



Sacred Heart Catholic School

SPREADING GOD'S LOVE SINCE 1882

The Mission of Sacred Heart Catholic School is to teach Gospel values that will foster the spiritual, moral, academic, social, and physical growth of the students according to Catholic tradition and the spirit of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament.

361-798-4251 313 S. Texana St., Hallettsville, TX 77964

www.shschool.org



GOOD NEWS BULLETIN September 2023

NOTICES!

NO SCHOOL - Monday, September 4th, Labor Day

EARLY DISMISSAL Friday, September 1st
1:00 p.m. Faculty meeting

TUITION PAYMENT ENVELOPES - Please send in your monthly tuition payments in your tuition payment envelopes by the 10th of each month. If you have not received a payment booklet, please contact Jackie Pettus at the rectory at 361-798-5888.

CHURCH PICNIC – Sunday, September 3rd

PROGRESS REPORTS – Progress Reports will be distributed to students on Monday, September 11th.

2023 YEARBOOK – The 2023 Phoenix yearbook can still be ordered. The cost is \$80.00.

2023-2024 SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS are Michelle Etzler – President; Ronnie Grahmann Vice-President; Keith Kubenka, Brooke Meinkowsky, Secretary; Chris Kubena, and Carol Rother. The pastor, Reverend Monsignor John Peters, is an ex-officio non-voting member. All acts of the Sacred Heart Catholic School Advisory Council are subject to the approval of the pastor. Principal Kevin Haas is the executive officer of the school advisory council but has no vote.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

We have had an amazing start to the new school year. If you have come into the school through our front entrance, you will have noticed our new front sidewalk and front steps. We plan to have some landscaping done but with the extreme hot temperatures, we are waiting for a little bit cooler weather before adding plants. Many things are shaping up for a great year ahead for Sacred Heart School. Be sure to check your calendar for all the events taking place in September.

This year's IOWA standardized testing will not take place in the fall like it has in the past. Instead, testing will be in the spring from April 8th through April 12th. We will be testing for grades K through 8th only. The changes have come from the Office of Catholic Schools.

Homecoming is again early this year. The Homecoming game is on Friday, September 15th while the festivities will be on Saturday, September 16th. Our Pep Rally is on Sunday, September 10th in the gym. The Memorial Mass will take place on Saturday, September 16th at 3:00 p.m. with the Homecoming social, dinner, and dance following at the KC Hall. This year we will also have plates to go available for the public. Tell your family, friends and alumni classmates to come out and have a great time at our Homecoming festivities.

Hope to see you all at the Sacred Heart Church Picnic on September 3rd!

REMINDERS!

STREET CLOSING AND ONE-WAY TRAFFIC FOR SOUTH TEXANA STREET – The Hallettsville City Council has approved South Texana Street to be designated as a one-way street north to south from Fifth Street to Church Street during the hours of 7:15 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in front of Sacred Heart Catholic School and Sacred Heart Church on regular school days. The speed limit is 20 miles per hour in a school zone. **No cell phone use or texting is allowed in a school zone.** South Texana Street will also be closed in front of Sacred Heart Catholic School from **8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** on regular school days.

EARLY ARRIVALS AND PICK-UP – The school day begins at 7:58 a.m. All students in grades Pre-K-8 who arrive at school before 7:45 a.m. are to report directly to the school cafeteria where there is adult supervision. Classrooms and hallways will be opened for students at 7:45 a.m. each morning. Playing outside or loitering outside before 7:45 a.m. will not be allowed. Students are to remain seated in the cafeteria until they are dismissed at 7:45 a.m. The purpose of this procedure is to ensure the safety of our students and to allow teachers to focus totally on their classroom preparation for the day. Please remember that students should be picked up by the end of the school day. (Pre-K through 4th at 3:15 p.m. and grades 5 through 12 at 3:45 p.m.). Elementary students waiting for their older brother or sister **ONLY** must report to the cafeteria and remain there until 3:45 p.m. Thank you for your cooperation.

STRIVING FOR INDEPENDENCE AND RESPONSIBILITY – In the spirit of promoting your child's level of independence and responsibility, we encourage all of our parents to drop children off at the cafeteria prior to 7:45 a.m. Let your child get to the classroom by themselves and unpack for the day. Please discuss a designated pick-up area with your child for after school. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to instill the importance of independence and responsibility in your child's daily life. Schedule parent/teacher conferences in advance and be sure to check-in at the school office.

MORE REMINDERS!

ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCE - Students are expected to be present and punctual for all classes throughout the year. Any absence must be explained by a note from parents brought to the school office before the student returns to class. **Parents are asked to call the school office before the first period on the first day of the student's absence to inform the office.** 361-798-4251 After an absence, students must obtain an Admission Slip from the office, which will permit them to return to class.

