



The St. Augustine Monthly

St. Augustine School † Founded in 1857 † www.staug-md.org

A School You Can Have Faith In † April 2010

From the Principal's Desk...

Today begins the Triduum and at the end of the school day our Easter break. I want to wish all of our school families a very happy and holy Triduum and Easter celebration. I pray that your Lenten journey bears much fruit and that you come to the Easter celebration closer to Our Lord and closer to one another. I also hope that you enjoy a break from the school routine and enjoy family time.

When we return from Easter vacation we will hit the ground running! The students will be busy with the Race for Education and gearing up for MacBeth, the Renaissance fair, and the science fair. Grades 2-8 will begin Family Life education the week of April 19 and our second graders will be in the last stages of preparation for their reception of First Holy Communion. On the administrative side there are two very important projects that will require the support of all of our school families. These projects are the strategic plan and the ambassador family program.

The development of a strategic plan for the school was the most significant directive to come out of our recent Archdiocesan Factors of Viability Study. It will also lay the ground work for our future accreditation in the archdiocesan wide accreditation process beginning this fall. The school board appointed an ad hoc committee to oversee the strategic planning process. The members of the committee are Michael Mercurio (Chairman), Gail Donohue, Bill Mooney, Anna Lybrook, Mike McDonnell, Dawn Weglein, Andrea Zamora, Rosanna Graf, and Patricia Schratz. School families will soon receive an email requesting that they go to a survey website to answer a few questions about their experience of St. Augustine School. A successful strategic planning process involves the entire school community. Preliminary recommendations and a plan will be developed based on the input of all of the stakeholders. I strongly urge you to take the time to answer just a few important questions as soon as you receive the notice that the survey is available.

The second and equally important project is assimilating 68 new families into our school community for the 2010-2011 school year. The first step in this process is assigning veteran families to each of the new families. I would like to do this by the end of April so that families can meet and begin to form a relationship. I would like each ambassador family to invite their new family to our "Schools Out Supper" on May 21. I am also looking for volunteers to serve on a committee to plan additional outreach and support activities for our newcomers. If you are willing to serve as an ambassador family or serve on the Welcome Committee, please return the form included in the April *Monthly*.

~Mrs. Patricia Schratz, Principal



Volunteer Service Hours

As you know, every St. Augustine School family is required to complete 20 volunteer service hours each school year. The deadline for completion of the 20 hours is **Friday, May 21, 2010**. For any hours not completed, families will be billed at the rate of \$20 per hour. Payment of outstanding hours is due by **Wednesday, May 26, 2010**. To verify the status of your family's completed volunteer hours, please contact Mrs. Marc at cmarc@staug-md.org or call her in the school office. **As always, we value your time and dedication to our school and students throughout the school year. We could not do all that we do (and do it so well) without your support!**

6th Annual Race for Education



We're gearing up for **St. Augustine's 6th Annual Race for Education on Wednesday, April 28!** This event will promote physical fitness among students while raising much-needed funds for our school! Students always have fun at this annual event! Your support is greatly appreciated! We invite parents to come out on race day and cheer for the students! Thank you to the many parents who have already signed up to volunteer on Race day!

Field Day 2010

Field Day for grades 1-8 will be held on **Wednesday, May 19**. Many fun activities are planned throughout the day for students. **Volunteers are needed for the entire day.** To volunteer, please contact Mrs. Broglie no later than **Friday, May 7**. Thank you for helping make this a special day for our students!



Spring Has Sprung!

Upon returning from Easter break, we will begin gathering outside in the morning. Students should line up along the sidewalk by the school hall. In order to

ensure the safety of all students, please adhere to the following reminders:

- Please do not drop your child off until **8:25 a.m.** There is no supervision available before 8:25 a.m. and you may not leave your child unattended.
- Please be very cautious walking children from the back lot since the buses will drive through that area to make the turn into the main lot.
- Please remind your children that there is to be no running around as we wait for the first bell.

Students may begin wearing their summer uniform on **Monday, April 12**. Please note that summer uniforms are optional and if the weather gets cold, winter uniforms may be worn. However, combinations of the two are not permitted.

The summer uniform is nearly the same for all grades and genders and consists of:

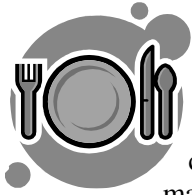
- Navy twill knee-length walk shorts with a brown or black belt or, for girls, a navy skort.
- The regular (white for grade 6-8 boys, yellow for everyone else), short sleeved, monogrammed shirt.
- Regular uniform tie or buckle, flat shoes with plain, white crew socks (over the ankle).

Call for HSA Nominees!

The Home & School Association is very important to the ongoing success of our school. The HSA leadership is a vital link between the parents and the school. We are currently searching for volunteers to run for the elected positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, in addition to chairpersons for several standing committees, for the 2010-2011 school year. Please consider lending your time and talents to our children and their families. Your participation can make a real difference in our school! Elections will be held at the final HSA meeting of the school year on **Monday, May 17, 2010**. If you are interested in running for a position, please contact Mrs. Debbie Goodman, HSA President, or Mrs. Schratz. Thank you!



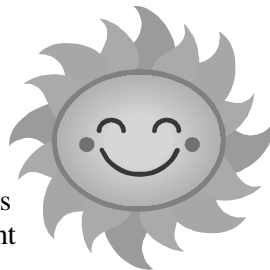
Join us for Dinner!



