



# Important Notes from Mrs. Luzzo

## August 2, 2025

***Don't forget to ROAR!***

*It's hard to believe the summer months are almost at an end and a new school year is about to begin. Faculty and staff will be returning to campus as well as traveling to Charleston next week for several days of professional development, classroom preparations, meetings, Masses, and retreat. I ask you to keep us in your prayers as we spiritually and academically get ready to welcome your children to a new school year.*

*We are excited to welcome back all of our returning faculty, staff, and families. We also look forward to the addition of our new Pastor (Fr. John Zimmerman), our new Occupational Therapist (Ms. Dawson), our new 4<sup>th</sup> grade homeroom teacher (Mrs. Maguire), our new part-time Student Services assistant (Mr. Mike), our new PE team (Coach Rob and Coach Shauna of Amazing Athletes) and 14 new families. Look at us grow!*

*I kindly ask that you please read all information contained in this LONG weekly communication carefully. I will typically send shorter weekly communications every Friday once the school year begins. In addition to my weekly communications, our school website ([Holy Trinity Catholic School | North Myrtle Beach, SC](#)) and Facebook page ([Facebook](#)) are great resources of information about all school happenings. Communications from the classrooms will be sent weekly and parents can always access Renweb in the FACTS parent portal to view grades and attendance. As a school, we strive to ensure our community is as well informed as possible at all times.*

**ACES Updates** - Beginning this year, our ACES (Academic Curriculum Enhancement for Students) program is being enhanced. Under the guidance of Mrs. Carman, Director of Learning Support Services, and with the assistance of Mrs. Horton, Title I teacher, in addition to continuing to work with students who need academic support, we will also be able to provide additional learning opportunities for students who need to be challenged. This will be done through our Gifted and Talented Project Based Learning Exploratory program. Students who qualify for the ACES program will receive more information from Mrs. Carman and Mrs. Horton in the near future once school begins.

**PE Updates** - We are excited to announce our plans to partner with Coach Rob and Coach Shauna from Amazing Athletes for our PE classes and sports this coming year. Please check out their website at [Amazing Athletes | Children's Multi - Sports Program](#) for more information about their program. At this time, plans are to have Cross Country in the fall, and basketball and cheer in the winter/spring. More details will be shared once they are available.

**Seton Bus** - All families living in the Carolina Forest, Myrtle Beach areas are eligible to utilize the transportation provided between Seton Catholic and HTCS. Please contact Mrs. Hines ASAP if your student will be utilizing this service.

**Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO)** - Special thanks to our amazing PTO board who have been meeting over the summer to plan several special events and opportunities for our students and families in the coming school year. We request that all families support the PTO Board and all school events as much as possible with their time, talent, and treasure. Specific ways to do this will be shared at the Back to School night next week.

**Back to School (BTS) Night** - All families are invited to attend our annual Back to School Night from **5-6:30 PM** on **Thursday, 8/7**, in the school's multipurpose room (mpr). The front office doors will open at **5 PM** and the event will begin promptly at **5:10 PM**. We ask that all families attend as they will have time to visit the classrooms, meet the teachers in person, and drop off supplies. We will end promptly at **6:30 PM**.

**Back to School Mass** - All families and students are asked to attend our Back to School Mass at **10 AM** on **Sunday, 8/10**. We will sit as a school community on the front left side of the center aisle facing the altar. Students are asked to wear their school uniforms to this Mass.

**K-5 Students Only** - The first day of school for our **Kindergarten through 5th grade students** is **Tuesday, 8/12**. The morning car line will operate as normal utilizing a single file line between **7:35-7:55 AM**. All cars need to be through the gates before they close at **7:55 AM**. Note, this is a half day with dismissal at **noon**. There is no aftercare and all students need to be picked up by **12:15 PM**. We will do a double car line in the afternoon as we do on all half days to help keep cars off 8th Avenue N. during the pick-up process.

**First week of school uniforms** - Please note the change in uniforms for the first week of school due to Mass on **Friday, 8/15**, versus on Wednesday. Students should wear their regular uniforms every day EXCEPT for Friday. On **Friday, 8/15**, K-5 students should wear their Mass day uniforms.