NO SMOKING, E-CIGARETTES, OR USING TOBACCO PRODUCTS AT SCHOOL RELATED ACTIVITIES – The Texas Education Code, Section 38.006, reads as follows:

E-CIGARETTES AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY. (a) In this section, "e-cigarette" has the meaning assigned by Section [161.081](#), Health and Safety Code. (b) The board of trustees of a school district shall: (1) prohibit smoking or using e-cigarettes or tobacco products at a school-related or school-sanctioned activity on or off school property; (2) prohibit students from possessing e-cigarettes or tobacco products at a school-related or school-sanctioned activity on or off school property; and (3) ensure that school personnel enforce the policies on school property.

All athletic contests are school activities, so the use of tobacco or e-cigarettes in any form is prohibited. We are recognized by the Texas Education Agency as an accredited school.

PERMISSION TO LEAVE SCHOOL DURING THE DAY – Sacred Heart Catholic School operates a closed campus policy. Students must remain on the school grounds from the time they arrive, even if the first period has not yet begun, until dismissal. Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds without permission from the office. A student who needs to leave campus must present a written request, signed by a parent or guardian, to the principal before the first period begins in order to be allowed to leave the campus. When the request to leave has been approved, the student will sign out on the required form located in the school office. Should the student return to the school during the same day, he/she must sign in and receive a permit to return to class.

RAPTOR SYSTEM - PARENTS/VISITORS SIGN IN– All visitors and parents are welcome at Sacred Heart Catholic School and are required to sign in at the school entrance when coming on campus. ID's will be required for everyone. Signs to that effect have been posted at all entrances. Please sign out also when leaving the campus. All deliveries of items, messages, or lunches for students or staff must be dropped off at the front entrance office of the school. They will be delivered to the designated person at the appropriate time by school personnel. The purpose of this policy is to provide security and safety for your children and to avoid unnecessary interruptions of classroom instruction.

Please remember to call the school (361-798-4251) in advance to make an appointment when you need to confer with a teacher. Your cooperation concerning these matters is greatly appreciated.

TAPPS MISSION STATEMENT

TAPPS MISSION STATEMENT: The Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools commits to building leadership, fellowship, fair play and sportsmanship of students enrolled in the organization's member schools in the areas of academics, athletics and fine arts by providing wholesome competition for young men and women.

In order to achieve our stated goal, we must compete with honor; hence the motto – **COMPETITION WITH HONOR.**

The TAPPS By-Laws (Section 138) require that officials and schools must report to the TAPPS office misconduct and/or ejection from a contest of any player, coach, or spectator within 24 hours of the contest. Should an ejection occur, an automatic one game suspension will be assessed, in addition to a monetary fine (\$50.00) that will increase with each subsequent disqualification of participant, coach, or spectator. An ejection in the state semifinals or finals will carry a fine of \$250.00 in addition to the one game suspension.

FUNDAMENTALS OF SPORTSMANSHIP

1. Spectator privilege. A ticket to the game is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others (officials, opposing players, etc.) or be generally obnoxious.

2. Gain an understanding and appreciation for the rules of the contest. The necessity to be well informed is essential. Know the rules. If you are uninformed, refrain from expressing opinions on officials, coaches, or administrative decisions. The spirit of good sportsmanship depends on conformance to a rule's intent as well as to the letter of a given rule.

3. Exercise representative behavior at all times. A prerequisite to good sportsmanship requires one to understand his/her own prejudices that may become a factor in his/her behavior. The true value of interscholastic competition relies upon everyone's exhibiting behavior which is representative of a sound value base. A proper perspective must be maintained if the educational values are to be realized. Your behavior influences others whether you are aware of it or not, including Sacred Heart Catholic School.

4. Recognize and appreciate skilled performances regardless of affiliation. Applause for an opponent's good performance displays generosity and is a courtesy that should be regularly practiced. This not only represents good sportsmanship, but also reflects a true awareness of the game by recognizing and acknowledging quality.

5. Exhibit respect for the officials. The officials of any contest are impartial arbitrators who are trained and who perform to the best of their ability. Mistakes by all those involved in the contests are a part of the game. We should not rationalize our own poor or unsuccessful performance or behavior by placing responsibility on an official. The rule of good sportsmanship is to accept and abide by the decision made. This value is critical for students to learn for later application in life.

6. Openly display a respect for the opponent at all times. Opponents are guests and should be treated cordially, provided with the best accommodations, and accorded tolerance at all times. Be a positive representative for your school, team, and family. This fundamental is the Golden Rule in action.

