

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC SCHOOL

August 31, 2009
Volume 7, Issue 2

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COMMUNICATION

We will continue to use e-mail as the primary means of communication between home and school. Please be sure to notify Randie Moore at randie.moore@sfaschool.cdom.org of ANY email changes THROUGHOUT the school year. A complete listing of Faculty and Staff email addresses is available on our website.

Dear Parents,

Here at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School we have an "open door policy". Simply put, this means that we want to hear from you! If the door to my office, Mrs. Boyd's office and Mrs. Keating's are open (and they most always are), we want to hear from you, the community of SFA. As administrators, we want to hear the questions, concerns, happy moments and possibly frustrations of the school community. This kind of communication builds trust, and allows the school to respond quickly and directly to questions and concerns, with a goal of improvement and growth. It also allows us to share the happy moments and successes with our faculty and staff.

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School is committed to its students and dedicated to being the very best that we can be. We welcome the opportunity to continually reflect, grow and improve. We ask this of our students, and we expect nothing less of ourselves. While you may not agree with every decision or school policy, we promise that our actions will always be based on a commitment to our students, wholesome Catholic values and a desire for continual growth as a learning community. So, we welcome your input, your concerns and your questions.

Mrs. Beth York, Principal

*"Start by doing what's necessary,
then do what's possible; and suddenly you are
doing the impossible."*

St. Francis of Assisi

UPCOMING EVENTS

September, 2009

- 4 Faculty Retreat – **NO SCHOOL**
- 7 Labor Day – **NO SCHOOL**
- 8 **VIRTUS** Training – 1:00 p.m. **ACTIVITY ROOM**
- 15 Home & School Meeting; Lunch 12:00 Noon, Meeting 12:30 p.m. **PLC**
- 23 School Picture Day (In Uniform) – Grades 4-8
- 24 School Picture Day (In Uniform) – Grades JrK-3
- 25 **SFA Spirit Day** – See Handbook (page 59) for dress guidelines

October, 2009

- 1 Guardian Angel Feast Day Celebration
- 2 St. Francis Feast Day Celebration; All School Mass 8:15 a.m.; Field Day
- 4 Basketball Registration 5th – 8th Grades **PLC** 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- 5 **SFA Homecoming**; Pep Rally 2:30 p.m.
- 9-10 St. Francis Oktoberfest
- 9 Diocesan Professional Day – **NO SCHOOL**
- 12 Fall Break – **NO SCHOOL**
- 16 End of 1st Quarter
- 17 Parker Uniforms **SFA Shopping Night** – 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

LOST & FOUND

For your convenience, Lost & Found bins are located in the School Gym and in the Multi-Purpose Room (St. Joseph Hall). Please check these bins often for missing items! Please remember to **LABEL, LABEL, LABEL** all items.

8th Grade Washington D.C. Trip Update:

We currently have 73 eighth graders signed up to travel to Washington D.C. in May 2010. Registration is still open through the rest of September for interested students. Please contact Mrs. Chando for more information.

SFA EXTENDED CARE NEWS...

Extended Care will be Open on September 4th from 7:00a.m. to 6:00p.m.

Extended Care offers an excellent program to provide safe, productive after school care. Children are given a nutritious snack daily when they first come to Extended Care in the afternoon. Homework rooms are offered for 1st – 8th grades Monday through Thursday. These are supervised by SFA teachers.

Please check out our website for the wide variety of extra-curricular activities offered after school. Children must be registered in the Extended Care Program to attend. The registration fee is \$50 per child. You may register as Full Time or Drop In.

Feel free to call the Extended Care office at 381-2595 if you have any questions or send us an e-mail to dena.chavez@sfaschool.cdom.org.

SILVER ROSE FUN RUN

Eighty St. Francis students participated in the *Silver Rose Fun Run*, sponsored by the St. Francis Knights of Columbus Council 9317. This rose is traveling across the United States en route to Guadalupe, Mexico, the site of Juan Diego's vision of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The silver rose is symbolic of our support of Human Life in all its stages. We began our day by praying one decade of the rosary in Spanish, led by SFA students Luke Torres 8th Grade, Alexa VonBergen 7th Grade and Cassandra Carrasco 7th Grade, to honor the heritage of the silver rose. The students each ran a lap around the St. Benedict track for a total distance of 20 miles, the distance from our school to the Mississippi River.

The rose will now be handed off to Arkansas!

TIMBERWOLVES HELPING OTHERS!

†Our students joined with our parish this month to support the Poor Clare Nuns by raising \$1,128.98 on our jeans day last Friday. This donation will be given by St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School in memory of Margaret Buchignani.

†Did you know SFA has a **Food Pantry** where canned goods are collected and stored throughout the school year? All donations go to Catholic Charities. Canned goods can be brought to school anytime!



SFA FORENSICS

Auditions for Students in Grades 6 – 8

If your child enjoys telling a funny story, reading poetry, acting out a scene or just wants to improve their public speaking skills, then Forensics is the place for you! Forensics is a competitive speech and drama team that competes in categories ranging from the dramatic to acting to comedy. Categories include poetry, storytelling, duet acting, prose, TV broadcasting, humorous and dramatic interpretation and audition monologue.

Auditions will be held for all interested 6th, 7th and 8th graders after school on Thursday, September 3rd, and Tuesday, September 8th. Please come by Mrs. Scrivener's office in the middle school to sign up for an audition time and to pick up your audition piece.

Some things that we will be looking for are clear diction, pacing, strong volume, appropriate facial expressions and gestures. We want the kids to have fun with the audition and to let their personalities shine through.

The 2009-2010 Forensics Team coaches are Terry Bradley, Eileen Scrivener and Karla Paduck. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Scrivener at eileen.scrivener@sfaschool.cdom.org.

Lines from the Library...

from the desk of Mrs. Pallme, Librarian

Library classes began the week of August 24th. Students in grades kindergarten to fifth grade come to the library once a week. New for this year, junior kindergarten will also come to the library. Students select one book each week. All books are due the next week. Middle school students come to the library periodically with their literature teachers. They are allowed a greater period of time to read their books.

Encourage your children to read and take Accelerated Reader quizzes (grades 2-8). We have the web based Accelerated Reader program so we have quizzes on most all books. You can use the *AR Book Finder* on our website, SFAwolves.org, to locate appropriate reading material for your child.

Library Hours: The library is open before school from 7:35 a.m. - 8:00 am. After school hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday until 3:30 pm.

Middle School Positive Reward System Update

As you may have heard, this year the 6th - 8th grade students are earning "positive points" for by exhibiting behaviors **above and beyond** that which we would expect all SFA students to be displaying: behaviors that demonstrate excellent character in the areas of kindness, trustworthiness, responsibility, respect, citizenship and all Christian values.

Each grade is working towards their individual grade goal of 100 points. A positive reward will be given to all students when the grade reaches the set goal.

The point standings as of Friday, August 28, 2009 are as follows:

8th grade - 60 points

7th grade - 55 points

6th grade - 55 points

As you can see, there have been a lot of great things going on in the SFA middle school. It will be interesting to see which grade reaches 100 points first! Keep up the wonderful efforts!

*Mrs. Alicia Brown,
Director of Student Affairs*

SFA SPORTS NEWS....

Reminder:

School attendance is required for extracurricular attendance: Athletes must attend five sequential class periods on the day of a scheduled practice or game. Any student who is absent from school (or checks out early due to illness) on the day of a scheduled practice or game is not eligible to participate in any athletic activity later that evening. Students serving an OSS (Out of School Suspension) are not eligible to participate in a practice or a game the day of the suspension.