

Tips and Hints for a Successful Start

One Week from the Start of School

Now is the time to start shifting to an earlier bedtime routine and waking those late risers a little earlier.

Always be Prepared

1. Review and follow the uniform policy as described in the handbook. Students in grades 1-8 earn a reward at the end of the semester **ONLY IF** they have no uniform infractions.
2. Pack the uniform the night before on gym days:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Arrive in PE uniform and pack everyday uniform to change into after PE					K Gr. 1-2
Arrive in regular uniform and pack PE uniform to change into for PE	Gr. 5-6 Gr. 7-8	Gr. 1-2 Gr. 3-4		Gr. 3-4	Gr. 5-6 Gr. 7-8

3. Help make changing after gym easy:
 - put belts in pants ahead of time
 - pack polo shirts instead of Oxfords (fewer buttons)
 - pack gym and school shoes that do not require help
4. Velcro gym and school shoes make younger students' lives much easier. (Otherwise, help younger children practice lace-shoes so they can tie shoes quickly.)
5. Having a checklist for what students need to bring and a routine for getting ready can greatly simplify your morning. It is often helpful to lay out clothing the night before. (Children can and should be encouraged to take responsibility in this.)
6. Keep an extra pair of socks in the backpack in case socks get wet at recess or gym.
7. Keep crackers or packaged item in backpacks in case students forget a lunch or snack. (It's easy to forget snacks on gym days!)

Initial Here, Please

1. Label your child's clothing! Be sure to check the lost and found on a regular basis, as your student does not always recognize what may be missing.
2. It is very helpful to put student names or initials also on scissors, rulers, and glue sticks.

Wireless Communication

1. Daily look through planner/homework book of students grades 1-8 to check for homework and notes from the teacher. This mode of communication is critical. (Teachers in 1-6 will look for your initials on the previous day's entry.)
2. If there are any concerns about something at school, please come to your child's teacher right away. We want to work out any potential problems before they become big issues. In-person discussions are best.

Easy Come, Easy Go

1. The Trinitas entrance is located on the east end of the building (to your left when you enter the parking lot). Mr. Marth will be there to welcome you in the morning.
2. Students may be dropped off or picked up only in the area set aside for that purpose. Parents who wish to enter the building must park in a designated parking space opposite the building, near the grass. Parking spaces nearest the building (against the sidewalk) are reserved for Saint Mark Preschool families and Trinitas families with preschool age children.
3. Parents who enter the building outside of the regular arrival time must check-in in the school office. Those who come at arrival time but will be staying past Morning Prayer must also check-in in the office to receive an ID badge.

Timing is Everything

1. The lower entrance closes and locks at 7:55, and school begins at 8:00. Students should arrive no later than 7:50 so they can put their things in their lockers and prepare for their first class. Please feel welcome to bring your child up to his or her classroom and stay for Morning Prayer.
2. We have a time for both snack and lunch, so please be sure to pack for each. We also encourage the use of water bottles (best to mark your child's name on it). The students will have two recesses (only one recess for 7-8), and if you are concerned about ruining school shoes during recess, you can pack tennis shoes for your child to wear.
3. Students who have classes up until the end of the day will be ready for dismissal at 3:00. If not picked up by 3:15, your student will be taken to the school office. Please be prompt in picking up your child!

We are looking forward to a wonderful school year as we learn and grow together!