

October 25, 2018

Dear Parents,

It's been a while since there was a Friday letter. School activities have abounded and I'm just now coming up for air! I appreciate your patience and hope you've enjoyed the many exciting events held at St. Aloysius over the last few weeks. Here are some updates:

Conferences—Our fall PTS conferences went very well! Thank you for your continued support as we work together to educate and form our children. The book fair was a big success with earnings of \$5200.00 to supplement our school and classroom libraries! It's a lot of work and we are grateful to Mrs. Lohman for all her efforts.

Box Top Contest—Congratulations to first grade! They brought in a total of 800 box tops and earned a fabulous nacho party. We had great participation in this first collection of the year bringing in a total of 3115 box tops! Thank you to Tina Eith for coordination and counting!

Dough for Donuts—Each year we collect change in a contest to see which individual classrooms can bring in the most. The money collected goes to buy pies for Kentucky Harvest for Thanksgiving dinners. This year 3A took the lead bringing in \$156.05. In total, we raised \$853.33 which will buy over 100 large pumpkin pies. Thanks for Mrs. Kolibab and Melissa Brown for coordinating, counting, buying, and delivering!

Clergy Appreciation—In October, we always take time to recognize and thank our priests and deacons. Students make cards, say extra prayers, and our student council representatives enjoy brunch with the lay/clergy parish office staff. We are so blessed to have numerous deacons and a wonderful pastor. Thank you to Alicia Gillaspie, Terri Violi, Michelle Robinson, Kylie Miles, and all the parents who donated food for the event.

Open House—You may have noticed that there is an active enrollment committee from the meeting minutes that have been posted online. This group has been diligently working on website updates, marketing ideas, outreach campaigns, and of course, this fall's open house event. We had a beautiful day on Tuesday and several tours/inquiries. Keep spreading the news about the outstanding educational experience we offer at St. Aloysius and remember, those tuition vouchers for recommending families can add up!

GATES—Gifted And Talented Educational Seminars is a program we participate in with four other regional Catholic schools. We are able to offer our best and brightest enrichment classes based off last year's Terra Nova scores. This fall we are the host site for grades 6-8. I'm proud to say that St. Aloysius had 66 students qualify. That means 53% of our middle school students scored 95+ on a section of the Terra Nova! I look forward to working with these students on Saturday in classes such as Histories Mysteries, Pinterest Math, Water Bottle Rockets, and Build a Business: Cupcake Wars. My fun never ends!

In addition to all the campus activities, I've also been newly involved with some Archdiocesan initiatives. As part of the ongoing improvement plan for all schools, a team was devised to review, clarify, and streamline the accreditation materials needed for both individual site visits as well as the accreditation of the archdiocese as a whole. The next visit for St. Aloysius isn't until January; however, data collection starts NOW. Please take a few minutes to complete this parent survey to give important feedback on our improvement process.

<https://eprovesurveys.advanc-ed.org/surveys/#!/action/75042/p2900>

We are also completing surveys as staff members. Students in grades 5-8 are finishing these in class as well. I look forward to reviewing the results.

But wait! There's more! Next week, we will have the fun of our first holiday party of the year. Halloween parties will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 31 at 2:00pm. Don't panic, we are not going to church in costumes. Mass next week will be on Thursday, since it's a holy day of obligation, All Saints Day. Speaking of costumes, please follow these guidelines. If your child's costume doesn't fit in our Catholic school parameters, students may have free dress instead. Free dress guidelines would then apply.

- *Nothing bloody, gory, graphic, violent, sexy or otherwise inappropriate
- *No masks—it's too dangerous on the steps
- *No weapons, even pretend ones
- *Keep face paint to a minimum (not the whole face as it will just smear everywhere)
- *Hair dyes/spray color must be washed out for Thursday
- *Children must be able to use the restroom on their own without completely disrobing
- *Children will still be doing school work in the morning so they need to fit inside a desk and be comfortable in the classroom/at recess
- *Regular tennis shoes are preferred since we will still have PE/recess. If shoes are not conducive to running, students may be asked to sit out of activities.

And finally, this Friday is a Spirit Day with proceeds being added to our Dough for Donuts collection to help Kentucky Harvest. Friday is also Trunk or Treat starting at 6:00pm in the FRONT parking lot. Hope to see all our little ghosts and goblins there!

Maryann Hayslip