

Saint Alphonsus Catholic School



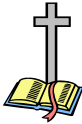
FAMILY NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2, 2011



St. Alphonsus is Celebrates
Catholic Schools Week
January 30th – Feb 5th

Calendar:

- Feb 4 – First Friday School Mass 9am
- Feb 7 – Inservice Day / No School for Students
- Feb 17 – Optional Parent/Teacher Conferences for PreK-3 (No Classes for PreK-3)
- Feb 18 – Optional Parent/Teacher Conferences for Gr 4-8 (No Classes for Gr 4-8)
- Feb 21 – No School / President's Day
- Feb 28 – First Penance for Second Grade 7:00pm



Changes to School Calendar

Due to the 2 snow days, we will now have school on
Friday, March 25th and
Friday, May 13th

Yard Duty Schedule for Next Week February 7-11

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
First Shift	Faculty Inservice	Birnie Gallagher Hyer Yoast	Barton Dianno Mele Perri	Loftus Marzullo Pedicone Yoast	Calhoun Greene SM McLaughlin Tavalaro
Second Shift	No School	Devlin Felix Phillips Rizzuto	Petrucci S Rietzki DeAngelis Kuczborski	Cooper Larivee Rittenhouse Quinn	Fresno Hook Morrissey Signoretta

Please find a substitute if you are unable to keep your assigned time!

2011-2012 School Registration Forms

Registration Fees and Forms for next year *are now due.*

To insure a spot for your child(ren) next year, please send in your registration today.

We are currently accepting registrations for new students.

If your child(ren) will not be returning to St. A's next year, please inform the office.

Optional Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for:
Thursday, 2/17 for PreK to Grades 3 (NO classes for PreK-3 / Classes for Grades 4-8 only)
Friday, 2/18 for Grades 4 to 8 (NO classes for Gr 4-8 / Classes for PreK-3 only)
Conferences this time are optional.
If you would like a conference for your child(ren) please contact their teacher(s).

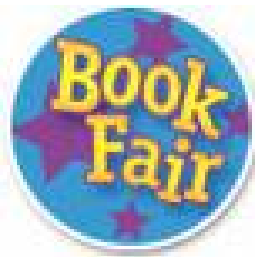
MIDDLE STATES ACCREDITATION NEWS

Saint Alphonsus School is beginning its Middle States re-accreditation process with the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Elementary Schools. This organization serves schools in the United States and other countries. It is a non-governmental, non-profit, peer administered organization. Accreditation encourages and facilitates school improvements and provides a mean for validating our school's integrity and accountability. The protocol for this re-accreditation is RENEWING THE VISION – Strategic Planning for School Improvement. We anticipate the completion of this process with a visit from the Middle States Team in spring of 2012. Our process has begun with the development of a Planning Team from members of our school/parish community.

We invite you to take this journey with us and we ask for your prayers and support. This course of action will lead us to an Action Plan with a comprehensive view of our future goals and objectives for Saint Alphonsus School.

You will be receiving regular updates and requests for participation in our surveys. We thank you in advance for your support of this process.

The Steering Committee:
Mr. John Steck, Principal
Mrs. Carol Opdyke – Co-chair
Mrs. Jane Gironde – Co-chair
Mrs. Linda Reilly
Mrs. Anita Fleming



The **Scholastic Book Fair** will be at St. Alphonsus School the week of February 13th! Check out the St. Alphonsus homepage at Scholastic. An Ice Cream Social hosted by Home & School will be Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 8:00. Click on this link to our school fair: <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/stas>

Please consider donating your loose change to support One-for-Books. The proceeds will purchase books for the Global Leadership Academy - the charter school in Philadelphia that lost all of their books and supplies in a fire. A container for your loose change is in the library now and will be there throughout the book fair. A fun way to donate change could be: pennies on Mondays, nickels on Tuesdays, dimes on Thursdays, and quarters on Fridays.

First Friday Mass Collections: On each First Friday of the month we are asking for donations for the Face to Face Program and for February, we are also in need of donations for Project Home. For Friday, February 4th, we are asking the children in grades Pre-K to Grade 4 to bring in the following items for Face to Face:

- PreK & Kindergarten - toothbrushes
- Grades 1 & 2 – toothpaste
- Grades 3 & 4 – hand and body soap

For students in Grades 5 to 8, we are asking for donations for Project Home as follows:

- Grade 5 – hot chocolate (individual servings) and tea bags
- Grade 6 – hot cereal, oatmeal, and cold cereal (all individual servings)
- Grade 7 – soup and small cans of tuna
- Grade 8 – sugar packets and peanut butter & jelly

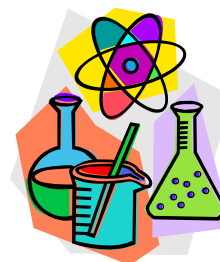


On Sunday, February 13th at 2pm, Cardinal Justin Rigali will be celebrating a special Mass of Thanksgiving for the altar servers in our Montgomery County Vicariate at the Cathedral Basilica of SS Peter and Paul. Please see flyer at end of this newsletter for more details and to sign up to attend.



