



SAINT BARBARA GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

2200 Church Rd., Toms River, NJ, 08753 • Tel.: (732) 255-5525 • Fax: (732) 255-8180 • Web: www.stbarbaranj.org

Rev. Father Paul Pappas, Pastor

Mission Statement

The Saint Barbara Greek Afternoon School exists as an educational ministry of Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church. The Greek language is taught as a second language to students. Its primary goal is to teach our children to communicate in the Greek language, to instill in them pride in our Hellenic Heritage, and reverence for our Greek Orthodox faith.

Goals

- Prepare students to communicate in both oral and written Greek. Emphasis will be given to spoken Greek.
- Help students develop a deep appreciation of Greek culture and pride in their heritage.
- Increase awareness of presence of Greek in the English language
- Familiarize students with Greek history, mythology, and literature.
- Prepare students share their knowledge and present information about Greek language and culture in their schools.
- Increase students' understanding of Orthodox Christianity.

Enrollment Requirements

The Greek Language and Culture School is offered to paid stewards of Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church. A registration form is available in the church office or on the parish website: www.stbarbaranj.org.

Children should be 6 years old and in the first grade in American school in order to begin Kindergarten; children should be 7 years old and in second grade in American school in order to begin the first grade in Greek school.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to:

- arrive on time and to keep absences to a minimum
- bring necessary materials (book, notebook, homework, pencils)
- have a good attitude which fosters learning
- prepare and review lessons prior to coming to class

By respecting the above rules a positive classroom environment is created for everyone. Students should enter their classroom with the materials required for class and with their homework completed. A student who arrives unprepared on a regular basis will have a difficult time participating and feeling successful in the class.

We expect our students to be respectful of one another and of their teachers. All students should feel comfortable participating in class and not fear derogatory comments from other students. Student behavior should not be disruptive to the class.

ATTENDANCE

The school relies on the parents or guardians to have the child at school regularly and punctually except in cases of illness, disability, or death in the family. Students will come to school on their regular scheduled day and time. Please do not bring your child(ren) on a day that fits their or your schedule. Please communicate with the teacher for make-up lessons.

ABSENCES

If an absence is anticipated, please be kind enough to call the teacher and leave a message. Parents should contact the teacher directly to obtain make-up work for their child.

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL

Students may only enter through the **west parking lot entrance** of the building since school personnel cannot monitor other entrances. It is strongly suggested that a parent accompany his/her child to the entrance of the church building. Pick up should occur in the same manner. Parents are not permitted downstairs in the classroom area. We very strongly suggest dropping off your child(ren) and returning to pick them up after class has been completed. Congregating in the lobby area during class time does not provide for a positive learning environment for the students. If parents must remain in the lobby area, please refrain from inappropriate conversation; the lobby area is a part of the Church and everyone is expected to act accordingly.

PARKING LOT PROCEDURE

Parents: **Do not allow your children to walk through the parking lot unattended!** We love our children and have had too many "close calls" in the parking lot. It is often difficult to see small children among oversized vehicles. Please escort your children to your car. **Please drive slowly and carefully in the parking lot!**

COMMUNICATION WITH SCHOOL STAFF

The easiest way to communicate with a teacher is to escort your child to the classroom. If you feel an additional conference is needed or if you have a concern which requires discussion please arrange a time to meet with the classroom teacher. Lengthy discussions should not be addressed as children are dropped off since class is to begin promptly and other children are waiting.

***Check backpacks for Greek School News and other notes that may arrive from school.**

Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO)

All parents are encouraged to become members of the P.T.O. Dues can be paid upon registration of your child. The P.T.O. plays a vital role in providing the means for worthwhile projects that enhance our school, the teachers, and students. **If parents have any questions concerning the Greek school program, they should not bring them to the PTO, but to the teachers directly, or to the priest.**

COMMUNICATIONS AND SCHOOL CLOSINGS

Saint Barbara Greek Afternoon School is a large organization. In an attempt to "go green" and be timely in our communications, all Greek School information will be sent via email. If you cannot access email, please contact the church office at (732) 255-5525. Every attempt will be made to send an email concerning a school closing due to inclement weather by 3pm on the day of class. If you cannot access your email, please call the church office at (732) 255-5525.

Greek School Staff:

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