



**Saint Maria Goretti Catholic School**  
1200 South Davis Dr. Arlington, Texas 76013

July 18, 2017

Dear Parents:

On behalf of Saint Maria Goretti Catholic School, I would like to welcome you to our school. We are busy preparing for the 2017-2018 school year and are eagerly anticipating our halls once again being filled with joyful students and teachers.

To ensure that you are properly prepared for this coming year, you will want to visit our school website. On the Parent Information page, you will find the 2017-2018 Quick Links menu. <https://smgschool.org/support> . Here you will find several important documents

- 2017-2018 school calendar
- Summer Reading Requirements
- School supply lists
- Emergency care form (One needed for each student registered at SMG)
- Diocesan physical form (Required for new students and all athletes)
- Medical Forms
- Safe and Sacred Volunteer Training information
- School Uniform Information

Our Annual Ice Cream Social, hosted by our Home and School Association, will be held on **Friday August 11** from 5:00-8:00PM in the cafetorium. This will be an opportunity for students to sign up for the various extra-curricular activities that the school offers our students. These activities include Athletics, Clubs, Organizations, Altar Serving, Cantors, Choirs, Boy Scouts, and many more clubs and organizations. You will also be able to purchase your spirit wear and other school items such as nap mats and PE t-shirts.

We will once again have Orientation for all Students and Parents on **Sunday, August 13** from 3:00-6:00PM. *This is mandatory for all students and at least one parent.* Students should come to orientation dressed in mass uniform.

**Monday, August 14** is the first day of school for all students. The first day of school will be a noon dismissal. This is a uniform dress day. Parents are asked to park and walk their students in on the first day of school. The doors will be opened at 7:30AM. We will begin morning car line on Tuesday, August 15. We encourage those who did not pre-purchase school supplies to bring them to the ice cream social and not wait for the first day of school. This will help our teachers to be prepared for you on the first day.

The second day of school, **Tuesday, August 15** will be a mass dress day as we will be attending mass at 10:00AM as it is the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, which is a Holy Day of Obligation for all Catholics. As part of our stewardship, students are encouraged to bring a nonperishable item (i.e. a canned good) to every Mass as an offering to our Lord, and it is then given to help those in our community.

Afternoon Carline: We also ask that you park and pick-up your student(s) each afternoon of August. We will plan to begin afternoon carline in September but please know that if the heat index continues to be above 95 degrees, we will continue inside pick up until such time that it goes below 95 degrees. Over the first two weeks of school, your child will be bringing home information sheets about afternoon carline. Please take a moment to review the information and return the specific information for your child. It is very important that we receive this information as it will determine the area where your child will be sent every afternoon. Once we begin afternoon carline, Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students with no siblings will continue to be picked up on the front steps of the cafetorium. More information about carline will be sent home with your child in August.

As previously indicated, the school year calendar is located on the website for your convenience. Please remember that your child's absences from school should be due to illness or family emergency. It is important to the development of the whole child that our students miss as little school as possible. We ask that you plan family vacations when school is not in session. Excessive absences and tardies may have a negative effect on your child's ability to advance to the next grade level at Saint Maria Goretti and it will negatively impact your ability to receive financial aid. The monthly calendar is posted on school website. All future communication of updates to the school calendar will be sent via e-mail.

Our school day begins at 7:50AM and students who are not in their seats ready to begin the day at 7:50AM are considered tardy. The current school policy states that once a student reaches 10 unexcused tardies a \$5.00 fine per unexcused tardy will be assessed. We do not want to assess this fine and we ask that all of our parents work to have their children in school by the 7:40AM bell. Students who arrive after 7:50AM must report to the front office for an admission pass and will be marked "Tardy" for attendance. Morning carline for all students will begin daily at 7:25AM. Pre-kindergarten students will continue to be walked to class throughout the school year. They may be walked to class by an older sibling who also attends Saint Maria Goretti.

Families interested in using our before and/or after school care program, Saint Maria Goretti Extended Education Day ("SMEED") will want to register their child or children at either the Ice Cream Social or on the night of Orientation. A \$75.00 per student registration will be charged to each student attending SMEED for more than 3 days in a semester. This fee will be charged to your incidental FACTS account.

Lunch – Hot lunch will not begin service until the second week of school. Students should bring a lunch during the first week of school. Milk will be available starting the second day

of school and will continue to be sold by Saint Maria Goretti for 50 cents a carton. Students will give the milk attendant their name and will be limited to a maximum of three milks per day. Milk purchases will be billed to the student's FACTS incidental billing account every week. Any questions concerning the purchase of milk should be made as soon as possible. An update on the cafeteria program along with the school lunch calendar will be provided during the first week of classes.

Our school orientation is the next Mandatory event for all students and parents. We look forward to introducing our new staff to you and to getting our new year started in a wonderful way. If you should have any questions about any information included in this letter or about anything at all, please do not hesitate to call the school office. We are here Monday – Thursday from 7:30AM to 1:00PM and will return to our normal hours of 7:30 – 3:30 on August 7<sup>th</sup>. I hope that you have enjoyed your time off and are ready to face the new year ahead.

May God Bless You,

Kimberly Pierce, M.Ed.  
St. Maria Goretti Catholic School  
Principal  
817-275-5081

“Educating the Whole Child for Life.”