



MATER DEI

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

2018 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON
SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

Mary, Cause of Our Joy, We Celebrate

July 30, 2021

Dear Mater Dei Parents and Guardians,
Good afternoon! We hope our families are enjoying a restful and relaxing summer. This year, it has been wonderful to see so many familiar faces during our first Summer Vibes Camp at Mater Dei. The traditional quiet hallways in the summertime have been replaced with lots of smiles and laughter. This gives us the energy and inspiration to plan for the upcoming school year, which will be here soon!

In September, we will be opening our doors to begin our 10th year as Mater Dei Catholic School and are looking forward to celebrating this incredible milestone throughout the school year. Our theme for the 2021-2022 school year is “**Mary, Cause of Our Joy, We Celebrate.**” This special title of Mary, Our Mother, reminds us of her role in giving us the ultimate gift of her Son, Jesus, the source of all our joy. In this anniversary year, we will joyfully celebrate all we have accomplished and the many ways our community has grown.

We respectfully ask you to refer to the important information below about the beginning of school. In some ways, September seems so far away, yet we all know it will be here soon, and we are very excited!

Uniforms

This year, Mater Dei will return to the traditional uniform policy in having both a summer and winter uniform for grades K through 8. Accommodations to the uniforms were made last year regarding the pandemic; however, we are confident returning to our more traditional uniform policies for the 2021-2022 school year. Please reference the uniform code taken from our handbook below as you begin to prepare for any Back-to-School shopping you will need. Uniform items can be purchased from Flynn and O’Hara.

Mater Dei Catholic School’s dress code is defined as follows:

Girls Grades 1 – 4

Fall/Summer:

- Navy, white, and khaki glen plaid jumper with short sleeve white blouse with Peter Pan collar

OR

- Khaki skort/short with navy polo with logo. White socks that cover ankles.

Winter:

- Navy, white, and khaki glen plaid jumper with short or long sleeve white blouse with Peter Pan collar. Navy quarter-zip pullover sweater with logo. Navy tights or navy knee socks.

Shoes & Belt:

Solid-color Navy or Brown dress shoes with a non-skid sole. Brown belt with Khaki shorts.

Girls Grades 5 – 8

Fall/Summer:

- Navy, white, and khaki glen plaid kilt jumper with a navy short or long sleeve polo with the MD logo

OR

- Khaki skort/short with navy polo with logo. White socks that cover ankles.

Winter:

- Navy, white, and khaki glen plaid kilt with a white oxford shirt. (No navy polos with winter uniform). Navy quarter-zip pullover sweater with logo or vest with MD logo. Navy tights or navy knee socks.

Shoes & Belt:

- Solid-color navy or brown dress shoes with a non-skid sole. Brown belt with Khaki shorts.

Boys Grades 1 – 8

Fall/Summer:

- Khaki pants or shorts. Navy short sleeve or long sleeve polo with MD logo. White socks that cover the ankle.

Winter:

- Khaki pants with navy blue short or long sleeve polo shirt with MD logo. Navy quarter-zip pullover sweater with logo or vest with MD logo. Khaki or white socks that cover the ankle.

Shoes & Belt:

- Solid-color brown dress shoes with a non-skid sole. Brown belt.

Gym Uniform and Kindergarten Uniform

Fall/Summer:

- Grey t-shirt with logo. Navy nylon shorts (no logo). White or black socks that cover the ankle.

Winter:

- Grey t-shirt with logo. Navy sweatpants (no logo). Grey crew neck sweatshirt with MD school logo. White or black socks that cover ankles.
- *Note: The hooded gym sweatshirt will no longer be part of the gym uniform. However, there will be a one-year grace period for students who already have the hooded sweatshirt for this year.*

Shoes:

- Sneakers. (no lights)

Preschool Attire

Preschool students will wear play clothes according to the season. Sneakers must be worn every day.

Used Uniforms Available – Thursday, August 5, 2021, 10:00 AM to Noon and 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Members of our Home and School Association will have used uniform pieces

available in the front of school. Families are welcome to stop by and select available uniform pieces at no cost. Please note that this is a takeaway event only and donations will not be accepted at this time.

Open House – Tuesday, September 7, 2021, 9:00 – 11:30 AM and 12:30 – 2:30 PM

In order to welcome back our students and families, we will host an Open House on Tuesday, September 7, 2021, from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 to 2:30 PM. At these times, families and students are welcome to come to see classrooms and meet teachers. Also, you are welcome to bring any classroom supplies to avoid students having to bring them on the first day of school. Please park in the Church parking lot and walk over to the school. Teachers will be ready to greet families at the door and direct you to classrooms if needed.

First Day of School for PreK through Grade 8 – Wednesday, September 8, 2021

We are thrilled to welcome back all our students on Wednesday, September 8th. As we did last year, we will have multiple entrances for children to come into the building. Parents of preschool children at the Lansdale campus will use the entrance off Lansdale Avenue to drop off in the front of school by the main office, where aides will be ready to greet your child and escort him or her to the classroom. If your child is a car rider, you may park your car in the Church parking lot and walk your child to the entrance, where teachers will greet your child and direct to the appropriate classroom. If you want your children to ride the bus, you are welcome to come, park in the Church lot, and meet your children in the schoolyard to walk them to the appropriate entrance. Students will enter the building at the following doors:

- o Kindergarten through Grade 3 will use door C8 (gym ramp door)
- o Grades 4 and 5 will use C3 (4th grade hallway door)
- o Grades 6 through 8 will use C11 (bus door)

Reopening Plan for 2021-2022 School Year

At this point, we are still working on finalizing our reopening guidelines. We will consult the Archdiocese of Philadelphia Office of Catholic Education, CDC Guidelines, and Montgomery County Guidelines to guide our decisions. Our plan will be published on August 18, 2021, and shared through Constant Contact. Please be sure to check your emails for this important information. We appreciate your understanding and patience.

SAVE THE DATE

**Sunday, September 12, 2021 – 11:00 AM at Saint Stanislaus Church
Opening Mass for Mater Dei Community**

As we begin our 10th year as Mater Dei Catholic School, we want to celebrate our many blessings as a community. As the date gets closer, we will share more details about our celebration plans, but we wanted our families to be sure to place this date on your calendars.

We hope these relaxing days of summer fill you with peace and joy. Thank you for choosing Mater Dei Catholic School for your children. May God bless you and your families today and always. We cannot wait to welcome your children back to school in September!

Most sincerely,

Miss Diane E. McCaughan
President

Miss Elizabeth A. Waltrich
Principal