

little  cardinals

**OUR LADY OF THE LAKE ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL
MOTHER'S DAY OUT HANDBOOK**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mission Statement.....	Page 3
Our Vision.....	Page 3
Abuse and Neglect	Page 4
Admissions.....	Page 4-5
Birthday Parties.....	Page 5
Carline	Page 6
Communication	Page 6
Conferences.....	Page 6
Daily Program	Page 6
Discipline	Page 6
Emergency Information	Page 7
Financial Obligations Policy	Page 7-8
Fire Safety/Tornado Drill.....	Page 9
Health and Medical Policy	Page 9
Lunch and Snack.....	Page 9
Medication at School	Page 10
School Term and School Hours	Page 10
Supply Fee.....	Page 10
Uniform Guidelines.....	Page 10
General Policies	Page 11-12
Mother's Day Out Handbook Agreement Form	Page 13

* For the purposes of this handbook, the term Little Cardinals refers to Mother's Day Out students.

MISSION STATEMENT

In a nurturing Christ-centered environment, Our Lady of the Lake Roman Catholic School provides a strong moral and academic foundation for all students to achieve excellence in their education, confidence in their efforts and responsibility for their actions as they face the challenges of the ever-changing world.

OUR VISION

In pursuit of excellence in all facets of education, Our Lady of the Lake Roman Catholic School...

- Motivates students to live as part of a Catholic faith community by addressing the needs of society and fostering the love of life, family, and country.
- Differentiates instruction by employing varied teaching strategies aimed at meeting the specific needs of each learner.
- Commits itself to concerned leadership, caring teachers, parental involvement and cooperative endeavors with society in light of the Gospel values of our Catholic faith.
- Educates the whole person by promoting the spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social and physical development of each student in a nurturing, Christ-centered environment.
- Motivates students to live morally and appreciate the plurality of cultures and creeds serving God as part of a Catholic faith community.
- Promotes higher order thinking skills, problem solving strategies, and the latest technological advancements that lead to excellence in all of the student's educational endeavors.
- Strives to create an environment of excellence in which administration, faculty, staff, and students work together to achieve their maximum potential.
- Challenges all individuals to develop a true sense of self-esteem founded in a solid Catholic curriculum.
- Educates its students to become productive young adults responsible for their own actions.
- Incorporates the Archdiocese of New Orleans' Catholic Identity Standards in all aspects of the learning process.

ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Any suspected abuse and/or neglect of a child in a child care center must be reported in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes 14:403. [(985) 893-6225]

ADMISSIONS

The schools of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, Louisiana, admit students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to the students at its schools. They do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin or disability in administration of their educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs. Information used with applications will not be used for any unlawful discriminatory purpose.

Additionally, in compliance with Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, no person in the schools of the Archdiocese shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity except permitted under said Title IX. This policy applies to all schools that are under Catholic Archdiocesan auspices.

Our Lady of the Lake does not discriminate against otherwise qualified candidates with disabilities if, with reasonable accommodations, they can meet the academic rigor of our program.

The OLL Little Cardinals Mother's Day Out program is open to children who are 2 years old before September 30th of the year of enrollment.

Order of Acceptance Policy: (Mother's Day Out through 7th grade)

1. Siblings of current students and children of faculty and staff of OLL school and parish
2. Children of territorial parishioners who are deemed active by the pastor; children of alumni or legacy families as determined by the pastor
3. Children of territorial parishioners of a parish without a school or no room in their territorial parish school who are deemed active by their pastor
4. Children of non-territorial parishioners of a parish without a school or no room in their parish school who are deemed active by their pastor
5. Children of active parishioners who live outside the territorial parish in a parish with a school that has room
6. All others – including inactive parishioners, non-Catholics, etc.
7. The Principal has the right to change the order of acceptance under special circumstances.
8. The above-listed Order of Acceptance may not apply to students who have previously withdrawn from OLL.

Admission Requirements:

1. Certified or Notarized Birth Certificate
2. Baptismal Certificate (if Catholic)
3. Computer-generated Louisiana Department of Health form entitled "State of Louisiana Universal Certificate of Immunizations." This form may be acquired from either your child's physician or the St. Tammany Parish Health Unit. No personal health cards will be accepted.
4. Social Security Card
5. Registration Fee

Withdrawal Policy:

1. Notify the school office of withdrawal date.
2. Complete a Withdrawal Form through the Admissions Director.
3. Return any applicable school materials.
4. Settle all debts.

