



A Catholic, Dual-Language, Community School  
3500 Foster Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21224  
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# The Borders Buzz

September 2016

## Calendar Highlights

for more see pg. 8

- September 5—  
No School for Labor Day
- September 8—  
Back to School Night  
6:30-8:00pm
- September 15—  
Dual-Language  
Program Parent  
Night 5:00-7:00pm
- September 23—  
Half Day/  
Noon Dismissal
- October 3—  
No School for Profes-  
sional Development

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## From the Desk of Principal Freeman...

Welcome Back, Archbishop Borders School Families! I have had a wonderful week meeting new friends, and reconnecting with old ones. Children have been working hard in the classrooms learning procedures and expectations. Our new motto, "Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe" is chanted by kids each morning during our new school-wide Morning Meeting. There is excitement in the air about the year ahead. Of course, none of this could be possible without you! As Father Gaddy said during our Back to School Event last Saturday afternoon, parents are the first teachers in a child's life. Our students' success in school depends a great deal on our ability to work together as the parents, teachers, and school administration in your child's life. We at Archbishop Borders School are here to serve you and your family, and to lift up your children academically, spiritually, and socially. We welcome your ideas, your creativity, your advocacy, and any other strengths you may have in order to bolster our school community. Please consider getting involved with our Home School Association in order to help organize events and experiences for our kids! The more involvement we have from our families, the stronger our community becomes. Lastly, please be sure to attend our Back to School Night next Thursday evening from 6:30 - 8:00PM. This is an excellent opportunity to come learn about what your child is doing in his or her classroom. Please know that I do have an open door policy, and am available via in person meetings, cell phone (443-825-5957), or email: [principal@abbschool.com](mailto:principal@abbschool.com). Please do not hesitate to get in touch at any time. Thank you, and I look forward to a wonderful year together!

## Arrival/Dismissal Procedures

Archbishop Borders School has implemented new arrival procedures in order to facilitate a school-wide Morning Meeting each morning.

The procedures are as follows:

7:30 AM: The back glass gym doors will be open for students to enter.

7:40 AM: Breakfast is served in the classrooms. Parents are respectfully asked to exit the classrooms/hallways by this time.

7:55 AM: The back glass gym doors will close at this time. After 7:55AM students must enter school through the front or back office doors.

8:00 AM: Official School Start Time - Students arriving after this time will receive a late pass.

8:05 - 8:10 AM: Morning Meeting

8:10 AM: Students return to classrooms for the first class of the day

For dismissal, please ensure students are picked-up at 3:00 p.m. (or 12:00 p.m. for early dismissal) Any students remaining at the school after 3:00 p.m. will be sent to after-care at a daily rate of \$20 per child. If children are participating in aftercare, students will meet Mrs. Blanca in the gym at 3:00pm. All walkers will be dismissed from the office.

## Arrival/Dismissal Procedures, continued.

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Students will only be released at dismissal to those parents/guardians who are listed on their emergency contact forms, so return them to the office as soon as possible. Parents and guardians must physically pick up their child/ren from the gym. If there will be a change in how your child or children leave school, please notify the school by sending a note to your child's homeroom teacher, or by calling the main office prior to 2:30 p.m.

## Summer Camp

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This summer, over 30 students in grades 1-6 participated in our first annual dual-language summer camp. For four weeks, students enjoyed their lessons, tending the garden by the playground, visiting the Patterson Park pool, and taking weekly field trips to places like Harper's Ferry and the Herr's Factory. Stay tuned later in the school year for announcements regarding next year's camp!

## Moving our Paws in the Right Direction

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During our first convocation on August 31st, we introduced the Moving our Paws in the Right Direction program. Each month we will be celebrating a new virtue, and encouraging students to embrace and embody these themes. When students demonstrate these values, at home or at school, they will be rewarded with Bobcat Bucks. These bucks will help students earn prizes, and help make them eligible for events throughout the year.

Remember, September's values are Respect and Responsibility!

