

Back to School 2009

Special points of interest:

- We will begin the school year on Tuesday, Sept. 8th. Students will be greeted outside at 7:40 a.m.
- The Open House at IC will be held on Wednesday Sept. 9th at 6:30 p.m. This will begin in the church. The students and families will then visit their classrooms. Please join us.
- School begins at 7:50 a.m. and ends at 2:35 p.m. Students may arrive at 7:30 a.m. daily.
- Bussing will be available the first week of school.

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The Difference is Prayer

From the Desk of the IC Principal, Matthew Bauman

Dear IC Parents,

It is with great anticipation that I welcome you to the 2009-10 school year! I continue to be honored and humbled to lead such a Christ-centered school of children as we plant the seeds and help develop every child's faith and understanding of God.

As I prepare to begin my second year as Principal of Immaculate Conception, I am thankful for the wonderful, professional and Christ-centered staff here at IC. They are committed to providing an outstanding educa-

tional experience rooted in and founded on Christ.

I look forward to that first day of school when your precious children return to school and their smiling faces fill our hallways. As you know, our faculty and staff are fully committed to helping your child reach their greatest spiritual and academic potential.

I know that we don't have much of our summer left, so please continue to enjoy the beautiful weather that God is blessing us with. I look forward to seeing all of the wonderful IC families again this

fall and can't wait to start meet those of you that I don't know yet. If you have questions as we prepare for the school year, feel free to call (947-1252) or e-mail mbaum@gtacs.org.

Our wonderful IC secretary, Mrs. Colleen Sweeney, will have the office open again starting August 24th.

I will continue to pray for your children during these waning days of summer break.

In Christ,

Mr. Matt Bauman

New Staff Information

We are very pleased to welcome Mrs. Colleen Peters to our 5th grade team. Mrs. Peters moves over from Holy Angels where she previously taught 2nd grade.

We are also happy to have Mrs. Jeana Paquet teaching 5th grade. She moves up to the 5th grade after teaching 4th grade.

Mr. Pat Glazier takes over as the Immaculate Conception custodian this year. He comes to us from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Mrs. Kathleen Allard will be teaching our Saint Thomas Aquinas math classes this year. She comes back to Immaculate Conception after spending a number of years at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

God has blessed our building with a very special, professional, and spiritual faculty and staff. These changes only build on those strengths.

Dates To Remember:

8/24/09: School Offices Open

8/31/09: School Supply Lists Posted at IC (they are also available on the website).

9/2/09: Bussing Information available in the Record Eagle

9/4/09: Class lists posted at IC by 8:00 a.m.

9/4/09: School offices closed

9/8/09: First Day of School (1/2 Day)

9/9/09: IC Open House 6:30 p.m.

9/10/09: PTC Parent Coffee 7:40-8:45 a.m. in the IC Cafeteria

9/24/08: 5th Grade Instrument Fittings and Informational Meeting for Band 7:00 p.m. IC Cafeteria.

9/11/09: All System Mass at Saint Francis H.S. (Please drop your child off starting at 7:30 a.m. We will gather in Kohler Auditorium).

Be sure to check out the Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures for Immaculate Conception on our website:

[gtacs.org/
ic_dropoff.php](http://gtacs.org/ic_dropoff.php)

This is especially important if this is your first child to attend IC.

3rd Grade Information

Our 3rd grade team of teachers are as follows:

- Mrs. Janine Winkler (Room 101)
- Mrs. Heidi Stoudt (Room 102)
- Mrs. Patsy Keipper (Room 103)
- Mrs. Kim Meachum/ Mrs. Kelly Daciuk (Room 104)

We are anxious to welcome our 3rd graders to their new school.

These students receive great support as they become more independent learners and read across the different curriculum areas. There is a saying that is used at GTACS: "At Holy Angels, we teach our students to read, so that when they come to IC they can read to learn." Students enjoy the extra challenges from not only

their math and language arts areas, but their science and social studies, as well. Religion is taught throughout the day with prayer and faith woven into all aspects of the curriculum.



4th Grade Information

Our 4th grade team of teachers are as follows:

- Ms. Mary Conroy (Room 210)
- Miss Jan Cleland (Room 209)
- Mrs. Lea Ann Anderson (Room 211)

Fourth grade is an exciting year as the social studies curriculum focuses around Michigan history. Students will be learning interesting facts about this great state that we live in and take part in some great field trips.

This is also the grade where students have a hard cover

math book and start copying their problems out of a textbook for homework instead of using a worksheet.

Increased student responsibility becomes a strong emphasis on these students and good organizational skills are important.

5th Grade Information

Our 5th grade team of teachers are as follows:

- Mrs. Jeana Paquet (Room 208)
- Mrs. Colleen Peters (Room 201)
- Mrs. Megan Glynn (Room 202)
- Mr. Ben Beckwith (Room 203)

Our 5th grade students embark on a new year as being the leaders of our school.

This theme will be constantly reinforced, as their peers in the lower grades look up to them. These students also can experience leadership by becoming involved in our "K Kids Club", which is a form of student council, sponsored by

the Kiwanis Club. At this grade level, we also begin switching classes for math only. This enables students to get a taste of middle school when they will switch for all subject areas.

Christian service will also be reinforced with a trip to Grand Rapids to help at the Gleaners Food Pantry.