Custody Notice:

It is the responsibility of the custodial parent to furnish Our Lady of the Lake Roman Catholic School with a copy of the custody section of the divorce decree. This school abides by the provisions of the Buckley Amendment with respect to the rights of the non-custodial parent. In the absence of a court order to the contrary, the school will provide the non-custodial parent with access to the academic records and to other school-related information regarding the child. If there is a court order specifying that there is to be no information given, it is the responsibility of the custodial parent to provide the school with an official copy of the court order. This also applies to guardianship.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Children may bring an edible treat to share with the class on their birthdays. Please notify the teacher ahead of time if you wish to provide a treat for snack time. Simple cookies, cupcakes **with liners removed**, rice crispy squares, and popsicles are preferred over treats with lots of sugar or icing. **Invitations may be distributed at school only if one is sent for each child in the class, to all of the girls, or to all of the boys.**

All parties/activities held outside the school are non-school-sponsored events. When attending these parties/activities, I hold harmless the Archdiocese of New Orleans and Our Lady of the Lake Roman Catholic Parish and School from any and all claims or losses resulting from these parties/activities.

CARLINE

Everyone is required to wait in carpool line. **Never let the children out before the teachers come for them.** Morning carpool line begins at 8:45 AM and ends at 9:00 AM. If you arrive after 9:00 AM, please bring your child to the side door and knock. Children will be brought to the cars at dismissal time, which begins at 12:45 PM and ends at 1:15 PM. The carpool line moves most efficiently when parents remain in their cars and display **boldly printed name signs.**

If your child is to be part of a carpool on a regular or irregular basis, all approved drivers who are not the parents of an individual student must be listed on that student's PowerSchool Contacts. If a student is to be picked up from school by someone other than the approved drivers listed on his/her PowerSchool Contacts, the parent of that student must submit a note (**with date and signature**) to the school office prior to the occurrence. Emails will not be accepted. **No student will be allowed to ride in any car without the appropriate approved note.** *We may request identification.*

CARLINE DIRECTIONS

Travel south on **Wilkinson Street** toward Lake Pontchartrain. (**REFRAIN FROM USING LAFAYETTE OR COFFEE STREETS.**) Parents should turn left onto Jefferson Street and proceed past Carroll Street on the left. Continue on Jefferson St., and turn right on the gravel drive before the tan house (Canisius Hall/Buggy House). Make a U-turn to the back of the Buggy House.

COMMUNICATION

Children should bring their Little Cardinals school bag each day with all necessary supplies (lunch, diapers, etc.) **Please check your child's bag each day for a Mother's Day Out report!**

CONFERENCES

If, at any time, you have special concerns or questions and wish to discuss them, please call or email your child's teacher.

DAILY PROGRAM

A schedule of the day's plan of activities will be posted in each classroom.

DISCIPLINE

Discipline is designed to promote self-direction, self-control, understanding of choices and consequences, and respect for others. This is accomplished in a Christ-centered environment through consistency and fairness. Each teacher will establish her own classroom rules with appropriate consequences. We cannot allow a child to remain in school if a lack of self-control makes the child dangerous to him/herself or others or if the child displays behavior that administration deems inappropriate for this facility.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Each student shall have on file at the school:

- Current PowerSchool Contacts and Information – general information regarding the child to include medical history;
- A current student information packet;
- Immunization records;
- Written parental/guardian authorization for release of child to a third party;
- Written parental/guardian authorization for the center to administer and/or secure emergency medical treatment.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS POLICY

1. Registration fee(s) are due at the time of registration. Support fee(s) are due by the lump sum payment date set by the finance director.

All fees are nonrefundable.

2. At the time of registration parents have the option to:
 - a. Finance the tuition amount with Gulf Coast Bank & Trust by the due date in April.
 - b. Finance only a portion of the total tuition by the due date in April and pay the balance by the due date of lump sum payment in April.
 - c. Pay the entire amount of tuition by the due date in April.
3. LOANS:
 - a. OLL reserves the exclusive authority to restrict the participation of an individual in the tuition loan program with Gulf Coast Bank & Trust, based on past history of OLL tuition loan payments.
 - b. Loans will be paid off in ten monthly payments. The ten monthly payments are due the first of each month beginning with the July payment and ending with the April payment.
 - c. Payments made after the designated date each month will be assessed a late fee by the bank. Should a parent not be able to make the monthly loan payment on time, they must contact the school finance director to discuss the situation.
 - d. The bank will cancel the loan of any individual who has not made a payment within a time specified by the bank. If the bank cancels a loan and the parent has not made other arrangements with the finance director, the rest of the year's tuition becomes due immediately and payable directly to the school.

