

# Saint Alphonsus Catholic School



## FAMILY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 15, 2010



### Calendar:

- Sept 19 – Catechetical Sunday 10:15 Mass
- Sept 24 – Mercy Day School Mass (10:15am) & Service Project  
Faculty Luncheon given by H&S
- Oct 1 – First Friday School Mass 9:00 am
- Oct 5 – School Pictures – Students to wear their school uniforms
- Oct 6 – Fire Prevention Assembly (Gr PreK-2 9-9:45am, Gr 3-5 10-10:45am)
- Oct 10 – First Penance Talk in Church 7pm
- Oct 11 – No School / Faculty Inservice Day
- Oct 12 – Students Begin Wearing Winter Uniforms
- Oct 17 – H & S Family Fun Festival 1 - 4pm  
– Confirmation Talk 7pm in Church
- Oct 20 – Confirmation Service Meeting for Parents 9:30am in Narthex
- Oct 21 – PreK & K Open House 9 -11am
- Oct 29 – Parent Teacher Conferences for Gr 7-8 only. No School for Gr 7-8 only.



### Yard Duty Schedule for Next Week September 20-24

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
First Shift	T Barrett Cardosi M Jennings Sadorf	Birnie Gallagher Dierkes Yoast	Barton Dianno Mele Perri	Loftus Marzullo Pedicone M Jennings	Calhoun Greene SM McLaughlin Tavolaro
Second Shift	Dierkes Hand Maiolino Weglos	Devlin Felix Phillips Rizzuto	Petrucci S Rietzke DeAngelis Kuczborski	Cooper Larivee Rittenhouse Quinn	Fresno Hook Morrissey Signoretta

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

**PAPERS, PAPERS, PAPERS:** Thank you for your patience and diligence in completing the many papers that were given out the first day of school. Every year we are required to have these forms completed and updated for each child. The MOST important paper to return is the Emergency Information Form. Kindly return this if you have not already done so. The other forms due are: Photo and Interview Permission Forms, Textbook Loan Form and Acceptable Use Policy for Technology; as well as agreement form for "Parent/Student Handbook."

**Family Directory:** Last call for any new phone numbers, addresses, or email addresses before the 2010-2011 School Directory goes to print. If you have not sent in an email address and would like one printed in the directory or if you have any changes to an email address, phone number, etc, please email Barbara at [bwaschenko@stalphonsus.com](mailto:bwaschenko@stalphonsus.com) by this Friday.

**Family Newsletter & Envelope:** The weekly Family Newsletter from the office will be posted on the school website every Wednesday. To save paper, we do not send home a hard copy of the newsletter in the family envelope. Please visit [www.stalphonsus.com/school.htm](http://www.stalphonsus.com/school.htm) on Wednesdays -- click on the 'Family Envelope' tab at the top and then 'Weekly Newsletter'. The Family Envelope itself will be sent home on occasional Wednesdays throughout the year. Parents are asked to return the 'empty' envelope and any needed responses on Thursdays! We do limit items in the family envelope to those that pertain **only** to school. Often various flyers, etc. are sent from local community organizations and these are placed on the table outside the office.

**Family Newsletter 'Blurbs':** All blurbs to be included in the Family Newsletter each week must be approved by Mr. Steck. **Please email blurbs** to Barbara at [bwaschenko@stalphonsus.com](mailto:bwaschenko@stalphonsus.com) by Monday morning for that week's newsletter. All flyers need to be approved as well. Please email flyers (in a pdf file) to Barbara for inclusion at the end of the newsletter.

**Absences:** **If your child will be absent from school, please call 215-646-0150 then press "1" before 9:00 am.** Please leave name of student, grade, teacher and reason for absence. If you would like class work and homework, please indicate the name and teacher of the student you want to have the work sent home with or at what time you will be picking up the work (from the table outside the office). Kindly request a time after dismissal since it is often not possible for the teachers to 'stop' class to prepare materials during the school day. The center door to school is the after-school CARES program and there is a doorbell if you cannot get into the building.

