

JULY, 2018

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

June 11- Aug 12- Front Office Closed for Summer

July 24- Preschool and Kindergarten Social at St Ignatius, 5pm - 7pm

July 26- 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Social at St Ignatius, 6pm - 8pm

July 31- 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social at St Ignatius, 6pm - 8pm

August 2- 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social at St Ignatius, 6pm - 8pm

Aug 13- Front Office Opens

Aug 15- Meet & Greet/Supply Drop, 4:30-6:00

Aug 20- First Day of School (all grades)

Sep 3- No School- Labor Day

Sep 15- World Harvest Festival/Back to School BBQ at SI

Sep 20- Back to School Night, 6pm at SI



*Growing leaders who turn  
FAITH into ACTION.*

**FROM THE FRONT OFFICE**

We hope this Howl finds all in our St. Ignatius community safe, happy, and enjoying a restful, fun-filled summer. A huge WELCOME to the many new St. Ignatius families who will be joining our community next year. We are so thrilled to be growing our school with wonderful families and excited new students. We look forward to getting to know all of you in the coming months.

Our teachers and staff have been busy this month with many St. Ignatius summer projects. Summer break allows all of us a great opportunity to step back and reflect on areas of improvement, create and implement new initiatives and programs, participate in professional development opportunities, and make general preparations for the coming school year. In addition, we are working on hiring for new and open staff positions. We look forward to getting more information to you soon about the wonderful new people who will be joining our staff next year.

While we are preparing for next year, our wonderful HSA has been hard at work as well. HSA will be hosting a number of opportunities for our families to connect over the summer and to welcome our new families into our community. Please make every effort to join your fellow Gray Wolves over the summer to get to know other families our community.

Finally, we are happy to announce that Samuel Kane is home from the hospital and now under the dotting supervision of his 2 big sisters (with help from some very happy parents). Thank you all for your prayers and support for the Kane family during these difficult months. We are all so thankful for Sam's amazing progress and growth.

Happy summer Gray Wolves!

*Academic Excellence • Faith Formation • Social Justice • Service • Strength of Community*

## A FEW SUMMER PROJECTS FOR OUR FAMILIES TO COMPLETE:

1. We will have a family directory next year (in addition to the information that can be found in PlusPortals). Please use the link found on the “Parents Links & Docs” tab of our website to complete your information.
2. Next year the school will provide each of the "Room Parents" with a list of parent email addresses for the students in their classroom to help Room Parents facilitate planning of classroom activities, projects, and parties. We will ask that Room Parents limit the amount of communication they send in this capacity and that they maintain the privacy of the email addresses that are given to them. If you do not want your email address provided to the Room Parent for any reason, please email [jkitepowell@stignatiusmeridian.org](mailto:jkitepowell@stignatiusmeridian.org) to be removed from the class list.
3. As families know, we have a Family Participation Program that requires that all families commit 25 hours to school sponsored activities. Please use the link found on the “Parents Links & Docs” tab of our website to complete your registration for the Family Participation Program.
4. Please use the form found on the “Parents Links & Docs” tab of our website to order uniform items that cannot be ordered through Schoolbelles (including middle school PE uniforms, Pre-K shirts, pullovers). Please complete and submit the form with payment to the front office when we open in August. All other information regarding uniforms can be found on our website. ***We encourage you to order your uniforms now to make sure they are received by August!***
5. Our updated 2018-2019 School Calendar can be found on our website.
6. School supply lists will be posted on the “Parent Links & Docs” tab of our website in mid-July.
7. Like last year, we will be having a Teacher Meet & Greet/Supply Drop-off for parents and students on Wednesday, August 15 between 4:30-6:00pm. Families can stop by any time between 4:30-6:00pm to drop off their school supplies, meet teachers, and socialize. Class lists will be posted at the school on that afternoon.

## IDEAL 529 COLLEGE SAVINGS PROGRAM-

***As of 2018, you can now use funds to pay for K-12 tuition!***

### **What is a “529 plan”?**

Named for Section 529 of the U.S. tax code, a 529 plan is a tax-advantaged investment plan operated by a state to encourage saving for education expenses. As there is risk when investing in a 529 account, we encourage you to talk to a financial advisor.

