

August 13, 2025

Dear Lower School Parents,

Warm summer greetings from the Lower School office! Our LS office and our playground are currently under construction, so there will be lots of exciting newness waiting for you this fall!

I want to offer a special welcome to our new Lion families and students joining us this fall. I hope that you will soon discover that Providence Academy is a very welcoming environment for students and for parents. I also hope that all families - returning and new - are enjoying days of relaxation and fun with your children.

While there are still many summer days ahead, at PA we are excitedly preparing for the new school year. In this note, you will find information about our plans to begin the school year in the Lower School.

Upcoming Events

Used Uniform Sale

August 14

Noon - 5:00 pm (at 4:30 overlaps with All School BBQ - see below)

The P.A. Parent Association (PAPA) sponsored used uniform sale is a convenient and economical way to find uniform items to start the year.

For information regarding requirements for shoes, accessories, and other items, go to the [Dress Code page](#).

Please note: Accessories and supplies, including backpacks and lunch bags, are to be free of any slogans or "pop culture" references.

All School BBQ - PA Great Room

August 14

4:30 - 6:30 pm

This annual event is a wonderful time for the whole family to meet new friends and visit with old friends!

Lower School Orientations

The Pre-K Orientation and the Kindergarten - 5th grade Orientation are relaxed times for students to meet their teachers and see their classrooms. Students may bring in items to place in their lockers and desks if they wish to do so.

Both Orientations are drop-in events and parents stay with their children. Siblings are welcome.

Kindergarten - Grade 5

Monday, August 25 4:00 - 6:00 pm - Uniforms are not worn and dress is casual. The orientation will be an open house style. Please bring your student to school to find their new classroom, meet their teacher, organize their desk/locker, reunite with friends and meet some new ones!

Pre-Kindergarten

Wednesday, August 27 8:30 am - 10:00 am - Either uniforms or play clothes may be worn, as PreK students wish. Many are excited to wear their uniforms, but it is not required.

First Days of School (Pre-K has a different first day of school.)

Kindergarten - Grade 12 - Wednesday, August 27

Pre-Kindergarten - Thursday, August 28

School day runs 8:30 am - 3:15pm

Before School Options**Early Morning Care**

Lower School students may arrive as early as 7:30 am for supervised care. No students will be allowed in the building prior to that time. There is no registration required and no fee for this program. Students should drop their backpacks at their locker and proceed to the morning care room.

Breakfast

Providence will be offering a variety of breakfast options each day at 7:40 am - 8:15 am.

PreK and Kindergarten students must have a parent with them for breakfast. Students in grades 1 - 5 may get breakfast on their own and supervision will be provided for that age group.

Students use their ID cards, kept in lockers, to charge breakfast to the student account. Parents are welcome to purchase a breakfast on their student's account, too.

After School Options**Late Dismissal**

Parents may avoid the dismissal time traffic by arriving at 3:30 - 3:40 pm to pick up Lower School students in grades K- 5. (This option is not available for PreK students.) There is no fee for this service, but students must be registered for the days of the week that they will attend.

[Late Dismissal](#)

Extended Day (after school care)

Online through the Providence Academy website on the [Extended Day page](#).

Extracurricular After-School Activities

We are working to offer several fun after-school activities. More information will be forthcoming.

Class Assignments

Lower school classes are finished and students will want to watch their mailboxes for their class assignments during the week of August 18th. If you haven't received a teacher letter by noon on Friday, August 22nd, please email Kelly.Roles@providenceacademy.org

Staffing news

We welcome these new teachers to our Lower School faculty this year:

Sister Anne Thérèse - Grade 2

The following teachers have moved to different grade level assignments:

Ms. Patty O'Brien - Grade 5

Mrs. Maureen Woeltge Music - Grades PK-3

Mrs. Kelsey Gebhardt Music - Grades 4-5 and MS Choir

Mrs. Marcia Farniok - LS Math Specialist

Providence Academy Lower School Supplies

Providence Academy will purchase most of the supplies that your child will need. Please do not purchase additional supply items as we will obtain specific materials that the teachers would like the children to use at school. For these items, as well as special project supplies and field trip fees, a fee is charged to each child's account at the beginning of the school year.

The materials that parents should provide are here: [LS Supply List 2025-2026](#)

Providence Academy's Summer Reading Lists

Please encourage your child to keep reading!

[LS Summer Reading List](#)

Mark Your Calendar

Labor Day (no school) - Monday, September 4

Lower School Back to School Night (Parents Only) - Thursday, September 4

Pre-K 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm

All Parent welcome meeting 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm

K-5 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm (two sessions)

Lower School Picture Day - Friday, September 5 (in uniform)

Blessings,

Mrs. Kelly Harrington

Lower School Director

Picture Day with Slow Road Photo

- Picture Day for students in grades Pre-K – 8 is **Monday, September 5th**
- **All Students should be in full uniform for their pictures.**
- There is NO pre-ordering or pre-paying! On **September 18th**, you'll receive an email directly from Slow Road with a link to your student's gallery. From there you can choose the images and products you'd like to order.
- Be sure to add hello@slowroadphoto.com to your email contacts to ensure you receive all the communications and ordering information.
- Please feel free to check out the resources available on the Slow Road website, including our [Welcome Message and Parents' Guide](#).
- If you have any questions regarding Picture Day or image ordering and delivery, please don't hesitate to reach out to Slow Road Photo directly at hello@slowroadphoto.com or 612-293-6327.

2025-2026 District Funding Forms

Each school year, we ask parents to complete forms which allow Providence Academy to receive funds supported by your tax dollars which are otherwise directed toward public schools. Providence Academy uses these funds from your tax dollars for the purchase of textbooks and to support the health services department for the benefit of Providence students.

Again This Year – We have simplified the processing of these forms, simply click the link below to complete the three question google form electronically. We appreciate your prompt attention. [25-26 District Forms for Lower School](#)

Health Office

The Providence Academy Health Office is staffed full time by a licensed school nurse. In addition to assessing the needs of student who become ill or need first aid while at school, Health Office staff administer medications, maintain required school health records and coordinate care for students with ongoing injuries or health issues such as diabetes, asthma or food allergies. Click this link for an important message from School Nurse, Mrs. Molly Kukuljan. [Health Office - Providence Academy](#)

Providence Academy Parent Association

The chief purpose of the Providence Academy Parent Association (PAPA) is to support, organize and develop events and activities, coordinate parent volunteerism, facilitate communication between the school and parents and assist in fundraising activities in conjunction with the Development Office. Every Providence Academy parents is a member of the association. The PAPA Executive Board consists of eight parents and one faculty/staff member, appointed by the Headmaster.

Click this link for a message from PAPA President, Mrs. Lauren O'Neil.

[PAPA 2025-2026 Welcome Letter For All Parents](#)