**CARES Program:** Saint Alphonse School has an after school program (CARES) available for our school children. CARES runs from dismissal time until 6:00 pm. Mrs. DiNenno is the moderator of this program. If you would like information please contact the office or call Mrs. DiNenno (ext 218). The CARES program will be in Room 113. Please ring the doorbell at the center door when you need to pick up your child(ren) from the CARES Program. This bell can be heard in Room 113.

**Asbestos Inspection:** An inspection of asbestos in the school is required by the EPA. We received a letter from Mark Jenkins from USA Environmental Management, Inc. stating "During the past two years a re-inspection of asbestos containing materials (ACM) was performed in your school by certified asbestos inspectors. These inspections are required by the EPA regulations every three years and subsequent follow up every six months and response actions be taken if damaged ACM is found. No damaged ACM was observed during any of the inspections completed by USA Environmental Management, Inc."

**Shelter In Place Items:** Every student is asked to have in school non-perishable food/drink items to be stored in a bin for the academic year. Please place these items in a zip-lock bag with the student's name and classroom. Items are stored in a bin at the designated shelter in place area.



**MEDICATIONS:** If your child requires any administration of medication (daily or as needed) we **MUST** have the medication form completed **with the physician's signature**. Legally we cannot administer even an aspirin unless the form is completed by a physician. This form is available under 'Forms' on the website. Thank you!

**Offertory Procession:** Parents of students in grades 2,3 and 6 are invited to bring up the gifts during our weekend Masses. Please email Miss Tonelli at [ltoneidre@gmail.com](mailto:ltoneidre@gmail.com) with your choices of 5pm, 8am, 10:15am or Noon Mass. Miss Tonelli will contact you with a schedule.

**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." Upcoming workshops include: Corpus Christi on September 22<sup>nd</sup> 7:00pm, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (Hilltown) on October 4<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm; and St. Anthony of Padua on October 7<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm. Visit [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org) for more sessions and to register on line. Please be sure to give the office a copy of your certificate after completing the workshop.

**Our Commitment to Service:** Our school takes pride in the Mercy Foundations of Character. The Mercy tradition challenges us to respond attentively with each other, to be honest, responsible, caring, fair and respectful of others. During this school year we will continue the Mercy charism of service. As part of our service education we have scheduled three school-wide service projects. You and your child will be invited to bring an offering or gift to serve someone in need: thus making the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy the living reality of our witness to Jesus. Our first service project will take place at our opening school Mass on Friday, September 24th (Feast of our Lady of Mercy / aka: Mercy Day) at 10:15 am. Please know you are welcome to join us. A representative from the Nutritional Development Services for the Archdiocese will speak to us after Mass. To be attentive to the needs of others, we wish to prepare KID SNACK BAGS for those less fortunate, that are part of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Students are asked to 'earn' the money to purchase and donate the following items:

- PreK & K pencils or small package of crayons (8 to a package)
- Grade 1 Kellogg's Nutri-Grain Bars or Granola Bars
- Grade 2 packages of cheese crackers
- Grade 3 Dole individual serving cups of mixed fruit, orange, pears, etc.
- Grade 4 bag of individual size packages of dried fruits or raisins
- Grade 5 all natural orange juice drink boxes (Capri Sun or Minute Maid)
- Grade 6 erasers or some other small school supply i.e., post its, colored pencils, etc.
- Grade 7 all natural fruit (any fruit) juice drink boxes
- Grade 8 crayons or raisins

The students will assemble the bags and write little notes to be placed in each bag.

Also, the following grades will give service (some direct and some indirect) to these works of mercy:

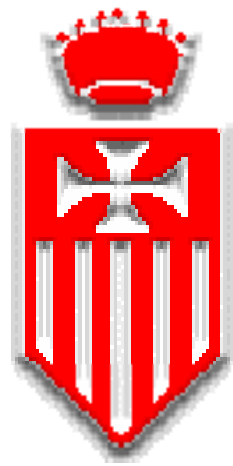
Grades 1 Write letters to the shut-ins in our parish and at Advent time visit them with their families and bring them an Advent wreath / Easter basket.