SASO Valentine Lollipop Sale: SASO will be selling Valentine Lollipops from February 7 to February 14. The choices are large or small sweet lips or hearts. The small pops are \$.50 and the large pops are \$1.00. The proceeds from the lollipop sale will benefit the Mercy Ministries in Philadelphia. This ministry helps the poor and homeless children and families of Philadelphia. Thank you for supporting SASO in this endeavor.

Science Fair: This year's Science Fair is being held in the cafeteria on April 7th from 7:00-8:30pm. Information and Entry forms are available on the school website along with the Student Information Booklets. **ALL students in Grades K to 6** interested in participating in the Science Fair need to fill out the application form and submit to Mrs. Gribb by March 11th. Students should bring their displays to the cafeteria by 8:00am on April 7th to be set up. Any questions, please contact Mrs. Gribb at ssgribb@gmail.com



News from the St. A's Tech Lab: Do you have a digital camera that is just lying around your house collecting dust? Ms. Lebiezinski would love to take it off your hands!! She is looking for working, user-friendly digital cameras to use with the children in all grade levels. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

The eighth graders are in the initial phases of making videos (using Windows Movie maker) highlighting the various facets of our school. The students would benefit tremendously from brainstorming with a professional videographer. Contact Ms. Lebiezinski at mslebiezinski@gmail.com if you have experience making videos or know someone who would be willing to talk with the students (live or via skype).

Safe Environment Workshop: Thank you for all your help with our children ... your presence and support are greatly appreciated. If you work with children on a weekly basis (lunchroom, library, classrooms, etc.) you are required to attend the "Protecting God's Children for Adults" workshop." Visit www.virtusonline.org for sessions and to register on line. Please be sure to give the office a copy of your certificate after completing the workshop.



Box Tops for Education: Thanks for Kathleen McGettigan for running this very worthwhile program! We received a check for \$511 for all the Box Tops that have been turned into the office. Please keep clipping "Box Tops!" **The next mailing of Box Tops will be February 28th so be sure to get all those Box Tops you've been collecting into school soon!** This is a great way for the school to obtain money for just a little effort on everyone's part!

Archdiocese of Philadelphia OCE Blue Ribbon Commission Information: In order to keep you updated on the movement and progress of the Blue Ribbon Commission, please visit the website: <http://www.catholic-schools-phl.org/blue-ribbon-commission/video-of-press-conference>.

A NOTE FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE



When to Keep Your Child Home from School

Many children are sick and should be kept home even though they do not have a temperature. We count on parents to use their best judgment. If your child's temperature is 100 degrees or higher, your child should not attend school. While at home, encourage your child to drink plenty of liquids. Your child must be fever-free for 24 hours (without medicine) before returning to school.

Mild Cough/Runny Nose - If there is no fever, and the child feels well enough, he/she may attend school.

Lice - Please do your part to prevent the spread of this communicable condition. Treat your child with a pharmacist recommended OTC product following the directions on the bottle **EXACTLY** as written by the manufacturer. Report lice activity to the school nurse. Your child's confidentiality will be maintained. Your child may return to school after treatment is complete. He/she will be checked by the school nurse.

Bad Cough/Cold Symptoms - Children with bad coughs should stay home, and possibly see a doctor. A severe cold could be flu, bronchitis or pneumonia. When the cough improves, and your child is feeling better, then it's back to school.

Diarrhea or Vomiting - Keep your child home when they are experiencing diarrhea or vomiting and for 24 hours after the last episode (without medicine) at which time your child may return to school.

Sore Throat - A minor sore throat is usually not a problem, but a severe sore throat could be a symptom of strep throat - even if there is no fever. Other symptoms of strep throat are headache and stomach upset. Keep your child home from school and contact a doctor. Your child needs a special test to determine if it is strep throat. If prescribed, he/she can return to school 24 hours after antibiotic treatment begins.

Earache - The child needs to see a doctor to rule out infection.

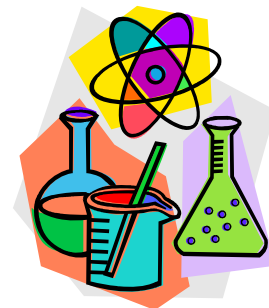
Pink Eye (Conjunctivitis) - Keep the child home until a doctor has cleared an OK to return to school. Pink eye is highly contagious and most cases are caused by a virus, which will not respond to an antibiotic. Bacterial conjunctivitis will require an antibiotic; your doctor will be able to determine if this is the case.