Ways to show Respect and Responsibility:

Wear your uniform with pride.  
Greet everyone cheerfully and by name.  
Listen quietly when others speak.  
Keep your desk and supplies neat.  
Be quiet and stop what you are doing during prayer.  
Stand at attention for the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Be quiet in Church.  
Participate in Mass: Learn the responses and sing the songs.  
Do your best work on every assignment.  
Turn all class assignments and homework on time.  
Be a good sport when you play.

We look forward to seeing how students demonstrate Respect and Responsibility in their lives!

## Dual Language Resources

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In future months, this section of the Buzz will offer insight into the benefits of a dual-language education as well as resources for students and parents. We hope you will join us on Thursday, September 15th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm, where Ms. Collins, our Dual-Language Director, will be speaking more about these initiatives.

## Testing

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This is a reminder that the testing window for the Woodcock-Muñoz test (students in grades Pre-K 4 and K, as well as all new students) will be open from Monday, September 12 through Friday, September 16 and that the testing window for the Easy CBM test (students in grades K-8) will be open from Monday, September 26 through Friday, September 30. Please make sure students are well rested and that they eat a healthy breakfast.

## Classroom News

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**Mrs. Carmen (Pre-K 3):** Dear parents and students, I am happy to welcome you to the 2016 –2017 school year! I am looking forward to working in partnership with you to ensure that our Pre-K 3 class can achieve their highest potential. We recognize that in order to be successful in school, our children need support at both home and school. Our Pre-K 3 class will have the opportunity to work in learning centers that allow the children to investigate, explore, and discover things that are new to them and make connections with things that they already know. Some of these centers are: **Art Center, Reading Center, Math Center, Block and construction Center, Dramatic Play Center, Kitchen Center and Music Center**. Parents and families are welcome to visit our classroom and we look forward to meeting you and your child and starting a learning adventure!

**Mrs. Jo-Ann and Mrs. Nancy (Pre-K 4 and K):** We are excited this year to promote a centers-based study program. Pre-K 4 and Kindergarten, will be learning the same curriculum and standards that are expected by the Archdioceses of Baltimore and the CCSS, but will be receiving the same units in both English and Spanish. We will have shorter whole group time and increased small group/center learning. These centers will be based on academics and also hands on learning experiences. Some of the centers will be Home Living, Blocks, Art, and Sand Exploration. We will be striving to educate the whole child, so focus will also be on self regulation, gross motor, and resting of our bodies as we grow and learn throughout the year. Resting will include a nap, which will be new for Pre-K 4 and Kindergarten this year. Families are welcome to observe (please call school to arrange a visit) and volunteers outside of the classroom are welcome!

**Ms. Reyes and Ms. Taylor (1st and 2nd):** Archbishop Borders School is pleased to welcome Ms. Ada Reyes as the new 1st grade homeroom teacher and 1st and 2nd grade Spanish teacher. Ms. Reyes brings a breadth of experience to Archbishop Borders School. Prior to arriving in the United States in May of 2015, she was a classroom teacher in Cuba for 30 years. There she taught Humanities at the primary, secondary, and university levels. She is certified as a teacher by the Ministry of Education in Cuba, and is a candidate for certification through the Maryland Department of Education.

Ms. Taylor will be introducing “Brag Tags” in the classroom. Students will have the opportunity to earn tags that can be placed on a chained necklace. Tags will be given for Making the right choice, Happy Birthday, Knowing Sight Words, etc. She is excited for all of the new happenings in the school.

**Mrs. Nieves and Mrs. Noble (3rd and 4th):** Mrs. Nieves and Mrs. Noble are excited to be working together, aligning the Language Arts program in both English and Spanish. Students will be learning and practicing the same concepts for language arts as well as math in both languages. Welcome 3rd and fourth graders old and new! Our students also have the exciting opportunity to participate in our newly created Student Council.

## Classroom News Continued

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**Ms. Dougherty, Mr. Rangel, Mrs. Traub, and Mrs. Adewuyi (Middle School):** This year, Archbishop Borders School welcomes the 5th grade into the Dual-Language program. Ms. Dougherty will be stepping in as the 5th grade homeroom teacher. In addition to teaching Social Studies and Spanish Language Arts to the 5th grade, she will be teaching Spanish to the 6th, 7th and 8th grades. Ms. Carmen Beltran will be teaching 5th grade religion in Spanish.