Additional Faculty Members and Classes

- Mrs. Julie Forlenza—P.E. (All grades attend P.E. class twice a week for 30 minutes).
- Mrs. Donna Brakel—Art (All grades attend once a week for 45 minutes).
- Mrs. Margaret Wilson—Library (All grades attend P.E. class twice a week for 30 minutes).
- Senora Kathy Koski—Spanish (All grades attend twice a week for 30 minutes).
- Mr. Todd Vipond—Music (3rd & 4th grades attend twice a week for 30 minutes).
- Mrs. Cress Smith—Band (5th grade students attend twice a week for 45 minutes).
- Mrs. Carol Johnson—Computers (All students attend once a week for 30 minutes).
- Ms. Jennifer Newman—St. Bridget Club (designed for students who may need extra academic support in reading).
- Mrs. Kathleen Allard—St. Thomas Aquinas Math (designed for students who need additional academic challenges in Math).
- Mrs. Laura Seward—St. Thomas Aquinas Language Arts (designed for students who need additional academic challenges in Language Arts).
- Ms. Susan Stendel—School Counselor (She provides different classroom lessons, as well as works individually with students and families).

5th Grade Band Information

Our 5th grade students have the opportunity to play in our band. Our band director, Mrs. Cress Smith, will meet with students twice a week during the school day. Mrs. Smith is our band director for grades 5-12th. There will be a parent meeting for all interested 5th grade students and families on Thursday, September 24th at 7 p.m. in the IC Gym. Students will be fitted for musical

instruments at that time and rental plans will be discussed. This is a great way to introduce students to an instrument. Our 5th grade band will perform at various concerts throughout the year (including Dec. 10th). Band students will need to wear black pants or skirts and white shirts for their concerts. Mrs. Smith will have more information available at the parent meeting.

Mrs. Smith is also assisted by Mr. Michael Nunn, Dr. Deborah Podolka, and Mr. Mike Hunter.

Students choosing not to enroll in band, will be in general music with Mr. Todd Vipond. However, we ask that all students enroll in band if possible.

Point of interest:

School handbooks will be sent home the first week of school. It is important that you read the handbook and return the acknowledgment form in the back of the handbook.

LUNCH

PROGRAM:

Lunch is \$2.85 this year at Immaculate Conception. Parents may begin funding their children's lunch accounts at anytime. Checks (to GTACS) can be mailed to Karen Spencer, Dining Services: 123 E. 11th Street, TC, MI 49684. We are also blessed to have Mrs. Gallagher and Mrs. Donaldson working in our kitchen again this year.

Extracurricular Activities

Students at IC have the option of participating in organized sports through the school. Students who participate must keep in mind that they are representing not only themselves, but their school, their community, their church, their parents and their team.

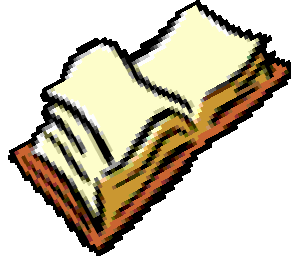
We have also been blessed with outstanding parent volunteers to coach our Odyssey of the Mind teams, as well as Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts. All of our students are invited to participate in the IC Praise Choir. These students sing at weekly Mass, as well as sing in the community at different times of the year. Watch for our weekly newsletter called the IC Connection to learn more about extracurricular opportunities for your children!

A letter will also be sent home detailing sports information when it becomes available.

*Our weekly Mass will be on **Wednesdays** (same as last year) at 8:15 a.m. at Immaculate Conception Parish. The school will also meet every other **Tuesday** morning at 8:00 for a school prayer service.*

First Day of School

The first day of school will be on Tuesday, September 8th; this is a half day, which means that the students will be dismissed at 11:00 a.m. (TCAPS does provide busing both to and from school on our first day). Teachers will be on the playground at 7:40 a.m. to greet their new students on Tuesday.



“For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so faith apart from works is dead.”

JAMES 2:26

After School Child Care Program

School Uniforms:

We’ve made school uniform guidelines available through a link you will find in your e-mail. Be sure to check it out.

Supply Lists and Class Lists:

School supply lists will be posted on the doors of IC starting Monday August 31st (they are also available as links in this email and on our website). Class lists will be posted on the front doors on Friday, September 4th by 8:00 a.m.

We will continue to offer our first day of school, but will after school child care program at Immaculate Conception, which is coordinated by Tuesday Sept. 8th to register students. Registration packets are also available in the Business Office or in our IC office. The program runs daily from 2:35 p.m.—6:00 p.m. downstairs in the school social hall. Parents who are intending to use this program need to register their children by contacting Brigid Wilson at 935-7990 (bwilson@mhc.net). Child care will NOT be available on the

All System Mass

There will be an All System Mass on Friday, September 11th at 8:30 a.m. in the St. Francis Gym. This is a wonderful time to gather all of our K-12 students together to celebrate God’s word and receive the Eucharist. All are invited and encouraged to attend this Mass. Students should be dropped off at the St. Francis/Holy Angels site that morning and report to the Kohler Auditorium until Mass begins. Their teachers will be there waiting for them.

Bussing Information:

Bussing information will be available in a special insert in the Record Eagle on Wednesday, September 2nd. You can also access the information at www.TCAPS.org. If your child is riding the bus to or from school, please attach a tag or label to his/her backpack with the shuttle and route numbers. Any questions regarding bus routes should be referred to the TCAPS Bus Route Information “Hotline” at 933-1956.

Please remember to check for your name on our lunchroom/playground calendar. We rely on your help during this time of the school day. A schedule will be sent home in the next two weeks.