



Unique, Inspiring, Grounded In Faith... since 1956

The Morning Star Weekly Newsletter Vol 4, Edition 1, 8/13/2019

Dear Morning Star Friends and Family,

WELCOME BACK! We hope everyone enjoyed their summer vacation. We are looking forward to a successful school year. **Parents**, please check your email every Tuesday for this newsletter. Important dates, upcoming events and school policy information are communicated within our weekly newsletter and on our [school calendar](#) which is located on our web site at www.morningstar-jax.org. Always check the website for the latest information. Also, stay on the look-out for teacher specific handouts sent home with your student.

PLEASE NOTE: Thursday, August 15th is the feast of the Assumption of Mary, a holy day of obligation. Students will attend the 8:00 am Mass at Christ the King Church. Parents are welcome to attend. **There will be no one at the school office that morning. If your child is tardy please bring them directly to Christ the King Church.**

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE...

- **TRAFFIC LINE & SAFETY:** There is **one single lane** of traffic both morning & afternoon. Please do not attempt to **'squeeze through or go around'** other cars in the line!
- **Students may NOT be dropped off before 7:10 am** (there is no supervision before that time).
- Students should be in their seats at 7:40 am. The tardy bell rings at 7:45. If your child arrives to school *after* the bell rings you **MUST** park and sign your child in at the office
- PLEASE do NOT block resident's driveways on Mickler Avenue.

Afternoon pick-up starts at 2:35 pm. Please make sure your **car rider name tag** is displayed in your windshield. You **MUST** go through the carpool line. **No child will be allowed to walk to a waiting car even when accompanied by a parent.** This is a serious safety issue which is addressed annually in our safety audit. Please help us keep your children safe by following this very important safety procedure. Blessings to all our families and our friends for your continued support of our school!

God bless,

Jean Barnes, Principal

MSS CALENDAR

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Click here for ParentsWeb Login




Morning Star School
8th Annual Gala & Auction
 Saturday, September 28, 2019
 6 PM at the Haskell Building Riverside



Join us for our largest school fundraiser! Enjoy Cuban inspired tapas and cocktails, casino games, dancing, cigars, and a fun auction. Tickets are \$75 per person and there are many sponsorship opportunities. Visit our event page [HERE](#) for complete details and to purchase tickets! Please help us spread the word. Follow us on [Facebook](#) and share our event on your personal Social Media pages! Questions? Contact Maria Johnson, Director of Development at development@morningstar-jax.org.

REMINDERS

Office Hours & Contact Information

School's Open

The front office is open every school day from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm. To contact the front office call (904) 721-2144 or email Sister Elise at ekennedy@morningstar-jax.org.

School Picture Day "Say Cheese"



Wednesday, August 22nd is our student photo day! Please make certain your children look neat and wear dressy clothes or their school uniform. Let's take great pictures!

Join Us for Open House



Mark your calendars for our OPEN HOUSE! Parents will have the opportunity to visit their child's classroom and meet our wonderful teachers. You'll learn about what we're doing in class, what's new for this year and how you can best help your child have a successful school year. Please don't miss this important meeting. You will earn 2 hours of volunteer time for attending! Sorry, there is no child care available

during this time.

PRIMARY, INTERMEDIATE & JUNIOR HIGH

DAY: Tuesday, August 27th

TIME: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

LOCATION: Gym

HIGH SCHOOL

DAY: Thursday, August 29th

TIME: 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

LOCATION: Media Center

School Lunch



Please review lunch information as pricing may have changed since last year.

One order form per child is sent home on the first day of each week and must be returned by Friday morning *with payment*. Please no "family" orders.

No order will be processed without payment & No IOU's issued. If order form and payment are not turned in by 8:00 am on Friday, the order will be saved for the following week.

VIEW & PRINT THE MOST CURRENT LUNCH FORM [HERE](#).

- Chick-fil-A is delivered each Tuesday beginning August 20th.
- Pizza is delivered each Wednesday beginning August 14th.
- Tropical Smoothie is delivered each Friday beginning August 23rd.
- Students must bring their own lunch on other school days.
- Lunch forms are due Friday by 8:00 am.
- Non-cola drinks (Powerade/Juices/Lemonade) are available for \$1.00 at lunchtime and during extended day care.
- We do not have microwaves to warm food.

Cookie Dough Fundraiser



Our annual Cookie Dough fundraiser runs from August 19th through September 3rd. Not only cookie dough, but gourmet treats, snacks, gifts, magazines and our new custom Morning Star Spirit Tumbler! Keep an eye out for information packets sent home with your students. Let's have the best fundraising year ever!

Join us for Mass



This **Thursday, August 15th at 8:00 am** our school will celebrate the Mass Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Christ the King Church. All are welcome.

Medical Authorization Forms



Please return the Diocesan Medical Authorization form signed by a doctor if your child will need any prescription or non-prescription medicine at school.

To view and print the medical authorization form click [HERE](#).

