



# St. Thomas Aquinas Regional School

## The Crusader Connection



May 16, 2017  
Volume 5 issue 36

### Principal's News

Sister Kateri Rose, O.P.  
Principal

#### Calendar Items

5/17	May Crowning Mass 10:45
5/26	Spiritwear
5/29	Memorial Day <b>No School</b>
6/1/17	ALA testing 3-4 pm
6/5	Last Day for Lost and Found Items to be claimed
6/12	8th Grade Mass & Graduation @ Sacred Heart
6/13	Used Uniform Sale 3-5pm
6/14	Field day <b>Noon Dismissal</b>
6/15	Last day of school <b>Noon Dismissal- No afternoon Extended Day</b>
8/28	First Day of School 2017-2018 school year

*"The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul." ~Johann Sebastian Bach*

Dear Aquinas Parents,

As the school year begins to wind down, we celebrate the accomplishments and successes of our students. Last night, we enjoyed a wonderful concert by our band, choir, and string students! The opportunity to learn an instrument or to learn to sing well is a gift, and as such, should be carefully cultivated out of gratitude to God, the Giver of gifts and talents. Our students have done a beautiful job of cultivating and sharing their gifts, and have thus, given glory to God! I would like to thank each of these students for their diligence and effort this year, which enriches our whole community. I would also like to thank you, the parents, who encourage your child's/children's musical endeavors, pay for lessons, and drive to and from rehearsals...and put up with the "noise" at home as they practice a new song or a new instrument. Finally, a special thank you goes to each of our instructors: Mr. Sawasky, Mrs. Riley, and Mrs. Graham. Their passion for music is an inspiration for our students and helps them to become better musicians. May each of us continue to use our unique gifts and talents for the glory of God and the good of our neighbor.

With prayers, in Christ,  
Sr. Kateri Rose, O.P.

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STARS website Parent Login  
User name: STARSparent  
Password: sta1977-2017

#### Math Help for 5-8 grade:

WED's 3-4pm- email Mrs. Glascock permission at [jglascock@aquinastars.org](mailto:jglascock@aquinastars.org) and indicate whether your child will be picked up or is registered at extended day

# The Crusader Connection (Continued)



## NEW THINGS ARE HATCHING IN 2ND GRADE

Our second grade classes have been monitoring 2 live chicks and 6 eggs as part of their science studies. To the delight of the students (and faculty) this morning at 6am the first egg hatched. Watch the [live recording as Peep hatched](#) this morning. You can also check out the [LIVE stream](#) of the remaining eggs...wonder which egg will hatch next?

## School Announcements

### POPCORN SALE

On Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> grade student council will be hosting a lunchtime popcorn sale. Students may purchase popcorn for \$.50 per bag during lunch. Proceeds will benefit *St. Margaret of Cortona Family Transitional Housing*.



### AUCTION BRAINSTORMING SESSION

Please join us on Wednesday May 24<sup>th</sup> in the school library for coffee and pastries as we brainstorm ideas for the spring 2018 Silent Auction and Dinner. Bring your ideas, suggestions and help us to start planning for this fundraising event.

### ONLINE AUCTION RESULTS

Thank you to all those who supported the online auction this year. We raised over \$6000. Congratulations to all the winners. Winning bidders received emails yesterday with information concerning the details of their event and payment. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Pamela Howser at [phowser@aquinastars.org](mailto:phowser@aquinastars.org).

### ANNUAL APPEAL

Through the generous support of over 90 benefactors, we have exceeded our 2016-17 Annual Appeal goal! The donations of our Annual Appeal benefactors offset the gap between current tuition rates and the actual cost of educating our students allowing Aquinas to meet our financial obligations while keeping tuition affordable. In gratitude, we pray for these individuals each week at Mass. May God reward their generosity.

### LION KING, JR DVD

The St. Thomas Aquinas Regional School Middle School musical DVD recording of our production, *The Lion King Jr.*, is available for purchase for \$15 per disk. Each disk contains all three middle school performances. Fill out the attached [order form](#) and return it with payment to the school office.



### LION KING, JR. PHOTO BOOK

The school has ordered 10 additional copies of a beautiful hardcover photo book with pictures from the *Lion King, Jr.* production. We will have one on display at the front desk. Each book is \$40 and will be available for purchase at the front desk, first come first served availability. We will fill the first 10 paid orders.

# The Crusader Connection (Continued)



## LOST AND FOUND

Lost and Found - anything left in the lost and found on June 5th will be donated to the Used Uniform sale or to charity.



## FIELD DAY

Field Day is Wednesday, June 14 from 8am - 12 noon. Students will wear their P.E. uniforms. It is a fun, active day to be enjoyed by all current K-7th grade Aquinas students. Teachers and staff are unable to provide or apply sunscreen to students. If your child requires sunscreen, please apply it before school.

