



ACADEMYDISPATCH

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August 15, 2017

Early Childhood / Elementary Edition

Welcome Back!

Welcome to another year at Divine Savior Academy! The summer has gone by quite quickly, and we are excited to have our students returning to campus! We thank God for keeping our families and staff safe throughout the summer, and we ask for God's continued blessings as we begin this new year. Our school theme is Ephesians 3:20-21, "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." You will see this verse on posters throughout our school, and it will be referenced to our students on a daily basis. This passage is a great reminder and comfort that God is in control of all things, and he blesses us in ways that we often times do not expect. He consistently does more than we can even imagine! Even when times are difficult, like the current situation in Venezuela, we pray to our God for peace and know that he has all power to work everything out for the good of those who love him. As we begin our first week, we look forward to the year ahead, and know that we are being led each day by our gracious Father in heaven. Our entire staff looks forward to partnering with you and working with your children each day. God's richest blessings to all of you as we begin this new year in Christ's name!

PowerSchool

Our school has made the change back to PowerSchool for the 2017-2018 school year. All of our families have received information with directions for creating their PowerSchool account. These directions were sent home in the orientation folder that was given to the parents of each student. If you need assistance creating your account, please e-mail Ms. Christy (christy.aguirre@divinesavioracademy.com) or call the school office to speak with her at 305-597-4545 ext. 1100.

Tammy's Catering

Please remember to create your account for Tammy's Catering (formerly Neil's Catering). You can find directions for doing this, as well as view the month's menu by visiting the school website. If you already had an account with Neil's Catering, you may continue to use it.

Upcoming Events

August 15 - First Day of Classes

August 20 - Welcome Back Sunday Service (English - 9:30 am,
Spanish - 11:30 am)

September 4 - Labor Day - NO SCHOOL

September 8 - PTO Sharing Night - 7 pm

Welcome Back Sunday

Sunday, August 20 is our Welcome Back Sunday at Divine Savior Church. Please join our Divine Savior family for this special service to ask the Lord's blessing on our Academy, our children, and the teachers for the school year. English worship service is at 9:30 am and Spanish at 11:30 am. Both are followed by a time to meet and greet others. We look forward to seeing you there!

DSA PTO Welcomes You!

As a member of the DSA family, you are a part of our Parent Teacher Organization, and we are excited to have you join us! We invite you to celebrate the start of a new school year with other parents and staff during our annual Sharing Night, a time to reconnect with familiar faces and make new connections. It will be held in our High School Commons on Friday evening, September 8 from 7 - 10 pm. Please refer to the attached invitation for more details, and contact Veronica Canaday at veronicacanaday@gmail.com or at 206-226-4541 if you need more information.

Information Brochure

Please remember to take advantage of the school website (www.divinesavioracademy.com) for all kinds of important information. Please see the attached "how to" brochure to find out how to access PowerSchool, Smart Tuition, hot lunch menus, and much more. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Instagram!



Hearing, Vision & Speech/Language Screening

On September 13 and 14, the Speech Pathology and Educational Center, Inc. (SPEC) will be conducting screenings for students 24 months up to 8th graders at DSA. With parent permission, each student has the opportunity to be screened to determine potential areas of concern regarding speech, language and vision. If you would like your child to be screened you must return the consent form and payment to SPEC to the homeroom teacher by Friday, September 8 (Cash or checks are accepted; checks must be made payable to SPEC).

Costs:

- Screening for Hearing /Tympanogram - \$15
- Vision Screening - \$15
- Screening in English and/or Spanish for Speech and Language Skills - \$30
- All Screenings - \$50

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school counselor, Mrs. Monica Sanchez at monica.sanchez@divinesavioracademy.com or by phone at 305-597-4545 ext. 1146.

After School Activities

We will be offering various after school activities for our early childhood and elementary students. Please see the schedule below and look for sign-up information and flyers in the next Academy Dispatch.

Karate

- Kindergarten - 5th Grade (Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm)

Tumbling

- PreK-3 and PreK-4 (Monday and Friday from 2:45 pm - 3:30 pm)
- Kindergarten and 1st Grade (Monday from 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm and Wednesday from 2:15 pm - 3:15 pm)
- 2nd and 3rd Grade (Wednesday from 3:15 pm - 4:15 pm and Friday from 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm)

* Free trial classes will take place next week on Wednesday (August 23) and Friday (August 25).

Art Classes

- PreK-3 and PreK-4 (Tuesday from 3 pm - 3:45 pm)
- Kindergarten - 2nd Grade (Thursday from 3:15 pm - 4:15 pm)
- 3rd - 5th Grade (Monday from 3:15 pm - 4:15 pm)

Coding Classes

- Kinder and 1st Grade (Tuesday from 3:30 pm - 4:15 pm - classes begin September 12 and go through October 17)

* 2nd and 3rd grade classes will be during the 2nd quarter, while 4th and 5th grade classes will be conducted during the 3rd quarter.

