

Saint Agnes Academy

SINCE 1957, A CATHOLIC PARISH SCHOOL FOR PRE-SCHOOL TO GRADE 8
30 Carson Ave, Dalton MA 01226

for all of the school news please visit our website <https://www.stagnescc.com>

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Dear St. Agnes Academy families,

I hope this email finds you well. Let me share a few updates:

Remote learning

We had a few challenges with remote learning, but with everyone's help, we will get there! I strongly believe that remote learning will be a big part of our plan for next year and I hope that we can continue the work together to make sure that staff, parents and students are comfortable with this and equipped with the knowledge and the tools to do it right .

Whatever the outcome or the regulations for next year, we will have the tools to educate our students. I thank the teachers who worked very hard to learn and teach, the parents for their support, suggestions and ideas and the students for being flexible, passionate, and working hard.

I have reached out to the teachers for what we call **SAA 5 COVID slide steers**:

- 1. Engage with students**
- 2. Advance Remote learning**
- 3. Be consistent**
- 4. Encourage exploration and offer options to compromise**
- 5. Connect**

Again, we will continue to deliver a remote learning experience for the remainder of the academic school year, but SAA is fully committed to doing this in the most effective, compassionate, and supportive manner possible. If you or your child has challenges with remote learning, please let us know. We can always offer options and alternative and come up with a plan that works for your child.

On the other side, I heard from many families that the children enjoy the zoom meeting so much and many families asked for more dedicated learning times online where our teachers do instructing each week! As always I communicate your feedback to the faculty and will be discussing this more on our next staff meeting. Please reach out to your teacher, they are always eager to support in every way possible.

Please know that our Title I program is still supporting our students, let them know if you need any help.

Again, this is new to all of us! We are trying our best and learning as we go. PLEASE, reach out to us for any suggestions, concerns or questions.

Social and emotional support

- I am enjoying my Zoom with your children! Feel free to join at any time. I will plan a zoom meeting for the whole school and will be sending the invitation by the end of May! That should be INTERESTING! I have done so many online meetings during COVID-19 , but this will be the first one hosting such a big gathering, please join if you can and forgive me if it is not perfect!
- All teachers should be communicating regularly through Zoom, face-time, or google meet at least once a week.
- Thank you to our families and the PTO for the morning announcements. We are LOVING it!

End of the year update

- The last day of school which is scheduled for Jun 16. The teachers who may be done covering the materials sooner will be using the last couple of weeks to finish up, help individuals to catch up, and continue with their individual communication plan(Zoom, face-time, or google classroom) as they see it fits.
- Please make sure to return your textbooks and any materials to the school following teachers' instructions
- We will arrange for zoom meetings for your child to meet their new teacher for next year. You should receive an invitation from your teacher by the end of May.
- We are working on a graduation celebration for our 8th grade, Pre-K, and Kindergarten. The teachers will communicate plans on my next update.

Survey

We have sent a survey link to get your feedback. Here is a link and it is also on our website page. Make sure to copy the whole link to your browser. We value your feedback and we want to hear from you after the few changes we made regarding remote learning and communicating.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RLS2020>

Uniform Update

Due to COVID-19, Donnelly, our uniform provider, will not be doing fitting in the school, but they have uploaded help tools on their website to make measuring your child as easy as possible at home. I worked with them and managed to get 5% extra discount on top of the 20% for early delivery and free home delivery for a year!

We conducted a survey a few months ago regarding the uniform. We value your feedback. Due to an overwhelming vote, and after consultation with the school board and the dioceses, Saint Agnes Academy will offer the two options for our girls in higher grades (pants or skirts).

See the attached file for more information and check Donnelly website for options.

Enrichment

Mrs. Flanders offers amazing FUN activities to get the children excited, involved, and happy! Please check out her classroom from a butterfly garden to Lego Challenge to Photography Class! To join the fun, go to <https://classroom.google.com/> and type in the class code: wot5slj

Internet security

The "Think Before You Click" campaign from the U.S. Attorney's Office encourages parents and guardians to discuss internet safety with children of all ages and to continue to monitor internet use during this time of COVID-19. See the attached flyer with from Bryan House, the Director of Community Engagement from the Berkshire District Attorney's Office

Yearbook

The 2020 yearbook is just about finished, and the layout will be off to the printer in a couple of days. This year's edition is filled with memories and reflections and will be a wonderful keepsake. Reserve your copy now! The order is placed when the layout is delivered to the printer, and there will not be extra copies available. Don't miss out. Return your order form NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, along with your check made payable to St. Agnes Academy. Please find attached a form for our Yearbook order. You can mail it, or drop at the school.

Reopen Committee

I am thrilled to announce that so many parents and community members volunteered to be part of our reopening committee! This is AMAZING! I will be sending an invitation to our first meeting by Mid June! If you would like to be part of this committee or have questions or suggestions, please contact me.

Thank you

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