

# St. Francis School



## September 2017



### Pastor's Message—Father Pat

In September, our Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School is in full swing. How blessed we are to have such a wonderful Christian school for the children we love. We pray, we work, that this place might be a holy place where Jesus is always present. "Let the children come to me," Jesus said. All of us: parents, pastor, principal, teachers, staff, and donors are on a mission to bless each and every child.

We always remember those blessed souls who have gone before us. Their dedication and labors have made possible this school year. May they find joy in God's eternal kingdom.

### From The Principal—Mrs. Sikora

Welcome back to school! The year is off to a smooth start, with happy faces and many smiles. You may have noticed many new faces as our enrollment is climbing again this year. We have exciting activities planned beginning with the highly acclaimed *Minds In Motion* program, which we are implementing school wide. Students will complete a 15 minute obstacle course each day, designed to strengthen the vestibular (inner ear), thereby strengthening their focus and balance. This translates into improved academic progress. Melissa Booth and Elizabeth Conrad are the coordinators for this innovative program.

Also new to St. Francis are soccer teams and the City National Bank "Bank at School Program." Darrin Willard has been working diligently to organize soccer teams, and schedule game and practice times. Thanks Darrin and everyone involved in the soccer program for paving the way. The first Bank at School day is Wednesday, September 20 at 8:15am. Students may bring money to deposit into their savings account or open a new account. It's a great lesson in economics for students to watch their money grow!

The Grandparents' Mass will be Thursday, September 21 at 8:15am. There is a special quality in the unconditional love offered by grandparents, and this day is a highlight for the children. Reservation forms were sent home two weeks ago. If you would like a form, please contact Mrs. Oxley.

TerraNova 3 Update: We expect to receive Home Reports in October. In the meantime, we were able to see online data. Ninety percent of St. Francis students scored above the national average. With 50<sup>th</sup> percentile being the mean, our students scored well above other students across the nation. Way to go, St. Francis School!!!

Reading - 85

Language – 81

Mathematics – 82

Science – 70

Spelling – 80

Word Analysis – 88

Social Studies – 70

Total Score – 84

Congratulations to Alan Moore's family on the birth of their new son. Please pray for Ms. Suzanne Carte (grandmother of 4th grader Samantha) and for Mrs. Oxley's father, Bud Humphries.

## Good Samaritans—August

The Good Samaritan Award is given to a child who shows concern for his/her classmates.

**K-2: Shaedyn Oiler**

**3-5: Damon Master**



## PTO Reminder

The Chili Cook Off is on Saturday, September 23. If your specialty is chili, or if you like to eat chili, please join us for this fun day! Registration information is available at the school office.

Also, the first Family Hot Dog Day of this year is Thursday, September 28th. Cost per adult lunch is \$5.00. See lunch times on last page of this newsletter.

## KROGER'S COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Please help St. Francis School raise money by participating in the Kroger's Community Rewards Program. This does not interfere with your gas points or any discounts. Every time you swipe your Kroger "Plus" card (or input your phone number) a percentage from your purchase will go back to St. Francis, so if you're shopping there anyway, it's a great way to help the school.

To sign up go to [www.kroger.com/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards). The St. Francis **Organization Number is 80360**. If you have enrolled in the past, to continue donating you must re-enroll once in August or later in 2017. If you are having trouble registering, please call 1-800-576-4377, option 3. Also, feel free to call the school office (304) 727-5690 and we will be happy to help.

## Preschool-Mrs. Lago

We have been busy exploring our classroom and making new friends. The children are settling into our daily routine and learning our rules. Following rules at school keep everyone safe. We are very excited about our Minds in Motion Maze. GoNoodle is already a class favorite.

A huge thank you goes out to everyone who sent in donations. Wow, we received so many supplies. Keep up with our class by visiting our ClassDojo site. We are celebrating our Learning Family Project- All About Me Puppet and our Nursery Rhyme- Mary Had a Little Lamb.

In September will be investigating Balls and Water Pipes. Look for more information in our Study Newsletters. September Nursery Rhymes: Humpty Dumpty & Itsy Bitsy Spider. Celebrating Learning Family Projects: Balls - Paper plate ball, Water Pipes - paper towel tube creation.

### **Preschool-Mrs. Shrewsbury**

Welcome to St. Francis preschool! We are off to a great start. The preschoolers enjoyed sharing their decorated "All About Me" bags filled with items they used to tell the class about themselves. It was a great way of getting to know one another.

This month we will be working on the letters "A" "B" "C" and "D". We will also learn about apples, go "camping", and travel to the land of dinosaurs.

I am looking forward to a wonderful and fun filled year!

We would like to wish Emaly Lyles, Ella Mae Booth, and Ava Dailey a very Happy Birthday this month!

### **Preschool-Ms. Burns**

It has been a wonderful first few weeks of school! We have been working on getting to know each other, touring our school, and learning our classroom and school rules. We have been able to jump right into learning with colors, shapes, numbers, and the letters A, B, and C! Some of the children's favorite things are weekly Show and Tell, morning stretches and yoga, and center time. We are having a great time, and the smiles on all of our faces are proof! Learning is fun!

Thank you so much to all of my parents! I really appreciate all of your communication and support. The year has begun so well because of YOU. Be sure to check out our "ALL ABOUT ME" puppets in our hallway and our "FAMILY PHOTO BOARD" in our classroom. They are adorable! I am excited for a fun year of learning, and thank you for sharing your children with me. They are an amazing group of young people!