Rash - Children with a skin rash should see a doctor, as this could be one of several infectious diseases requiring medical treatment.

Remember when in doubt; always call your doctor for advice.

ST. ALPHONSUS SCIENCE FAIR INFORMATION

January 25, 2011



Dear St. Alphonsus Parents,

On Thursday, April 7th and Friday, April 8th, St. Alphonsus School will be hosting the annual Science Fair. The purpose of an elementary school science fair is to encourage the students to have an interest in science, provide them with a learning experience related to science, and to have fun at the same time. On the school website, you will find information regarding the types of entries and guidelines.

Every child is encouraged to participate in the Science Fair. Entries should be simple, age appropriate and within the child's scope of ability and interest. Participation for Pre-K to Grade 6 is voluntary. Individual or group projects are allowed. Participation for Grades 7 and 8 is required and will be assessed as a major third trimester project grade. The seventh grade students may collaborate (two in a group); eighth grade students will work on their own ideas and **all** students in seventh and eighth grade must submit a final report.

Parents should provide guidance, direction and support for your child. Children may need help in organizing their ideas, and assistance with finding information and materials and sometimes supervision. The Science Fair is not a competitive event. All students' efforts will be recognized.

During the school days on Thursday, April 7th and Friday, April 8th, all students of St. Alphonsus will be given the opportunity to view the Science Fair entries. Parents are invited on Thursday, April 7th to visit from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. During this hour, students are expected to stay with their projects and provide additional information and answer questions.

If your child is interested in participating, please print and return the entry form by Friday, March 11th in order to plan appropriate space and print a certificate for each student. **All project requirements for Grades K through 6th are on the St. Alphonsus school web page.** Grades 7 and 8 have received a booklet with more detailed information. This guide is also on the internet.

Any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Sharon Gribb at 215-646-0150 extension 208 or ssgribb@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you at the Science Fair!

Science Fair Coordinators,

Sharon Gribb and Diane DiNenno

Saint Alphonsus Annual Science Fair Entry Form

*****Due by Friday, March 11th *****

Student _____

Grade _____ Teacher _____

Working with:

Student _____

Grade _____ Teacher _____

Please Note: Guidelines for Science Fair displays and procedures are on the St. A's webpage. **If you decide not to participate in Science Fair, please email me at ssgribb@gmail.com**

Student Signature

Parent Signature



Altar Servers

Altar Server Mass Sunday February 13, 2011

On Sunday, February 13th, Cardinal Justin Rigali will be celebrating a special Mass of Thanksgiving for the altar servers in our Montgomery County Vicariate at the Cathedral Basilica of Sts Peter and Paul. The mass will be at 2pm. Father Moerman (before he left) reserved a section for St. Alphonsus. Father Quan will be taking any interested students down to the mass. If we get enough students we can reserve a bus. We could also use some parents as chaperones. We plan to leave St. Alphonsus at noon.

As in prior years, the Archdiocese asks that there be no CYO games scheduled that day so that the students can attend this mass. This is a very nice event. You will have the opportunity to meet the Cardinal and have a group picture taken with him. Father Quan will also host a pizza party back in the narthex when you return.

Please complete the information below if you are interested in attending or email Mrs. Morris at Kmorris1000@comcast.net.

Yes I can attend:

Name: _____

Parent's Name (if attending) _____

If parent is not attending, can you help with pizza party? _____

ST. ALPHONSUS CYO NEWS

Spring Sports registration is open at
www.wagdogs.com

**Cadet, Minor and Novice Track and Field -
4th thru 8th grade boys and girls - \$40.00**

Novice - Born January 1, 2000 - December 31, 2001

Minor - Born January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1999

Cadet - Born Sept. 1, 1995 - December 31, 1997

Bantam Track and Field - K thru 3rd grade boys and girls - \$30.00

Track Coaching Volunteers please contact - Michele Hand (MH77@comcast.net)

Varsity Baseball - 7th and 8th grade boys - \$75.00

Varsity Softball - 6th, 7th and 8th grade girls - \$75.00

JV Baseball - 5th and 6th grade boys - \$75.00

JV Softball - 4th and 5th grade girls - \$75.00

Seasons begin on March 1st thru June 15th

Jr. CYO Baseball - K thru 3rd grade boys - \$25.00

Clinics are planned for Saturday mornings in Feb. and March

Jr. CYO Softball - K thru 3rd grade girls - \$25.00

Jr. CYO T-Ball games are played Friday and Sunday evenings
from mid April to late May on the St. Alphonsus Parish Fields

Children are divided into K-1st grade and 2nd-3rd grade teams and play a schedule of games. The 2nd and 3rd graders move on to Coach Pitch games by the end of the season. Two to three parent coaches are needed for each team.



