



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC SCHOOL



April 2019

Father Carl Hood, Pastor
Mrs. Alicia Brown, Principal
Mrs. Antonia Corzine, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Stephanie Jones, Assistant Principal

A Note from Our Principal

Dear St. Francis of Assisi Families,

Is it the Fourth Quarter already?! As one 8th grade student told me today... *“Did you know that we have less than 20 school days left?”* While that is true for the 8th grade students, the rest of us have only a little more than 30 days before this school year will be finished and 2018-19 will be one for the books. But, that being said, we’re not done yet. There are still some important things left to do.

This week, our 6th graders head to Alabama for their annual two-night trip to Camp McDowell. It is a great experience for the kids, teachers and chaperones to bond through activities like team building exercises, water sampling and canoeing, forest hikes with compass navigation and more. Learn more about Camp McDowell by going to <https://campmcdowell.com/>

Our 5th grade students will be heading out later in the month (April 25th- 26th) for their overnight trip to Victory Ranch in Bolivar, TN. This Christian camp also focuses on team building, identifying each other’s strengths, and working together to bring out the best in one-another. Learn more about Victory Ranch by going to <http://www.victoryranch.org/group-adventure/>

Next Week, begins Holy Week, the most important week in our liturgical year. Go to the St. Francis Church website for the days and times of the many events happening at our parish. <http://stfrancismemphis.org/holy-week-schedule-2/> Also remember, school will be dismissed on Thursday, April 18th at 11:30am and will not return until the following Wednesday morning, April 24th. Please enjoy this blessed time worshipping the Passion and Resurrection of Our Lord and spending time together as a family.

The following Saturday, April 27th, our 2nd grade students will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist and will be receiving their very first holy communion. Please pray for them on this very special day.

During the week of Monday April 29th, ITBS Standardized testing will begin for our school. In order to help our students, we will break the tests into smaller portions to give them a concentrated time to focus on doing their best, but not exhaust them by testing all day long over only a few days. ITBS Testing is scheduled each day for early morning sessions. If you need to make any appointments for your child during the week of April 29 - May 3rd, please try to schedule it after lunch. There will be no opportunity to make up any tests if a student is absent for a portion of the test.

Lastly, we want to remind you to attend our very last PTO Meeting of the year. It will be held on Tuesday, April 30th @ 8am. At this meeting, we will be thanking and bidding farewell to this year’s PTO board members and saying “welcome” to next year’s board. I will also share information for the recent AdvancEd Accreditation process and outline the topics on our self-identified 5-year improvement plan and explain some of the ways we will be working to make it happen.

A Note from Our Principal - Continued

There will be so much more happening as we wrap up the school year during the month of May. We will be celebrating events like: May Crowning, ECC Water Day, the performances of our student produced one-act play, "A Wrinkle in Time, the 7th grade overnight field trip to the gulf shore, exams, our 8th grade trip to Washington DC, Confirmation and 8th grade Graduation, the ECC end of the year special performance and of course we will end the school year as we began it, with our final school mass for the year on Friday May 24th followed by our 1st - 7th grade awards ceremony. Please be sure to check out our school calendar and the events posted each week in our Wolfpack Weekly.

Thank you for your support this year and your dedication to St. Francis School.

God Bless,

Mrs. Alicia Brown

Congratulations to the Third Quarter CHRISTIAN WITNESS Award Recipients:

- 1st Grade: Ava Mulbauer, Juli Cantu-Leon
- 2nd Grade: Gabriel Baker, Logan Delgado, Celia Ryan
- 3rd Grade: Zian Gass, Tryston Scarborough, Annie Winter
- 4th Grade: Ava Coleman, Hope Jones, Stephen Morris
- 5th Grade: Natalee Campbell, Sara Fullen, Juliana Mata
- 6th Grade: Emma Carter, Tommy Esquivel, Jackson Jones, Meredith McCusker, Brittney Nguyen, Roman Rawlings
- 7th Grade: Justin Bowers, Cael Coulombe, Carlo Duran, Aniston Gass, Caroline Redding, Lilly Sobalvarro
- 8th Grade: Emily Esnard, Sam Morris, Cara Pirani, Michael Spain, Vina Vedala, Luke Wilemon

