



St. Thomas Aquinas Regional School

The Crusader Connection



May 9, 2017
Volume 5 issue 35

Principal's News

Sister Kateri Rose, O.P.
Principal

Calendar Items

5/9	Spirit Night @ Cicis
5/11	8th Grade Doughnut sale
5/12	Noon Dismissal
5/14	Happy Mother's Day
5/15	Band/Choir Concert
5/17	May Crowning Mass 10:45
5/26	Spiritwear
5/29	Memorial Day No School
6/5	Last Day for Lost and Found Items to be claimed
6/12	8th Grade Graduation @Sacred Heart
6/14	Field day
6/13	Used Uniform Sale
6/15	Last day of school Noon Dismissal- No afternoon Extended Day
8/28	First Day of School 2017-2018 school year

Dear Aquinas Parents,

We have entered the beautiful spring month of May! This month is special for many reasons, but there is one thing that makes it particularly special for us as Catholics: It is the month dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Later this month, we will have a May Crowning ceremony at which the 8th graders will lead us in honoring our Blessed Mother. If our Blessed Lord saw fit to make Mary His own mother and to entrust Himself entirely to her, then should not we do the same? The month of May reminds us of her motherly care and protection over us and of the love and reverence which we owe her as the Mother of our Redeemer. This is what our May Crowning is all about!

A special Marian Feast day in May is the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, on May 13th, and this Saturday marks the 100th anniversary of the first apparition of the Blessed Mother to the three shepherd children at Fatima. This apparition particularly appeals to children, since Our Lady's message was directed to three young children. Her message was one of petition to pray (especially the Rosary) and sacrifice for peace in the world, for the salvation of poor sinners, and in reparation for the outrages and offences committed against the Hearts of Jesus and Mary--a message that is as pertinent today as it was 100 years ago, if not even more so. The following is a link to an excellent website of information on the apparitions at Fatima:

<https://www.ewtn.com/fatima/index.asp>.

During this month of May, as we honor our Blessed Mother Mary, let us pray the Rosary with faith and devotion each day, asking that she would lead us always closer to her son. Special prayers will be offered for all of our Aquinas mothers this Sunday as we celebrate Mother's Day!

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.
Glascoc permission at
jglascoc@aquinastars.org
and indicate whether your
child will be picked up or is
registered at extended day

The Crusader Connection (Continued)

Notes from Sister

Please note that Fidget spinners are not permitted in school; whether in Extended Day, recess or in class. If seen at school, as with any other distracting item, they will be taken away. Thank you for your support in this matter.



School Announcements

PTO's Spring Fever ONLINE ONLY Auction

View items by clicking [HERE](#)

Bidding opens Monday, May 8th at 9:00 AM
Bidding closes Sunday, May 14th at 9:00 PM



GRANDPARENTS DAY PROGRAM

Did you miss the Grandparent's Day program, or just want to see it again? [Click here](#) to view the recording of the event that was streamed live.

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 8 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.



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.

HOT LUNCH AND FIELD TRIPS

There are several field trips during May. Please consult the school calendar on the website for dates for your specific grades. If a refund is required, follow the policy below.

The Crusader Connection (Continued)

Field Trips/Illness: With 48 hour **business** days notice prior to a Field Trip, call our office 703-550-1820 and FFS will issue credits.

LIBRARY NOTICES

Library overdue and fine notices were sent home last week. If your child has any overdue books and/or fines, please have them return the books and pay the fines promptly. Students will not be able to check out and may have their final report cards held if their library accounts are not cleared. Thank you for your assistance.



PEP TALK

Our Parents as Educational Partners (PEP) meeting is Wednesday. Please join us to learn more about our school and find ways to help your child succeed.

When: Wednesday, May 10 at 4 pm

Where: School Library

Topics: Assessments
Setting Goals for your student
Summer reading and summer homework

Exhortamos a los padres de familias bilingües que nos acompañen para aprender más de nuestra escuela y dialogar acerca de las metas educativas de sus niños.

¿Cuándo? El miércoles, 10 de mayo a las 4pm.

¿Dónde? En la biblioteca.

¿De qué vamos a hablar?

Cómo prepararse para los exámenes

Metas educativas para sus niños

Promover lectura en las vacaciones y prepararse para las tareas del verano

8TH GRADE DOUGHNUT SALE

There will be an 8th grade doughnut sale on Thursday May 11th. Doughnuts will be \$1.00 each or \$8.00 for a dozen. Coffee and hot chocolate will be available. See the attached [doughnut flyer](#) to preorder your doughnuts today. Preorders must be received by 3pm on Wednesday, 5/10. Please support our fundraiser to get to New York.



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 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

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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 zengierski@aquinastars.org.

MAY CROWNING

Please join us for our 10:45 am Mass honoring Our Lady on Wednesday May 17th.



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 19th; June 9th.

Sports

SOFTBALL

The Aquinas girls softball team won their first game by a score of 6-0 against Alexandria Country Day School. Hannah Bassett pitched the shut out game. First year catcher, Michele Togbe, was excellent. Great defense by Kylie Richey-Smith and Nina Stolmeier. Runs were scored by Megan Tapscott, Summer Solis, Natalie Sutton, Hannah Bassett, Chloe Musman, and Erin Esquivel. Great thinking at the plate was Quinlan Sinkhorn. Great job girls!



TRACK WITH THE BISHOP

Aquinas students posed with Bishop Burbidge at the Diocesan Regional Spring Track Meet held this past Saturday and Sunday at Bishop O'Connell High School. Bishop Burbidge braved the cold and rain to come out and cheer all the participants!

Prince William County field conditions are updated daily at 3:00. Please call 703-792-3285 to hear all field closures.

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



PTO Announcements

USED UNIFORM SALE

The spring PTO Used Uniform sale is coming the last week of school. 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

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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 uniform policy that will be grandfathered. The new uniform policy is available at <https://aquinastars.org/school-life/uniforms/>

SPIRIT NIGHT AT CICI'S

Tonight, *Spirit Night* is at Cici's pizza from 5-8 pm. The class with the most students in attendance tonight will win a pizza party.

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 **Josephine Paul**, grandmother of Abey and Anitha Paul, that God will grant her healing.

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

For the repose of the soul of **Sylvia Keller** grandmother of Mrs. Howser.

The Crusader Connection (Continued)

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.

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



Other

ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT EVENTS

Events and Invitations from 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 or call 703.445.0300.

The Crusader Connection (Continued)

BISHOP O'CONNELL EVENTS

Pre-HSPT- May 13 or May 20, 9AM to noon, at Bishop O'Connell High School. This is a chance to take a practice HSPT exam. The cost is \$40 and students will receive a copy of the score report in June. These two dates are the only opportunities to take the practice test. [Click here for more information and to register.](#)

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 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 to take advantage of \$10 off in May.



owned by the Benjamin family

4296 Merchant Plaza
Woodbridge, VA 22192
Phone: (703) 897-5464

Hours:

Mon-Fri	7:00 am	9:00 pm
Sat	9:00 am	9:00 pm
Sun	11:00 am	7:00 pm

Sponsor of the
Week:



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www.aquinastars.org