

St. Patrick Catholic School

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General School Questions



What time does school start?

First bell is at **7:50 a.m.**

Students arriving after **8:00 a.m.** are tardy and must be signed in at the office.

Prayers and announcements begin promptly at **8:00 a.m.**

What time does school end?

2:35 p.m.

What time does afterschool end?

Your child must be picked up by **6 p.m.**



Who do I notify if I need to pick-up my child early?

Email your child's teacher and call/email **Jamie Arigoni** at the front desk. If possible, let the school know one day in advance.

If your child needs to leave early, they must be picked up by **2:15 p.m.** The office is closed from **2:15 to 3:00** to allow for smooth dismissal procedures. After 2:15, you will need to wait for regular afternoon dismissal.

What do I do if my child is going home with a friend?

Send a note to your child's teacher with the name of the friend and how they will be picked up (i.e. in carpool or walkers, etc.). If plans are made during school hours, call **Jamie Arigoni** at the front desk and she will alert your student and their teacher.



How do I receive important notifications from school?

At the beginning of every week, the the school will email its weekly newsletter called the Irish Informer, outlining everything that's happening at school.

You can also follow the school on social media:



@stpatrickcharlotte

Text Alerts

Stay tuned for instructions to receive text alerts from school.

Lunch Questions

MACS elementary schools do not prepare their own food. Lunch is ordered from outside restaurants, including Potbelly, Chick-Fil-A, and Hungry Howie's Pizza. Therefore, parents need to order their child's lunches in advance.



How do I order lunch?

Here is a link to specific instructions on how to place lunch orders:

[ORDER LUNCH](#)



When does lunch need to be ordered?

Lunch orders must be placed by Wednesday at midnight the week prior. Ms. Loeber will send a reminder email each week.



How many lunches can I order at once?

Typically, you can order lunches for up to one month at a time. Or, you can order lunch one week at a time.



What if my child is sick and I ordered them lunch?

Lunch orders are non-refundable once the ordering window has closed, so unfortunately, if your child is sick, that lunch is missed. You can always stop by school and grab their lunch and bring it home when they're sick.



Can I come eat lunch with my child? Does anyone need to approve this? Does the guest need to have completed Protecting God's Children in order to visit for lunch?

Yes! You are welcome to come eat lunch with your child. Simply check in at the front office and wear a Visitor badge. You do not need pre-approval to come to lunch and guests are not required to have completed Protecting God's Children in order to visit for lunch; however, if the guest plans to do ANY volunteering outside of the lunchroom, they must have completed all volunteer requirements.



What if I forgot to order lunch for my child AND they did not bring a lunch to school?

Have no fear! If any child comes to school without lunch, they will be provided with a peanut butter and jelly sandwich and a carton of milk.



Is there anything my child can buy at the cafeteria that doesn't need to be pre-ordered?

Yes! Cash can be used every day to purchase ice cream, an assortment of snacks (i.e. chips, cereal, fruit cups, applesauce) and milk, juice or water. All of these items may also be pre-ordered.

Uniform Questions



Where do I purchase uniforms?

All uniforms must be purchased at Flynn O'Hara located at:
1730 Abbey Place
Charlotte, NC 28209

Or through their website:

[ORDER UNIFORMS](#)

**Gently used uniforms can be purchased in the PTO Shamrock Shop.*

What are the approved uniforms?

Boys

Non-Mass Days

Boys can wear navy blue shorts or pants (no sport shorts, must have belt loops and non-elastic waist), a green or white St. Pat's logo polo shirt (purchased from Flynn O'Hara), socks can be either black, white or St. Pat's logo green. A belt IS NOT required.



Gym/PE

St. Pat's logo sport shorts or the St. Pat's logo track pants available at Flynn O'Hara and one of 3 St. Pat's t-shirts - White Faith in Learning (shown here, but no longer available for purchase), Dry Fit St. Pat's Shirt or the gray St. Patrick gym t-shirt (the last two both sold at Flynn O'Hara). Additionally, the green track jacket can be worn on PE days. On Monday and Wednesday, all students may wear PE clothes to school. On their other two PE days, they have the option to change into and out of PE clothes at school.



Mass Days

All boys must wear long navy-blue pants (no holes) and a St. Pat's polo shirt.



Girls

Non-Mass Days

All girls can wear the plaid skort (purchased at Flynn O'Hara), navy blue shorts or pants (no sport shorts, must have belt loops and non-elastic waist), each with a green or white St. Pat's logo polo shirt (purchased from Flynn O'Hara). Socks can be either black, white or St. Pat's logo green. A belt IS NOT required if wearing shorts or pants. K-3rd grade girls can also wear the plaid jumper (purchased at Flynn O'Hara). 4th and 5th grade girls only may also wear the plaid kilt (purchased at Flynn O'Hara). All girls may also wear black, blue or white leggings or tights under the uniform jumper, skort or kilt when the weather is cooler.



