

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**ADMINISTRATION:**

**PASTOR**

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**KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS:**

MRS. KATY DUBEANSKY

MRS. JENNIFER KEITH

MRS. BETH ROEBUCK



*We hope you found this to be a helpful resource for Kindergarten preparation. If you need additional information, please call the St. Gabriel School office at: 440/354-7858 Please visit our website at: [www.St-GabrielSchool.org](http://www.St-GabrielSchool.org)*

**WELCOME!**



**St. Gabriel School**

**Kindergarten**

**Guide Book**

**2024-25**



*First Day of School with Mrs. Roebuck 2023*



**Welcome to St. Gabriel School! We are grateful for the opportunity to partner with you to fulfill your son or daughter's educational and faith development.**

St. Gabriel School (SGS) offers full-day Kindergarten five days a week. Our Kindergarten classroom teachers and Kindergarten aides provide daily instruction, supplemented by weekly instruction from our school's Related Arts Classes: Art, STEM, Music, Physical Education, Grizzly Explorers, and Spanish teachers. Classroom instruction is infused with our mission of **Being CHRIST ~ Every Day ~ Everywhere through teaching, learning, leading and serving**. We seek to help students grow in deeper and clearer awareness that they are children of God who are loved and blessed with unique gifts and talents, and who are called to go forth as disciples of Christ.

**WHAT IS THE AGE CUT OFF FOR STARTING KINDERGARTEN?**

- According to the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) state law, your child must be five years old by September 30<sup>th</sup> to begin Kindergarten at St. Gabriel School.

**WHAT TIME IS THE OFFICIAL SCHOOL DAY?**

- Full-day Kindergarten: 7:50 AM to 2:30 PM

**WHAT TIME CAN STUDENTS ENTER THE BUILDING?**

- Teacher supervision is available and doors are unlocked at 7:20AM. Students may enter the school building at this time.

**HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILD IS READY FOR KINDERGARTEN?**

- Our goal is to work together with you to ensure that your child has a successful Kindergarten year as the foundation for all grades to follow. Research and our own experience



*First Day with Mrs. Keith 2023*



**SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**We are passionate about Catholic education and committed to help families in need of tuition assistance. Please let us know if we can be helpful in these processes. There are five primary sources of Financial Assistance for families:**

- EdChoice for ALL families
- Angel Scholarship Fund & Fund A Dream - **Both NEW**
- Parish Assistance
- Diocesan Assistance
- Jon Peterson for children with special needs

Links and details for the above opportunities can be found at:  
<https://www.st-gabrielschool.org/tuition-assistance.html>

**EdChoice:**

Everyone qualifies for something through this state scholarship opportunity. A very easy 3 step process can be found at:  
<https://www.st-gabrielschool.org/edchoice.html>





### **DO THE CHILDREN WEAR GYM UNIFORMS?**

- Kindergarten students do not wear gym uniforms; they will wear their regular school uniforms with gym shoes on gym day. Girls wear shorts under their jumpers everyday.

### **WHAT RELATED ARTS CLASSES DO THEY ATTEND?**

- Kindergarten students attend Phys Ed, STEM, Art, Music, and Spanish classes on a one week rotation basis. They attend Grizzly Explorers once a week.

### **KINDERGARTEN FAITH FORMATION**

- Our Catholic faith is what sets us apart and is interwoven through each and every day with prayer, role modeling, instruction and teachable moments. Children attend Mass on Holy Days. Children's Liturgy of the Word is offered on Wednesday mornings. The students learn about the parts of the Mass, hear the Gospel, learn songs, and prepare to join the all school Mass during Lent on Wednesdays and remainder of year.

### **DO THEY NEED SCHOOL SUPPLIES?**

- Kindergarten students will need a uniform, backpack, water bottle, and lunchbox. All school supplies and snacks will be provided.

### **CAN I VOLUNTEER IN THE CLASSROOM?**

- There are a number of volunteer opportunities to be involved with your child's experience at St. Gabriel School. Needs ranging from lunch room aides and field trip chaperones will be communicated by your child's teacher throughout the year. In order to protect our children, **all volunteers must fully complete a VIRTUS training and BCI/FBI background check BEFORE volunteering.** VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" is an education, safety and prevention program required by the Diocese of Cleveland for all employees and volunteers. A schedule for VIRTUS training and fingerprinting sessions will be available on parish website.

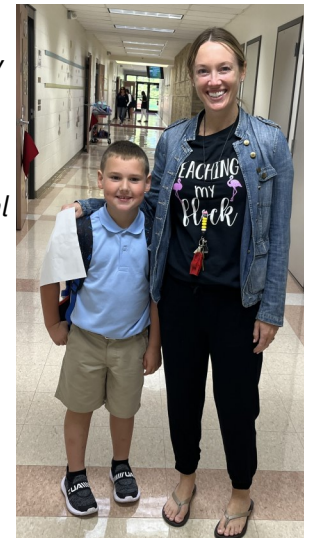


show that children are generally ready for Kindergarten at the age of five years, even with great individual variance.

