

ST. ANDREW CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
MAY 25 - 31, 2018

Dear Parents,

One last thank you for your support and encouragement throughout this school year. We had a great year at St. A's largely due to the love and goodwill you and your wonderful children share with us. It is our privilege to be your partner in the education of your child. Thanks again!

We had the most spectacular Kindergarten graduation the other day, once again underscoring the high quality academic and spiritual education that the children are receiving at St. A's. The reverence in which our youngest students participated, along with the enthusiasm in which they sang God's praises and the skill in which they read all of the Mass parts was just amazing! It brought a few tears to my eyes to see how much our little ones have grown this school year.

If you missed the kindergarten graduation and experiencing what our youngest students can do, **you won't want to miss the fifth grade graduation to see how our children progress in wisdom and grace throughout the grades.** The fifth grade graduation Mass is always very moving, with a mix of sadness and happiness as our oldest students prepare to leave us. **Join us on Wednesday, May 30 at 12:30 for this special Mass and ceremony.**

Thank you to all parents who volunteered at Field Day. Everything about the day was wonderful ... the weather, the volunteers, the planning, the events, and especially the kids! Special thanks to Mrs. Reemts for organizing and planning this day, Mr. Johnson for providing necessary assistance, and once again - to all of the adult volunteers who provided the necessary help to make the day a reality. Thank you all!

The official numbers on the **Gala Fundraiser** are in! One last thank you to all who were involved and attended this special and necessary fundraising event. Everything about the evening was wonderful - the best part being the tremendous spirit that is so evident in this school and parish. **Our net profit for the event is roughly \$66,000 (\$66,529. to be exact).** For those of you who may be wondering, that number is a little higher than what we brought in last year! **Included in that amount is \$28,450 for the Fund a Need dollars** earmarked for campus improvements and technology purchases. Thanks again to JP and Melinda Wareham, and to their wonderful committee of parent volunteers for their generous sharing of time, talent and treasure in making this event the fun and profitable night that it is.

Due to a shipping error, we have **10 extra copies of the school yearbook, available for purchase at the price of \$25 per book.** Books are available in the school office on a "first come" basis.

All accounts need to be paid in full at this time. Please check the balance on your lunch account and make sure that you are up to date and have paid all outstanding accounts due to the school.

I'm ending this week's newsletter with some unhappy news for our school community. **After an altogether too short stay with us, Mrs. Gjestvang will not return to St. A's following the birth of her first and long awaited baby.** I know we all understand and support Mrs. Gjestvang in choosing to stay home to be a mom, but we will miss her tremendously. Her instructional skills, professionalism, and unwavering belief in each child make her an excellent teacher who has done great work throughout her years at St. A's. Although we are happy that Laura is making this decision for her family at this time, we are really going to miss her. Mrs. Gjestvang, know that we all wish you the best as you begin this new chapter in your life. May God bless you, Laura, for your service to God's children both now and in the years to come.

No other changes in the teaching or staff members at St. Andrew for 2018-2019 school year. Check the news section in the newsletter for hiring updates.

Please continue to keep us in prayer in the days ahead,
Ms. Scipioni

ALL PARENTS, FAMILIES, GUESTS AND SCHOOL COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE OUR FIFTH GRADE STUDENTS AS THEY GRADUATE FROM ST. ANDREW CATHOLIC SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 30th AT 12:30. WE WILL BEGIN THIS SPECIAL CELEBRATION WITH MASS, AND THE GRADUATION CEREMONY WILL FOLLOW. FIFTH GRADE PARENTS, THEIR FAMILIES AND GUESTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND A SMALL RECEPTION FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY. MORE INFO INSIDE OF THE NEWSLETTER.

MAY 28 - 31, 2018

MONDAY, MAY 28 - MEMORIAL DAY. NO SCHOOL

There will be an 8:00 a.m. Mass in the church today to remember the lives of our beloved dead, and those who died in service to our country.

TUESDAY, MAY 29 – UNIFORMS TODAY (for Grs. 1-4)!

- **Kindergarten Field Trip today** – Kindies may not be wearing uniforms. Consult your information from Mrs. Rerick.
- **Grade 5 takes their year end field trip today as well.**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30 – UNIFORMS TODAY (K-4) / 5TH GR – DRESS CLOTHES

FIFTH GRADE GRADUATION MASS. All parents, guests and 5th grade students and their extended families are invited to attend this Mass as we celebrate Eucharist together, and recognize our very special fifth grade class as they prepare to graduate and leave St. Andrew. A small reception will follow this Mass and ceremony, which will be held in the school cafeteria and hosted by the fourth grade parents. Please join us to celebrate this special group of kids.

