

St. Mary's Academy  
Lower School  
Information for New Families

Welcome to SMA! We hope the following information helps.  
Please don't hesitate to contact the lower school office at any time with questions.

**Orientation Days** - **Friday, August 25** and **Monday, August 28** from **8:00 a.m. - Noon**. You will be emailed an invitation via Sign-up Genius to sign up for a time to meet with your teacher. You may also stop by the Quad to purchase SMA apparel and pick up information about afterschool programs and our lunch program.

**1st day of school** is **Tuesday, August 29**.

**Lower school schedule:**

- Morning carpool begins at 7:40
- Class starts at 8:05 (students must be in their seats at this time).
- School is out at 3:00

**Afternoon carpool** begins at **3:00 p.m.** The carpool line starts forming 5 - 10 minutes before 3:00 p.m. and sometimes goes out onto University Blvd. You will be given a **carpool name sign** with your last name. Please have sign on your dash as you pull up to the front of the line as a faculty member will use this to call your child.

**Late Start Days** - are primarily the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month. Please refer to school calendar on our website for exact dates.

On Late Start days you have two options:

1. Students may arrive as early as 7:40 where they will be supervised in the gym until 8:45.
2. Students may arrive at 8:45 using the carpool lanes for drop off as classes start at 9:00 sharp.

Each month on Late Start days, we collect items or money for an organization/charity. Students are encouraged to give. Each student that brings in a donation is entitled to "dress down" on that Late Start day. (Dressing down means having the option to wear jeans and an out of dress code shirt within reason. No torn jeans, no short shorts, no clothing with violent pictures or profanity, etc.)

**Extended Day Care (EDC)** is available daily, with exceptions, from 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Detailed information will be emailed to you.

**Assemblies** will be on select Fridays at 8:10 a.m. Please consult SMA online calendar for exact dates. You will receive information each month on what each assembly will be about.

**Wildcat Adventures** are after school classes offered by outside companies such as Tae Kwon Do, Chess, Art, Bricks 4 Kidz and Scratch Lab. Information on each offering will be emailed to you.

**Wholesome Food Services (WFS)** delivers lunch from a different vendor each day. Parents sign up online, order from the menu and a hot lunch is delivered for your child. You may order everyday or once a year - it's available when you want to use it. Detailed information will be emailed to you.

**SMA School Spirit Blue & White Days**

All students are required to have a pair of navy blue slacks (girls may wear a navy blue skirt if preferred) and a clean, white, collared polo shirt for all special "Blue & White" days. Blue & White days include Assemblies, Mass days, May Crowning, certain Field Trips and other designated days.