Grades 2 Make cards and possibly sing to the people at Dresher Hill Health & Rehab

Grades 3 and 4 Visit with Our Lady of Confidence

Grades 5 Visit with St. Mary's Manor

Grades 6-8 Face to Face Program

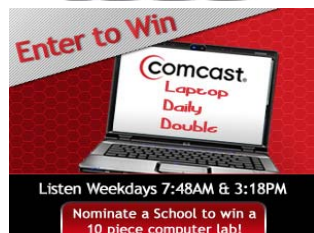


**Now is the time to join the Band!** Students in Grades 3 to 8 are invited to begin the study of a musical instrument as part of the band program at St. A's. Weekly lessons and rehearsals lead to performances at school, and other locations in the area. Our band combines with other schools to perform at concerts and jazz festivals. Several of our students will participate in Archdiocesan band and string groups this winter. Don't pass up this great opportunity to enrich your child's life with music. This Friday, Dr. James Madden will talk with the third graders about the Band program. Lessons start on September 24<sup>th</sup>.



**Help St. Alphonsus School by registering as a KYW1060 Insider.**

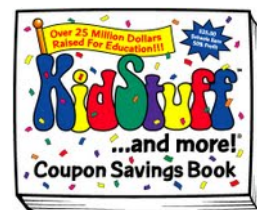
You could win a brand new Dell Inspiron 14R laptop. All you need to do is register at: <http://kyw.listennetwork.com/asp3/ContestDetail.aspx?aid=107216> and listen for your name to be called. KYW Newsradio 1060 will announce two names – one at 7:48 AM and one at 3:18 PM – and a special telephone number each weekday, starting Monday, Sept. 13th and ending Friday, Oct. 22nd. Chosen listeners will have 30 minutes to call in and confirm their very own . At that time, you can nominate St. Alphonsus Parish School to be eligible to win a ten-piece computer lab. The computer-lab-winning school will be announced on Thursday, Oct. 28th.





**Family Fun Day:** Mark your calendars for this fun family event which is being held on Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup> from 1-4 pm.

**Kidstuff Coupon Books:** are being sent home to each family today. Please take the time to look through the books and instructions. The books cost \$25 and are filled with valuable coupons to local merchants. Proceeds from the sale of the books will help fund the 8th Grade class trip. We thank you for your support! Questions? Contact Deb DeAngelis at [dtdangelis@gmail.com](mailto:dtdangelis@gmail.com)



**Food Sensitivities:** Please take a moment to review the information for food suggestions for peanut free snacks. When in doubt if a food item is "safe", it is always best to contact the parent of the child.

### SUGGESTED PEANUT FREE SNACKS

If you plan to send in a special treat for a holiday or birthday celebration, the following is a brief list of some snacks that are "safe". This is not a comprehensive list - it is for your convenience. Bakeries are not usually providers of "safe" items due to the possible cross-contamination of food prep areas. Also, manufacturers that produce specialty lines for holiday treats (such as Christmas Kisses or Halloween cookies) are not safe because they may be contaminated with peanut traces. Remember that reading a food label thoroughly is encouraged. If in doubt, contact a parent.



- Plain Rice Krispy Treats
- Most Pretzels
- Plain Hershey Kisses
- Junior Mints
- Marshmallows
- Triscuits
- Skittles
- Tootsie Rolls
- Fruit Rollups/Fruit Snacks
- Pringles
- Cheez-its (NOT Chese Nips)
- Sweedish Fish
- Krispy Kreme Donuts
- Popsicles
- All candies produced by "Just Born"  
(such as peeps)

- Regular Ritz Crackers
- Plain Nilla Wafers
- Plain Peppermint Patties
- Twizzlers
- Fritos
- Smarties
- Plain Hershey Chocolate Bars
- Most Popcorn
- Fruit Gushers
- Goldfish
- Nabisco Graham Crackers
- Rolo
- Regular OREO's
- Jello
- Wheat Thins

### WANTED!! YOUR GENTLY USED ART AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Please join us in our quest to provide gently used Art and School supplies to the "Face to Face" Program in Germantown. We will have a bin outside the office in the hallway for you to drop off all those gently used crayons, colored pencils, sharpeners, rulers, pens, pencils, erasers, notebooks, etc., and any art supplies that your children have accumulated over the years. This is a great time to clean out your homes and offices and donate to a worthy cause!

