

TAKE HOME TUESDAY

Tuesday, November 7, 2017 * St. Albert the Great School
Jodi McLawhorn, Principal * jmclawhorn@satgschool.org

LUNCH ROOM COMMITTEE!! Our FSA is putting together a committee to help in making decisions for our Lunch Room. Currently, our lunch room has uncomfortable seating for the students, and is not a warm and inviting place. The FSA would like some parents to sit on this committee to help determine what the design and decor should look like, so as to be a more "kid friendly" space for our students. Please email Mrs. Rosas (rtagle77@hotmail.com) if you are interested in being on this committee. The only commitment to this committee is to attend a few meetings to help make some decisions for our school.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: Please take notice of the flyer that went home regarding Inclement Weather notifications. We hope to keep our school open throughout the year, but keep this information close, just in case!

COMMUNITY CONCERT: Please join us on Thursday, 11/9 at 7:00 pm for a community choral concert in our church!! Local high school and college choirs are coming together to sing and raise funds for charity. This event will be great for our students to enjoy...and Big Parent Pay Off coupons will be handed out. Hope you can come!

SVDP FOOD DRIVE AND OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX DONATIONS: We are asking our families to help others at this time of the year through 2 initiatives by our Student Council. Please refer to the letter that went home Monday. Your donations are greatly appreciated for those in need!

BOOK FAIR: Book Fair starts November 15th for previews. Shopping starts on Friday(11/17), Monday(11/20), and Tuesday(11/21 - during Parent Teacher Conferences). If you have any questions, see Mrs. Kathy Joda. Thank you!

FSP CHANGES:
11/7: Mix fruit cup will be substituted with Diced Pear cup
11/10: Meatball (wheat,soy,milk 2g carb) will be substituted with Meatball (wheat,soy,milk 6g carb)

Looking Ahead:

11/8: St. Rita Retreat grades 7&8; Early Dismissal 1:45 pm
11/9: Community Choral Concert @7pm; Food Drive Begins; Shoebox donations begin
11/14: Game Club; Book Club
11/15: Book Fair Begins!!!
11/15: SATG Feast Mass
11/17: Pizza Lunch - no Hot lunch this day!!
11/21: Parent-Teacher Conferences

Please check your child's Powerschool, Google Classroom and SATG Emails weekly.

Parent-Teacher Conferences are coming up soon on 11/21.
Thank you!!

PARENT POWER! When parents attend Parent Universities, FSA meetings, or volunteer at specific events, it is very beneficial to the students. It is also beneficial to the students because of a new program the FSA is sponsoring, called The Big Parent Pay Off. When Parents attend, student get rewarded by getting a raffle ticket for a Spirit/Dress Down day! What a great incentive to get involved!!!

ALL BIG PARENT PAY OFF COUPONS ARE DUE TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY THIS FRIDAY, 11/10. STUDENTS SHOULD WRITE THEIR NAME ON THE BACK OF THE COUPON AND HAND IT IN TO THEIR TEACHER IN THE MORNING. THE TEACHER WILL SEND IT UP TO THE OFFICE IN THEIR MORNING POUCHES. WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON MONDAY, 11/13.

ATTENDANCE AND TARDIES: We have noticed an increase in tardies in our school over the past few weeks. Please be reminded that students are required, by state law, to be in attendance with clearly defined parameters. Being "absent from school" includes time that is missed due to being tardy. Please review:

"Illinois law requires children ages six to 17 to attend public school, with some exceptions, including children attending a private or parochial school or children being homeschooled where certain requirements are met.

A child may not be absent from a public school without valid cause for 5 percent or more of the previous 180 regular attendance days, or 9 days. Prior to 2011, Illinois law prohibited a child from being absent from a public school for 10 percent or more of the previous 180 regular attendance days, or 18 days. Valid cause is defined as illness, observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family or a family emergency."

TARDY NOTE (IMPORTANT): if your child is tardy, they **MUST** be accompanied by an adult and brought into the school office. We have an open campus where anyone can walk across our courtyard and parents must supervise the safety of students and bring them into the school office.

Communications with School: As our school year progresses, issues may arise that require the school's attention. These issues can be brought to the surface due to a myriad of reasons. In order to more effectively assist you and your children with any issues that may arise, we ask that you please contact either the classroom teacher or the specials teacher to address the issues in question. Our teachers work very hard all day long and are the first point of reference when issues need their attention. Please contact your child's teacher (or the teacher you need to refer to) via email. Teachers will respond to emails in a timely manner. If a conference is needed, then that can be determined between the parent and the teacher.

We ask that you be understanding, that while we are in the building, even when we are not in class, we are working. We often have meetings to explore data which leads to adjustments in instruction, or we are meeting to fine tune a policy that better serves our students. These meetings take place before school, after school, during lunch breaks, and throughout the day. I give you this information, so that you understand that teachers value their partnership with you, but it is just not possible to leave a meeting where an agenda has been established and there are deadlines to be reached, where we are being held accountable to the Archdiocese for meeting all of our guidelines or when trying to establish new methodologies that will be helpful in servicing our students. Our teachers will do all they can to make an appointment to see you when it is convenient for all parties involved. If you need to see a teacher immediately, please call the office and let Mrs. Krol or Mrs. Radecka know, and they will relay that urgency to the teacher.

If you find that you need to speak with the Principal, please know that I will do all that I can to find time to meet with you. My daily schedule is usually jam packed, but I try to make time, as often as possible, to return calls, emails, or requests to meet. Often, my first question will be to see if you have conferenced with the teacher first. I understand that while it may seem that going to the principal first is the logical thing to do, it actually can slow down the process of solution. This is because at St. Albert the Great, there is not an administrative team or Assistant Principal. Therefore, all meetings, reports, observations, documentation, and on and on...etc. must be handled by the Principal directly. Often, a parent will come to me with an issue, which will require me to follow up with the teacher(s). That may take days if I am out at Archdiocesan meetings or workshops or creating reports that have to be submitted by specific deadline to either the Archdiocese or the State of Illinois. If your issue requires more immediate attention, then please, contact the teacher first, so that we can service the needs of your child as quickly as possible.

The best way to communicate with me is via email, as I am not always in my office, or I am in the field at other schools, or travelling throughout the day. There are times when a voicemail is not picked up for days on end, so please email me for a more immediate response.

I'm taking the time to communicate this information with you today, to ensure that you know how much we value our partnership with you. We enjoy your children every day and cherish them as our blessings. We are fully committed to making sure that all of our students get the support they need by us in partnership with you. I thank you all for your commitment to our partnership to ensuring your children have a great experience at St. Albert the Great, that they learn to their greatest potential, and that they do so in a warm and loving environment.