We will hold an **All-You-Can-Eat Family Dinner** on **Friday, April 23** from 4-8 PM in the school hall. Miss Ruth's buffet menu will include fried chicken, meatloaf, sliced pork BBQ, macaroni and cheese, green beans, salad bar, desserts, and drinks. Bring the whole family and dine in or stop by and pick up carry-out! This is a great opportunity to enjoy a delicious homemade meal while socializing with other members of the SAS community. Volunteers are needed! Please contact Mrs. Mobley at smobley@staug-md.org to sign up.

Save the Date...School's Out! Supper

Kick-off the summer in a big way...Please join us on **Friday, May 21** from 4-8 PM for a wonderful homemade dinner, kid's games, face painting, DJ, and silent auction! This is a great way to end the school year with friends! Many volunteers are needed to help with this event! Please contact Mrs. Mobley at smobley@staug-md.org to sign up.



Barnes & Noble Book Fair

The Book Fair is back! Join us at the Barnes & Noble in Ellicott City on **Tuesday, May 11** at **6 PM** for your chance to purchase books for summer reading, while being entertained by Mrs. Filar, Ms. Mackay and Mrs. Schratz who will be reading to students. In addition, there will be a special appearance by **Arthur** for the younger children – bring your camera! Before or after the Book Fair, please stop by Pizza Uno's in the Long Gate Shopping Center to enjoy a delicious dinner while helping raise "dough" for SAS!



BARNES & NOBLE

Congratulations, Middle School!

Congratulations to the following students who achieved academic excellence by making the Principal's List for the second trimester:

Grade 6

Joseph Dagirmanjian
Sean Zaranski

Grade 7

Laura Arvin
Michael Berhane
Rachel Feliu
Laura Gretz
Gabriella Schoenbeck
Olivia Seastrom
Olivia Stanitski

Grade 8

Katie Connolly
Rebecca Lewis
James Peyla
Michael Zerhusen
Scott Beautz

Congratulations to the following students who achieved academic excellence by making the Honor Roll for the second trimester:

Grade 6

Terese Beach
Madeline Donnelly
Jenna Kane
Andrew Mills
Anna Peyla
Jenna Polignone
Juliana Ruggiero
Emily Schallmo
Emily Thompson

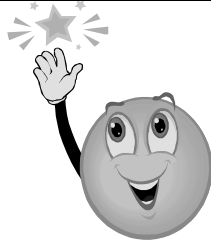
Grade 7

Noelle Bailey
Juliet Beach
Samantha Clarke
Jamie Dunphy
Nicole Kyle
Emma Madera
Lauren Munter
Siddarth Rajan
Jonathan Shelly
Maggie Yuan



Grade 8

Davidam Amponsah
Kristel Penaso
Faith Rico
Michael Weglein



Math Masters

Congratulations to the following students who achieved "Math Master" during the month of March:

Grade 3: John Shinnamon, Katrina Manabat, Monica Mercurio, Timothy Fair, Arielle Rivera, Carolina McLaughlin, Emily Dagirmanjian

Grade 4: Eddie Madera, Noah Bahur, Julia Hoffman, Dominique Buteau, Adam Mills, Johnny Dutan, Chloe Shoemaker, Olivia Gretz, Rachel Hall, Maya Yearwood, Mary Marc, Andrew Black, Gregory Peterson, Abbey Bulla, Jessica Schneck, Nicky Beautz, Jesse Whitehead, Matthew Elias

Grade 5: Jenny Davis, Emily Dunham, Hope Dunphy, Isabel Gabin, Natalie Lybrook, Dominic Rivera, Julia Stanitski, Shannon McDonnell

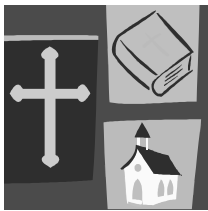
\$20 for Dad and Daughter and \$5 for each additional daughter.

Uniform Exchange

Please hold on to your uniforms until the week of the Uniform Exchange, which will be held on **Friday, April 23**. Uniforms can be dropped off at the school on **April 19-23**. If you drop off uniforms prior to these dates, you will not receive credit for the donated uniforms. Thank you for your cooperation.

Family Life Education

The students in grades 2-8 will be learning about family life beginning the week of April 19. In grades 3-8 the students have a textbook that is used in the classroom. In addition each family will receive a guide to help facilitate discussion at home. Please note that this publication is for parents, not children. Finally, there is a brief home activity that is assigned for family "homework" each night. The family life materials will be available in the office for your preview. A letter with more information will be distributed on April 12.

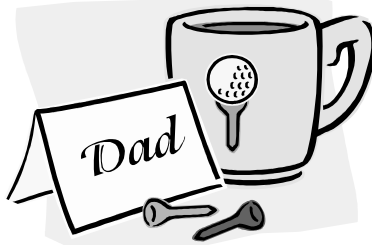


Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School at St. Augustine's will be held **July 12-16**. Registration will begin on April 26. Please contact Mrs. Carlin in the Religious Education office if you have any questions.

"A Day with Dad" for Girls in Grades 4-8

Challenge is sponsoring this special event on **Sunday, April 25** from 2:30 to 5:30 PM in the hall. You are invited to an afternoon of games, activities, and a catered candlelight dinner! Get a picture with your dad! Play fun games together! Chances to win a door prize! Shopping bag auction with great items for dads and daughters! Girls in 4th to 8th grade are invited. Call Mrs. Karen Kane at 410-796-5868 to make a date with your dad! The cost is



NEW FAMILY AMBASSADOR VOLUNTEER FORM

Family Name: _____

Preferred grade(s) of new family: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

I would like to serve on the Welcome Committee.

The best day/time for me to meet with the Welcome Committee: _____

Please return to school office as soon as possible.

THANK YOU!