

# APOSTOLIC TIMES

St. Andrew the Apostle School

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER November 16, 2009

*In praise and thanksgiving, the parish community of  
St. Andrew the Apostle  
is pleased to announce our continued celebration of  
50 years in Catholic education*

## *Happy Thanksgiving from SAS!*

Dear Parents:

Since there is no newsletter or Family Folder going home next week, I wanted to wish you, your families, and loved ones a Happy Thanksgiving from everyone at the School. We are thankful for so many gifts, and it is important to reflect on the blessings and gifts we have during this season. The students will participate in a special Thanksgiving prayer service on Monday, November 23 at 2:00 PM. Please join us if you are able to do so.



The Strategic Plan of the Diocese (Meitler Consulting Group) is still under way. Attached, please find further information about the plan from Bishop Sartain. Preliminary results are in and are being reviewed. Further information, specifically about SAS, will be shared at a later date. The feedback is very positive and is currently providing us with momentum to plan for the future. The school is expecting growth and we are preparing for the future, thanks to hard-working parents and teachers, who form a caring learning community rooted in Catholic faith and tradition.

The Diocese is in the process of improving all Catholic schools, and the survey results are in. (Unfortunately, SAS did not reach the goal of having a 90% response from parents.) We appreciate those who took time to complete the survey about School Perceptions because it means you care enough to share your comments. Please continue to pray for renewal, growth, and strength for all schools in the Diocese of Joliet, especially St. Andrew the Apostle School.

### A GUIDE FOR PARENTS ABOUT ITBS

Enclosed please find a packet that explains the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS). This packet is specially written for parents and is also available on the school website under the parent tab. ITBS results will be shared at parent-teacher conferences.

### A NEW FACE ON CAMPUS

Please help me welcome Nadine Martinez to our school. Mrs. Martinez will be the long-term substitute for Mrs. Bolero, who will be out for a few weeks due to knee surgery. Please keep Mrs. Bolero in your prayers as she undergoes surgery and as she recovers. Mrs. Martinez will be the pre-school aide in the morning and she will also teach PE class as she is assuming full responsibility for Mrs. Bolero's teaching assignments. In Mrs. Bolero's absence, Mrs. Nadine Martinez can be reached through the school office or through Ms. Triner. Again, please extend a warm welcome to Mrs. Martinez.



### FLAG MISSING

Mr. Wagner gave the Vatican flag to someone when they dropped off their children in the morning a couple of weeks ago. They said that they would hem it & return it to the school, but we don't know who that was? If you have the flag please call the school office & let us know if you will be able to fix it.

### YEARBOOK HELP NEEDED

Is there anyone who would be willing to coordinate or help with the yearbook this year? Please call the school office or email [lbitzer@standrewromeoville.com](mailto:lbitzer@standrewromeoville.com). We could really use your help.

## PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

This year our Parent-Teacher conferences will be held Monday, November 23, 4-8 P.M. & Tuesday, November 24, 9 A.M. – 12 P.M. Students in grades 5 through 8 are **REQUIRED** to attend the conference with their parents. All conferences are 15 minutes in length. Conference sign-up sheets are posted in the hallway next to the office. We ask that you take a few minutes to come in and schedule your conference time. Please note that requests for conference times will be taken over the phone and by e-mail to [lbitzer@standrewromeoville.com](mailto:lbitzer@standrewromeoville.com).



## TEACHER EASE JUST FOR PARENTS

Have a question about TeacherEase? Need a brief tutorial or a refresher? Mrs. Zilka will be on hand in the computer lab during Parent-Teacher conferences to help parents.

## CURRICULUM UP-DATE/NEW READING BOOKS

This year the faculty will be reviewing samples from different publishers for a new reading series. We will be purchasing a new textbook package for grades K-6. This is for reading (literature) only. Mr. Leppert values the opinion of the parents and wants their feedback. During Parent-Teacher conferences samples from textbook publishing companies will be on display for parents. Please look through the samples and complete an evaluation form (on pink paper). The textbooks will be set up in the administrative wing and will be out on November 23 & 24. Parent input is welcome.



