



*One Spirit,  
One Community*

**February 14, 2018  
Parent Newsletter**

Happy Valentine's Day!

*Excellence in Education, Body, Mind, & Spirit*

## **Upcoming Events**

- **School Liturgy** on Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:10 A.M. Students must be in liturgy dress.
- **Boys A Basketball** will play this Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 A.M. The game will be held at Notre Dame High School.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Soccer** will play this Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 A.M. The game will be held at Aquinas High School.
- **1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Soccer** will play this Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 A.M. The game will be held at Aquinas High School.
- **5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Soccer** will play this Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 P.M. The game will be held at Aquinas High School.
- **Girls B Basketball** will play this Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 P.M. The game will be held at Notre Dame High School.
- **Boys B Basketball** will play this Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 A.M. The game will be held at Aquinas High School.
- **No School** on Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> in observance of Presidents' Day.
- **Spirit Shirt Tuesday** is held every week on Tuesday. Students may wear their spirit shirt with uniform bottoms on this day.
- **Caritas Counseling** is available to students every Wednesday from 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. A form must be filled out by parents in order for students to participate in these services.

## **New Student Testing**

Testing for new Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten students from current families (with siblings enrolled in the school) will be held this month. Please contact the school office to reserve a testing day and time.

## **Morning School Care**

Morning Care begins at 7:00 A.M. Students must report to the After Care room if they are dropped off this early. At 7:30 A.M. students will be dismissed to the benches and school will begin as usual at 7:50 A.M. At this time there is no cost for the service.

## After School Care

Please remember that After School Care closes at 6:00 P.M. Students picked up after this time will be billed accordingly. Students not picked up within 20 minutes of the end of the school day or after a practice will automatically be signed into After Care. **If you have not signed up for After Care and have to use it, you will be billed accordingly.** Please see page 19 of the Parent Handbook for more details.

## Before/After School Conferencing

Please remember teachers have specific duties before and after school and are not available to conference (even just for a quick minute). Student safety is our primary concern, and if we stop to talk this can distract us from our preparations or supervision duties. We welcome parents to use Class Dojo to ask for a conference time so we can give you our full attention.

## Student Pick-Up

We will remain with our current form of student pick up until further notice. This pick up system helps with construction congestion, has given teachers a few more instructional minutes, and gives students a chance to start homework in a cooperative learning setting. More importantly we aren't sitting outside or subjected to car fumes.

**School wide dismissal is at 3:00 P.M.**

Dismissal will now last until 3:20 P.M. At that time any students remaining will go to After Care. Our front door and side gate will be opened at 2:50 P.M. Parents may wait at the benches until 3:00 P.M. **Those with handicap placards, grandparents, seniors, or expectant mothers may park behind our playground between our school and Notre Dame.** A school staff member will assist you in picking up your students from there. *Service animals are the only pets permitted on campus.*

## PTG “Loving Arms”

If you are aware of any school family experiencing serious health issues or a death, please call or text our PTG Loving Arms contact, Mrs. Mankin, at (951) 212-8554. We are here to offer our comfort, support, and prayers.

## Wednesday Envelope

A family envelope, which is yellow, goes home every Wednesday with the oldest child in the family. This envelope is filled with various forms and flyers. The envelope must be signed by a parent and returned on Thursday. This is another way for our staff and teachers to communicate with our families. **Please check your Yellow Wednesday Envelope. There are flyers and forms that are not contained or discussed in the Weekly Newsletter.**

## Monday Morning Assembly

Due to the high number of students who will be receiving *Dojo Awards* and *Just Like Jesus Awards*, we would like to invite parents to start the school week off with our students. Please join us for Morning Assembly at 7:50 A.M. on the first day of the school week (usually Monday) as we pray together, sing together, and do the pledge of allegiance together. We will also take time to recognize students who have earned awards from the previous week, and don't forget to join us on Friday mornings as we close the school week with School Liturgy, at 8:10 A.M.

## Gradelink

Our school uses a web-based grade and assignment reporting system – Gradelink. Parents or students can access the Gradelink site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There is a link on our school’s web page or you can use [www.gradelink.com](http://www.gradelink.com). The Gradelink site provides information on your child’s grades, conduct and current assignment status. We strongly urge parents to visit the website at least weekly or set up instructions for automatic email contact if student’s grades drop in a subject area. ***Families with delinquent accounts will automatically be locked out of Gradelink.***

## Class Dojo

Class Dojo is the preferred communication tool between you and your child’s teacher. Not only does Class Dojo provide you with current and specific information regarding your child’s behavior at school, it also provides an easy to use messaging system. Parents are encouraged to access their child’s Dojo account anytime and view a report outlining exactly why their child is receiving warnings, positive, and negative points as well as which class/ situation the points come from. These reports can be viewed on a daily basis, weekly basis, or monthly basis. Teachers also post pictures of class activities and events to help you feel connected and give you something to talk about over dinner. The messaging system is as easy as a “text” message and many teachers reply promptly (most faster than if you email!) Now that you are connected, please check Class Dojo weekly (daily is best!) for announcements, to check behaviors, and to message teachers.

## Background Check

If you have not yet been background cleared, that must be completed before you can volunteer. Coaches must be TB tested too. Also remember that you need to be background cleared in order to attend field trips. **Please note that in order to stay within diocesan regulations all volunteers fourteen years of age or older must undergo the Safe Environment Teen Training. In addition, these students must be under direct adult supervision at all times while volunteering.**

## Front Entrance

In order to maintain the safety of our campus, the front entrance to the school will remain locked at all times. Please wait to be buzzed in by school personnel. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience this may cause but student safety is our first priority. **In addition, we have added a yellow Caution – Do Not Enter tape for the office. This tape will be removed at 2:50 P.M. We ask that parents/guardians please not come onto campus prior to dismissal. These measures will continue to ensure student safety.**

## Incomplete Assignments

Incomplete Assignment Sheets are given to students every Monday. You can also check their progress by visiting [www.gradelink.com](http://www.gradelink.com). Please make sure that you are working with your child to have all assignments submitted as soon as possible. ***Assignments must be completed in order for students to participate in field trips and sports.***

## **Mission Statement**

St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish School provides a Christ-centered Catholic environment where all students are challenged to achieve their personal best spiritually, academically, and culturally. We are committed to educating the whole child, promoting excellence, and modeling compassion. We are a community of believers enlightened by knowledge and enriched by faith.

## **Non-Discrimination Policy**

St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish School admits students of any sex, race, color, religion, creed, national and ethnic origin to all rights and privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to all students of the school. St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish School does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs, and athletic or administered programs.

## **School Info**

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