Grades K-4 STUDENTS ARE REMINDED THAT THIS IS A MASS DAY. BEST UNIFORMS AND NO SHORTS FOR THE LITURGY.

Fourth Grade parents are needed to assist with the fifth grade graduation reception. There are many jobs, and ALL parents are needed to assist. Please contact/email MRS. BJORKEDAL to volunteer your assistance. This is a fourth grade parent expectation, and all parents are needed to either set up, serve or clean up. Please let Mrs. B know NOW how you will be able to assist.

THURSDAY, MAY 31 – **LAST STUDENT DAY! NO UNIFORMS NEEDED!**

- **SPIRIT WEAR TODAY**
- OUR SCHOOL NURSE, Anna Gaalswyck, will be available today to return medications, inhalers, epi pens, etc. No medications (pills) can be sent home with a child, and must be picked up by an adult.
- **“ALL SCHOOL” FIELD TRIP / CLEAN UP at ORONO ATHLETIC COMPLEX .** Students in grades K-4 will do their service from about 9-10:30 at the park we adopted. **Parents welcome to join us, but you are asked to meet us there as there is limited space in the bus.** Thanks for joining us on this clean up day. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR FIELD PERMISSION SLIP IS SIGNED TO ENABLE YOUR CHILD’S ATTENDANCE.
- **Fifth grade does not have school today.** They will get their report cards at the conclusion of the school day on Wednesday.
- All of the children in grades K-4 will receive their report cards at the end of the school day, as this ends the trimester and the school year.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1–

- Teacher inservice and last day.
- **FIRST DAY OF VACATION FOR KIDS – JUNE 1.** SUMMER TACKLE BOX BEGINS ON JUNE 4 AND CONTINUES THROUGH THE MIDDLE OF AUGUST. **Public School last day is June 6th.**

HIRING UPDATE –

Both positions (principal and third grade teacher) have been posted on various educational job sites, and applications are arriving daily for both jobs. There are excellent teacher and administrative candidates looking for work at this time, and I am confident that both positions will be filled with just the right person. Although Fr. Mark is on Sabbatical, he plans to be here as often as needed in the hiring process. Your prayers are the best way for you to be involved in this process at this time, and will inspire the best candidates to service at St. Andrew.

AVOID SUMMER SLIDE – USE IXL AND KEEP READING –

Just a reminder to parents that our subscription to IXL doesn't expire over the summer, and we encourage the kids to use this site daily to keep up on their math and language arts facts and concepts during vacation. This would be a great activity for 10-20 minutes per day – kids who find their own grade level challenging could always start at a lower level and work up. Students who find their own grade level too easy could always start at a higher level. Doing one lesson a day in math and language would make a tremendous difference in your child's academic performance. A consistent program of daily reading, math facts and math work will make a huge difference to your child when he/she returns to school in the fall.

SUMMER TUTORING AND SUMMER EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

Don't forget that Mrs. Cross is available for summer tutoring this year, and parents are invited to directly contact whomever they would like to hire for this service.

SUMMER HOURS FOR SCHOOL / TACKLE BOX

Mrs. Stefano will be in school during the months of June and August. The summer work schedule is more flexible, but Sherri will do her best to keep up on emails whether she is in the office or not. If you need an immediate response to something and Sherri is not in the office, you could contact Melissa Anderson, parish business manager – who could help you, or let Sherri know of your need. Again, she will do her best to take care of your needs as they arise, but remember that she will take some time off this summer, and won't be working (emailing, calling) during vacation.

Tackle Box will be open all summer days as their calendar indicates. Parents who have not registered for the "day to day" summer care can take advantage of drop in services or attend special scheduled events. However, to do so you must have all the necessary paperwork and registration forms completed. The Tackle Box summer program is a wonderful opportunity for the kids to enjoy special events, travel around Elk River and surrounding areas, and play and relax in a safe and secure environment. Contact the school or Mrs. Laurie Hipsag for additional information.

Thank you again, Parents, for a wonderful school year! May our gracious and generous God bless you and your family throughout the summer months, and keep you and your children safe, healthy and happy! Have a safe and happy summer vacation.

