

Welcome to the Kindergarten program at Ss. Colman-John Neumann School!

Back to School night for Kindergarten is on Wednesday September 7. The Kindergarten program will begin with classroom visits on September 8th and 9th. You will receive more information over the summer with details from your child's teacher. The first full day is September 12.

1. What time and where is drop off?

Children in kindergarten through grade 8 enter the school by coming up the driveway off of Radnor Road to the Main Entrance Door (**Door A**). Drop off is from 7:45-8:10AM at the Main Entrance. Please pull all the way around so that several cars may let out at the same time. Your child will be greeted by Mrs. Ciminera and should get out of the car on the passenger side, walk into the school, and to their classroom. To help keep the traffic flow moving, please have your child ready to get out of the car as soon as you pull up.

2. What time is dismissal?

Dismissal will be the same as the 2020-21 school year. Please plan to arrive after 2:45 for pick up. The PreK parents finish picking up at 2:45. **Please note that there is a 15 MPH zone in the lot during school hours from 7:30 until 4:00.**

CARLINE - There will be two exits for car riders. If your name begins with A through M, you will be picking up at the back cafeteria Door C. If your last name begins with N through Z, you will be picking up along the drive lane parallel to Highland Lane. Students will come out of the Life Center doors.

- There will be a teacher outside directing traffic.
- All riders will be assembled in either the cafeteria or Life Center - they will be distanced by cohorts.
- When you pull up, the teacher outside will radio in to let the teacher inside know you are there. Your children will come out and get into the car. You can pull away once all of your children are in the car safely.

BUS - Students will assemble in the gym area.

- Students will sit with their bus line in the gym while waiting for their bus to be called.
 - There will be a list for each bus of which students ride that bus.
- The buses will line up along the back of the Church and gym building.
- One bus will load at a time.
- There will be a teacher outside also helping to direct traffic for buses.

CARES - Children should stay in their homerooms. PreK teachers will monitor until all other students leave. At that point, students can make their way to the rooms that will be used for CARES. CARES will begin on Monday, September 12.

3. Is there a uniform?

The children in kindergarten wear a uniform:

- Navy gym pants with school logo from C & M Sporting Goods from November 1st- March 31st and whenever necessary due to the weather.
- Gym shorts from C & M Sporting Goods from April 1– October 31 weather permitting.
- Gray sweatshirt with school logo from C & M Sporting Goods
- Gray gym T-shirt from C & M Sporting Goods with gym shorts or pants
- Sturdy sneakers everyday.

4. Are there aides in kindergarten?

There is an aide in kindergarten in the AM.

5. Do my children need to bring a snack?

The children break for a morning snack/drink around 10:00. The parent provides the snack for the child unless otherwise noted by the teacher. The school sells soft pretzels. They must be ordered on a trimester basis.

6. Does SCJN have a lunch program? If so, may my child in preschool and/or kindergarten order lunch?

SCJN has a daily lunch program. Each month a notification will be emailed for you to order lunch for the following month. All of the lunches are made off campus and brought to SCJN. We have a warmer and a refrigerator to hold the lunches until it is time to eat. In order for your child to receive lunch, you must order ahead.

Each Thursday we have a pizza lunch. No pre-ordering is required for this lunch. The children will simply bring in the money for the pizza and, if you wish, the drink and Jack-and-Jill ice cream treat. For the 2022-23 school year, a slice of pizza, ice cream, and water cost \$5.

SCJN is a nut free environment. No one is permitted to bring in any products containing nuts.

7. Does my child have to nap if he/she is full day?

The children will have a quiet time for about 20-30 minutes each day after lunch. At this time the students will have the opportunity to read a book.

8. Does the school have a before and after school program?

The school has a CARES (Children Are Receiving Extended Services) Program which runs from 6:45 am to 7:45 am and 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Mrs. Jennifer McMahon, a former teacher, is the CARES coordinator. Information is found on our [website](#) about the program. [Forms](#) will have to be completed for your child to enroll in CARES.

9. Can my child celebrate his/her birthday in school?

Yes! A *small* treat is welcomed here at school for your child's class. Saints Colman John Neumann School is a **NUT FREE** school. For birthday celebrations, parents may send in Oreos, Chips Ahoy, Popsicles or individual water ice

10. How is kindergarten a part of the whole school?

Kindergarten children are matched with a Prayer Partner in an upper grade. The Prayer Partners meet periodically to do various activities. They also are a part of our Grandparents Day Show, our Social Justice Program, and school wide retreats. Kindergarten and Preschool will participate in their own Christmas performance.

11. Where do I find out information about events in the school?

Our school website is the main way we communicate with our families. We also send emails and/or texts & phone messages for important information. Each teacher has a webpage that they use as a means of communication. You can visit the [teacher pages](#) through the school website.

Each Tuesday the school's Update is sent to parents via Option C, our communication system. The Update includes information from the school for the upcoming week.

If the school were to be closed, you will be contacted through Option C. This will come to your phone, cell phone, and email. We also communicate grades for students in first through eighth grade through Option C.

12. Can I get my child's classmates' phone numbers to call?

The home and school prints a directory each year with all families' names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses, with permission from the family. We encourage play dates outside of the school building to further the friendships formed here at SCJN.

13. Does my child go to any Special Classes?

The kindergarten children go to Art, Technology, Library, Music, and Physical Education once a week. Teachers who specialize in those fields teach these classes. Spanish is taught to students in grades 1-8.

14. Are there any services that the school provides?

Our school has a Speech Therapist, Reading Specialist, EP Consultant, School Counselor, and School Psychologist. All of these specialists are provided to us through the Delaware County Intermediate Unit (DCIU). Information about these services can be found at dciu.org and on our website.

15. How do I pay tuition?

Tuition is paid through Blackbaud (formerly SMART tuition). Once the business manager sets you up on SMART, you will receive a welcome letter via email from Blackbaud asking you to log in and verify your information and select which payment plan works best for you. Once you have done that the Business Manager, Joy Falcone, will go in and complete the enrollment by entering the tuition amount. Payments can be made through your bank account, credit card, by check, or by phone.

16. Does kindergarten go on any field trips?

Kindergarten usually goes on at least one educational field trip each year outside the school building.

17. How can I become a volunteer?

All volunteers *MUST* have clearances to help in school. The necessary clearances are listed on our website. Kathy Selvaggi is the parish coordinator of clearance records. Kathy can be reached by email at: kathy.selvaggi@sjnparish.org. Please send in all certificates showing completion of the necessary training required by the state and the Archdiocese of Philadelphia as soon as you receive them.

18. Do students in Kindergarten take the bus to/from school?

All students in Kindergarten, with the exception of Marple Newtown Township, may take the bus to and from school. Mrs. McCormick will send a list of the students in each township to their transportation department. Each township has its own way of notifying parents of the bus stop and time.

19. Whom should I contact if I have any questions?

Please call Mrs. McCormick first (610-525-3266 or email [Melissa McCormick](mailto:Melissa.McCormick)). She is the school secretary and will direct your call to the correct person if she cannot answer the question herself.

20. How secure is the school?

Every door is locked at all times, including the classroom doors. Anyone who wishes access to the school must enter through the Main Entrance and identify who they are. There is a triple entrance prior to getting into the area where classrooms are located. All guests must sign in and out of the building. There are a number of cameras around the outside of the school and within the school, which record and are monitored. Keyless access is granted to employees. Drills are practiced on a regular basis.

We are so grateful that you chose our school and are honored to be a part of the education and faith formation of your child. We welcome you and hope that you feel comfortable reaching out to us or any person on the Home and School board if you have any questions or thoughts.