

Changes to Holy Family Catholic School Parent and Student Handbook 2017-2018

- In grades 3-8, 50% points will be deducted from assigned homework that is turned in one day late. Students will be assigned to silent lunch to provide an opportunity to complete work. After the second day a homework assignment is late, the grade will be a 0%. Projects and other test grade assignments that are turned in late will continue to carry an eleven percentage point penalty (one letter grade deduction) for every day that the work is missing.
- Children in middle school have end of the year exams. In grade 5, children take Math and English exam worth two test grades applied to the fourth quarter marking period. In grade 6, children take a Math, English, Science, Social Studies, and Literature exam also worth two test grades applied to the fourth quarter marking period. In grade 7 and 8, students take exams in Math, English, Literature, Science, Social Studies, Spanish, and Religion: these tests are calculated as 10% of child's final grade for the year. Additionally, if an 8th grade student is selected to participate in the Northeast Florida Regional Science Fair and earns a 90% in Science for the year, that student is exempt from the end of the year Science exam.
- Eighth grade valedictorian and salutatorian are selected based on the two highest GPAs in the graduating class calculated over the course of their eighth grade year. In the case of ties, multiple valedictorians and salutatorians may be selected.
- *The Diocese of Saint Augustine has added an item to Promotion and Retention Standards:* Students in grades 3-8 must attend 37 days per each 45 day grading period to qualify for a passing grade in that quarter.
- In addition to prohibition of large hair bands, large hair bows and tiaras are also prohibited
- Excessive jewelry beyond one watch, one modest ring and either one chain with a crucifix or religious medal, or a cloth necklace with a scapular is not permitted.
- The section on School Spirit Days was updated to reflect the change to Wednesdays.
- *This policy from last year has been re-stated for clarification:*
Because emerging wearable technology can receive text messages and hold digital content, for the purposes of academic security, students are not allowed to wear any devices that connect to the Internet or use Bluetooth enabled connections. Teachers are unable to take time to review the functions of all wearable devices. Therefore this ban includes even the simplest "Fit Bit" style trackers, Apple Watches and other wearable technologies as commercially available.
- Drop in service is limited to twice a week. The per hour/per student drop in fee for After School Care is \$9.00.
- Paid enrichment program dismiss students from the doors to the gym foyer.
- Late After School Care pick-ups will be charged an overtime rate per student.
- After School Care students should bring athletic shoes to change into for play outside and in the gym.
- Carline - For 2:30/2:50 pm only: Pull off of Baymeadows eastbound, forming a triple line of cars between Holy Family and Deermeadows Baptist churches. Orange/yellow cones will indicate three distinct lines ahead of dismissal. Parents picking students up in the 2:50 wave are asked to refrain from arriving early, but in the event of overlap, please pull to the line closest the Baptist church. Faculty will call for children by reading your sign and guide drivers from the two lines closest to the Parish Life center to pull up in front of the school to pick up children. At no time should a driver leave his/her car. Please do not use your cell phone while in carline.

- We ask that parents do not attend classroom parties unless expressly invited by teachers.
- [Volunteers may not bring small children to school when volunteering.](#)
- To facilitate ease for parent volunteers in the lunch room, we ask that children bring exact change for the snack bar, \$.50 for one item, \$1.00 for two items.
- [The section on School Masses was updated to reflect the change of regular Mass on Friday.](#)
- Children at Holy Family have traditionally contributed offertory gifts which are collected for the purposes of making donations to various ministries and charitable organizations. In parish families are asked to have their Children place their school offertory envelopes into the collection at Mass on Saturday vigil or on Sunday. Out of parish or non-Catholic families can turn their offertory envelopes into the main office.
- [Parents may only provide lunch for their own children. Please do not send in special treats or snack items for other students without first making arrangements with the homeroom teacher to provide for all children in the class.](#)
- *This policy from last year has been re-stated for clarification:*
Students may carry water bottles throughout the school day. All water bottles must be clear with a secure twist-on top and students may not carry other drinks in their water bottles. A clear Nalgene style bottle is recommended. (Note, we have attached a helpful flyer to aid parents in providing their children water bottles).
- *This policy from last year has been re-stated for clarification:*
We discourage student's bring cellular telephones to school, especially smart phones which provide students unmonitored internet access. Cell phones brought to school must be turned off between the hours of 7:15 to 3:15. Any cell phones brought to school must be turned into the assistant principal's office at the beginning of the day and are picked up at the end of the day. (Note, seventh and eighth graders should be especially diligent so that there is no cellphone use in the gymnasium before the start of classes.)
- Fidget spinners are considered toys and so are prohibited.

We would also like to underscore school policies as stated in last year's handbook.

- Parents who have not been selected as chaperones may not attend field trips
- [All visitors to campus must sign in and out electronically at the school office when arriving and leaving. Visitors may not enter the corridors or classrooms without a visitor's badge](#)
- Parents must notify the school office in writing via e-mail by 11 am to use the After School Care drop in service.