- We adhere to the ODE state law as mentioned above, that sets the requirement that a child be five years old by September 30.
- We share the goal of setting your student up for success. Kindergarten assessments are conducted in early spring to identify your student's starting point for learning, allowing for classroom differentiation. Additionally, it allows us to uncover any potential concerns. No preparation is required for this one hour session. The Kindergarten teachers and school staff facilitate the process easing your student through the assessment. A sign up link is forwarded via the **Next Steps** email to parents for scheduling. Parents are invited to stay in our hospitality room during the assessment time or may elect to drop off and pick up. Results will be compiled and in turn are mailed to parents directly.

### **THE APPROXIMATE KINDERGARTEN TIMELINE FROM APPLICATION TO FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL?**

- Applications submitted from Sept to Feb
- In House Enrollment: Jan-Feb
- Open Enrollment: Feb
- Assessments: March
- Third week in August: school starts and day before school starts is orientation.
- The school calendar can be found typically in March/April at <https://www.st-gabrielschool.org/calendar.html>



First Day of School with Mrs. Dubeansky 2023



### **IS TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED?**

- Mentor, Painesville City and Riverside School Districts provide bus transportation to most areas surrounding St. Gabriel School. We make every attempt to ensure a smooth communication process with the transportation services at school districts, however, we do not have any control over their bus routes. During the current school year, Mentor, Painesville, and Riverside provide transportation to and from full-day Kindergarten, however, bus routes are subject to change each year. Mentor SD requires a transportation request be filled out. This form will be in the **Next Steps** email.

### **WHAT IS THE PROCEDURE IF I AM DRIVING MY CHILD TO AND FROM SCHOOL?**

- Car riders will be dropped off in the (back) north side of the school—the C-9 Doors. You will follow the line of cars around the back of the building. Please make sure your child is sitting on the passenger side of the car so that the line of traffic can move quickly. There will be teachers at the door to greet them and make sure they know how to get to their classroom. Please practice taking the seatbelt on and off to make this transition smooth and comfortable.
- At dismissal, car riders will be dismissed through doors A<sub>3</sub>, A<sub>4</sub>, and Kindergarten Doors near playground based on their last name. Parents must park and wait in or next to their cars until all buses have cleared the parking lot. Parents will be motioned when to line up to meet their child at the door. After School Grizzly Cub Care (optional after care—see below) students will be escorted to their assigned classroom after car riders leave.

### **WHAT IS THE OPTIONAL AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM AVAILABLE?**

- We are pleased to offer our Grizzly Cub Care program.
  - Cub Care is staffed by school teachers and aides from 2:30-6:00 PM to provide care, supervision, recreation and education for St. Gabriel students in grades Kindergarten through 6th. Snack is provided.
- After an annual family registration fee, parents pay an hourly fee per child to use the service after school. Registration can be found online.
- The program is open for the vast majority of days—please see calendar for days closed (usually corresponding to breaks and special events). Students are picked up anytime at or before 6 PM



### **DO THE CHILDREN GET A SNACK OR WATER BREAK DURING THE SCHOOL DAY?**

- Yes, the children have a snack break every day in Kindergarten. The snack is provided by the school (parents pay a snack & supply fee at the start of the year). Children bring a water bottle to school each day, and there is also a bottle filling station available.

### **WHAT IS THE KINDERGARTEN UNIFORM POLICY?**

- Girls: light blue blouses with jumpers or khaki slacks; navy sweaters or sweatshirt with St. Gabriel logo (optional); shorts under jumper required.
- Boys: Light blue knit polo shirts with khaki slacks with belt; navy sweater or sweatshirt with St. Gabriel School logo (optional).
- Refer to the Schoolbelles Buying Guide ([www.schoolbelles.com](http://www.schoolbelles.com))
- Girls and Boys: Athletic shoes may be worn. Sandals, high top sneakers, boots or slippers are not permitted. Socks must be worn. Refer to shoe guide on website for detailed parameters.
- St. Gabriel logo sweatshirts can be purchased through the SGS Parent Teacher Union (PTU) throughout the school year. There is an online ordering link on school website under Parent Info tab.
- PTU sponsors a used uniform giveaway throughout the year—watch e-communications for further details.

### **WHAT ARE THE LUNCH PROGRAM PROCEDURES?**

- The children start out the school year by packing a lunch every day and eating in the cafeteria. The children may purchase milk. When lunch room routines are learned, students may partake in the hot lunch program. At that time, children may buy lunches and the children will learn how to go through the lunch line. You may put money in your child's lunch account through our online payment program or simply send a check made out to St. Gabriel in labeled envelope for lunch. Kindergarten children are not permitted to purchase from the a la carte menu when available.

