



# Wildcat Weekly

Issue 1, September 11, 2020



WELCOME BACK WILDCATS!!!! We are so excited to finally be able to welcome our students back into the school building. We were busy all summer developing and implementing our reopening plan, cleaning and moving classrooms, redecorating and getting the building and classrooms ready for our students. Even with all that hustle and bustle going on, there was always that nagging sense that something was missing. What was missing way our dear students. They are the reason for our being. I loved being able to welcome all of our students back into the building. We missed them so much!!! Sitting in my office today, I finally got to hear the joyful sounds of our children playing in the schoolyard. We are all so happy you are back!!!

- Mrs. Barron

### New Name....New Look

This year, since the change in structure to an early childhood center, we decided that St. Mel's deserved a new look. We changed some of the décor in the inside and outside of the building. After our mass and faculty meeting on Tuesday, Father spoke of new life and rebirth. We are excited for the new venture that we are embarking on. Father Fonti also blessed the building and each classroom to mark the beginning of our journey.



### *9/11—Never Forget*

On this National Day of Remembrance, we hold in our hearts all the victims of the 9/11 terror attacks. We ask that God provide strength to their loved ones and to protect those who serve in our fire and police departments as well as all other responders. God bless America.



## Spotlight on Our New Faculty

We are excited to welcome two new faces to the St. Mel's family. Ms. Michelle is joining us as a new UPK teacher. Ms. Michelle has 16 years of teaching experience for the NYC DOE, in Long Island, and most recently at St. Kevin's. Her nurturing, yet ambitious spirit will enable our children to learn and grow in a loving environment. We also welcome Ms. Kerry in her role as Kindergarten aide. Ms. Kerry has been a part of the St. Mel's family as a parishioner and substitute teacher and has previous experience as a teacher's assistance at St. Mary's Children's Hospital. Her warmth and dedication will serve our kindergarten students well. This year, Ms. Laurie and Mrs. Diago will continue in their role as Pre-K teachers as well as Mrs. Garcia, Ms. Jeanine and Ms. Kish as Pre-K aides. Ms. Lisa (who you all know from Toddler time!) is taking on the role as Kindergarten teacher so that Ms. L. can use her expertise to teacher the grade 2/3 hybrid class. Ms. Murphy is excited to remain our first grade teacher. Even the office has a few new faces. Mrs. Alessandro will continue as our Financial Secretary while My Lucy, former 4th grade teacher is taking on the role as UPK director and Ms. Pat (also formerly of our Toddler Time program) is now the office manager. We all look forward to an exciting year ahead with all of our St. Mel's families.

### Looking Ahead

- Sunday 9/13—First Holy Communion
- Monday 9/14—Aftercare program begins
- Friday 9/18— 1/2 day for N and K-3 (N & K 11:30 dismissal, grades 1-3 11:45 dismissal, **PreK regular full day**)
- Tuesday 9/22—Virtual PAA meeting at 7pm via Zoom. All parents are welcome to attend (details will be posted on Option C)
- Friday 9/25—St. Mel's Spirit Day (\$3 or NUT card dress down) Pizza lunch sponsored by our friends at Citibank (details to follow)

### Meet Ms. Michelle



- Die hard Yankee fan
- Exercise obsessed
- Disney time share holder
- Travelholic—loves Myrtle Beach, California, Disney, Nashville & Charleston
- Loves Starbucks 5 pump, nonfat, no water, Chai Tea Latte, very hot

### Meet Ms. Kerry



- Married to her high school sweetheart
- Mom to six kids
- Loves to knit
- Loves to cook



Congrats Jimmy, Christine, Samantha, Giuliana, Jasmine and William on earning your yellow stripe belts!