

Wednesday, Sept 14, 2022



Picture Day Attire

Dear Families,

Picture Day is this Friday, September 16. Students may dress up for their picture or may get their pictures taken in their school uniform or a scouting uniform.

I do not have a preference when it comes to which option you or your child chooses. Several years ago, knowing that some families stretch to afford tuition and uniforms, I made an effort to make it socially acceptable for a student to get their photo taken in a St. Bernadette polo or plaid jumper. Children grow so fast, and families often do not purchase dressy clothes in the fall. My solution was to offer an alternative: If a student gets their picture taken in uniform, he or she may have a casual day the next day. This way, a student who may not own dressier clothing or a special outfit would not be singled out or embarrassed on picture day.

Another reason to allow this is trendy clothes sold to pre-teens are often not modest or in good taste. **We will be attending Mass Friday morning before getting pictures taken.** Short skirts, spaghetti straps, baggy pants or shirts with slogans or images on them are not appropriate. Rather than fuss with a child over what to wear, some families appreciate the opportunity to trade that tension for a casual day later.

I am going to stick with this strategy for this fall's photo day. Please understand, if you or your child prefers a photograph in a nice top or dress, by all means dress up. It is a rare opportunity, and these are the photos used for the yearbook.

What does it mean to "dress up?"

Dressing up for pictures includes wearing nicer clothes - something a child might wear for a special event: a handsome polo shirt or button-down shirt, a sweater, blouse, or casual top that reaches past a waistband. These tops get paired with dress shorts or dress pants, khakis, or a skirt; shorts and skirts need to be just above the knee. Dresses, as long as they are worn just above the knee and have modest necklines, are great. Neck ties are optional, as are dressy shoes, because after pictures are taken, students still have recess. Sandals may be worn, but must have heel straps for safety. Leggings may not be worn as pants, nor are yoga pants or joggers appropriate.

Dress clothes should not be t-shirts, athletic gear, or clothes that are stained or torn.

If I don't dress up for pictures on Friday, what can I wear on Monday?

Wearing your uniform, even when you don't have to, is always fine.

Out of uniform Tops: St. B Spirit wear, a homeroom t-shirt from past years (St. B logo), a house t-shirt from last year, plain t-shirts or polos. No slogans or images.

Bottoms: Khakis, jeans, comfortable pants or casual shorts. Longer shorts such as basketball shorts are fine as long as they are worn at the waist. No leggings as pants, no yoga pants, but long athletic pants are OK. Please make sure shorts are of modest length. No distressed or torn pants or jeans (even if you bought them like that).

Christmas Concert Attire

It's back! Our Christmas Concert will be Tuesday, December 6th in the evening for K-8.

The Christmas Concert is a program that engages our students in upbeat storytelling, proclaiming Christ's birth and the meaning of the holiday. In order to communicate the reverence of the season and present a polished program, we ask that students wear red or black clothing. "Concert black" is a phrase known to musicians and choristers. Black dresses for girls or black tops with black pants or skirts, black shirts, ties and slacks for boys, and dress shoes would be typical for this. However, we know that red dresses, red blouses and red shirts also make a festive statement with black skirts or pants. Boys should wear a tie, and dress shoes should be worn by all, preferably black (or red with a red skirt or dress).

Dress shoes can be a hardship for some families or for children in growth spurts. Do your best. The shoes do not need to be new, but should be in good condition.

Please avoid secular holiday images and aim for solid red or black fabrics.

The goal is this: To honor Jesus not only through the music and movement, but in our effort to look our best and be part of this unified student body. This concert is really for Him.

Please keep concert attire in mind during the coming weeks and start now to look for affordable possibilities. Our last live concert was December, 2019. Feel free to check with veteran families or alumni to see if there's something in their closets that can be shared with your child. No need to break the bank!

Spring concert: Bright, solid-colored tops with khakis or skirts. Floral dresses are fine, too.

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