Box Tops for Education

Remember to cut and save Box Tops and send them to school with your child! Each classroom has a container to collect Box Tops throughout the school year. Each Box Top earns cash for our school to purchase educational items. Thank you!

Children's Choir

Students in grades 2-5 that enjoy singing are encouraged to sign up for the Divine Savior Children's Choir. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays from 3:20 pm - 4:05 pm in the 3rd floor music classroom. You can sign up at: dsa.link/elementarychoir2017. Please direct any questions to Mrs. Arguello (amy.arguello@divinesavioracademy.com).

Chess Team Registration

Come join our nationally recognized DSA chess team! We have programs for both beginner and advanced levels. To apply for the DSA chess team, fill out the form at this link: dsa.link/chess17. The deadline to apply is Monday, August 21.

Pre-K and kindergarten classes will begin on Monday, August 28. All other classes will begin Wednesday, August 23.

ATHLETIC NEWS

Elementary Sports

Students are encouraged to participate in school sponsored sports programs throughout the year. Parents can sign up using the appropriate link on the school website any time during the school year, up to the deadline (no late registrations are accepted...sign up early!). The links can be found on the Parent Resources page, under Athletics.



... know if my child has homework?

Planbook gives you access to what teachers have assigned as daily homework (available for 1st-5th grade students).

Go to www.divinesavioracademy.com.

Click on **Doral** campus.

On the **Parent Resources** page, under **Academic Links**, click on **Planbook** and find the name of your child's teacher.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.

...register my child for after school extracurricular activities?

DSA provides a variety of after school activities, such as karate, chess and tumbling.

Go to www.divinesavioracademy.com.

Click on **Doral** campus.

On the **Parent Resources** page, under **Get Ready for School**, click on **Sign Up for Extracurricular Activities**.

... check my child's grades and attendance? (Elementary)

PowerSchool is DSA's school information system that gives you instant access to your child's grades and attendance. You will also be able to update your personal information.

Go to www.divinesavioracademy.com.

Click on **Doral** campus.

On the **Parent Resources** page, under **Academic Links**, click on **PowerSchool**.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.

... register my child for school sports? (Elementary)

Students are encouraged to participate in school-sponsored sports programs throughout the year. Parents can sign up using the appropriate link any time during the school year, up to the deadline (no late registrations are accepted...sign up early!).

Go to www.divinesavioracademy.com.

Click on **Doral** campus.

On the **Parent Resources** page, under **Athletics**, click on **Sign Up for Elementary Athletics**.

If you have any questions, please contact Athletic Director Jon Romsdahl at 305-597-4545 ext.1302.



HOW DO I...?

A Quick Reference Guide for Parents



Find the information you need!

Most information is available on the school website www.divinesavioracademy.com. Here you will find links to The Academy Dispatch, handbooks, hot lunch menus, and much more.



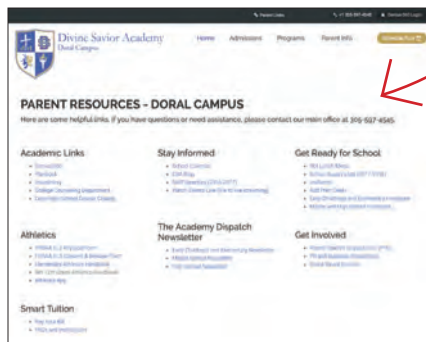
1. Go to www.divinesavioracademy.com

2. Click on **Doral** campus



3. Click on **Parent Info** for helpful links

Or Click on **MORE** for all **PARENT RESOURCES**



HOW DO I...?

... find out what is happening at school?

Read the Academy Dispatch each week! It's DSA's weekly newsletter that contains announcements, event reminders, and important information from our principals, teachers, and staff.

For the Academy Dispatch:

Go to www.divinesavioracademy.com.

Click on **Doral** campus.

On the **Parent Resources** page, find **The Academy Dispatch Newsletter** and click on the level that applies.

You can also find it on the drop down menu under **Parent Info**.

...find out what's for lunch?

For the hot lunch menu:

Go to www.divinesavioracademy.com.

Click on **Doral** campus.

On the **Parent Resources** page, under **Get Ready For School**, click on **Hot Lunch Menu**.

You can also find it on the drop down menu under **Parent Info**.

If you have any questions, please contact Tammy's Catering at 305-597-4545 ext. 3108.

... make an online tuition payment?

Smart Tuition is DSA's new online tuition payment system.

Go to www.divinesavioracademy.com

Click on **Doral** campus.

