

# New Family FAQs

LOURDES LANCERS



Welcome new Lourdes Lancers Families! You may have questions about our school community and we hope to cover many of them here. If you have questions not answered here, please remember no question is too large or too small; just ask your class buddy family or email [Vikki Pynenburg](mailto:Vikki.Pynenburg).

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## UNIFORM

Are used uniforms available and if so, when can we try the uniform on?

*Yes, we have many sizes and styles available! Contact the [school office](#) or see the Messenger newsletter when the used uniform closet is open. Used uniforms are free.*

Where do I buy school uniforms from?

*You may purchase new uniforms from [Dennis Uniform](https://www.dennisuniform.com/collections/54740/) (<https://www.dennisuniform.com/collections/54740/>) in Portland. K-5 girls plaid and Middle School girls skorts must be purchased through Dennis Uniform. Other uniform pieces may be purchased elsewhere if they match Dennis for style and color.*

Do preschoolers wear a uniform?

*No, they wear free dress each day. Choose clothing/shoes that allow for active and safe play. Preschool families can choose to purchase a Little Blessings t-shirt at the online [Spirit Store](#).*

When is spirit day?

*Usually once a month on late start days, when students (and teachers) wear their Lourdes Lancer spirit shirt, generally with jeans. Spirit shirts can be purchased at the online [Spirit Store](#).*

What kind of shoes do students wear?

*Ones they can run around in!*

SEE THE UNIFORM GUIDELINES HANDOUT FOR DETAILS.

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## LUNCHES

Is hot lunch available?

*Currently the hot lunch option for K-8 students is a pizza fundraiser for the Washington DC trip organized by parents. Ordering details will be published in the Messenger newsletter.*

What should I pack for lunch?

*Sandwich, fruit, yogurt, cheese crackers, granola bars, ... check your child's classroom allergy requirements to protect those with food allergies. Also, check with your homeroom teacher for microwave availability before sending items that need heating. Don't forget a water bottle!*

## MISCELLANEOUS

When is the first day of school?

*Tuesday, August 29th, and is a noon dismissal.*

What should I do if my child is sick?

*Contact the office via phone 360.696.230 or [email](mailto:lourdes@lourdesvan.org) ([lourdes@lourdesvan.org](mailto:lourdes@lourdesvan.org)) to excuse absences.*

Who do I contact for school sports-related questions?

*Joe Braunstein is our P.E. teacher and CYO Athletic Director.*

Can I join my child at school Masses?

*Yes! We encourage you to join us in Mass.*

What is scrip?

*Using a gift card to pay for your everyday items instead of cash or a credit card. Each gift card has a rebate that goes directly to Our Lady of Lourdes when you buy the card at face value.*

*Contact [Marcela Mahoney](#) with questions.*

SEE THE SCRIP INFORMATION SHEET FOR DETAILS

What's the best way to find out what's happening?

*Read the weekly Messenger newsletter emailed on Sunday evenings, follow us on social media.*

Is extended care available?

*Yes! [Register at the Vermont Hills website](#) to sign up for extended care.*

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What's a class buddy family and how do I know who my buddy family is?

*A class buddy family is a current school family who is available to answer questions and be supportive during your first year at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School. They can remind you of events, explain some of the pastimes, and be a familiar face. Your class buddy family will contact you over the summer and welcome you to the Lourdes community.*

## **FAMILY STEWARDSHIP**

Do I need to volunteer?

*The success of many school programs rely on the involvement of parent volunteers. We hope all families become actively involved in working with the school. In order to allow new families time to settle, the following stewardship hours are halved for the first school year.*

- *Families with students enrolled in K-8: 30 hours for a two-parent family, or 15 hours for a single-parent family.*
- *Families with students enrolled in 5 days/week preschool 30 hours a year for a two-parent family, or 15 hours for a single-parent family.*
- *Families with students enrolled in 3 days/week preschool 20 hours a year for a two-parent family, or 10 hours for a single-parent family.*
- *... unless the Cost of Education rate / buy-option was selected in the enrollment contract.*

Are there committees I can join?

*There are many opportunities to participate including PTO, committees, events, helping teachers and more. See the weekly Messenger newsletter for stewardship opportunities.*

SEE THE FAMILY STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS

## **COMMUNICATION**

Is there a school family directory?

*Yes! You can locate the school directory in your FACTS/Renweb parent portal.*

Do classes have social media pages to organize outside of school activities or get-togethers?

*It is up to the families to organize activities out of school.*

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Is there a place to find information about my child's classmates and/or their families?

*One of the stewardship roles is being a room parent. The room parent typically shares email addresses with the class.*

## **DROP OFF, PICK UP, AND SCHOOL HOURS**

What time does school start?

*The school building opens at 8am with classroom activities beginning at 8:15am.*

What times does school end?

*School ends at 3:05pm with the exception of half day preschool which ends at 11:15am.*

Where do I park my car?

*Park your vehicle in the parking lot off NW Franklin Street, OR*

*Drop off and pick up your K-8 student(s) by using the one way driveway off Daniels Street.*

## **SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING INFORMATION**

What safety training is required to volunteer in the school with students?

*Register for a foundation class at [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org). Click on "First Time Registrant" to create your profile.*

How do I sign up for a safe environment training class?

*To register for a session, in [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org) choose Seattle, WA (Archdiocese) as your location and select from the list of available classes. You may choose either an in-person or online Protecting God's Children course.*

Is there anything else I need to complete to help out at school?

*You need to have a cleared background check on file with the school (valid for three years) and complete an annual Driver Form if you wish to drive students on field trips.*

Does this training need updating?

*Yes. Training is updated online every three years. The Virtus system will inform you when.*

Who can help if I have questions about my Virtus account?

*Contact either the parish or school office.*