



Holy Infant School
248 New Ballwin Road
Ballwin, MO 63021
636-227-0802 636-227-9184 FAX
www.holyinfantschool.org

August 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the start of a much different school year than we've ever seen . . .

The purpose of our Health Room is to provide immediate minor medical care, educate about health issues, and to provide communication between school and parents concerning medical problems during the school day. I will be in the Health Room from **7:15 a.m.–3:15 p.m. daily**. Until further notice there will be no volunteer nurses assisting in the health room.

Nutrition: In the interest of the health and fitness of our students, no snacks will be shared in class except during the three holiday parties (if applicable). *Due to food allergies you must be aware of foods to avoid; a list by grade will be sent home.* All treats must be approved by Mrs. Ford, R.N. Please contact Mrs. Ford if you have any questions.

This is the St. Louis Archdiocese Medication Policy we follow:

Most medications that children require do not need to be given at school. Any medication that is given three times a day should be given at home (morning, after school, and bedtime) unless the physician orders otherwise. The school will not administer the first dose of any medication. If a medication (prescription or over-the-counter) must be given at school, the parents must follow the requirements as outlined in the Holy Infant School Family Directory and Handbook.

If your child requires something for orthodontic pain, Advil for cramping, etc... you will need a physician's order. You may want to contact your physician and have him/her mail the order to you, or fax it to Holy Infant at 636-227-9184. Having the order in place will save your child from needing the medication and not being able to get it. The over-the-counter medications must be supplied by the parent in their original container, except, in the interest of saving time, Tylenol regular strength, Tylenol Extra Strength and Advil tablets will be stocked in the Health Room. If your child needs chewable Tylenol or Advil, parents must supply it.

Emergency Cards (*three per family*) are our lifeline to you or your alternate when we need to reach you. ALL THREE CARDS must be filled out on BOTH SIDES and returned by Wednesday, September 1, to the Health Room. One card is kept in the Health Room, the second in the School Office, and the third is kept in the Rectory as required by the Archdiocese's emergency guidelines. We require all three. The information provided on this card allows us to provide quality care for your children. Please provide us with a dependable alternate in case you are unable to pick up your child. It will be imperative this year that you pick up your children ASAP if called to do so. Out-of-town relatives are of limited help in minor emergencies such as fever, etc. Please provide names of neighbors and friends in our area. **Note:** *Report cards will not be distributed to families who have not turned in emergency cards.*

Absences: Please call the school each morning (between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m.) to report the reason for your child's absence. In the interest of safety, the nurse may call you to check on an absent child if you do not call in.

Health Records are kept on each student. We require physicals for Preschool, Jr. Kindergarten, Kindergarten, third and sixth grade. All students new to the Archdiocese need a physical within one year of the start date at Holy Infant School. If immunizations have been updated, please send a note from the doctor or medical facility to the Health Room. Students not properly immunized will not be allowed to stay in school! This is the law!

Programs: During the school year we will be providing various screenings including vision, hearing, and scoliosis. Health related programs will include a hand-washing and getting ready for school program in kindergarten and first grade, and a maturation talk for 4th grade girls. Also included will be a wellness program with emphasis on nutrition and being smoke-free.

Until further notice, any student with any of the Covid-19 symptoms on the screening list cannot come to school. If the symptoms include high risk symptoms of fever, cough or sore throat, then siblings cannot come to school. If the symptomatic child has only one low risk symptom, siblings can come to school. Follow the flow chart you received with your guidelines or call Mrs. Ford, RN about returning to school.

When to keep a student from school *or send a student back to school:*

- A student who has clear or yellow drainage from the eye, itching and crusting on the eyelashes upon awakening should not come to school. *The student may return to school when a physician has ruled out conjunctivitis (pink eye).*
- A student who has a rash of unknown origin should not come to school until evaluated by a physician.
- *A student who has chicken pox may return to school when no new pustules are forming and all existing pustules are scabbed and dry.*
- *A student who has strep throat may return to school when three doses of antibiotics have been administered and the student is fever-free. **Note:** Please be absolutely sure to complete the antibiotic treatment so the strep does not "recycle". Do not share the amount of medicine intended for one student with more than one student. No one will get enough of the antibiotics to affect a cure and it is likely that all will be ill again within a week.*
- *A student with head lice may return to school after treatment is completed and student has been checked by the nurse on the day they return to school. **Note:** Head lice are a fact of life in elementary schools. Your cooperation is essential in preventing the spread of this pest. Please report cases of head lice to the Health Room so screenings can be performed and the necessary notices distributed. Confidentiality is carefully maintained.*

Safety Reminder: Children riding bikes to school must wear helmets. Head injuries can be reduced by 85% simply by wearing a properly fitted helmet.

Barb Ford, R.N.
School Nurse