A late loan application fee of \$25 will be assessed to all late loan applicants.

4. WITHDRAWALS:
 - a. The reimbursement policy will only apply should a student need to be withdrawn during the school year as a result of a family move out of St. Tammany Parish. Parents should be aware that withdrawn students are not guaranteed future enrollment. A fee of \$25.00 per family will be charged to anyone withdrawing their child/children. Tuition is prorated to the date of withdrawal.
 - b. In the event of a natural disaster, disease outbreak, or any other circumstances which, in the judgment of the school administration, make it infeasible, unsafe or otherwise imprudent

to continue campus-based education, school shall resume as soon as practical via distance learning and/or other methods adopted and/or developed by the school administration and faculty. Due to continuing financial obligations relating to operational costs, including administrative, faculty, and staff salaries, and additional costs resulting from safety and sanitation protocols, there shall be no suspension, reduction or refund of tuition or applicable fees.

5. DELINQUENT PAYMENTS:

If tuition or fee payments are not made according to the above stipulations, the school may require the child to stay out of school. Failure to meet your financial obligations for the school year may result in your child/children being removed from the school.

FIRE SAFETY/TORNADO DRILL

Fire drills will be conducted monthly. Tornado and other safety drills will be conducted periodically.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL POLICY

PowerSchool Contacts and Information:

PowerSchool Contacts and Information must be filed in the school office giving a local doctor/emergency care unit permission for emergency first aid in the event that you or someone you designate cannot be reached if serious injury occurs. Any serious health problems such as diabetes, epilepsy, allergies, etc., should be noted. **All phone numbers must be kept current to ensure the safety of all children.**

Illness:

Please call your child's building to report your child's absence before 9:15 AM. (626-5678, Ext. 4176). Children will not be accepted at school with any signs of illness, including fever. You or someone in your PowerSchool Contacts will be called to pick up your child should he or she develop a fever or show signs of illness while in school. **Please do not send your child to school until he/she is fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication.** Absences due to a communicable disease will require a written note from a physician before the child will be re-admitted. Absences for any other form of illness will require a note from a parent or guardian explaining the reason for the absence.

Notify the school immediately of any communicable diseases so that we may notify other parents, i.e. Chickenpox, Fifth's Disease, etc. Please notify the teacher and the office of any allergies your child may have (foods, bug bites, etc.). No drugs or medication will be administered at school without proper doctor forms, which can be obtained at the office.

Injuries:

Students injured at school should report the injury to the teacher. If necessary, the student will be sent to the school nurse for first aid. Parents will be notified of any serious injury.

LUNCH & SNACK

Students must bring lunch each day. Lunches must come to school in the lunch box containers provided by the school. **Please do not send candy, squeezable yogurts, puddings, and/or fruit pouches.** No lunches will be cooked or heated by school personnel. Milk is provided for each student.

The school will provide snack for the students each day.

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

Students will not be allowed to have any medication in their possession at school. This includes nonprescription medications such as throat lozenges, cough drops, aspirin, etc. School personnel cannot administer prescription medication unless special circumstances exist for a health problem of long duration. To ensure school attendance for students who must use medication in the treatment of chronic disabilities or illness, the parent is responsible for notifying the school of any abnormalities in the health of the child. When such condition exists, the parent agrees to adhere to the school's medication policy (please contact the school office for details.)

In these circumstances, the following procedure is followed:

1. Appropriate forms must be obtained from the school and completed by the physician and parent.
2. Medication must be brought to school by the parent in a container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician.
3. Each medication given will be recorded on a medication log which includes the date, dosage, and initials of the person administering the medication. It is the parent's responsibility to bring a refilled prescription bottle as needed.

* If your child has a chronic medical condition, it is the responsibility of the parent to provide all necessary medication and meet all medical needs prior to the first day of school.

SCHOOL TERM AND SCHOOL HOURS

The school term is from August until May. We follow the same schedule as Our Lady of the Lake Roman Catholic School; however, our school hours are 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

SUPPLY FEE

The supply fee is \$125.00 and includes supplies, school bag, and lunch box. All students will be receiving a new lunch box container. The school bag for Mother's Day Out is blue. The school bag should be washed in cold water and line dried.

UNIFORM GUIDELINES

All uniforms must be purchased from School Time in Mandeville.