In order to be a success, we will need many, many volunteers from indoor and outdoor game helpers to face painters and more! Please click on the following link to help

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094ea4aa2aa31-field1>.

## ADVANCED LANGUAGE ARTS PROGRAM

Students who excel in language arts and are interested in pursuing a more rigorous course of studies are invited to apply to the Advanced Language Arts (ALA) Program. The program is available for rising 6th, 7th, and 8th graders who are academically motivated and desire a curriculum that keeps them constantly challenged and interested. The demanding program of study requires a high level of academic performance, discipline, and appropriate maturity for each student participating. Consistent parental support is also required for the student's success. The testing date for the program is Thursday, June 1, 2017, from 3:00- 4:00 pm and the application is also due on that date. Click here for [the application](#) and [the study guide](#) for the test. Keep in mind that there is a recommendation form required from the current language arts teacher in the application packet, so please allow enough time for the teacher to complete the recommendation. Please direct any questions to Miss Zengierski, the program coordinator, by email at [jzengierski@aquinastars.org](mailto:jzengierski@aquinastars.org).

## MAY CROWNING

Please join us tomorrow for our 10:45 am Mass honoring Our Lady (Wednesday May 17<sup>th</sup>).

## AQUINAS MOMS SCRIPTURE SHARING

Aquinas moms meet once a month at 1:30 in the school library for fellowship and Scripture sharing. Simply bring a Bible and an open heart. Dates for the last two meetings are as follows: May 19<sup>th</sup>; June 9<sup>th</sup>.



# The Crusader Connection (Continued)

## Sports

A Big thank you to all of our 2016-2017 Coaches.

### Fall Sports:

Girls Volleyball: Hannah McNulty (Varsity), Anne Eckman (JV)

Boys Soccer: Walter Rivas (Varsity)

Girls Cheer: Jenn Collins

Football: John Paul DeGance (Varsity) Tim Eddy (Asst.)

### Winter Sports:

Girls Basketball: Tyrone Grandberry (Varsity) Ronnie Cherry-France (Asst.), Anne Eckman (JV)

Boys Basketball: Sedric Winston (Varsity), Bill Crisp (JV)

Girls Cheer: Jenn Collins

RunFit: Stella Puglise

### Spring Sports:

Girls Soccer: Walter Rivas (Varsity)

Boys Baseball: Mike Johnson (Varsity)

7th & 8th Track: Pete Mulcahy

6th Grade Track: Anne Eckman

Girls Softball: Janelle Ferguson (Varsity) Joseph Sutton (Asst.)

Thanks for all you do! Special thank you to our parent volunteers!

*Please continue to check [the school website](#), middle school bulletin board and have your son/daughter listen to announcements about upcoming practices.*

## Nurse's Corner

### PARENTS OF 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STUDENTS

During these early teenage years, children are frequently assessed by their physicians for any sign and symptoms of scoliosis. If your child has not had a physical that included this assessment or you have a concern about scoliosis and your child, the attached reference is very useful in determining if your child is showing any possible signs or symptoms of scoliosis. The school nurses advise you to carefully read the information provided. If you have any concerns, you may want to schedule an appointment with your child's doctor and, as always, please feel free to contact the school nurses at 703-491-4447 ext. 278 or visit <http://www.iscoliosis.com/symptoms.html>

## PTO Announcements

### USED UNIFORM SALE

The spring PTO Used Uniform sale will be Tuesday June 13<sup>th</sup> from 3-5 pm in the school gym/multi purpose room. Please donate your gently used uniform pieces including PE uniform items.

*"Grandfathered items"*- Items sold at the Used Uniform sale will be in compliance with the grandfathered items policy (for the 2017-2018 school year only). You will need to make sure that they are appropriate for your student's new grade in 2017-18. Please refer to the [2016-17 Parent-Student handbook](#) for the current uniform policy (that will be grandfathered). The new uniform policy is available at <https://aquinastars.org/school-life/uniforms/>



# The Crusader Connection (Continued)

## MONTHLY ROSARY AND PILGRIM VIRGIN

See the [attached form](#) for the opportunity to support Aquinas with a monthly rosary and the [attached form](#) for the opportunity to have the statue visit your home.

## PARENTS IN PRAYER

### Let Us Pray:

For **Pope Francis**, that God will continue to bless him, as he leads the Church.

For **Bishop Burbidge**, that God will bless him as he leads his flock.

For the special intentions of **St. Thomas Aquinas Regional School**.

For the safety and well-being of our Armed Forces serving throughout the world

For the repose of the soul of **Philip Them**, Mrs. Planchak's father.