Trivia Night Fundraiser
Date To Be Announced Soon
6:30 – Cocktails 7:00 - Dinner
8:00 - Trivia begins
St. Alphonsus Parish Center



If you have any questions, please contact us at CYOSports@stalphonsus.com or
George Tenzinger – President - gtenzinger@comcast.net

St. Alphonsus Scrip Program

In stock items will be returned within 2 days. Special orders can take up to 1 week. Checks should be made out to St. Alphonsus

For questions or additional information call Mary Finley at 215-646-0421 or marfin29@aol.com.

Office Use: check # _____ cash _____

Name		Total Order	\$
Room Number	Order Date	Phone Number	

Grocery	Qty	Total
A&P/Super Fresh \$25 or \$100		\$
Acme \$50		\$
Giant \$50		\$
Pathmark \$25		\$
Shop N Bag \$50		\$
Genuardi \$25 or \$100		\$
ShopRite \$25 or \$100		\$

Department Store	Qty	Total
Bloomingdale's \$25		\$
Boscov's \$25 or Bon Ton \$25		\$
JCPenney \$25 or \$100		\$
Lord & Taylor \$25		\$
Kohl's Dept. Store \$25 or \$100		\$
Macy's/Federated \$25 or \$100		\$
Neiman Marcus \$50		\$
Sears or K-Mart \$25 or \$100		\$
Ross' \$25		\$

Travel	Qty	Total
Marriott Hotels \$50/100/500		\$

Electronics & Office	Qty	Total
Staples \$25		\$
Office Max \$25 or \$100		
Office Depot \$25 or \$100		

Entertainment	Qty	Total
AMC Theaters \$25 or 1 tkt (9.50)		\$
Barnes & Noble/B.Dalton \$10 or \$25		\$
Barnes & Noble "Teacher" Gift \$20		\$
Blockbuster \$6, \$10 or \$12		\$
Dave & Busters \$25		\$
Borders / Waldenbooks \$10 or \$25		\$
Regal Ent (UA Theaters) \$25 or 1 tkt \$9.50		\$

Home Decor	Qty	Total
Bed Bath & Beyond \$25		\$
Crate & Barrel \$25		\$
Restoration Hardware \$25 or \$100		\$
Pottery Barn / Williams Sonoma \$25		\$
Pier 1 Imports \$25		\$

Home Improvement	Qty	Total
Lowe's \$25 or \$100		\$
Home Depot \$25 or \$100 Gift		\$

Sporting Goods	Qty	Total
Sports Authority \$25		\$
Champs Sports \$25		\$
Dick's Sporting Goods \$25		\$

Apparel & Accessories	Qty	Total
American Eagle or Aeropostale \$25		\$
Claire's \$10 (No fee card)		\$
The Childrens Place \$25		\$
Gap / Banana / Old Navy \$25		\$
J. Crew \$25		\$
Gymboree \$25		\$
Limited \$25 or Dress Barn \$25		\$
Talbots \$25		\$
TJ Maxx/Marshall's/Home Gds \$25;100		\$
Eddie Bauer \$25		\$
Express \$25		\$

Dining - Casual	Qty	Total
Bertucci's \$25 or \$100		\$
Applebee's \$25		\$
California Pizza Kitchen \$10		\$
Cheesecake Factory \$25		\$
P.F Changs \$25		\$
Outback Stk/Carrabbas \$25		\$
Red Lobster/Olive Grdn/Longhorn Stk \$25		\$
Ruby Tues \$25 or TX Roadhouse \$25		\$
Chile's Bar & Grill \$25		\$
TGI Fridays \$25		\$

Dining - On The Go	Qty	Total
Cold Stone Creamery \$10		\$
Domino's \$14 Pizza & 2-liter		\$
Dunkin Donuts \$10		\$
Panera Bread \$10 or \$25		\$
Pizza Hut \$10		\$
Starbucks \$10 or \$25		\$
Burger King or Wendy's \$10		\$
Chuck E Cheese \$10		\$
Baskin Robbins \$2		\$

Online & Mail Order	Qty	Total
iTunes \$15 or \$25		\$
LL Bean \$25 or Lands End \$25		\$
Shutterfly \$25		\$

Specialty Retailer	Qty	Total
Bath & Body Works \$10 or \$25		\$
Ulta Salon \$25		\$
CVS \$25 or Rite Aid \$25 or Walgreen \$25		\$
Payless Shoes \$20		\$
Michaels or JoAnn Fabrics \$25		\$
Hallmark \$25		\$
Super Cuts \$25 or Master Cuts \$25		\$
Great Clips \$25		\$
Foot Locker \$25		\$
Omaha Steaks \$25		\$