- Check Rediker at least once a week.
- Be available to attend class and complete assignments 8:30-2:40 unless a parent has communicated with your homeroom teacher a reason for your inability to do so.
- Attend live Viking social groups monthly. (These are social groups led by Visitation staff to help build student relationships and improve the mental health of our students. These small groups will meet monthly. Visitation staff will contact students to let them know when their small group is meeting.)

4-8 Class Meeting Expectations:

- Attend all class meetings on time.
- Find a quiet area where you can sit up and be attentive during class.
- Keep phones and all distractions away from the computer.
- Start the meeting with your microphone off, unless directed by the teacher.
- Keep the chat box free of any comments unless directed by the teacher.
- Participate in class discussions.
- Stay logged on for the entire class period.

Will teachers be available during remote learning days?

The most effective way to reach teachers during this time will be through email during school hours 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Our goal is to respond within 24 hours, but we do appreciate your patience if it takes longer as we anticipate many questions, especially at the beginning of remote learning.

How will students be graded, and will my child receive a report card?

All assignments will be graded. Teachers in grades K-3 will provide feedback on assignments via platforms, rubrics, or checklists. Grades 4-8 will enter grades into Rediker weekly. Students will receive report cards at the end of each trimester.

If my child has an ISP or accommodation plan will they still be served? Will their plan still be followed?

Students will continue to receive services from intervention specialists. Plans may be adjusted in collaboration with teachers and parents to meet student needs during remote learning.

Homeroom Teachers Grades K-3

- Begin the school year teaching your students any/all platforms that you can plan to use if remote learning should happen at any point.
- Create a list of log-ins for all platforms you plan to use for each student to distribute to both students and parents.
- Send/host instructional videos or class meets daily.
- Every instructional video or meet should be recorded and posted for students to review and/or for those who could not make it to the live meeting.
- Each grade level/teacher should have a weekly organized schedule of instructional times sent to parents. Communicate any schedule changes with parents.
- Send your syllabus for the week by Monday morning for the week.
- Religion on Tuesdays is all school mass streaming live at 8:30 a.m. on the parish website. Please put the link in your plans. This counts as 45 minutes of instructional time on Tuesdays. Therefore, it should not be listed as optional work, no other work should be given in Religion.

- Post specials link in your weekly syllabus and/or on Google classroom. Remind parents that they will have one specials' activity a week.
- Create assignments that assess student growth and provide feedback to parents. (Seesaw, spelling tests, Google Forms, Reading a-z, Brainpop, Edpuzzle, digital checklist, rubrics, etc.)
- Communicate student progress with parents on a regular basis.

Grades 4-8

- Begin the school year teaching your students any/all platforms that you can plan to use if remote learning should happen at any point.
- Create a list of log-ins for all platforms you plan to use for each student to distribute to both students and parents.
- Create an online learning schedule listing what classes will be scheduled each day. Share this schedule with parents and students. Make sure you consistently stick with this schedule from week to week.
- Work as a grade level team to create a non-conflicting assessment and live teaching schedule.
- Each grade level should host/record classes on a daily basis.
- Student attendance is expected at **ALL** live meets. Parents are expected to email you if a student cannot make a live meeting.
- Every instructional video/live meet should be recorded and posted for students to review and/or for those who could not make it to the live meeting.
- Post specials link in your weekly syllabus and/or on Google classroom. Remind parents that they will have one specials' activity a week. You will use the same link every week, specials teachers will update the document as needed.
- Religion on Tuesdays is all school mass streaming live at 8:30 a.m. on the parish website. Please put the link in your plans. This counts as 45 minutes of instructional time on Tuesdays. Mass should not be listed as optional.
- Post at least one grade per subject in Rediker once a week.

Specials/Learning Specialists

- Create one Google Doc for the month for each grade with at least 1 assignment and 1 instructional video or live meet a week from one special.
- Host live Viking hour social groups at least once a month.

Auxiliary Staff:

- Set a schedule to see all students on your caseload including non ISP students.
- Stay in contact with teachers to see if students could use extra support at home.
- Follow all state guidelines regarding ISP reviews/meetings.