Dr. Judith Smith will be our long-term sub for 5th and 6th grade math. Dr. Smith has subbed for us in the past, and we are excited to have her back in our classrooms.

We are pleased to welcome Mr. Michael Rangel to the faculty for the 2016-2017 school year. A graduate of the University of Notre Dame, Mr. Rangel will join the middle school team as a social studies and religion teacher for grades 6, 7, and 8. Mr. Rangel looks forward to guiding students as they explore the world through history and gain a better understanding of our living Catholic faith.

Additionally, we are happy to introduce Mrs. Gerri Traub as our 7th grade homeroom teacher and 5th-8th grade ELA teacher. Mrs. Traub is a seasoned teacher, with experience in both Catholic and public middle school classrooms. She will be sending a letter home to families further introducing herself.

As we start this school year, we hope that as always that our Middle School students will be good ambassadors of Archbishop Borders School and settle right in for all the academic and co-curricular activities that will be taking place. We will be creating a Student Council this year, which will be an excellent opportunity for student leadership. Elections for the executive board for 8th graders will take place on Wednesday, September 28th. During the convocation that day interested students will give their speeches to the entire student body. We will also be looking for homeroom representatives from grades 3-8.

**Art:** Ms. Christian will be back to teach art to our students on Monday this school year.

**Reading Room:** Mrs. McIntosh is looking forward to seeing students in the Dr. Ben Carson Reading Room on Tuesday and Thursdays again this year.

**Technology:** We are excited to have Ms. Pettigrew back as our Technology teacher. Like last year, students will attend Technology on either Tuesday or Thursday.

**Gym:** Gym will be on Wednesdays this year, so please remember to have your students wear their gym uniforms on Wednesdays. Mr. Miguel Astacio-Martinez will be joining us as the gym teacher for the next several weeks.

**Music:** We would like to congratulate Ms. Clough, now Mrs. Powis, on her wedding this summer. Students will visit with her on Fridays.

## Aftercare

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The aftercare staff and I are excited about all of the opportunities your children will be given this year as an extension of their daily morning schedule to explore new concepts, discover wonderful new abilities and create beautiful masterpieces. We have carefully planned lessons, activities centers and events for which we hope you will participate. One of the planned events such as First Friday Gallery will display your child's masterpieces. We will assign class photographers, co-designers and co-assistants to foster responsibility and personal development. We plan to have as much fun teaching as our students are learning! Let the great aftercare adventure begin!

Mrs. Blanca

## STEAM

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Registration for our STEAM program will begin the week of September 6th. This after school program offers enrichment opportunities in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math from 3:00-6:00pm. Students in grade 3-6 are eligible to participate. We will be required that students enrolled in this

## Mass

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As always, parents and guardians are welcome to join us at Sacred Heart of Jesus for school mass. Mass begins promptly at 9:15am, so we ask that you arrive to the church by 9:00am. This month mass will be held on Friday, September 9th and Friday, September 23rd.

## Soccer Shots

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This year Soccer Shots will be hosting a soccer league for students in grades Pre-K 3 through 3rd. This 8-week session will begin on Monday, September 12th. Coaches will pick up students every Monday and practice soccer with them in either the Archbishop Borders School gym or in the grassy area by the Archbishop Borders School playground. Practices will run from 3:00-3:45pm. The cost for this 8-week session is \$100, plus a \$20 registration fee if this is your first time using the Soccer Shots program. Registration includes an authentic Adidas performance jersey as well. If you are interested in registering, please sign up at [Baltimore.ssreg.org](http://Baltimore.ssreg.org).

## Scholarship Information

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The application window for the Children's Scholarship Fund opened September 1st. Applications are processed on a first-come, first served basis beginning in April each year. The earlier you apply, the better your chances of receiving a scholarship! To apply, please visit: <http://csfbaltimore.org/how-to-apply/>.