On the **Parent Resources** page, under **Smart Tuition**, click on **Pay Your Bill**.

*If you have any questions, click on **FAQs and Instructions** under **Smart Tuition**, or contact Marisol Andrade at 305-597-4545 ext. 4105.*

You can also access your account on www.smarttuition.com.

... purchase approved school uniforms?

School uniforms must be purchased through the contracted company Risse Brothers School Uniforms.

Go to www.divinesavioracademy.com.

Click on **Doral** campus.

On the **Parent Resources** page, under **Get Ready for School**, click on **Uniforms**.

If you have any questions, please contact Risse Brothers at 305-200-5348.



Welcome to all of our new and returning Sharks! We hope you are excited to roar ahead to another exciting and successful year.

We have an extraordinary team of PTO volunteers who have all come together to work for one common cause, our children. Our goal is to continue to focus on community building and to provide additional enrichment programs and events for students, parents, and teachers.

We are thrilled to announce our first ever Ice Cream Social to welcome new families to DSA along with the return of Sharing Night, Fun Run, Movie Night, Friends and Family Festival and much more.

These amazing activities would not be possible without the time and financial support of our families and community members. Everyone's participation is essential. Even if you have 30 minutes to give your ideas, time, and talent, it is greatly needed and appreciated. By volunteering, you will interact with students and teachers, socialize with other parents, and accomplish things that make a lasting difference. We promise that the time you give to the PTO and the school will be worthwhile.

We welcome you to join our PTO General Assembly meetings as a way to stay informed and contribute your ideas. Please contact Veronica Canaday if you are interested in volunteering. Cell: 206-226-4541 or Email: veronicacanaday@gmail.com.

We are excited to get to know all families in our community. We welcome your feedback and look forward to working together for a fantastic year ahead!

Mariela Bisbal & Veronica Canaday, PTO Co-Presidents



ALL PARENTS AND STAFF ARE INVITED TO ATTEND
OUR ANNUAL PTO
SHARING NIGHT

This is a free event sponsored by the PTO in which parents and teachers gather to celebrate the beginning of the new school year

TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
FROM 7:00 - 10:00 PM IN THE HIGH SCHOOL COMMONS

Dress code: business casual

Free admission and food

Free drink with the purchase of every raffle ticket

Child care will be provided for a donation of \$5 per child. (3 yrs old and up)





Hearing, vision and speech and language skills are the vehicles by which children learn. Our school is providing these screenings as early intervention is the key to helping children achieve success in school. *Yearly testing is essential as developmental skills vary from year to year.* By taking advantage of this program you will be proactive in ensuring your child's academic success and have a considerable savings of time and money.

Speech Pathology and Educational Center, Inc. will be conducting screenings at
Divine Savior Academy on September 13th and 14th, 2017.

The testing procedures are very thorough and use only the latest state-of-the art equipment.

- Hearing screening includes: an impedance tympanometry test for ages 2-4½ to yield information about the middle ear function, and/or a pure tone audiometry test for ages 4½ and up to determine level of hearing acuity.
- Vision screening includes: use of the Sure Sight Machine which screens for near-and far-sightedness, astigmatism, and unequal power between eyes.
- Speech and language screening includes: a comprehensive, standardized speech and language test to evaluate auditory comprehension and verbal expression along with speech sound productions. A child's communication skills are highly correlated with future and current reading abilities.

Please select the screenings, provide the following information and return to your school with payment attached by: September 8th, 2017. (Checks made payable to SPEC.) To pay by credit/debit card please call our office.

- All Screenings (\$50)
- Screening for Hearing/Tympanogram (\$15)
- Screening for Vision (\$15)
- Screening for Speech and Language Skills (\$30)

Child's Name: _____

Sex (Please circle): M or F Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Years: _____ Months

Grade: _____ Teacher's Name: _____ Room #: _____

Address: _____ City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Father's Name: _____

Preferred Phone: _____ Preferred Phone: _____

How would you like your results sent: US Mail Email: _____
 (please print)

Please check those that apply:

My child is difficult to understand, EXPLAIN _____

My child mispronounces sounds, EXPLAIN _____

My child has difficulty following directions. My child has difficulty using sentences.

My child has a chronic hoarse voice. My child repeats sounds, syllables, words (stutters).

My child has had frequent ear infections. How many per year? _____

My child wears glasses (If yes please bring glasses to screening)

My child has had speech/language therapy previously. Where/Length? _____

Languages spoken to child English _____% Spanish _____% Other _____%

Languages child uses English _____% Spanish _____% Other _____%

How long has the child been exposed to English? _____

This signature authorizes SPEC to perform the screening test(s) and share the results with my child's school.

Parent's Name _____ **Signature** _____