Please have donations in on or before September 24<sup>th</sup>.  
To learn more about Face to Face, please visit their website at [www.facetofacegermantown.org](http://www.facetofacegermantown.org)



# SASO

*Saint Alphonsus Student Organization*  
*Spiritual . Service . Safety . Social*

Dear Parents and Students:

SASO is changing and growing!

We are combining SASO and Student Council to form the new Saint Alphonsus **Student** Organization.  
This organization will embrace the four areas of school life at Saint Alphonsus:

Spiritual, Service, Safety, and Social

This new organizational structure is meant to raise student participation in all aspects of school life.

Students in grades 4 through 8 are invited to fill out the attached form and become a part of SASO. Students are not limited to one area of SASO. Please review the form carefully, fill out all of the required information, and return it to school on or before Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. (No forms will be accepted after this date. Extra forms available on line.) Please check off your areas of interests and make sure you have included your essay with the form if you are considering a classroom representative position.

Students who are part of SASO will be asked to participate as a safety, lead service projects, lead and organize spiritual programs (mass and prayer services) and school spirit projects. You are invited to fill out this form only if you are serious about giving up lunch time and staying after school when needed to work on projects.

We are excited to begin the 2010-2011 school year and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Delaney  
Mrs. Maher  
Mrs. Opdyke  
Mrs. Ronzoni  
SASO Faculty Advisors

# SASO

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## APPLICATION FORM

STUDENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_ HOMEROOM TEACHER \_\_\_\_\_

As a member of SASO, it is expected that I will maintain a 3 in Personal Behavior and Effort and satisfactory grades in all subject areas.

My areas of interest: (check each area of interest that is grade appropriate)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Safety:** (grades 6, 7, 8 only) \_\_\_\_\_ I ride bus # \_\_\_\_\_ School District \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ I am a walker \_\_\_ Temple \_\_\_\_\_ Conwell Drive  
\_\_\_\_\_ I ride in a car

\_\_\_\_\_ **Spiritual** (grades 4 to 8) I would like to help with the planning of Masses and school prayer services and other celebrations throughout the year

\_\_\_\_\_ **Social** (School Spirit) (grades 4 to 8) I am interested in helping to plan fun social activities that raise our school spirit (sports rallies, dress down days, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Service** (grades 4 to 8) I am interested in helping to plan and implement service projects throughout the year to others in need

\_\_\_\_\_ **Classroom Representative** (grades 4 to 8) I am interested in becoming a homeroom representative for SASO and **I have attached an essay** listing my leadership qualities and my desire to take on this leadership role.

Student Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Return to school by Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. (No forms will be accepted after this date. Extra forms are available on line.)

Thank you for your interest in SASO!



## Auction News

### Decorating Meeting:

**Monday, September 20, 8 am Faith Formation Room**

*We realize that this is early, but we are scheduling around work schedules; the next meeting will be an evening meeting. If you are interested in joining the committee but cannot attend this meeting, please contact Michele or Carolyn.*

### Volunteers Needed:

**Decorating Chair/Project Manager** – To work with Carmel Stephens, our Creative Director, in the hands-on implementation of the “Port of Call...Cruise to the Mediterranean” auction theme. Organizes decorating team, coordinates creative work sessions, and ultimately performs a miracle in the gym, hallway and stage the week of the event. Also works with catering chair to establish color scheme for table cloths and food display.

**Decorating Team Members** – Attends hands-on creative work sessions (likely to be scheduled during October and November) and works on gym, hallway and stage transformation the week of the event. *This is going to be a fun job!*

**Solicitation – Live Auction Sales Rep.** – To solicit high ticket items, or cash donations to be used toward the purchase of high ticket items, for the Live Auction.

**Solicitation – Casino Table Sponsor Sales Rep.** – to solicit businesses to sponsor casino tables. (Each table requires a \$300 sponsor)

***Please join us in making Port of Call a huge success!! Contact Michele Gallagher ([tpgall@msn.com](mailto:tpgall@msn.com)) Or Carolyn Schumann ([cschum123@aol.com](mailto:cschum123@aol.com))***