



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL  
218 EAST MERRIMACK STREET  
LOWELL, MA 01852  
978-454-5339  
(FAX) 978-454-6593  
WWW.ICSLLOWELL.COM  
EMAIL: [ICSLLOWELL@HOTMAIL](mailto:ICSLLOWELL@HOTMAIL).



August 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I hope you are enjoying your summer. To think, that we will start school in a few weeks. Teachers are beginning to get their classrooms ready, books are coming in and you can feel the enthusiasm in the air.

School will begin on Tuesday, August 30 for Grades 1-8. Tuesday, August 30, Wednesday, August 31 and Thursday, September 1 will be half days, with dismissal at 11:30 a.m. **There are no busses during the first week of school (Aug. 30-Sept. 1) so please make arrangements for students to be picked up at 11:30 A.M.** Friday, Sept. 2 and Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup> the school will be closed for Labor Day. Full sessions will begin for the entire school on September 6th. "Kids Club" will also begin sessions on September 6 (2-5 p.m.) Please see the enclosed Tentative Calendar for more information.

**There will be a mandatory parent meeting on Tuesday, August 23rd at 6:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria.** Each family will receive a packet that evening which will include all emergency forms and paperwork needed for the first day of school. You will receive the September Calendar and another hot lunch menu also. **Please use the monthly calendars as your planner. The information will be more current.**

**We will also continue to have a full Hot Lunch Program beginning on Tuesday, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>. We are researching different lunch programs so you will receive the menu at the Aug. 23 meeting. PARENTS MUST ORDER BI-WEEKLY WEDNESDAY (the week before) IN ORDER TO RECEIVE MEALS SINCE ORDERS MUST BE PLANNED ON THURSDAY MORNING. THERE IS NO REFUND FOR PRE-ORDERED FOOD. IF A CHILD IS ABSENT FROM SCHOOL ON A DAY THEY ORDERED FOOD, THERE IS NO REFUND. REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN ON SNOW DAYS ONLY. TEACHERS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO ALERT PARENTS NOT TO ORDER FOOD ON FIELD TRIP DAYS WHEN STUDENTS WILL BE OUT. These meals follow all nutritional guidelines and requirements for the National School Lunch Program. The costs of the meals are \$3.00 (which includes milk). You may also order just milk. Please pay by check or money order. Please make checks payable to ICS. NO LATE ORDERS CAN BE ACCEPTED DUE TO COMPANY RULES.**

**The school day begins at 7:55 a.m. and ends at 1:55 p.m. PLEASE HAVE YOUR CHILD ON TIME FOR SCHOOL.** Tardiness affects the child's learning process as well as interrupts the class in session.

**Pre-K (age 3, 8:30-9:15) and Pre-K (age 4, 9:20-10:15) will hold an Open House on Wednesday, August 31. Kindergarten will also have an Open House on Wednesday, August 31, (10:20-11:20). Children may attend with their parents. PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL PRE-KINDERGARTEN CHILDREN MUST BE POTTY TRAINED IN ORDER TO ATTEND THE PROGRAM.**

We have had several tuition payment calls. Please note that all families in K-8 should have put down the \$200 deposit fee and then a balance of \$280 per month. For Pre-kindergarten families a deposit fee of \$310 should have been received, this will then leave a balance of \$95 per week for the school year. For K-8 families there is a 10-month payment plan. Most families have already submitted their July payment. If you have not done so, please submit this now.

**JUST A REMINDER: No student can return to ICS unless all tuition is paid in full from the previous year. Pam (our bookkeeper) has been in contact all summer with families who may have outstanding tuition. We, too, must pay our bills and regret we have to do this but we do not want to put families more in debt.**

**PLEASE NOTE: TUITION MUST BE PAID WEEKLY BY PRE-K FAMILIES UNLESS OTHER ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE. Families of K-8 students must be monthly or in full-payment. Pam, our bookkeeper will remind families if they are behind n payments.**

We ask each family to read the **2011-2012 Handbook** which is located on our website...[www.icslowell.com](http://www.icslowell.com). If you do not have access to a computer, please let the school office know and we will run off a hard copy for you. All parents must sign a form stating they have read the handbook and will agree to follow the policies and procedures of the school.

Teachers will be notifying you of special class days such as music, gym, computer, spanish, and art classes. **We are privileged to offer Spanish classes to grades PK-4 through grade 8.**

**The Development Committee has paid \$14,000 for a new social studies and science program for our grades 6-8 program. This year we are researching grades 3-5 social studies and science programs and will purchase new books this year. We thank the Development Committee for all they do for our school.**

You will be receiving a volunteer form from ICSPA (Immaculate Conception School Parent Association). **We ask each family to donate their time to 1 activity.** Many hands make light work and if we all pitch in we will be able to make our school even

better. Everyone's time is precious so that is why we ask each family to volunteer to help for 1 activity. If we don't hear from you, we will be calling you.

**Also, we will continue to have the Honeywell Emergency Alert System. Each family is to go on line and register their emergency phone number, email or text number in order to receive notifications in case of school cancellations, important meetings or other school-related emergencies. The fee for this program is included in your book fee.**

**Just a reminder that all students in grades K-8 should be working on their reading and math packets. If your child did not receive this packet, you can go on our website at [icslowell.com](http://icslowell.com). Also, each student in grades PK-8 has a supply list. If you did not receive it, this is also on the website.**

If you have need for further assistance, please feel free to call the school office. Our August summer hours will be Tuesday-Thursday from 9:00-1:00 p.m. We will also be calling in for messages daily if you need anything.

Please enjoy the rest of your summer! God bless you all!

Sincerely,

Catherine Fiorino, Principal