

APOSTOLIC TIMES

St. Andrew the Apostle School

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER November 3, 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*

Dear Parents:

With the return to school now in full swing, as we begin the 2nd Quarter, we return our focus to success in a faith-filled classroom. Our students are asked to work hard, set goals, and focus on one test, quiz or assignment at a time. We continue to challenge our students with a strong core curriculum, extension activities, and we provide academic and behavioral interventions to students who require more intensive instruction. This year all schools in the Diocese of Joliet are starting initiatives for Child Study Teams (or Teacher Assistant Teams) and Response to Intervention (RtI). The implementation of RtI will take all year, as we provide in-services for staff and faculty. Basically, students are provided multi-tiered interventions based on academic needs. A student who requires assistance will be monitored through assessments and data collection. Teachers track student progress and alter interventions based on assessment results. Response to Intervention allows schools to fully utilize all school resources and provide necessary assistance to all our students.



We want to continue our strong partnership with our entire SAS Community. I would again like to recognize the parent volunteers who support our SAS and our dedicated faculty and staff that help make SAS an excellent Catholic school. Their hard work is recognized and appreciated by the entire staff of SAS. I ask that you please consider sharing your time with our PTO. They continually need your support and creative ideas.

CALLING THE SCHOOL TO REPORT AN ABSENT STUDENT

The following are guidelines parents should use when calling in their child's absence to SAS:

The Will County Department of Public Health in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control is recommending that schools track absenteeism due to flu-like symptoms. Therefore, we ask that when you report your child as absent from school, you also indicate if it is due to flu-like symptoms. Flu symptoms include fever of 100° degrees Fahrenheit or higher and one or more of the following: cough, sore throat, headache, and/or muscle ache. We will track absences for the Department of Public Health by percentage of students absent, not absence by indicating the student's name.



STUDYING WHILE HOME

Students sick...but want to keep up their skills? Please have them go to Mrs. Zilka's website at www.standrewromeoville.com/School/Computer.htm and practice math facts, punctuation, keyboarding skills, and/or read books online. There are a variety of websites that students can use to enrich their learning. Most sites allow you to choose the grade level and/or experience level--it doesn't matter if the site is listed for K or Grade 8. Select the topic and find the level.

Have a great site you use for helping to educate students? E-mail the site to Mrs. Zilka at jjzilka@standrewromeoville.com. Not all sites can be posted to the website because of advertising and/or diocesan policies.

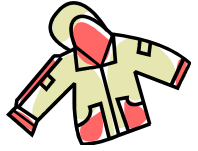
CUSHION DONATION

Thank you to Mrs. Araneta for donating cushions for the chairs in the lab so students can reach the keys easily!



RECESS-LUNCH

As the seasons change, and the weather turns cooler, we want to remind you that the students will be going outside unless it is raining or the temperature/wind chill combination is zero or below. Please remember to send your children with appropriate clothing for outdoor recess.



DISMISSAL REMINDER

Just a reminder for those of you with dogs.....for the safety of our students and others, dogs are not allowed on school property. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation with this request. Please take a moment to review the handbook page 18.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

The first quarter of the school year has ended. Parents must sign-up for a conference time with the teachers to discuss your child's academic and behavioral progress, receive a copy of his/her standardized test results, and assist us in assessing your child's achievement of the School wide Learning Expectations. 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 will be posted in the hallway next to the office starting Monday, November 9. 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.



JUNIOR HIGH DANCE NOV. 7th IS CANCELLED

In light of the H1N1 intensity, and to ensure safe rest for the students, families, and teachers, the JH dance on November 7 has been cancelled. There are currently no plans to reschedule it, either. The administration feels that it is important to minimize and limit on-campus activities at this time. We thank you for understanding how important it is to keep our students and staff safe, healthy, and well rested at times like these.

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.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

St. Andrew School is seeking volunteers to assist us in serving our students and community more effectively. We need several people to assist in classroom activities throughout the school day, and in the lunchroom from 10:45 - 12:30 daily. Any time would be much appreciated. The work is light and consistent, and even a small investment of time would pay great dividends in the benefit to our students and school community. If interested, please contact Linda Bitzer at lbitzer@standrewromeoville.com or 815-886-5953 x420.

COKE REWARDS

Thank you to all who are participating in the Coke Rewards program, especially Mrs. Galon and Mrs. Nelson for inputting all those codes. Keep sending in codes.



TOO MUCH HALLOWEEN CANDY???

Why not give it to Mrs. Zilka for her treat/reward jar? She is looking for any type of candy. Thank you!

DECEMBER HOT LUNCH FORMS

The hot lunch forms are included with this newsletter. The deadline to order is Friday, November 13th. No late orders will be accepted.

MORNING DAY CARE ON NOV. 6

On Friday, November 6th the morning Day Care will be in the school office. Please drop off your children at door 1 for this day only.

STUDENT COUNCIL FUNDRAISER

Thank you to all who supported the Student Council fundraiser on October 23. A generous donation was made to Susan G. Komen for the Cure on behalf of the students at St. Andrew the Apostle School.

FOURTH GRADE FIELD TRIP

The fourth graders are going to Naper Settlement on December 11th. Please do not order Hot Lunch for this day. They will be eating at the Settlement. They should bring a sack lunch & a drink. The students should dress for cold weather. More detail will be sent home with them closer to the trip.

FIRE SAFETY WEEK

Students in 1st Grade and Kindergarten attended a fire safety class this past week!

BAND NEWS

Band continues on Fridays. There is still time to join if your child is interested. Please contact Music on the Run at 630-271-8091 for further questions.

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.

*Peace and all good things,
Mr. Leppert and Faculty*

PTO NEWS

PTO MEETING

A very special token of gratitude to the parents who took the extra time to be involved at SAS by attending the October PTO meeting. Mark your calendars for Thursday, November 19th in case you missed the October meeting, we'd love to have you join us in November. The meeting time will be at **7:00 P.M.** in the St. Mary Center. It was previously listed at 6 P.M. but 7 P.M. is the correct time. We hope to see you there.

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

When you shop at the Promenade in Bolingbrook we can earn a portion of \$10,000.00 in gift cards. 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 name written on the back & we will turn them in. Receipts have to be dated between 10/1/2009 & 4/30/2010. Remember this when you do your Christmas shopping.

MARKET DAY

Get your Thanksgiving and Christmas pies now. There's still time to get your Market Day order in and help us earn extra profit! Dessert Bonus Days are back with fourteen high quality pies, cheesecakes and individual desserts that are perfect endings to holiday meals. Order today and help us reach our goal of 250 desserts! Order online at marketday.com (acct #1997) until 11PM on 11/9 or return the paper order form to school by 11/5. We appreciate your support and we're looking forward to seeing you at our Market Day Sale!



Contact Parent Coordinator, Melissa Davis at msdavis761@yahoo.com or 847-212-1776 with any PTO questions.

