

Dear St. Isaac Families,

We are seven days and counting until we open our doors on Monday, August 24th. Today I'm sending the Quick Reference Guide from the Diocese of Joliet as well as the FAQs document addressing many of the questions, concerns, and procedures that will be followed.

All children are to wear a mask to school. Please choose masks that cover both the nose and mouth with no gaps and are comfortable to wear. Once the children arrive in their homerooms, they will receive washable SIJ masks. They may put on the St. Isaac's mask or choose to continue wearing the mask from home. The SIJ mask does NOT need to replace the mask from home. To me the important factor is that they wear an appropriate, well-fitting mask, not necessarily that all of the children wear the same mask.

Questions have been raised about the wearing of ties for our junior high boys. Please have your son wear his tie but I teachers will have the discretion of allowing them to remove the tie should it appear that there is physical discomfort during the warm weather.

Ms. Sullivan has reached out to all families who have children with a peanut allergy. Our preschool is nut-free, however, within our main school building we allowed peanut butter lunches with the option of having a child with an allergy sit at a nut-free table. During this unique situation, we will ask for cooperation in keeping the classrooms with allergic students nut free.

The 425 crates to help store your children's belongings have arrived, all of the technology is being installed, the ventilation machines are being placed within the classrooms, and teachers are creatively setting up their classrooms. I continue to be amazed with our teachers and their dedication and commitment to your children. Only kindergarten, first and fifth grades have remained in their classrooms from last year. All other grades have moved and they have done an incredible job of decorating their rooms with as much love, care, and creativity in order to welcome your children.

Tomorrow I will send out the new teacher information and give you the timeline for the distribution of homeroom lists.

While I thought it was important to give you all of these updates, please remember my main focus today is on the Diocesan safety protocols, which include the wearing of masks.

Thank you again for your trust as we reopen our school and bring our St. Isaac's community together. I'll be in touch tomorrow with more information.

Many blessings,

Carol Burlinski



RE-OPENING DIOCESE OF JOLIET CATHOLIC SCHOOLS QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE



MASKS

All individuals age two and older must wear masks while at school. Masks may be removed for brief periods of time under certain circumstances (outdoor play or lunch). Plan to send extra masks to school with your child. We will spend time at the beginning of the year helping students learn how to safely keep masks in place.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Each school is working to spread out classroom desks and tables to 8-feet and arrange them to face the front of the room. Schools will also use various entrances and exits to minimize contact between students.



ACADEMICS



Schools will continue to deliver high-quality instruction in core subjects (religion, language arts, math, science and social studies). Special subject areas (art, music, PE, etc.) will be provided as feasible for each school. Safety and health requirements will create new complexities in instruction, but our commitment to provide your child the best possible faith-based education remains.

WELLNESS CHECKS

When students enter school every day, an adult will administer a temperature check and ask the student if they are feeling well. Students will also be directed to use hand sanitizer upon entering the building or classroom. Any student with a temperature 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit will be sent home.



CLEANING AND SANITIZING

School plans include specific requirements for the ongoing cleaning and sanitizing of school buildings. There will be a particular focus on high-touch areas and common surfaces.

EXTRACURRICULARS

Each school provides guidance on extracurricular activities specific to their school building in their plans. Extended care will follow health and safety guidelines outlined in each school plan.



LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION?

**READ THE RE-OPENING OF OUR
SCHOOLS FAQs FOR PARENTS**