## FEDERAL EDUCATION ISSUES

Please contact your Senators and Members of the House of Representatives and urge them to pass health care reform which:

- excludes mandated coverage for abortion and maintains the longstanding prohibition of federal funding of abortion
- protects the rights of conscience of health care workers and institutions
- makes health care coverage affordable and accessible to everyone
- includes measures to safeguard the health of immigrants and their children

The Catholic bishops of the United States have supported health care reform which includes the above principles for many years. It is crucial that members of Congress hear from the Catholic community at this crucial time. **Please call or e-mail those who represent you ASAP.**

You may locate contact information for those who represent you either at [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov) or [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov).

For more detailed information about the USCCB and health care reform, I encourage you to look at the excellent website that has been created at <http://www.usccb.org/healthcare/>.

Thank you for your advocacy on this important issue.

## MANNA

Christmas is just around the corner and Manna can help with your shopping. Manna is a gift certificate program that can help with your tuition or help build the new church. When you purchase your gift certificates from the Manna group they give us a percentage back to help with either your school tuition or for your Faith Formation tuition. Come on down to the Café on Sunday mornings from 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. and get a full list of all the stores that participate in the manna program. Or come to the Parish Office during the week from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Some of the gift cards available for purchase are Jewel, Dominick's, Wal-Mart, Kohl's, & the Visa Debit card which can be used for everything. What a nice gift! Or use the Visa debit cards to purchase your gifts anywhere a Visa card is accepted, Sears, J.C. Penney, Lowes, Menards, BP Gas, Mobil, Shell, Ultra Foods, Borders, Panera, Starbucks, Speedway and many, many more. Contact Bernadette for information 815-886-4165, ext. 303.



## PARENT DIRECTORY CORRECTION

Please change the email for Autenrieth on the 6/7 grade page to [gina.autenrieth@elca.org](mailto:gina.autenrieth@elca.org).

## HELP WANTED

Technical person who knows how to map a Windows Vista driver to the server. Please contact Mrs. Zilka at [jlilka@standrewromeoville.com](mailto:jlilka@standrewromeoville.com).

## CCW MEETING

Council of Catholic Women meeting will be Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> in the school hall at 6:30 p.m. All women 18 years and older are invited to attend. This month we will have demonstrations on how to wrap Christmas packages. Refreshments will be served.

## TAKE EVERYDAY ACTIONS TO STAY HEALTHY

Influenza is thought to spread mainly person-to-person through coughing or sneezing of infected people, after you use it.

1. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
2. Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective.
3. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
4. Stay home if you get sick. CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.
5. During School Liturgies only, Father Gregor has temporarily suspended handshaking at the Sign of Peace and the Precious Blood will not be available
6. Follow public health advice regarding camp/school closures, avoiding crowds and other social distancing measures.
7. Call 1-800-CDC-INFO for more information.

We encourage all of our students to remember the three Cs:

**Clean** – Wash your hands frequently to prevent the spread of germs;

**Cover** – Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or sleeve, not your hand; and

**Contain** – Contain your germs by staying home if you are sick.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact your health provider, a nurse, or teachers.



## THIRD GRADE SAINTS

On Wednesday, November 4, our third grade school students dressed up as a special saint and gave a short presentation at our school Mass on Wednesday. They also created PowerPoint presentations representing that particular saint! Pictured with our students, are two of our own hard working saints: Father Gregor, Pastor and Mr. Leppert, Principal. Congratulations and outstanding job Grade 3.

# PTO NEWS

## PTO MEETING

Mark your calendars for Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> for the next PTO meeting at **7:00 P.M.** in the St. Mary Center. It was previous listed at 6 P.M. but 7 P.M. is the correct time. We hope to see you there.



## SANTA'S WORKSHOP

Santa's Workshop will be December 2 - 4, Wednesday & Thursday 8:00 - 2:30, & Friday 8:00 - 12:00. We will only be open until lunch on Friday for students who forgot their money when their class shopped or were absent. We are still in need of volunteers, please contact Melissa Davis at 847-212-1776 or msdavis761@yahoo.com. This year we will NOT be

accepting checks that already have dollar amounts filled in - as we cannot give change for checks.

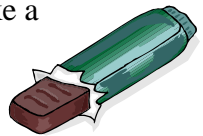
We do apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you. If you would like to send a check with your student please feel free to include a note about how much they can spend. For those of you who do not know what Santa's Workshop is - it's where the students bring in money to Christmas shop for those on their lists. Prices range from \$.15 to \$15.00. There are items for Mom, Dad, Sister, Brother, Grandma, Grandpa, Aunt & Uncle. The students enjoy this time to come in and shop for others. We will be sending home an envelope so they can make their lists.

