

St. Francis de Sales Times

September, 2024

Saint Francis de Sales School

ISSUE 007

BACK TO SCHOOL



As summer days fade into memories, the excitement of a new school year begins! St. Francis de Sales is buzzing with energy as students and teachers return to the classroom, ready to embark on another year of learning, growth, and fun.

As we dive into the school year, remember that learning is a journey. From math and science to art and literature, each subject offers a chance to explore new ideas and expand your knowledge. Challenge yourself to try your best and ask questions along the way.

At St. Francis de Sales, we are more than just a school; we are a community. Let's support each other, celebrate our successes, and lift one another up when challenges arise. Together, we can create an environment where everyone feels valued and inspired to do their best.

As we kick off this new school year, let's remember to be kind, work hard, and have fun! Here's to a fantastic year at St. Francis de Sales, filled with learning, laughter, and lifelong memories. Welcome back, everyone! Let's make this year the best one yet.

FIRST IN MATH

This year, we are starting off with a BANG! Our school is currently in 2nd place, and we have Lime Kiln Elementary in our sights. What's exciting is that we already have a couple of students with over 15,000 stickers and one student with over 20,000! The top 3 placements in the school currently are: Amani L. with 20,060 stickers, Aaron R. with 17,420 stickers, and Julia P. close behind with 17,391 stickers. This year, we are striving to get to 1st place again after taking the 1st place trophy last year. So, let's work extra hard to make history repeat itself and bring home that first place trophy again!

HALLOWEEN DANCE



**FRIDAY
OCTOBER 25TH
6PM-8PM**



WELCOME TO ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

We have some new faces here at St. Francis de Sales, and we are excited to welcome them with open arms. As always, St. Francis de Sales is proud to invite new students and teachers into our learning community. The *St. Francis de Sales Times* reporters had the opportunity to sit down with some of the new teachers for in-person interviews.

2nd Grade - Room 2: Mrs. Brooke Murphy — We are happy to welcome Mrs. Murphy, our new 2nd-grade teacher in Room 2. Mrs. Murphy enjoys teaching because she feels comfortable in our school and environment. Teaching has been her passion since she was young, and she always knew it was what she wanted to do.

2nd Grade - Room 12: Ms. Moletsky — In Room 12, we welcome Ms. Moletsky, who studied education at Penn State University. She shared that her class is currently working on subtraction, addition, single-digit numbers, and reading phonics words. Ms. Moletsky says that coming to school each day and seeing her students makes everything worth it.

5th Grade - Room 5: Mr. Campbell — Mr. Campbell, our 5th-grade teacher in Room 5, shared his thoughts during our interview. When asked what made him want to teach, he said, "I felt called to teach, spread the gospel, and be a shepherd to His flock."

5th Grade - Room 15: Ms. Henry — Ms. Henry is a familiar face in a new place. We are thrilled to have her back at St. Francis de Sales, teaching our wonderful 5th graders. Her favorite part of teaching here is seeing the kids eager to learn. Ms. Henry is also excited to prepare the 5th graders for 6th grade, helping them become independent learners and thinkers.

6th Grade - Room 16: Mr. Magee — In Room 16, we have Mr. Magee. When asked about his teaching style, he explained that he tries to create a culture of mutual respect and trust in the classroom. He chose to teach at St. Francis de Sales because he trusts Sister Mary and believes that Catholic schools instill good values in students.

6th Grade - Room 6: Mr. Whitaker — We are very lucky to have Mr. Whitaker as part of our school. He shared that he has been enjoying his time here at St. Francis de Sales and finds everyone to be kind and helpful. Mr. Whitaker is particularly excited to start the 6th-grade service project with his students and give back to the community.



STUDENT OF THE MONTH



Dagem is a 7th grader in Mr. Cherry's homeroom, and he is off to a fantastic start this school year. He has scored 100% on multiple tests and ranks in the top 5 of his class in First in Math.

Not only is Dagem a great student in the classroom, but he is also an athlete. He plays on the school's basketball team and hopes to join the varsity team this year. Additionally, Dagem won the Virtue of the Month award for September. Keep up the great work Dagem!



WELCOME SISTER BETH

We are excited to welcome Sister Beth as the new Vice Principal to our school. Her presence is already being felt, and her passion for both education and faith is evident in everything she does. Though new in this role, Sister Beth is no stranger to our community. In fact, she first joined us in 2019 as a novice, working closely with the 6th-grade students. Her time here then clearly left a lasting impression, and we're thrilled to have her back in a leadership capacity. In addition to Sister Beth's arrival, it's important to acknowledge that Sister Jane, a beloved member of our community, continues her dedicated work over at the Little School.

Earlier today, I had the pleasure of sitting down with Sister Beth to get her thoughts on how she's settling in. When asked about her impressions of the school, she smiled warmly and said, "Everything is really nice. I like the idea of being a Sister here."