Congratulations to the Third Quarter HONOR ROLL Award Recipients:

Principal's Honor Roll

- 8th Grade:** Ryan Beatty, John Carkeet, Gigi Claus, Lily Demilio, Emily Esnard, Rachel Gammill, Magdalena Gore, Sommer Griffis, Rachel Igharas, Sam Morris, Joseph Opferman, Erika Perkins, Hannah Person, Cara Pirani, Farrah Rector, Jacob Ryan, Mark Schaffler, Michael Spain, Zoe Vales, Vina Vedala, Madeline Wade, Michael Weber, Jacob Woods
- 7th Grade:** Olivia Baker, Olivia Beattie, Madison Berry, Benjamin Bosque, Emily Brenner, Thomas Cantu-Leon, Paige Corzine, Carlo Duran, Cristal Hernandez, Eva Hoch, Ben Kollasch, Hannah Luther, Lauren Mazeika, Gunnar Rawlings, Caroline Redding, Arturo Rodriguez, Katie Rogers, Kasey Rosenberger, Erica Ruoff, Lilly Sobalvarro, Sophia Tabrizi, Sara Whitehead
- 6th Grade:** Hannah Craven, Karrington Davis, Gage Gallagher, Cooper Hartwein, Carson Kavin, Michaela -Grace Lopez, Meredith McCusker, Nathan Meister, Brittany Nguyen, Vivian Nguyen, Adam O'Brien, Kate Schaffler, Kate Simonic, Mary Spain
- 5th Grade:** Alexander Abuelouf, Ari Bichelman, Maddie Cluck, Leonardo Duran, Ellie Espinosa, Sara Juarez, Joseph Luther, Camila Nieto, Azzurra Ongaro, Hayden Redding, Kate Sanders, Luke Swearingen

Honor Roll Continued:**First Honor Roll**

8th Grade: Ryleigh Deeley, Janethzie Delgado, Valeria Esquivel, Roberto Ferrer Guimaraes, Charlie Harrell, Jaylon Hawkins, Annie Henry, Mike Hoffmeyer, Kennedy Kattawar, Bridget Kennedy, Olivia Kovacs, Alexandra Lafferty, Isabella Maher, Riley May, Chad Perez, Joshua St. John, Reagan Thomas, Adrianna Thompson, Luke Wilemon

7th Grade: Olivia Abuelouf, Justin Bowers, Ellie Cheseldine, JR Clancy, Nathan Ferris, Hillary Humble, Jazmin Jaime, Joshua Miller, Stephanie Monisit, Clare Palasz, Wallace Peterson, Allison Seaton, Cecilia Weiss, Conor Wells, Blake Whitehorn, Edward Wilemon, Logan Wright

6th Grade: Sydney Burns, Gaby Caron, Mason DeVine, Mia Diaz, Joshua Dugger, Reagen Gillen, Joshua Green, Ethan Jaurigue, Ava Jeffrey, Michael Lucchesi, Ellis Morgan, Joseph Myers, Roman Rawlings, Nicholas Sanders, Clairmarie Stotts, Emery Tempel, Christopher Trinqué, Elizabeth van Dongen, Ornella Villegas, Mallory Walker, Kevin Ward, OJ Welle

5th Grade: Lauren Adams, Angelo Arismendi, Ben Armada, Giona Battelli, Jack Bray, Natalee Campbell, Abigail Cantwell, Bryce Curtis, Seth Dennie, Justain Dinh, Vitor Ferrer Guimaraes, John Finkelstein, Molly Flynn, Sofia Guadalupe, Allysa Guinocor, Freddie Johnson, Jack Kollasch, Oliver Leavitt, Jameson Parker, Cooper Reed, Ava Rosengarten, Adrianna Sammons, Olivia Stemmler, Sarah Swearingen, Mattysen Warner, Dominic Weiss

Second Honor Roll

8th Grade: Ethan Bernard, Miller Filsinger, Cole Morgan, Jackson Parker, Garrett Rosengarten, Brenden Torres

7th Grade: Caitlin Flynn, Luke Horton, Jude Stark, Colin Wilbon, Collin Woods

6th Grade: Emma Carter, Claire Conn, Ethan LaMar, Sam Winter

5th Grade: Dylan Bloodworth, Carson Cheseldine, Juliana Mata

Where on Earth Did We Get Such Talented Students?