### **Kindergarten News—Mrs. Gregg**

What a wonderful start to our school year! We have been busy learning the letters l, o, and g, rhyming words, vowels and consonant letters, recognizing capital and lower case letters and using punctuation. In math we are learning how to write numbers and counting. We have enjoyed getting know each other. Center time is one of the students favorite activities.

### **First Grade News—Ms. Potter**

The students are off to a wonderful start in first grade! They are doing a terrific job learning the school and classroom rules and procedures. They have been practicing walking down the hallway quietly, raising their hands before answering questions, and being kind and respectful to everyone.

The first graders are having a great time singing the Shurley English Jingles! They are learning the Sentence, Noun, and Verb Jingles quickly. I hope that they are singing them at home too. Please visit [www.shurley.com](http://www.shurley.com) and click on the product and services tab at the top of the page, scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on the

tab at the top of the page, scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on the parent help booklet 1 to learn more about this excellent language arts program. If you have any questions about the lessons, please let me know.

In religion, the students have been learning how God created the world and all people. They have been discussing ways that they can be kind and caring to others. They had so many wonderful ideas on how to show that they are kind and caring to their families and friends!

In math, the students are identifying most and fewest on a pictograph, ordering sets from smallest to largest and identifying sides and angles of triangles and squares. They have also been practicing writing their numbers neatly and correctly. They did an excellent job on their first math assessment!

The students have been enjoying reading their stories in class. Thank you for reviewing the vocabulary words and going over homework with your child each night. This makes a big difference in their learning!

We really appreciate your generous donations of supplies for our classroom!

### **Second Grade News—Mrs. Lopez**

We are off to a great start in second grade and we are getting into a rhythm of our daily routines. Please remember to check homework and initial planner each evening (M-Th). If you have any questions feel free to email me at [jillopez@sfsww.com](mailto:jillopez@sfsww.com) or send a note in your child's planner. We are starting our leaf collection project this month, information will be sent home this week. Thank you very much for all the classroom donations, I truly appreciate them all. I look forward to a successful year in second grade! Happy August Birthday to Ivy and Happy September birthday to Jacob!!!

### **Third Grade News—Mr. Swalley**

With a couple of full weeks under our belt, we're really starting to get into a good routine in the classroom. I am really looking forward to this year, I feel we can have a great, fun, year and learn a lot.

Last spring, parents from my class would volunteer to come in for about 30 minutes at the end of a school day to read to the class. The students loved this! I would really like to continue this as it is a nice way for parents to get some face time with other students, but also me as well. If any of you would be interested, please get in touch with either Jenn Ronen or myself to schedule a time.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. My email address is [bswalley@sfsww.com](mailto:bswalley@sfsww.com).

### Fourth Grade News—Mrs. Martin

Welcome back to school! We are off to a great start in fourth grade. The students are being challenged daily. We are completing our literary circle reading a great novel, “Bud, Not Buddy” by Christopher Paul Curtis. The students have been on the edge of their seats, predicting the conclusion. Please ensure that your child is reading every evening and ready to test regularly on Accelerated Reader for their AR point goals. I will be sending an AR log sheet home with your child to be filled out every evening. I will be checking the log sheet weekly.

Fourth graders are working diligently on their chromebooks with math, vocabulary, and spelling to name a few. Sumdog is one of our favorites. We also enjoy keeping up with current events with our friend, Carl from CNN Student News. Every day is exciting in fourth grade and I feel blessed to have a great class that is so eager to learn. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email me at [nmartin@sfsww.com](mailto:nmartin@sfsww.com) or call the school office.

### Fifth Grade News—Ms.S.

Welcome back to school! Fifth grade is going to be a very busy year. We have our patrols, fish fries, field trips, and so much more! This year we will be exploring new technology devices and coding. We are currently exploring our amazing galaxy and solar system. Fifth grade is going to be an exciting and fun filled year! If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to email me at [vsikora@sfsww.com](mailto:vsikora@sfsww.com) or call the school office.



The links are on our homepage at [www.sfsww.com](http://www.sfsww.com)  
Stay connected!

WELCOME BACK!

A green chalkboard with a wooden frame. The words "WELCOME BACK!" are written in white, uppercase, chalk-like letters. A horizontal white line is drawn below the text.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS—REMINDERS—DATES**

For more information on the calendar of events, school lunch menus, and much more, visit our school website: [www.sfsww.com!](http://www.sfsww.com)

- Choir Every Wednesday in September from 2:40 pm—3:30 pm
- Mass Every Thursday Grades K-5
- Friday, September 15—Jeans Day
- Friday, September 15—Early Dismissal @ 12:00 pm Grades K-5; ASC (After-school care) available until 6:00 pm
- Tuesday, September 19—3rd Grade Mass
- Thursday, September 21—Grandparents' Mass @ 8:15 am with a reception to follow
- Friday, September 22—Popcorn Day (\$.50)
- Saturday, September 23—4th Annual PTO Chilifest 11:00 am—2:00 pm
- Tuesday, September 26—4th Grade Mass
- Thursday, September 28—Family Hot Dog Day—\$5.00 Lunch for the adults
  - Grades 2-5 take lunch from 11:00-11:30 in the cafeteria
  - Grades K&1 take lunch from 11:30-12:00 in the gym
  - All PK classes take lunch from 12:00-12:30 in the cafeteria
- Friday, September 29—Jeans Day (\$.50)
  - (Refer to School Handbook or website for Dress Code information)

**\*\*Collaborative Classes are off on Friday's—Daycare is available\*\***