For **Karen Hartman**, Godmother of Brooke & Bree Collins, that God will grant her healing and restore her health so that she may be released from the hospital.

For **Mrs. Decowski-Brown**, extended day staff, that God will watch over her as she undergoes medical treatment.

For **Theresa Minnick** (Grandma of Eric M) for strength during treatment & a return to health.

For **Joe Pecore** (friend of the McCann family) to be restored to health & strength for him & his family during his road to recovery.

For **John A. Steptoe, Jr.**, grandfather of Langston Rhodes, that God will grant him strength and watch over him.

For **Alvaro Parada**, father of Anthony and Mariah Parada, that God will restore his health and watch over him during his upcoming surgery.

For an Aquinas Community member, that God may grant healing and strength.

For the repose of the soul of **Melanie Nocera**, mother of Elon and Anthony.

For **Cisco Brink, Major**, US Army, father of Liliana (2nd grade) and Sophia (Pre-K) Brink, who is deployed to Afghanistan this school year, that God will watch over him and bring him home safely to his family.

For **Daniel Powell USMC**, friend of Audrey Davis, who is being deployed to the Middle East, that God will watch over him and return him safely to his family.

# The Crusader Connection (Continued)



## Our Holy Father's Prayer Intentions

### Young People:

That young people may respond generously to their vocations and seriously consider offering themselves to God in the priesthood or consecrated life.

*We are blessed to have such wonderful families in our Aquinas community and one of the many spiritual gifts we give each other is praying for the intentions listed. Email your prayer intentions to [mdsa72@gmail.com](mailto:mdsa72@gmail.com)*

## Other

### REMEMBERING COLBY

Several Aquinas students will be leading a Rosary in remembrance of Colby Smith on his birthday, May 25, at 6:30 pm at Sacred Heart Catholic Church Cemetery 12975 Purcell Rd., Manassas, VA 20112. <https://www.facebook.com/events/423977281303569/>



### LAUDATE! CHOIR CAMP

Foster your child's love of music this summer with an exciting, intense, and rewarding choir camp, held at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, July 31 - August 4. Open to rising 2nd-12th grade children, with activities tailored to all skill levels. For more information, go to [laudatechoircamp.com](http://laudatechoircamp.com).

### ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT EVENTS

Events and Invitations from St. John Paul the Great Catholic High School! Please join us!

1. **5th Annual Gala & Auction** at The Clubs at Quantico – Saturday, May 20. 'Diamonds and Denim' promises to be a fun-filled night! Tickets and sponsorship info may be found here: <http://www.jpthegreat.org/about-us/the-family-association/annual-gala/>
2. **Emerald Raffle:** Win the grand prize of up to \$15,000, or many smaller cash prizes along the way! For ticket information, visit <http://www.jpthegreat.org/support-jp/emerald-raffle/>
3. **Applications for Admission and Financial Aid** are still being accepted! Join our growing community! Rising 9th, 10th and 11th graders are encouraged to apply today! Please visit: <http://www.jpthegreat.org/admissions/>

If you have other questions about JP, please visit [www.jpthegreat.org](http://www.jpthegreat.org) or call 703.445.0300.



# The Crusader Connection (Continued)

## BISHOP O'CONNELL EVENTS

**Summer Camps**-We are now accepting registrations for our sports camps. We will have multiple camps throughout the summer. [Click here for more information about our various summer camps.](#)

## SUMMER MATH CAMP

Location: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church  
12805 Valleywood Drive Lake Ridge, VA 22192

Dates: July 17 – 28, 2017

*Please see the following flyers to help you determine which level to enroll your child.*

[Bean Counting 101:](#) 9 AM – 12:30 PM (\$420)

[Bean Counting 201:](#) 9 AM – 12:30 PM (\$420)

[Multiplication Matters:](#) 9 AM – 12:30 PM (\$465)

[MathTree Roots:](#) 1 – 4:30 PM (\$465)

[Roots-to-Leaves:](#) 1 – 4:30 PM (\$465)

A full-day experience is available by adding MathTree Hands-On Math to any of the above camps. Before and After Care are also available. More information at [Mathtree.com](http://Mathtree.com) website.

## THEATRE & ART DAY CAMPS

Broadway Training & Art Exploring in local Catholic Parish Summer Day Camps...This July, Nativity Parish and All Saints Parish are hosting day camps in Art & Drama for ages as young as Kindergarten and as old as High School. All instructors have professional backgrounds that include Ringling Brothers, Arena Stage, The Corcoran Gallery, Lincoln Center, and Wolf Trap. Additionally, most instructors are teachers at Arlington Diocesan Schools. A variety of different camps are offered Monday through Friday for a one week period. Visit [www.SpotlightSummerCamps.com](http://www.SpotlightSummerCamps.com) to take advantage of \$10 off in May.