Gym/PE

Same as boys above

Mass Days

All girls in grades K-3 must wear the plaid jumper with a white or green polo shirt or white blouse underneath. 4th/5th grade girls must wear the plaid kilt with a St. Pat's white or green polo shirt.



****Green St. Pat's logo fleece is permitted to be worn in school all year round and can be purchased at Flynn O'Hara. Any other outerwear must be removed upon entering school.**

Uniform Questions



Where is the Shamrock Shop located? When can I shop there?

The Shamrock Shop is open during Meet the Teacher day (Open House), New Family Picnic, Fall Festival and various other school functions. It is located in the cafeteria. You may also email Ashly Ely (ashlyaustin@gmail.com) throughout the year if you are in need of a uniform.



Where is the Spirit Store located? When can I shop there?

The Spirit Store sells new St. Patrick's branded swag such as socks, magnets, baseball caps, yard signs and water bottles. Spirit Store is open during Meet the Teacher day (Open House), New Family Picnic, Fall Festival and various other school functions. It is usually located in the cafeteria. St. Patrick's socks will be available for purchase all year round in the front office for \$10.

PTO Questions



How do I stay connected to school happenings?

Follow the PTO on Facebook and Instagram

[PTO FACEBOOK](#)

[PTO INSTAGRAM](#)

The St. Pats PTO regularly updates its Facebook page, which highlights school events, PTO parties, spirit nights and fundraisers, along with helpful reminders and pictures of school PTO events.

Request to be added to the St. Patrick's Parents Group on Facebook. This is a private group open only to current St. Pat's parents where you can ask questions, share information and discuss ideas with other families

[PARENTS FACEBOOK](#)



I want to volunteer to be a room parent. Who do I contact?

Contact Kristin Mancia, VP of Teacher Support at kristin.mancia@gmail.com



I'm interested in becoming more involved in the PTO.

Who do I contact?

Email the PTO President, Lindsey Sheedy at: lindseysheedy@gmail.com and she will connect you with the right person.



Where can I find open opportunities to volunteer throughout the school year?

When there are committee chair openings, the PTO generally updates a Google form with open positions. The form will be periodically emailed through room parents or posted in the Irishformer. You can also reach out to a PTO board member at any time with questions about openings or areas of interest. Room parents will also email various ways to volunteer throughout the school year, for things like field trip chaperones and class events.



What are the volunteer requirements at St. Pat's?

All volunteers are required to have the following:

- 1) Completed Protecting God's Children Course
- 2) Completed Volunteer Profile form
- 3) Completed Background check (through Virtus)

**Volunteers are also required to complete monthly Safe Environment bulletins to stay in compliance.



How can I reserve the Spirit Rock?

[RESERVE HERE](#)

The rock is available for a maximum rental of 2 days to family and staff members of St. Patrick School. The cost is \$10 per day, with all proceeds going to the PTO to benefit school programs and activities. Reservations begin at 3:15pm the day BEFORE you reserve it and are limited to 2 consecutive days. You may paint the rock yourself or hire a local artist.

Religion Questions



Does my child need to attend Faith Formation classes through my church to receive First Communion?

No. Religion is taught daily in the classroom, and your child does not need to attend weekend Faith Formation. However, all students who plan to receive First Reconciliation and First Communion must sign up for preparatory classes during winter/spring of their 2nd Grade Year, through the Church where these sacraments will take place.



Is First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation done through the student's class at St. Patrick?

No. While many children, regardless of parish affiliation, choose to receive their First Communion at St. Patrick Cathedral, this is not mandatory. Each family should sign their child up for sacraments to be completed at their home parish, or through the Cathedral if you so choose. But, you will NOT automatically be signed up through school.



My child is not Catholic. Do they still need to attend mass?

Yes, all students, despite their religious beliefs, must attend mass with their class every Friday.



My child is not Catholic. What do they do during Communion?

Student masses are very inclusive and most children don't really notice who is or is not Catholic in their classes. All non-Catholic students, as well as those who have not yet received their First Communion, may walk with their arms crossed to their shoulders and receive a blessing from the priest.

Sports Questions



When can my child play sports through St. Pat's?

St. Pat's will begin fielding basketball teams through the Interfaith Basketball League beginning in 3rd grade. Prior to 3rd grade, most grades organize a team through Covenant Presbyterian Church.

St. Pat's no longer fields soccer teams through the YMCA and instead now recommends teams organize through Charlotte Jr. Soccer by simply requesting classmates as their teammates.