Mother's Day Out – Girls and Boys:

- Red Little Cardinals t-shirt purchased from School Time must be worn.
- Any pants or shorts with an **elastic waist** may be worn.
- Socks: White socks should be worn.
- Shoes: A sports shoe (Velcro only) with an athletic, non-scuff sole must be worn.
- Outer Wear: Jackets or coats may be worn during winter months. Outer wear may not be worn inside. Unacceptable writing or pictures are not allowed, except a small discreet logo.

GENERAL POLICIES

Concerns:

General Concerns: Any person feeling aggrieved concerning any matter connected with the school will contact the individual concerned before discussing it with others.

1. Contact the Teacher
2. Contact Curriculum Coordinator, Stephanie Bartlett, or School Counselor, Elaine Alexander
3. Contact the Assistant Principal, Alice Sneer

If the matter cannot be resolved satisfactorily, the person should contact the school office to schedule an appointment with administration.

***Do Not Contact the Advisory Board**

Advisory Board Members are not to attempt to solve problems but are to refer the aggrieved person to the above procedure. If a board member is approached, he/she will notify the Principal.

Emergency Cancellation Policy:

Our Lady of the Lake will follow the same decision of closure as the public school system of St. Tammany Parish. This is to facilitate the transportation of students. The announcement concerning emergency closures will be broadcast on television in the metropolitan area of New Orleans. School messaging will also be activated with updated information and situations unique to our school.

Emergency Dismissal Policy:

During periods of sudden weather-related emergencies that may occur during the school day, children may need to be released early. Parents should make immediate arrangements to pick up their children.

Parent Teacher Cooperative Club Policy:

Each family and faculty member is a member of the Parent Teacher Cooperative Club (PTCC). This organization supports the school. Meetings are held in the evenings during the school year. Various committees are formed for a variety of functions. Room Mother activities are organized through the PTCC with the approval of the administration.

Student Insurance Policy:

Secondary insurance coverage is provided to all students during the school day. When a student is injured at school, he/she must report the injury to the teacher or to the office. If medical attention is needed, the office will provide the appropriate forms to the parent or guardian.

Cardinal Chronicles Policy:

A weekly newsletter concerning school functions and important information is available on Tuesdays through the school website (www.ourladyofthelakeschool.org). A hard copy may be obtained by

contacting the school office. An email notification will be sent weekly to parents who have provided an email address.

Volunteers/Visitors Policy:

We encourage parents with special talents and interests to share them with the class. For obvious safety reasons, all volunteers and visitors are to sign in and wear a visitor's tag while on campus. This is a necessary precaution for the safety of the children. Anyone not properly identified may be questioned.

All volunteers who interact with the students on a regular basis are required to undergo "Safe Environment Training" which is administered by the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Dates and times for Safe Environment Training classes will be posted. Such volunteers are also required to have background checks.

Asbestos Policy:

In accordance with AHERA (Asbestos Hazardous Emergency Response Act) a Management Plan has been prepared and approved by the State Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). This management plan is available for you to review in the school office during school hours.

Parent/Teacher Conferences:

Conferences may be arranged at the request of either the parent or the school.

While it is the policy of Our Lady of the Lake Roman Catholic School to encourage parents to confer with the school regarding their children, conferences must be scheduled with the following guidelines in mind:

1. A specific appointment time must be set up before the actual conference.
2. Any convenient time that is agreeable to both the school and parents is allowable for a conference. However, conferences may not take place during instructional or duty periods.
3. Out of respect for the privacy of teachers and their families, **please do not call teachers at home.**

Termination of Enrollment or Expulsion on Grounds of Parental Behavior:

Parental support and cooperation are essential in the schools. Normally a child is not to be deprived of Catholic education or otherwise penalized for actions of parents. However, the principal may recommend transfer of a student when parents have been persistently and overtly uncooperative with school staff, policies, regulations, or programs, or have interfered in matters of school administration or discipline to the detriment of the school's ability to serve their own or other children. Further, the school reserves the right to require the withdrawal of a student and his/her siblings enrolled in the school in the event that a parent/guardian engages in conduct determined by the school to be disruptive or harmful to its faculty, staff, and students, including, but not limited to, filing a lawsuit against the school and/or its employees.

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL MOTHER'S DAY OUT HANDBOOK

Parental and student cooperation is essential for the welfare of Our Lady of the Lake students. If, in the opinion of administration, parent or student behavior seriously interferes with the well being of the school or the teaching/learning process, the school may require parents to withdraw their children and sever the relationship with the school.

I hereby acknowledge that I have read the Mother's Day Out Handbook and that I agree to abide by the rules and regulations contained herein.

Student Name (Please Print)

Date

Homeroom

Parent Name (Please Print)

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date