### **What are the qualifying education expenses?**

Following the passage of 2017’s Tax Cut and Jobs Act, funds in a 529 plan may be used for tuition, books, fees, computer technology, or room and board at a qualifying college ***and for up to \$10,000 in tuition at a K-12 private or religious school per year per student.***

If you have not done so, we encourage you to review the details of the **IDEal Idaho 529 Plan**. There may be some great benefits for your family. Check out their website for more details: <https://www.idsave.org>

## HSA CORNER

### Don't Miss Summer Fun!

HSA is hosting some fun summer get togethers! Don't miss these fun Gray Wolf events!

Preschool and Kindergarten

July 24th at St Ignatius  
5pm - 7pm

First, Second, Third Grades

July 26th at St Ignatius  
6pm - 8pm

Fourth, Fifth, Sixth Grades

July 31st at St Ignatius  
6pm - 8pm

Seventh and Eighth Grades

August 2nd at St Ignatius  
6pm - 8pm

There will be activities for each individual grade as well as a larger group activity. All will necessitate parental involvement and supervision.

Get ready for fun and friends!

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Strength of community is one of the cornerstone philosophies of St. Ignatius Catholic School community! A vibrant community gives children strong roots to grow and develop. We encourage all families to participate in our many social, service and volunteer endeavors to help us build and strengthen the St. Ignatius family.

## SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING

All adults who volunteer with our students (including but not limited to field trip chaperones, class party volunteers, and anyone who helps in the school during school hours) must complete Safe Environment Training. More information on the requirements can be found on our website. The first such training must be in person. The following training sessions are being offered at Holy Apostles this summer.

- Tuesday, June 5 at 7pm in Room 102/103
- Thursday, June 21 at 10am & 7pm in the Dining Room
- Monday, July 2 at 7pm in Room 102/103

*If you have already taken the Safe Environment Training, you must renew each year through an online training update which can be found on the Safe Environment tab of our website. Please make sure that is completed over the summer so that you are ready to go for school next year!*

## SERVICE

Summer is a great time for families to participate in community service. Sign up to serve a meal at St. Vincent's with other Gray Wolf families. For more information and to sign up, go to <https://signup.com/group/976612102086>. If you have a student who is interested in helping but need help with rides and logistics, please contact Monica Larrazabal ([monilarra@yahoo.com](mailto:monilarra@yahoo.com)).

## AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS

We are starting a multi-age American Heritage Girls troop for grades K-8 at St. Ignatius in the fall. The troop will generally meet on Wednesdays at St. Ignatius during the early release/enrichment time from 2:45-3:30. We can use help getting up and running this summer! We need to form the Board, plan the first few activities, and generally get prepared to hit the ground running when school starts in August. Please email Sarah Murphy at [sarah@murphyclan.us](mailto:sarah@murphyclan.us) if you are able to help!

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Calling all social butterflies! If you feel called to fellowship and connecting with other parents, please prayerfully consider joining the St Ignatius Hospitality committee. Please contact Megan Marston, [megmarston@gmail.com](mailto:megmarston@gmail.com), with any questions. Thank you!

St. Ignatius Catholic School  
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[www.stignatiusmeridian.org](http://www.stignatiusmeridian.org)

Connect with us!  
Facebook: [stignatiuscatholicsschool](https://www.facebook.com/stignatiuscatholicsschool)  
Twitter: [@stignatiusid](https://twitter.com/stignatiusid)  
Instagram: [st.ignatiusmeridian](https://www.instagram.com/stignatiusmeridian)

### *St. Ignatius School Mission*

*St. Ignatius is a Christ-centered Catholic school committed to the Ignatian traditions of academic excellence and teaching students to live their Catholic faith through service and the promotion of justice. Our community - school, families, parish - seeks to inspire students to reach their potential, to act with initiative and integrity, and to engage the world as a place where God can be found in all things.*