## CANDY BAR SALE

Parents we would like your feedback! Let us know what you think about the candy sale. Please take a few moments & send an email to saspto@yahoo.com and answer the following questions:

- 1) Did you like the timing of the sale this year?
- 2) If you did not like the timing when would you prefer to sell them?
- 3) Would you prefer to not sell candy bars at all but to add that to the fund raising fee?

Everyone's opinion counts so please take a few moments and let us know. If you could please send the emails by November 20<sup>th</sup>. Thank you & we appreciate your input.



## CAPRI SUN POUCHES

How many of you send a Capri Sun with your child at lunch? Or use them at home? Well we are enrolled in a program that recycles the juice pouches. We receive \$.02 for each pouch returned. So at lunch there is a bin for your child to place the pouch in once they finish it. We will also have a bin near the office if you would like to send your pouches from home in. We are going to try this program out until Christmas break to see how it works out for us. This is an easy way for us to earn some extra money as a school for something that we are already buying.

## UNIFORM RESALE

The PTO will be having a uniform resale during Parent/Teacher Conferences on Monday, 11/23 from 4-8 P.M. & Tuesday, 11/24 from 9-12 P.M. If you have uniforms at home you would like to donate please bring them to the office. Thank you to everyone that has already donated their items. If you would like to help at the sale please contact Melissa Davis at msdavis761@yahoo.com or 847-212-1776.



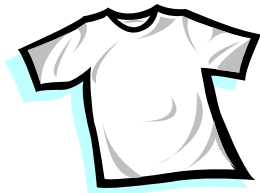
## LET'S GO SHOPPING

At the Promenade Bolingbrook you can bring your original receipts to Guest Services located on the Village Green & they will be logged in & the receipt will be returned to you immediately. Or turn the receipts into the school office with your student's name written on the back & we will turn them in. Receipts have to be dated between 10/1 & 4/30/2010. Every receipt turned in to SAS & your child will receive a prize. Remember this when you do your Christmas shopping. See the enclosed flyer from the Promenade Bolingbrook.

## ANNUAL COOKIE DOUGH DAYS

Cookie Dough Bonus Days are here! When you purchase Market Day cookie dough, you can help our organization earn extra profit. The more you buy, the more we'll earn! Simply place your order online at [marketday.com](http://marketday.com) (acct #1997) - it's that easy!

Order online at [marketday.com](http://marketday.com) until 11 P.M. on Dec 7<sup>th</sup>. If you prefer return the enclosed order form to school by Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you have any questions you can call Jodie Nelson at 815-407-0748. With your support, we're looking forward to reaching our sales goal of \$2800.



## CRUSADE - SAVE THE DATE

We will be holding our 2nd Annual Crusade on April 20, 2010. That seems like it's so far off, but it will be here before you know it. This year we will be having a contest for the students to design the shirt that will be worn by all the students, faculty & volunteers.

Enclosed in the family folder you will find a sheet of paper for each student to submit their design. This is open to ALL grades. Drawings need to be original and done in fine or medium point Sharpie. Some suggestions for design ideas are: 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Crusade, Dividends for Life, School Pride, or come up with your own theme for the Crusade. The deadline is December 4th. The winner will be announced at the Christmas Program.

## CHILI'S FAMILY NIGHTS

Enclosed is a flyer from Chili's, on any Monday-Thursday in November & December they will give our school 10% of your purchase. They only list the Romeoville address, but the coupons can be used at other locations (Bolingbrook, N. Plainfield, Shorewood, & Naperville). We **do have Chili's on Manna** so don't forget to get Manna certificates before you go. Chili's is one of the restaurants that we get a higher percentage back. We get 12% of the purchase price of the certificates & 75% of that will be credited towards your tuition.

## FALL FUNDRAISER INFO

We can continue to shop & get credit for the Fall Fundraiser, but we don't qualify for prizes. You can place your order online.

*Contact Parent Coordinator, Melissa Davis at [msdavis761@yahoo.com](mailto:msdavis761@yahoo.com)  
or 847-212-1776 with any PTO questions.*