



Principal's Corner

Next week will conclude the first two months of school. Those months seem to have gone by so fast. One first grader said to me yesterday this week has gone by so fast and my response was I think it has been a long week. (Maybe because of the CUBS) I guess it is all in the perception.

Perception is always interesting. There is a saying that perception is reality—but it really isn't. Reality is truth. For example, it is the unchanging fact that God exists and works in our lives. A person's perception of that can be very different. It is often colored by discussions with others, the media, preconceptions, etc. Until a person actually experiences the truth of God's hand, their perception is unchanging—and often unreal.

How do we change perception, especially in children? They often have a perception of themselves as unable to learn math, for example, or of being unpopular, or of being misunderstood—even though that isn't the reality at all. Their perceptions may be colored by what they see in magazines, what other kids say, what is portrayed in TV shows, or a myriad of other things.

We need to help them see reality—something they have actually experienced for themselves. We can help them sort out what is real by helping them to realize that even adults are influenced by perception. Watch a political commercial with them (especially these days) and point out how that commercial is skewed to support one viewpoint. Help them to look at ads and notice how they can give false impressions. Help them to see that things are not so just because they are talked about, or even published. Our children will be assailed by far more than we were. They need to be enlightened

REMINDERS

Tomorrow, Oct. 22: All school liturgy.

Sunday, Oct. 25: St. Alphonsus Welcoming Rite for Confirmandi.

Tuesday, Oct. 27: Out of uniform for \$1.00. Wear red for Red Ribbon Week.

Tuesday, Oct. 27: Special lunch.

Wednesday, Oct. 28: Reconciliation parent meeting for St. Pat's.

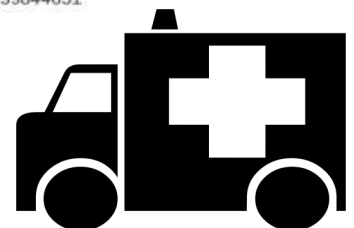
Thursday, Oct. 29: "Sock it to Drugs" Day. We made our goal of bringing in 600 pairs of socks. So, students may wear crazy socks.

IMPORTANT

You may have noticed that our front parking lot has been sealcoated and re-striped. We have striped the north side of the lot, the section that said "Do not park here between the hours of" I am sure you are also aware that none of us really paid attention to the sign and parked there throughout the day. It is now marked as a fire-lane. Had cars been parked there as usual the other day, an emergency vehicle would have had a very difficult time pulling into the lot. This could prevent immediate service by the emergency vehicle. As our students safety is our primary concern, I ask you to please not park in that area.



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October 22, 2015

FSA News! *The page of eThursday where you can keep up with everything going on in our Family-School Association.*

What's been happening? PIES!! The Pie sale contest is underway and so far, 8th grade is tearing it up. Nice job, Class of 2016!

Let's talk PIES!! Here are some reasons to purchase pie certificates:

- Family visiting for Thanksgiving and you need dessert
- Family visiting for Christmas and you need a dessert
- You REALLY love banana cream pie
- Holiday party at the neighbors and you signed up to bring a dessert
- You want your child's class to win the pie-selling contest
- You love our school!
- You are looking for a teachable service moment with your child and would like to donate to a local food pantry for a needy family
- French Silk pie is amazing

So let's buy those pies! We are hoping to sell at least 350 gift certificates and we are already 10% of the way there. Let's buy some pies! If you need another flyer, check out the FSA page of the school website.

We are happy to say that we have a volunteer to chair our annual Pancake Breakfast on December 13. Desperately seeking a co-chair to help with the breakfast. Also, we need more volunteers to help with the FSA Halloween Party on Friday, October 30. Adult volunteers: hit the VolunteerSpot button on the FSA webpage. (Parents of eighth graders, notes have gone home regarding service opportunities. As opportunities arise for service hours for Confirmation, they will be posted on Mrs. Bruno's webpage. These can be found on the "Confirmation" tab under "Eighth-Grade Information. Ms. Payne) If your child is interested in volunteering for these events, he/she should sign up on the posted sheet in the back of the classroom. Your child will be contacted regarding the type of service needed as well as the times needed.

Thanks to all who have already signed up!

Coming up soon:

Friday, 10/30: Classroom Halloween Parties/get-togethers. VolunteerSpots should now be available for each class. Check with your room moms if you have questions.

Friday, 10/30: **Annual FSA Halloween Party!** Chocolate will rule!





SHOP Corner

Don't forget to order SHOP gift cards; it is one of the easiest ways to help reach your fundraising goal and help the school! Where do you shop on a regular basis? Grocery shopping, stopping for gas or going to your favorite restaurant, you can use gift cards! The Manna Group is currently offering a 5% bonus on Payless gifts cards (18%) and a 2% bonus on Hallmark gift cards (6%) until November 6. Please keep in mind that the SHOP Program also accepts donations for the Lemont Food Pantry. When placing an order online, you can select Food Pantry under the Non Manna Scrips drop down menu and any dollar amount is accepted. The SHOP program also offers gift cards to a variety of local businesses, including Gelsosomo's, Chipains, United Cleaners, Lemon Tree, Peppers, Berkots, Tai Sun and Bottles. Help support local business and purchase gift cards! Place your orders today online at www.mannaorders.net.



Thank you,
Your SHOP Team

WE LOVE OUR BUDDIES

One of the best features of our preK through grade 8 school is the fact that our older students buddy up with our youngest students. The sixth graders mentor the Preschool students, seventh graders buddy up with the first graders, and our eighth grade leaders take the Kindergarten students under their wing. The students get together frequently during the year and especially when the younger kids might benefit from some help from their older buddies. You will see older students reading to younger students and seventh graders helping their first grade buddies with a narrative writing activity and with addition fact flash cards.

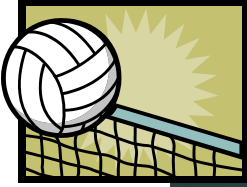


**BUDDY
TIME**



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 8TH GRADE VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Hats off to our eighth grade girls volleyball team as they conclude their last season of play as a St. Alphonsus/St. Patrick Celtic Team. Thank you to their parents and coaches who have supported these girls throughout their years playing volleyball for our school.



We have new yard signs promoting our school! If you would be interested in placing a St. Alphonsus/St. Patrick School sign in your yard or at your business, they will be handed out in the after-school car line prior to pick-up next Monday, October 26. Just watch for the volunteer moms distributing them. Please be aware they **cannot** be placed in the parkway (the area between sidewalk and street) because of Village signage ordinances. Signs may be placed in front of businesses if permission given by the owner. It would be great to see signs throughout the surrounding communities as well!



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eThursday

Please check your eThursday for information regarding:

Remembrance Mass

Red Ribbon Week

No bus at dismissal next Friday

Halloween Party/Bake-off

Bakers Square Pie Sale

Bears Raffle

Turkey Theater

Chamber of Commerce Gift Cards