**School Masses** - Our first school Mass will take place at **9 AM** on **Friday, 8/15**, in honor of the Feast of the Assumption of Mary. Note: this date is a change to our normal 9 AM Wednesday Masses which will begin on **Wednesday, 8/20**. Families are invited to join us for all school Masses and students may sit with their families. We ask that they go to Communion/Blessing with you and return to their class at the end of the entire service (after the priest has walked down the aisle and into the narthex).

**K3-K4 Students Only** - The first day of school for our **littlest Lions (K3 and K4)** is **Monday, 8/18**. This is a regular day of school. Parents, you may utilize the morning car line (recommended) or you may walk your students in on the first day. We simply ask that you drop off and head out in a timely manner to make the drop off transition a positive and easy one for your child. The first day is always harder on the parent than the child and I promise, we will take good care of your babies.

**Notes About Car Lines** - For all arrival and dismissal car lines, we ask parents to keep the following in mind:

- The car line is a cell phone free zone - even hands free - so full attention can be on safety.
- Adults must remain in their cars at all times.
- Watch for faculty directions and do not call out to your children.
- In the morning, students should be ready to exit their cars. Once through the gates and cars are stopped, students may exit their cars and head to the sidewalks. They do not need to wait to pull up to the covered walkway area.
- In the afternoon, we will let students know when they can safely go to their cars. If they need parent assistance to be buckled into car seats, we ask you to pull forward out of the car line to take care of that.
- Car tags must be clearly displayed on the left side of the front dashboard.
- Items that cannot be carried in by the students should be dropped off at the front office. We cannot take them in the car line.
- Important information should be emailed to the appropriate faculty or staff member, not conveyed to faculty in the car line.

Please be sure everyone who will be picking up is aware of these rules. Thank you for helping us make arrival and drop off safe and efficient for everyone involved.

**Playground improvements** - Thanks to the successful Booster Fundraiser event at the end of the last school year, we are excited about the playground updates and new equipment our students will enjoy this year. Special thanks to Mrs. Hines for managing this project!

**Half Day / All school Retreat - Friday, 8/29**, is a half day with dismissal at **noon** and no after care. All students need to be picked up by **12:15 PM** and we will utilize a double car line for dismissal. Students from K3-5th grade will participate in a faith-based retreat that day with various activities planned for their spiritual development.

**No School** - School will be closed **Monday, 9/1**, in recognition of Labor Day.

**ESTF Grants** - All SC families who have received tuition assistance and/or a scholarship in any amount for the 25-26 school year who have not already done so **MUST** apply for the ESTF grant by clicking [here to apply](#). Please send proof of application to me once complete. You will be placed on a waitlist and notified if additional funds are released. Those receiving the grant must utilize the funds to pay tuition based on the annual published tuition rate (\$7900) as this is the actual cost to educate per pupil. The difference owed for remaining tuition, registration, and materials fees remains the financial responsibility of the family. The school cannot provide additional subsidies to families who receive grant funds as funds for subsidies, sibling discounts, religious affiliation discounts, etc. are extremely limited and place a financial burden on the school. We do not have money set aside for these things and any amount given out must then be recouped during the school year through cuts in teacher salaries, reduced purchasing of materials, fundraising efforts, and parish support. We need to reserve such assistance for those not receiving outside grants so that more families are able to attend HTCS and we may become financially stable and viable long-term.

**School Supply Lists** - Please utilize this link for information related to student supply lists:  
<https://holytrinitynmb.com/important-links/academic-programs>

**Annual Review** - Please review the school's mission and vision statements below and email me by **August 5** with any suggestions for revisions you may have. At our back to school meeting, suggestions will be presented and families will be asked to vote on leaving the statements as they are or making changes based on suggestions received.

**A special prayer for our parents as we return to a new school year:** *Heavenly Father, our most excellent example of a loving and merciful parent, we ask that You guide, bless, and protect all of our students' parents, grandparents, and guardians. As the first teachers of these children, we pray that their faith and love will always be an example to their children and to our entire school community. In His name, we pray... Amen.*

**MISSION STATEMENT:** *Holy Trinity Catholic School, a ministry of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, offers to early childhood and elementary school students of diverse ethnic, economic, and religious backgrounds a superior academic program based on Gospel values. Within a family atmosphere, the school strives to develop the spiritual, academic, personal, creative, and physical growth of each student.*

**VISION STATEMENT:** *Holy Trinity Catholic School students will be fully prepared to transition to middle school possessing critical thinking skills, an ability to work independently as well as collaboratively, and an awareness of what it means to actively live the Gospel values.*