# **PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER**

A bi-monthly newsletter brought to you by Principal Rodrigues

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# **Principal's Message**



Welcome to more new students 6th: Liam

Please welcome ERIN KOHLHAAS, our new Marketing and Development Director. Erin graduated from the University of Mary Washington with a B.S. in Business Administration and holds a Professional Certificate in Event Management from the George Washington School of Business. She was born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, but now resides in Anacortes with her husband, Sol, and 2 daughters, Ellamay and Annabelle. Erin has worked in recruiting and event planning for over 10 years and looks forward to joining the ICRS team on October 4!

Due to COVID, OSPI and the National School Lunch Program are making it possible for lunches to be provided free of charge to all students. Students must order lunch daily in their classroom during the attendance count.

We still need families to turn in their Free/Reduced lunch applications to the school office as usual, so we can track eligibility, qualify for grants, and be prepared when this benefit expires.

Substitute Teachers and Aides needed. ICRS is seeking substitute teachers and aides. Please see our website for more details. Interested candidates should email their cover letter and resume to Principal Rodrigues.

Volunteers needed. Parents, every three years you will have to update your virtusonline.org account. To see if you need to take an online refresher course or update your background check, log into your account and click on the "home" button for your specific updates.

ICRS VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR NEEDED: if you enjoy contacting and meeting new people, this may be the job for you! It includes finding volunteers for everything from Maintenance to Classroom volunteers and you are guaranteed fulfillment of your 40 volunteer hours! Please send an email to Mrs. Cartee if you are interested in this volunteer position.

Are you a pianist? ICRS is seeking a pianist who can play instrumental hymns at Mass. One who is familiar with the liturgy and can easily read music would be the best suited volunteer. If you or your talented child would like to help out, please email <u>Reichlin@icrsweb.org</u>

Mrs. Oropeza is also seeking yard duty volunteers and lunch duty volunteers. The greatest need at this time is M-Th recess at 12-12:30. Please send her an email if you can help.

# **Upcoming Events**

#### **Events** Calendar 1№ 2 9 16 23 30 m 3 10 17 24 31 1 8 15 22 29 4 11 18 25 6 13 20 27 7 14 21 28

MONDAYS: 8:45am, Scrip orders due TUESDAYS: Spirit Day (students can wear spirit day shirts) WEDNESDAYS: 9:25am LATE START FRIDAYS: 12pm, Scrip orders ready for pick

#### September

- 9/29-10/8, MAP testing for 2nd-8th
- 9/29, 3:15pm, Staff Meeting

October

- 10/1, FulcrumFoundation.org tuition assistance grant applications open for 22-23
- 10/1, 9:30AM, School Mass led by 6th grade
- 10/1, Wreath Sale begins. See your brown envelope.
- 10/5, 4pm, Soccer @ Lucille Umbarger
- 10/5, 4pm, 7th VB; 5pm, 8th VB. Allen @ IC
- 10/6, 4pm, 8th VB; 5pm, 7th VB. IC @ LU
- 10/7, 11am, 7th/8th VB @ Lopez

up.

#### **COVID Updates: Quarantining Policy**



ICRS follows the guidance of the governor, the local Dept of Health (DOH) and the Office of Catholic Schools (OCS) to provide a safe learning environment for students and staff and is committed to providing school in-person, five days a week. Guidance flexes with new information related to COVID. ICRS will continue a layered approach to support a safe learning environment. Below is our policy on quarantining. As vaccines come available for younger children, this will change.

If a student in your child's class contracts COVID, that student must isolate per the Department of Health (DOH). All students in close contact with the infected student must quarantine.

**Close contacts in grades PK-2.** If a student tests positive for COVID in grades PK-2, the entire class will quarantine (per updates from the Skagit DOH 9/23/21). Please monitor for symptoms through day 14.

**Close contact in grades 3-8.** If a student tests positive for COVID in grades 3-8, teachers will identify close contacts for quarantining. Close contacts are students within three feet of the person testing positive for at least 15 cumulative minutes. Please monitor for symptoms through day 14.

**Fully vaccinated students without symptoms** do not need to quarantine but should mask, symptom watch, and test at day 3, 4 or 5 after the exposure.

**Duration**. If any student has COVID symptoms, he or she must be tested and isolate. A person in isolation or quarantine can return to school after day 7 if they have a negative COVID test conducted no sooner than 48 hours before return AND the person is symptom-free for 24 hours without medication. Test results must be shown to Mrs. Oropeza before returning to school. The person still needs to monitor for symptoms through day 14. If they develop symptoms, they must isolate.

Without a COVID test, students can return to school after 10 days AND if they are symptom free without medication for 24 hours.

**Note that the Skagit DOH or the school** may recommend action beyond quarantine of close contacts in certain situations.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**



Will it be typical this year for an entire class to quarantine when there is a COVID case? Is there an alternative plan to keep classes in person while quarantining infected individuals or those with definite close contact? The school policy for quarantining is described above and consistent with the Skagit County Department of Health. As the vaccine is rolled out for students five and older, this policy will likely change. Teachers are committed to continued learning while students are quarantining.

**QUARANTINING CLOSE CONTACTS**? Last week on Monday we quarantined the 4<sup>th</sup> grade class because two children in that classroom had Covid contracted outside of the school. When a child contracts Covid, the siblings are also quarantined. In this case, these two children did not have siblings in other grades. Therefore, the only risk was for children in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. The other children in 4<sup>th</sup> grade were quarantined as close contacts, not because they were ill. Please continue to encourage your children to take the necessary precautions (masks, distancing, and cleanliness) while at school. Together we hope to keep this virus away from our school!

Please submit your questions to <u>admissions@icrsweb.org</u>