7. Display pride in your actions at every opportunity. Never allow your ego to interfere with good judgement and your responsibility as a school representative. Regardless of whether you are an adult, student, player, coach, or official, this value is paramount since it suggests that you care about yourself and how others perceive you.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

2023 - 2024 SAT TESTS:

Oct. 7th *; Nov. 4th; Dec. 2nd *;
March 9th; May 4th *; June 1st

* Denotes offered at HHS

Deadline to register for Oct. 7th test – Sept. 7th

Deadline to register for Nov. 4th test – Oct. 5th

Deadline to register for Dec. 2nd test – Nov. 2nd

To register, go to: www.sat.org/register

For practice tests, go to <https://www.khanacademy.org/>

2023 – 2024 ACT TESTS:

Sept. 9th *; Oct. 28th; Dec. 9th *; Feb. 10th;
April 13th *; June 8th; July 13th

* Denotes offered at HHS

Deadline to register for Oct. 28th test – Sept. 22nd

Deadline to register for Dec. 9th test – Nov. 3rd

Deadline to register for Feb. 10th test – Jan. 5th

To register, go to: www.actstudent.org

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

11th Grade – Monday, September 11th at 7:00 p.m.,
in the Family Center; for students & parents

10th Grade – Monday, October 2nd at 7:00 p.m.,
in the Family Center; for students & parents

COUNSELOR CONTACT –

Ana Henke ana.henke@shschool.org

HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION STRUDEL BAKE

Saturday October 14, 2023- We are looking forward to another successful strudel bake. As always, we will need a lot of help to make it a success. Pecan donations are needed by October 1st. You may bring them to the school. Contacts: Angela Harper 512-940-7202, Barbara Grahmann 361-798-0659, or Annette Henke 361-772-0929

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

4 Greysen Miranda	18 Kayla Kurtz
5 Philip Bochat	Kenzie Kurtz
6 Caleb Brooks	Emi Pohl
Ezra Lucas	20 Klein Belcik
7 Caston Dworsky	Levi Opela
8 Blair Kudelka	21 Jarrett Jansky
9 Zane Greiner	22 Mrs. Wanda Orsak
11 Kenzie Chance	23 Max Collins
Ainsley Noska	Mrs. Misti Ridgeway
Bransen Pastucha	25 Mrs. Brenda Etzler
12 Juliana Henke	26 Klayton Chance
13 Grayson Whited	Coach Kellie Haas
14 Katniss Rother	27 Luke Meinkowsky
15 Addisyn Mozisek	29 Brynadee Etzler
17 Macie Haas	Ford Opela
Claire Janak	30 Jack Chambers

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BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION - Here's an easy way to support our school! Download the Box Tops app, shop as you normally would, then simply scan your store receipts to find participating products. The app will automatically credit your Box Tops earnings to our school online. Visit <https://www.boxtops4education.com/> for more information.

KINDERGARTEN GRANDPARENT'S DAY – The Kindergarten class would like to invite their grandparents to attend Mass with them on Friday, September 8th at 8:05 a.m. and to a reception afterwards in the Family Center. Grandparents may also visit the classroom.

BAR-B-QUE PORK DINNER - Monday, September 25th at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Plates-to-go will be served from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. Tickets will be available to purchase in September. The Knights of Columbus will prepare the meal and the students & parents of Sacred Heart Catholic School will sell the meal tickets & serve the meal. All profits will benefit the Sacred Heart Catholic School operating fund.

STANDARDIZED ACHIEVEMENT TESTING – The Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) will be given to students in grades 1st through 8th in the spring.

BLOOD DRIVE – There will be a blood drive on Monday, September 25th from 10:30 to 6:00 in the Family Center.

AREA SUPPORT AGENCIES

The following agencies provide support and/or counseling services for students and families.

Dewitt-Lavaca Special Education Cooperative, Yoakum; provides special education services to students from ages 3 to 21. 361-293-2854

The Emmaus Center – Victoria; Provides Catholic-based professional counseling for the faithful of the Diocese of Victoria and others seeking Christian-based counseling. Services are available for individuals, couples, and adolescents. 361-212-0830; 1908 N. Laurent St., Suite 140, Victoria, Texas 77901;

Gulf Bend Center, Victoria; improve the quality of life of persons and their families who are challenged with problems related to mental illness and intellectual and developmental disabilities. 24 Hour Crisis Hotline 877-723-3422; Office 800-421-8825; 361-575-0611

Hatch, Weimar & Victoria – Committed to guiding clients in the development of pathways to working, learning, and living wisely. Our goal is for each student, person, group, or entity entrusted to our care and direction to reach full potential in all areas of development. 979-314-7229

Mid-Coast Family Services, Victoria; actively works to eliminate family violence, homelessness, and substance abuse. 24 Hour Domestic Violence Hotline: 361-573-HELP or 800-870-0368; Office toll free 888-575-7842

Norma's House, Gonzales & Hallettsville; Helps children who are victims of physical, emotional, sexual abuse, and neglect; a member of Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas; 401 E. 1st Street, Hallettsville; 361-217-7217; 830-672-1278; To report suspected abuse, call 911 or 1-800-252-5400.

Turtle Wing Foundation, Schulenburg; Mission: to help children in rural areas with learning challenges achieve their full potential. The primary service area is Fayette, Lavaca, and Colorado counties but will consider all requests from rural South Central Texas. 979-505-5090