

ST. ANDREW CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2 - 10, 2018

Dear Parents,

Another year, another successful Catholic Schools Week! Hog Wild for Catholic Schools truly enabled us to joyfully celebrate our Catholic school, while having fun and helping others in the process. *Since we just finished this special week, I'll include a recap of the week in next week's newsletter – especially about our pig races and money raised for Heiffer International.* Know that the faculty, staff and I truly appreciated your generosity with meals and treats every day! That was certainly one of my highlights of the whole celebration! Yum!

OUR MOST IMPORTANT EVENT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

10:30 Mass assisted by the students of St. Andrew as our capstone celebration of Catholic Schools Week! Our gratitude to the students and families who have volunteered. If you have not indicated you are coming, come anyway! Students need to meet Mrs. Olinger in the choir area of the church at/by 10:15. This Mass is a wonderful opportunity for our parishioners to see the sincerity and spirit that our children demonstrate in prayer and worship.

- **Kindergarten Open House** – *Parish members who have a kindergarten child are invited to find out more about our K-5 program by coming to school today following the 10:30 mass (start at noon). Kids are welcome to attend.*

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

Hello Parents-

It is that time of year, the time of year when we love the Parents, the biggest St. Andrew's advocates, to help us in promoting our school just in time for the upcoming school year registration!

It has been brought to our attention that there are a couple of Facebook posts regarding our upcoming Open Houses (see [here](#) and [here](#)) and our Parent Information Meeting (see [here](#) and [here](#)) that have been posted on our school's Facebook page. It would be tremendous if every parent on Facebook would share these posts on their personal Facebook page! This would go a long way in getting the message out about our wonderful school and all we have to offer. Thank you in advance for your participation.

St. Andrew Advisory Board Marketing Committee

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE FORM - Another form you received in Thursday's office envelope is the Parent Teacher Conference Request form. School conferences for Preschool through fifth grade are scheduled for Thursday, March 1st and Wednesday, March 7th. All of the K-5th grade conferences are at the end of the school day, between 3:00-7:00. Preschool and Prekindergarten conferences are a bit earlier due to Mrs. Rajkowski's upcoming maternity leave. Her conference dates are Thursday, February 8th (after school/evening) and Friday, February 9 (all day). Preschool and PreK parents should expect to receive their conference appointment

by email today (1/2/18). K-5th grade parents, please complete your conference request and return it to school on/before Wednesday, February 7th. You will receive your appointment on February 22rd in the office envelope. (One week prior to conferences).

PRIORITY ENROLLMENT / REGISTRATION -

Thank you so much for your quick response in returning your registration / enrollment forms for the 2018-2019 academic year. We have about one-half of our current families re-enrolled at this time, with just a few days left in the Priority Enrollment period (ending on February 5th). Suffice it to say, if you haven't yet enrolled for next year, and are planning on coming back to St. Andrew Catholic School, we really need you to enroll now, or contact me with questions or concerns you might have. Important decisions about the budget, staffing and employment, and school improvement plans need to be made now – and based on a more accurate student count for all grades. **St. Andrew Catholic School is truly the best kept secret in the Elk River area** – with the problem being we need that “secret” made public so more people realize the exceptional teachers, challenging curriculum and infused spiritual values we have available in our wonderful school.

I have always found that every new family that has registered has done so because they know a parent in the school who has talked to them about St. Andrew, or they have witnessed your kids in action and have been impressed by how they act and what they know. ***As parents you are the most credible and effective witnesses we have to what happens at St. A's. Let's not keep the good news of St. A's a secret any longer – Please invite a friend or family member to explore St. Andrew – to call me for a tour, or to talk to other parents for information.*** Thank you for your help in marketing our fine school.

VALENTINES DAY CELEBRATION – WE'RE CHANGING THE DAY!

Valentines Day falls on Ash Wednesday this year – not a great day for celebration and treats, so the school community will be celebrating on Tuesday, February 13th (Mardi Gras – Fat Tuesday). More details next week.

PARENT VOLUNTEER/STUDENT EVENTS:

RAFFLE TICKET SELLERS ARE NEEDED for the Catholic United Financial Raffle after each Mass. Contact Anne Marie Buck by email abuck@hopkinsmn.com or sign up on sign up genius.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f044fafad23aafe3-standrew1>

SKATETIME AT ST. ANDREW!

Volunteers are needed to assist with our annual roller skating unit at St. Andrew, held this year from February 20 – March 2nd. Please sign up when you feel like you could assist.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f044fafad23aafe3-standrew1>

FEBRUARY 4 - 10, 2018

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY – 4th

CLOTHING – YOUR BEST UNIFORM

ITEMS TO BRING – Your family, your wonderful kids, your church envelope.