Participating families are required to contribute to their children's education and are therefore responsible for costs not covered by the scholarship. Each family agrees to pay a minimum of \$500 per school year towards their children's education. The maximum award provided per student per school year is \$2,000.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Rose in the office ([rlopez@abbschool.com](mailto:rlopez@abbschool.com))

## Therapeutic Services

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

I would like to take this time to introduce myself as the new school based therapist at Archbishop Borders. My name is Grace Petit and I am looking forward to the opportunity to build a relationship with you and your family to support your child in their personal and academic success.

As a School Based Therapist, my primary responsibility is to enhance the social, emotional and educational growth of all students. My primary mission while working with your child is to help them reach their highest potential through exploration of concerns, problem solving, further developing effective communication, among a range of other needs that may bring your child to therapy. Your child will receive services through talk, play and various other activities individualized to your child's needs, which will support him/her in achieving their treatment goals. As a former educator myself, I understand the demands of academic success as well as the importance of teacher expectations. At the same time, I can understand how these pressures along with the social pressures of peers and friendships, can become overwhelming for children during development. These areas of social development are also part of the therapeutic process.

I plan to work closely with you, your child, as well as your child's teachers to determine how best to meet their needs. Please refer to the brochure, "Therapeutic Services: Is it right for your student or child?" to further understand how therapeutic services may help your child. Students can be referred to me by a teacher, administrator as well as a parent such as yourself. I encourage you to contact me regarding any concerns that you have about your child and we can collaboratively explore how your child may benefit from therapeutic services.

I seek to support students through a team approach that would include all those who impact student success. For any questions, comments or concerns, feel free to contact me by email at [gpetit@cc-md.org](mailto:gpetit@cc-md.org) or by phone at 410-417-8532. I look forward to speaking with you.

Best Regards,

Grace Petit, LGPC

## Nurse's Notes

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Nurse Dillon would like to welcome back the students and families. Important health forms will be sent home later this month, and will also be available online. When they are available we will send home an e-mail, along with a notification on our Facebook page.

## HSA

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The HSA hopes you will join them on Friday, September 16th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm for a Happy Hour at La Sirenita Restaurant. Appetizers will be provided and your first drink will be complementary! This will give parents a chance to meet and get to know one another. If you cannot make the Happy Hour event, the first general meeting will be Wednesday, October 5th from 6:00-7:00pm at the school.

## HSA, continued

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The HSA is pleased to introduce Kristie Callendar as our new Treasurer. Kristie has served as and is excited to take on this new role. Given her familiarity with the board, the school administration is delighted with this decision. This year the HSA will be looking for **TWO** parents to serve as “Executive Board Members”. Nominations are due to [hsa@abbschool](mailto:hsa@abbschool) by **noon** on Friday, September 16th. Voting will begin during the Happy Hour event and will stay open until Friday, September 23rd. Election results will be announced on Friday, September 23rd.

This year, the HSA will be looking for two homeroom parents for each classroom. These parents would coordinate with the teacher and each other to help prepare events and materials for their classroom. Ideally, there will be one Spanish speaking parent and one English speaking parent per grade. If you are interested in participating, please send your name, your preferred language(s), and your child's grade to [hsa@abbschool.com](mailto:hsa@abbschool.com).

# Calendar

September	5	School Closed-Labor Day
	6	High School Placement Test Online Reg. Opens
	8	Back to School Night 6:30- 8:00pm
	9	Mass 9:15am
	12-16	Woodcock-Muñoz Testing
	14	Chat w/ Principal 8:15-9:00am
	15	DL Program Parent Night 5:00- 7:00pm
	16	HSA Happy Hour 6:00 - 8:00 PM La Sirenita, 3928 Eastern Avenue
	23	Mass 9:15am, Early Dismissal 12:00pm, No Aftercare/STEAM
	26-30	EASY CBM Testing K-8
October	2	Respect Life Cathedral of Mary Our Queen 11:00am
	3	School Closed- Professional Development