We RISE, Responsibly, Intellectually, Spiritually, and Emotionally, as a community of learners, continually growing as Christ-centered individuals throughout life's journey.

Principal's Message for June 4, 2025

"Refresh yourselves with rich food and drink. . . for this day is holy unto the Lord. . . the joy of the Lord is your strength." –Neh 8:10

Be Positive and You Will Protect Your Health

Victor Hugo once said, "Laughter is the sun that drives winter from the human face." It's easier to laugh when you develop a joyful attitude. King David expressed his joy in these words, "I will bless the Lord at all times" (Ps 34:2).

Lord, teach me how to cultivate a joyful attitude, so that Your praise may always be on my lips.

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE:

Monday, August 11 First Day of School—Noon dismissal for all students

Tuesday, August 12 Back to School Night

Friday, Aug. 15 First Mass of the School Year—Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary

UTAH FITS ALL UPDATE

ODYSSEY is the new management service that will manage the Utah Fits All Scholarships (UFA) for the upcoming school year. Below is their latest update. If you did not receive this message through them directly, please make sure that you add yourself to their mailing list. All applicants will be asked to verify their information. We are hopeful that this will expedite the process of allocating funding. For those families that applied to UFA for the upcoming school year (both renewal applications and initial applications) we are waiting to set your tuition payments until we hear about the scholarship.

Dear Utah Parents,

First and foremost, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all parents, schools, and providers across the State of Utah for your continued patience and cooperation during this period of transition.

Over the past two weeks, Odyssey has been reviewing the data provided by the outgoing administrator of the Utah Fits All (UFA) Scholarship. Unfortunately, the information provided to Odyssey in many cases is incomplete, inconsistent, or lacks proper verification. As such, Odyssey will need to take additional steps to ensure accuracy, consistency, and compliance with the Utah Fits All law. Accordingly, we are sharing the following updates:

Schedule Updates:

- Eligibility Determinations: The data provided for eligibility determination was incomplete and it is not possible to make eligibility determinations at this time. As one example, our records indicate that only a small percentage of year two applicants successfully completed income verification, a statutory requirement in the law. Accordingly, eligibility determinations will be delayed beyond the original May 31st deadline. We will be back in touch soon with new guidance and timelines related to this.
- Portfolios: The May 31st deadline for portfolio uploads will be postponed. Year one participants who did not upload a portfolio before the prior portal was taken down will not be penalized. Those who submitted a portfolio under the previous program administrator will have that submission honored. However, we recommend holding onto any related documents for now.

What to Expect Next:

- Year One Participating UFA Parents: Odyssey will need to gather additional information from year one participating UFA parents in order to confirm year two eligibility. These parents will be asked to verify Utah residency, confirm whether they plan to enroll in an approved and registered private school or conduct home based learning, and upload portfolios, if needed. Odyssey will reach back out soon with directions for how to complete this step.
- Balances and Spending: Odyssey is still in the process of reconciling balances for all current UFA participants. There is a large population for whom Odyssey cannot determine their current balance because there are thousands of pending reimbursements, receipts, and transactions, many of which were received by Odyssey as recently as May 29th. These pending purchases, completed under the previous administrator and their rules, must undergo further analysis before any additional spending can be authorized for any current UFA families.
- Year Two Application Cycle: Odyssey will be re-running the recent application cycle for families. We understand that this may be frustrating, but we believe this is the best path forward to determine eligibility accurately. We want to emphasize how simple our application process is. The Odyssey application is quick and easy to use. On average, across our partner states, the application takes parents five minutes to complete with more than 80% of users completing it

from a mobile device. We will be in touch soon with how you can best prepare for it.

- **Providers:** In the coming weeks, Odyssey will open its vendor application to become a provider on Odyssey's marketplace. Providers will complete and submit a quick application before being onboarded. For providers, there are no transaction fees in our marketplace and all providers will be housed in the same marketplace. Guidelines on who can be a provider for UFA can be found in our <u>FAQ section</u>.
- **Schools:** Odyssey will soon be contacting schools eligible to participate in the UFA Scholarship. These schools will be provided with an online orientation and the ability to create an account on the Odyssey platform. Additionally, private, public, and charter schools are eligible to become providers on Odyssey's marketplace.
- Email Contact: It is important to note that the email address provided by the previous provider is our primary means of identifying parents. Please make note of this and maintain access to this email in order to have a smooth transition to the Odyssey platform. We have included a form below to add your email address to this listserv if you are seeing this communication through other means.

As previously mentioned, Odyssey's intent is to be as transparent during this process as possible. We understand that there will be a lot of changes during this period of transition and we deeply appreciate your continued cooperation. Together, we hope to build a program that will be a model for choice and parent empowerment across the country.

All the best.

The Odyssey Team

*If you are seeing this message through other means and would like to be included on future Odyssey communications, please add your information to this form here.

SUMMER HOMEWORK

There are summer homework requirements for math and reading. Summer homework will help keep the students' minds active and sharp this summer. Summer homework packets were sent home with your student the last week of school. If they do not make it home, the packets are available on our website. All students are required to complete the homework packet for the grade they will be entering for the 2025-2026 school year. Packets will need to be handed in on Monday, August 11.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UPDATE

Thank you for your understanding with the delay in getting tuition contracts updated. The change in management to the Utah Fits All Scholarship program has delayed this process. We will begin sending out contracts as soon as possible. Families that applied for UFA, will be delayed until we hear from

ODYSSEY regarding awards. Families that did not apply for financial assistance will start receiving their payment options in the next few weeks. *Once you have received a notification from Odyssey regarding your UFA status, you need to send the confirmation email to the school.* Tuition payments for 2025-2026 school year will begin August 2025 and go through May 2026 (10 months) unless you have made other arrangements with Mrs. Moffat.

BRING YOUR OWN DIGITAL DEVICE GRADES 5 - 8

Reminder: Students in grades 5th-8th are required to have their own laptop for schoolwork.

Tablets, eBooks and/or Smartphones do not meet the device requirement. A specification sheet for devices can be found on our website.

ART CAMP FORM

Are your kids bored yet? Does your child have a knack for ART? Mrs. Naples is offering weeklong summer sessions for students in grades 3rd-

9th grades. https://www.cognitoforms.com/StOlafCatholicSchool/NaplesArtCampRegistration

TECHNOLOGY AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

Saint Olaf Catholic School is starting an after-school technology program for the 2025-2026 school year. Students joining will work collaboratively in our new Discovery Lab to learn the Principles of Computational & Algorithmic Thinking, learn programming, delve into the realms of micro/circuit python, and learn to assemble basic circuitry & digital controls. Students will get to keep their kits and devices at the end of the program. Students must be entering 6th-8th grades. Space is limited to 10 students per session. There will be 36 sessions at \$55 per session spread throughout the year. If you have any questions or are interested, please contact JC De Astis at jcdeastis@stolafs.org for more information.

GOLF TOURNAMENT TO SUPPORT THE SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

The Knights of Columbus Council 5502 will be hosting a Golf Tournament to support our school! It will be a Scramble Format Tournament held at Lakeside Golf Course. There will be many prizes, including a new car from Performance Toyota. A flyer will be sent home with your students this week with more information! You can also contact:

Ed Ortega at egortega63@gmail.com or Jason Burger at jericburger124@gmail.com

Summer office hours: Monday through Thursday from 8:00-12:00 from June 2-26

Closed July 1-18

Monday through Thursday from 8:00-12:00 from July 21-31

Christine Bergquist, Principal