Garden Club



Friday, August 30th the first Garden Club meeting will be held.

Our school garden enhances science education for all learners. While working in the garden, students actively explore, move, touch, create, and are responsible for developing and nurturing their surroundings. For example, students will be able to water or measure plants, or simply admire what they have achieved by growing something on their own. It will also help students advance their understanding of change by watching a plant grow from seed to a mature fruit or vegetable. We encourage middle school and high school students to participate.

To view the Garden Club meeting dates click [HERE](#).

How to Volunteer at MSS



Studies show that children of parents who are involved in school activities are more likely to be successful. It also models Christian service and teaches children the value of giving back.

Each Morning Star family is required to complete a minimum of 15 hours of service to Morning Star School during the school year. Hours must be completed by the end of the school year. Voluntary participation beyond the 15 hours is greatly appreciated. Parents/families not serving fifteen hours will be required to pay \$5 per missing hour. Invoices will be sent home in May. Please keep track of your hours.

Please know that everything you do makes a difference and we are grateful to have your help. Parent participation is crucial to our school.

To be able to volunteer in the school you must attend the "Protecting God's Children Class and undergo a Background Screening and Live Scan Fingerprinting. Until this screening process is complete you will not be allowed to volunteer in the school. Sign up for your Protecting God's Children class soon, they fill up very quickly.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN & FINGERPRINTING INSTRUCTIONS

Follow the links below to complete your screening process:

1. Complete a Background Screening Form: Click [HERE](#)
2. For Live Scan fingerprinting instructions click [HERE](#)
3. Sign up for and attend a Protecting God's Children Class: Click [HERE](#) and select *St. Augustine, FL (Diocese)*

For help with the Volunteer Screening Process, please contact Sister Elise Kennedy at ekennedy@morningstar-jax.org

Download the NEW Box Top App

BoxTops is a great way to earn fundraising dollars! **And now there is a new phone app which makes it easier to earn points for our school!** Shop as you

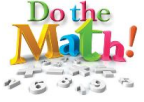


normally would, then simply scan your store receipts to find participating products. The app will automatically credit your school's Box Tops earnings online. It's a much easier way to help us earn dollars.

Download the new Box Tops App [HERE](#).

You may still clip Box Tops and send them to school. Physical Box Top clips are being phased out of production, but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store. Please send your clipped (not expired) Box Tops to school weekly. Thank you for supporting our fundraising efforts!

Math Lab



Wednesday and Thursday from 2:35 pm - 4:00 pm a Math Lab will be offered to Middle School and High School students starting on August 28th and ending on October 4th. The cost is \$60.00 per student. Lab size is limited to 12 students and offers basic math skills, pre-algebra, algebra and geometry skills, hands-on activities, review, and homework assistance in other subjects. Please email Mrs. Carter at ecarter@morningstar-jax.org for more information.

Homeroom Parents Needed



Would you like to help out in your child's classroom AND earn service hours? Consider being a homeroom parent! Please note that parents who volunteer with the students must be finger-printed and complete the "Protecting God's Children" course.

Interested? Please email Sister Elise at ekennedy@morningstar-jax.org

Weather Alerts



Morning Star School follows Duval County Public Schools (DCPS) during extreme weather conditions. If DCPS announces school closures due to weather, we will also be closed.

Band Try Outs



Friday, August 28th at 12:00 pm band try outs will be held in the gym for Intermediate through High School students. For more information and a registration form click [HERE](#).

FUNDRAISING

Shop AMAZON SMILE and Support Morning Star School of Jacksonville!

amazon smile



You shop. Amazon gives.

If you shop on Amazon, make sure you shop on **AmazonSmile**. It's exactly the same Amazon you love but a portion of your purchase price will be donated to our school each time you shop!

1. Visit **AmazonSmile**
2. Select Morning Star School of Jacksonville as your charity of choice and start shopping!
3. Bookmark the **AmazonSmile** link and use it each time you shop with Amazon! (Proceeds will only be donated if you are logged into AmazonSmile.)

Questions? Please reach out to Quana Register, our Home & School AmazonSmile Coordinator at quana.register@spsjax.org

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A FEW THINGS TO REMEMBER...

- Turn in your box tops weekly. They do expire.
- Be sure to NOT cut the code off. We cannot use it if the code is missing even one of the digits
- Place them in a zip lock bag and send them in with your student.

Thank you for supporting our fundraising efforts! Questions? Please reach out to Jackie Rodriguez, our Home & School Box Top Coordinator at Jaco_Rodriguez@yahoo.com

SUBMIT A STORY

Would you like us to share a story about Morning Star School or one of our students? We love showcasing the many talents of our students and their families. To submit a news item for our publications and social media please click the button below to go to our "News" web page then click on the "submit a story" button to use our online communications form.

[Submit a Story!](#)

Our School Mission Statement

Rooted in the Gospel and strengthened by the sacraments, the mission of

Morning Star School is to provide a unique, inspiring education empowering students with learning differences to achieve their full potential.



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