Pictured L-R: Michael Weber,
Vina Vedala, John Carkeet

Congratulations to Vina Vedala (8th gr.), who won the 2019 SFA **Geography Bee!** Twenty-five 4th through 8th grade students participated in the Geography Bee through 16 rounds of competition. Second place honors went to 8th grader, Michael Weber, and third place honors went to last year's Geography Bee champion, John Carkeet (8th gr.).

Vina also represented St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School at the state of Tennessee National Geographic Geography Bee Competition in Nashville in March.

Way to go, Vina!

Zoe Vales Wins Memphis PLAY SLAM! 2019



Congratulations to 8th grader, Zoe Vales, for winning the first annual **Memphis 10-Minute PLAY SLAM! 2019** Competition. Zoe competed against 34 other young playwrights from Memphis area middle schools. The competition is partnered through the American Alliance for Theatre in Education. The theme, *“Discovering Truth About Ourselves and Others,”* challenged writers to submit an original 10-minute play related to the theme. The top 5 finalists received a public staged reading of their script by local actors at Playhouse on the Square. Zoe’s play, *Dear Henry*, will represent

Circuit Playhouse on the Square in the Young Playwrights for Change Competition held during the AATE’s National Conference in New York later this year.

Best of luck, Zoe!

Memphis Catholic Math Challenge 2019

Congratulations to Farrah Rector, Mark Schaffler, Michael Spain, and Vina Vedala for finishing in 1st place in their division! We would also like to congratulate Ryleigh Deeley, Joseph Opferman, Katie Rogers, and Jacob Ryan for placing 2nd in their division. The **Math Challenge** is a tool used by hundreds of Catholic schools across the United States to enhance the development of student’s math skills.

Way to go, Timberwolves!



Pictured left to right: Michael Spain, Vina Vedala, Farrah Rector, Mark Schaffler, Ryleigh Deeley, Jacob Ryan

Daughters of the American Revolution Essay Contest



Pictured left to right: Olivia Chandler, Regent of Chickasaw Bluff Chapter, Katie Rogers, Vina Vedala, and Jane Gillespie, First Vice-Regent of Chickasaw Bluff Chapter .

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School students, Katie Rogers and Vina Vedala, were honored at a reception given by The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Chickasaw Bluff Chapter of Memphis, TN, on January 27th. Katie Rogers won the 7th grade essay division and Vina Vedala won the 8th grade essay division.

Both girls read their winning essays titled, *“The Women’s Suffrage Campaign”* aloud to the chapter and guests. At the conclusion of the awards presentation, Mrs. Jane Gillespie, First Vice-Regent of Chickasaw Bluff Chapter and American History Chairman of the DAR, announced that Katie and Vina won the West Tennessee essay competition in their age groups. Their essays then moved on to the State of Tennessee Competition in Nashville.

SFA was recently informed that Vina Vedala’s essay is one of five winners for the state of Tennessee and will be recognized at the Statehood Awards Day in Nashville on May 31st. Congratulations to our winners!

SFA Celebrates Black History Month

SFA celebrated Black History Month with a daily feature on an African American who made a difference in our society presented by Coach Ashley Scarborough and Mrs. Vicki Torres. In addition, SFA invited two guest speakers to campus to talk with students about their life experiences as an African American.

Dr. Rosie Phillips Davis, Ph.D. ABPP, former Vice President for Student Affairs and current Professor of Counseling Psychology at the University of Memphis, spoke to our 7th and 8th grade students about growing up poor in Memphis. Dr. Davis’ father was a garbage man and he participated in the 1968 Sanitation Strike when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated.

