



311 Flower City Park
Rochester, NY 14615
P: 585.458.3786
F: 585.647.8717
info@nazarethschools.org
www.nazarethschools.org

June 30, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We miss the children already! School is not the same without their smiling eyes and sounds of laughter! As we close out the 2020-2021 school year, I want to thank all of you who were with us in 20-21 for your part in making it an amazing year. We could not have done it without your support, patience, and understanding. The journey this year was like no other, but we journeyed together and that made all the difference. The blessings of this year far exceeded our hopes and expectations in so many ways.

Even though we are still closing out this school year, we start looking ahead to September. We are excited that so many of you will be returning, and we welcome those of you who will be joining us for the first time.

Report Cards – If your child was with us this year, you are receiving his/her final report card. When you review it with your child, praise his/her good efforts and ask your child what s/he is most proud of this year. I encourage you to have a conversation about areas that could improve, too. Set a goal or two for this summer. Reinforcement of skills, especially in reading, writing, and math, will help your child return to school with greater confidence and a stronger set of skills to begin a new year.

Growing in the Summer! Read books together as a family, have the children act out stories, play games with math facts, make up math word problems, cook/bake using measurement in recipes, draw nature scenes from a summer trip, create a flyer of summer activities, read signs on a road trip, keep a daily journal of summer experiences. The list is endless!



Enclosed is some information that will help everyone prepare for the opening of school:

- ✓ **Health Information** – Please read the inserts carefully to make sure your child is up-to-date with physicals and vaccinations before school starts again.
- ✓ **Summer Reading Lists** – We encourage every child to read *at least 20-30 minutes each day* during the summer. For preschoolers or kindergarteners who are not yet readers, perhaps an older sibling or adult could read to them each day. Ask them questions about the stories. Trips to the library are great family adventures!

Looking Ahead:



Back-to-School Supply Lists – Teachers have put together needed supplies for September, and we are checking our supplies inventory here. We will send the lists home in late **July** to allow you to catch the best sales of the summer. The lists will be on our website as well.

Calendar for 2021-2022 – This is on our website. You will find it in our **August** mailing.

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Uniforms – The dress code is on our website. Included are places where you can purchase the uniforms. You will receive a reminder with the **August** mailing.

Financial Obligations – If you still have a tuition balance, please contact Cathy Cerame ASAP to work out a payment plan. A child cannot return in September unless this year's balance is paid.

Additional Information:

Enrollment – We have 17 new children registered to date with three more in process. I hope to be able to give tours again this summer. We are grateful the good news about Nazareth is spreading! Thank you for your efforts! Please invite a relative, neighbor, or friend to come and see. *Remember: Recruit a new family and you get a \$300 reduction off next January's tuition payment. The more you recruit, the greater the discounts you receive.*

Summer Meals – There are many opportunities in the city for children to get a nourishing lunch or breakfast and lunch in the summer. Dial 2-1-1 or visit www.SummerMealsRoc.org for a complete list of locations and times.



Gratitude – As we walk into summer, we pause to say thank you to God for so many gifts and blessings. I want to recognize again the entire Nazareth faculty/staff. Their commitment to our children and families is beyond words! It is an honor for me to work with them. They have been such an inspiration during this pandemic year.



We definitely count all of you and your children among our blessings, too. Nazareth is a special place, a holy place where faith, love, and learning thrive. Thank you for being a part of our school family and for sharing your beautiful children with us. There were many children saying as they went to cars and buses on the last day that they wished the school year would not end! That warmed our hearts!

End-of-Year Celebration – Did you catch our Dance Party on the Channel 10 news? Everyone had a great time the last day of school. Sr. Anita and Mrs. Andolina did a fantastic job of coordinating the celebration that was great fun. The children loved sharing the many dances they learned this year. It was the first time we were able to bring the entire school together this year because of the COVID restrictions, too. The joy and excitement of the children was even a ray of sunshine for the news media!

May you and your families have a healthy, safe, grace-filled, and refreshing summer. You will hear from us again in a couple weeks and again in August about the opening of school.

Save the dates:

- September 2 – Preschool/Kindergarten Orientation*
- September 7 – Meet the Teachers*
- September 8 – School Opens for PreK–Grade 6.

* Times will be in our August mailing for by then we should know the guidelines for schools from the Health and NYS Education Departments. We may have to space the timing of groups coming in.

Call our office if you have any questions. The Main Office will be open from 9 a.m.–2 p.m. most days during July through August 20. After that, we return to regular school hours.

Enjoy your summer and the extra time with your children! Please stay safe and well!

Peace and prayers,

Sr. Margaret Mancuso, S.S.J.

Sister Margaret Mancuso, SSJ
Principal