

Shalom

MENNONITE SCHOOL

1410 UNION GROVE ROAD • TERRE HILL, PA • 717.445.7020

"Teaching and Training for the Glory of God"

SMS Adventures

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XV No. 2

AUGUST 1, 2023

Calendar

Aug.	8	Tues.	School Cleaning 5-8 PM
	10	Thurs.	School Cleaning 5-8 PM
	21	Mon.	Kindergarten Orientation 11:00-12:00 Classroom Visitation 12-3:00 PM, 6-7:00 PM New Patron Orientation 7:00 PM
	24	Thurs.	First Day of School
Sept.	04	Mon.	No School—Labor Day
	05	Tues.	Parent-Teacher Fellowship 7:00 PM
	21	Thurs.	Picture Day- All School (Both K groups)

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who came & is coming to help with school & bus cleaning. It is wonderful to have a thoroughly cleaned building and buses for the start of a new school year. A special thank you to Joe & Suzanne King and Josh & Heather Good for organizing each one.



Welcome! Are you patient?

Dear Patrons and Students,

Happy August! The month when our new school year can begin and school schedules become priority again. I do hope you have been enjoying summer and are still enjoying your weeks of family time, vacation time, working/chore time, relaxing time, and any other type of time.

We teachers have been enjoying our summer break also, but we are beginning to spend more and more time preparing for this coming year. Some days some teachers come to school to work, others stay far away. But know that we are eagerly anticipating the arrival of our students and to continue the learning process here at school.

One thing I'm learning this summer is to be patient. I've printed out the following statement to remind me of something important.

**Patience is not
the ability
to wait, but
the ability
to keep a good
Attitude while
waiting.**

If you were to come to school right now, I'm afraid a few of you may be alarmed, due to the piles of dirt outside and piles of "stuff" inside! Our building expansion may not be going as we had originally planned, but my goal is to keep a good attitude while waiting for the finished project.

As we each enjoy the final days of summer 2023, and as we prepare for the start of a new school term, won't you join me in being patient? And let's not forget to Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and to Be Safe.

I am very excited to see each of you at the front doors, full of energy and with big smiles, on our **First Day, Thursday, August 24.**

See you soon,
Mr. Martin

Patron Contact List

A Patron Contact Information list is enclosed. **Please double check your family's information and let Ms. Martin know ASAP if any changes need to be made!** A Staff & Patron Directory will be available at the September PTF.

Car Pool Forms

Also enclosed are Car Pool forms. Please fill out and return the form only if you are a car rider by the first day of school.

Hot Lunch Schedule: Canceled for Sept.—Dec.

~~A 2023-2024 hot lunch schedule came home in the July newsletter. Each family has been assigned a date and group with which to make and serve a hot lunch sometime throughout the school year. **Please note changes and keep to reference for all year.**~~

Health Forms

Student Emergency Information forms for your student(s) are enclosed. Please fill out in pencil for each child and return forms to the office by the first day of school.

All student health forms (K– dental & physical, 3rd grade - dental, 6th grade - physical, 7th grade - dental) are also due by the first day of school.

Note: All immunization forms must be current and on file within 5 days of the start of the 2023-2024 school year. If not on file, exclusion is possible. Contact the school office if you have any questions.

If your child will need medication dispensed throughout the school day, please contact the office for a form of authorization.

Monday Folders

Every student will bring home a "Monday folder" each Monday throughout the school year. These folders will contain communication from your child's teacher and the school office. Feel free to send any office communication back to school in these folders. Just make sure the envelope is clearly labeled "office." Monday folders will be sent home for the first time on **Monday, August 28.**



Classroom Moms

Classroom moms are still needed for KT, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 5th grade. The **Adopt-a-Teacher** is also still in need of 13 interested patrons. Please contact the office ASAP if you are interested.

Absences

Prearranged absences must be approved by the school office at least **two weeks in advance**. Request forms are available at the office. Please refer to the student handbook for more information regarding proper procedures for handling prearranged absences for the 23-24 school year.

SMS Association

Shalom Mennonite School is an association, not a patron-run school. This provides opportunity for patrons and other interested persons to be actively involved in the operations of Shalom. Association members may serve on the board and/or school committees and will have voting privileges at the Annual Association Meeting. If you are interested in becoming an association member, applications will be available at the **September PTF.**

Financial Focus

Thank you to each who gave to our year end matching fund. We are so grateful for each contribution towards the operating budget. As of this writing, we **did not meet** our \$65,000 operating goal. Currently, the matching fund total stands at **\$53,252.44**. We will report a final number of donations in the September newsletter.

IU13 Services

If your child benefits from speech therapy or math and reading services, please be patient as the year begins. The IU staff begins their work in full force after Labor Day, so there will be a few weeks window before the IU13 services begin for the 23-24 school year.

Yearly Field Trip Schedule

Enclosed is a 23-24 yearly field trip schedule. For grades 1-6, the highlighted name is the current year's destination. Dates for field trips are not finalized.