Mr. Ekundayo Bandele, Founder and Executive Producer of Hattiloo Theatre spoke to 3rd through 5th grade students about his life, love of theater and the arts, and the challenges and rewards of running one of only four free-standing black theaters in the country.

2018 Wordsmith Writing Olympics

The **Wordsmith Competition** sponsored by the University of Memphis' Department of English brings 200 middle and high school students from over 30 area schools to test their writing and creative thinking skills with a series of quick writing exercises known as "dashes." These dashes include a 40-word dash, 80-word dash, 120-word dash, and 400-word Main Event. SFA 7th grade student, **Lilly Sobalvarro** earned 2nd place in the 120-word dash. **Zoe Vales** earned a silver medal in the 8th grade division for placing 3rd in the 120-word dash, an Honorable Mention in the 40-word dash, and 3rd place in the 400-word Main Event. **Kasey Rosenberger** (7th gr.) and **Joseph Opferman** (8th gr.) rounded out the SFA team.



Pictured left to right: Zoe Vales, Joseph Opferman, Kasey Rosenberger, Lilly Sobalvarro

Congratulations to these great Timberwolves writers!

2019 National Junior Honor Society Induction



Congratulations to the following 7th and 8th grade students who were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society in February:

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|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Olivia Abuelouf | Janethzie Delgado | Bridget Kennedy | Erica Ruoff |
| Olivia Baker | Carlo Duran | Ben Kollasch | Lilly Sobalvarro |
| Olivia Beattie | Valeria Esquivel | Hannah Luther | Adrianna Thompson |
| Ethan Bernard | Caitlin Flynn | Isabella Maher | Cecily Weiss |
| Madison Berry | Sommer Griffis | Lauren Mazeika | Conor Wells |
| Ben Bosque | Jaylon Hawkins | Clare Palasz | Sara Whitehead |
| Justin Bowers | Cheyenne Henry | Wallace Peterson | Vina Vedala |
| Emmy Brenner | Cristal Hernandez | Gunnar Rawlings | Edward Wilemon |
| Tommy Cantu-Leon | Eva Hoch | Caroline Redding | Luke Wilemon |
| Ellie Cheseldine | Claire Hollingsworth | Arty Rodriguez | Jacob Woods |
| JR Clancy | Hillary Humble | Katie Rogers | |
| Paige Corzine | Jazmin Jaime | Kasey Rosenberger | |

SFA Winter Sports Update



Coach Conn's 6th grade girls basketball team was the League Champion and they won the End-of-Season Tournament. Players: Claire Conn, Mary Spain, Kate Simoncic, Meredith McCusker, Reagan Gillen, Mallory Walker, Lauren Burress, Carson Kavin.



Coach Stoddard's 7th/8th grade girls basketball team was the League Champion and they won the End-of-Season Tournament. Players: Sommer Griffis, Jazmin Jaime, Farrah Rector, Madeline Wade, Vina Vedala, Cristal Hernandez, Annie Henry, Adrianna Thompson, Gracie Lamey.



Coach Mangrum's 7th/8th grade boys basketball team was the League Champion for the season and were the runner up in the Bishop's Tournament. Players: Gunnar Rawlings, Tyee Parker, Charlie Harrell, Collin Woods, Sam Morris, Michael Spain, Evan Jones, Jacob Woods, Sam Wilson, Luke Wilemon.



Coach St. John's 7th/8th grade boys basketball team tied with two other teams for League Champion for the season. Players: Joseph Franceschini, Colin Wilbon, Max Clark, John Carkeet, Michael Martin, Arturo Rodriguez, Harvey Springer, Joshua St. John, Burke Ryan.



Coach Myers 5th/6th grade boys basketball team placed 2nd overall in the League. Players: Joseph Myers, Tommy Esquivel, Ari Bichelman, Bryce Curtis, Josh Dugger, Gage McGuffee, Tyler Westphall, Seth Dennie.

Congratulations to our SFA Basketball Teams!!