- **10:30 MASS** - Join us for THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENT OF CSW, the celebration of the Mass with our parish family. We conclude Catholic Schools Week by giving back to the parish the fruits of their investment ... the opportunity for them to see the value of a Catholic education first hand through the belief, sincerity and worship of your kids (and you). At last count we have 55 kids/families signed up to assist at this mass. ***ALL STUDENTS AND FAMILIES ARE REQUESTED TO BE IN ATTENDANCE AT THE 10:30 A.M. MASS TODAY AT ST. ANDREW CHURCH TO CELEBRATE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK. THE K-5th grade CHILDREN IN ATTENDANCE WILL LEAD THE CONGREGATION IN SINGING AND WORSHIP. PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND THIS MASS WITH YOUR FAMILY. Students should arrive at church at/around 10:15, dressed in their best uniform, and meet in the choir area.***
- **Knights of Columbus BREAKFAST!** After our CSW celebration at Mass, join your parish family for a delicious breakfast sponsored by the Knights. A great buffet of traditional breakfast offerings and a beverage, all for a freewill donation. Join us!
- 12:00 NOON in KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOM - PARISH family **Registration for Kindergarten and Open House.** If you know of anyone who might be interested in our program, please encourage them to attend this gathering. Children are invited to this event, and Mrs. Rerick will be available to meet parents and answer questions.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5-

- **PRIORITY REGISTRATION - Families currently attending St. Andrew have until Monday, February 5th to meet the priority registration deadline, and pay a lower registration fee. Priority registration is particularly important for PK families who intend to register for Kindergarten. To save your “spot” in the kindergarten classroom, you must register before registration is opened to new families of St. Andrew Church.**

CATHOLIC UNITED FINANCIAL RAFFLE tickets – please return all tickets that you have sold thus far. Ask for more tickets to sell!

- **Buy or sell the 10 tickets you were assigned. \$5 per ticket – 100% of the ticket sale goes to St. Andrew Catholic School.**
- Make checks payable to St. Andrew Catholic School.

- Return sold tickets to the school every Monday. **Request more tickets as needed.**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 –

- Fourth Grade instrument lessons and band.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7 –

- **10:00** - Mass, assisted by the students in Grade 5
- ***At today's Mass the students in grade five will receive a prize from the Catholic Foundation of the St. Cloud Diocese for the "movie" submission they entered in the "Great Technology Giveaway." St. Andrew students won the top prize of \$1,200, which will be used to purchase new technology for the school/students. Congrats St. A's!***

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8 –

- Fifth grade students have band and instrument lessons today.
- Preschool and PreKindergarten Parent Teacher Conferences. This is only for Preschool/PreK, and will be held throughout the evening. Childcare will be available.
- ***6:30 - PARENT INFORMATION MEETING FOR ST. ANDREW CHURCH FAMILIES INTERESTED IN REGISTERING AT ST. ANDREW CATHOLIC SCHOOL. This is a "parents only" meeting for those interested in finding out more about St. A's. The meeting will be held in the Kindergarten classroom. Please encourage families you know to attend.***

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9 –

6:30 – 8:00 p.m. - Reconciliation Retreat - Second Grade parents and students that are registered for today's session should meet at the Church at 9:00 a.m. This retreat (or Friday's session) is mandatory for receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation, set for early March.

- Preschool and PreKindergarten Parent Teacher Conferences. There is no school today for PreKindergarten, so that conferences can be held throughout the day. Childcare will be available.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10 –

9:00 – 10:30 a.m. - Reconciliation Retreat - Second Grade parents and students that are registered for today's session should meet at the Church at 6:30. This retreat (or Saturday's session) is mandatory for receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation, set for early March.

VALENTINES DAY – FEBRUARY 13 TH THIS YEAR!! - All children will celebrate Valentine's Day. I believe that each classroom will communicate with parents the names of students in the classroom so that a Valentine can be prepared for all.

Please don't let a holiday that has love and giving as its focus be a time for a child to feel excluded by being omitted from receiving a valentine. Thanks parents for your help with this.

VALENTINE TREATS AT SCHOOL

Any of you who are familiar with the school policies realize that some of the children at our school have life threatening food allergies, and that we do not knowingly allow peanut butter, peanuts, or tree nuts in any form at our school.

Many of the Valentine cards you purchase have treats attached. With so many treats being passed to individual students, the children will NOT be able to open or consume their Valentine treats at school or Tackle Box. With so many treats coming in on this day we are unable to check all of them. Because of that we ask that kids take their treats home so parents can decide what/when the children enjoy this snack.

SCHOOL YEARBOOK – YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

We need your help to document this school year by submitting photos to include in the yearbook. Please email any photos that you or your child think would be a good addition to the yearbook. We are particularly looking for photos from our special events such as Grandparents Day, Veterans Day, Halloween, Christmas Concert, Pet Blessing, Catholic Schools Week, (last year's Field Day) etc. You can email your photos to a special website set just for our yearbook: standrewscopyearbook@gmail.com Let's make this a year our students will never forget!

MORE NEXT WEEK –

Catholic Schools Week was another great success! From our "Barn Dance" kickoff to our Pig Race conclusion, it was a rootin' tootin' good time! Many people need to be thanked for the wonderful events and happenings throughout the week. I'm in a bit of a time crunch this week, but will list all those who helped make this special week a reality. In the meantime, thank you all so much for sharing your wonderful children with us. We feel your love and support daily, and greatly appreciate your children and you. Know that it is our practice to pray for our students, to pray for you parents, and to pray in support of our Catholic school. We would appreciate that you hold us in prayer as well, as we ask our good and gracious God to guide our efforts in this great partnership of raising our children in faith. Thank you, parents!

SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY APRIL 27th



Saint Andrew Gala 2018

We are called. Called to serve.

Priority Ticket Sales for St. Andrew School families
February 19th – March 2nd

Do you know of a business that may be interested
in donating to the Gala?

Nancy Sontag would love to hear from you at
keilana.henry@gmail.com with your suggestions.