Curious about her perspective on the academic side of things, I asked her which classes she enjoyed the most. While I almost convinced her to share her top three, Sister Beth offered a thoughtful response instead: "I don't really have a favorite. I'd say that they all shine in their own way."



BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

This September, we had our Back to School Night, an opportunity for families to get to know the teachers. This year, we added something special — a potluck! We expected all of our parents to come in and bond not only with their child’s teachers but with other parents as well.

At BTSN, our teachers discussed grading and school issues. “One major problem is the phones,” said Ms. Purdy, our Director of Development. Phones can be very distracting, so we introduced something called “The Phone Bin.” Ms. Purdy also mentioned that “Teachers review their grading systems and teaching methods.” The teachers at St. Francis really are amazing!

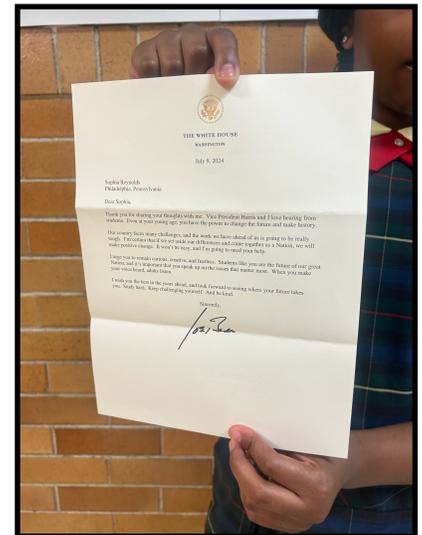


RISING STARS: 7TH GRADERS' POEMS SET FOR PUBLICATION

I interviewed Sophia and Kailey about the poems they wrote. They each wrote different poems. Sophia’s poem was about when life gives you lemons, and Kailey’s poem was about the people you love. They wrote these poems last year around April. Sophia enjoyed writing her poem, which doesn’t have a specific speaker. The mood of her poem is happy and inspirational, and she doesn’t dislike anything about it.

We are so proud of the girls, as their poems are going to be published in a book this upcoming year! Other students who will have their works published in the book include 7th graders: Zuri, Arseima, Fatou and Zahirah.

Additionally, last year, Sophia wrote a letter to President Joe Biden about peace in our country. President Biden wrote back, agreeing with her and mentioning, "Students like you are the future of our great Nation, and it's important that you speak up on the issues that matter most."



McCHERRY SPORTS CAMP HERE AT DE SALES

I had the chance to ask Mr. McDevitt a few questions about the McCherry Sports Camp that took place this summer. He explained that he and Mr. Cherry wanted to start the camp to provide a summer activity for the students at St. Francis de Sales, allowing them to engage in fun and active experiences during the break.

The camp was divided into two sections: one group for the younger kids and another for the older ones. Students were able to look forward to various activities, including trips to Clark Park and other exciting outings. They enjoyed a variety of games, including a new game called Gaga Ball that was introduced during the camp.



STUDENT COUNCIL



President:

Vision Asukulu

Vice President:

Kennel Maddox

Secretary:

Ruba Kahsai

Activities Coordinator:

Zion Hodges

Classroom Representatives

Room 8: Victor Melgar-Espana

Room 18: Alanna Jones

Room 7: Nardos Mntesnot

Room 17: Ava Century

Room 6: Selamawit Mogus

Room 16: Giovanni Graham

The Student Council is a representative body for the school, and their job is to serve our community by following the principles of Service, Integrity, Respect, and Responsibility. To be a part of the Student Council, you need to have good behavior, maintain good grades, and show respect for the school, your classmates, and teachers. When I spoke to Ms. Gaines, I asked her what her favorite part of helping the Student Council was. She said, "My favorite thing is helping the students become leaders." I also got the chance to interview Vision, the President of the Student Council. When asked why he chose to join, he said, "To be a voice for the students." His favorite part of being in the Student Council is that it's fun, and he loves being a part of the student community and helping with events. Vision says he really enjoys being in the Student Council and has been involved for several years.

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES SCHOOL SAYS THANK YOU

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Our Lady of Mount Carmel of Doylestown and the Officer Daniel Boyle Scholarship Fund for their incredible donation of supplies for our students. Their support helps our students start the school year prepared and ready to learn! We are also so grateful to the fabulous volunteers who took the time to deliver the supplies to us. You truly make a difference!

We are incredibly thankful for the generosity of both groups. God bless you for your support in making our school a better place!



— PHILLY SPORTS —

PHILLIES-

This year was a great year to be a Philadelphia Phillies fan. First, we officially clinched the first seed in the National League East. The last time that happened was in the 2011 MLB season. This year the Phillies finished with the second best record in baseball. Even though it feels like we always make the playoffs, we often fall short. Last year, we lost 4-3 to the Arizona Diamondbacks in the NLCS, and the year before that, we lost to the Houston Astros in the World Series. So, a championship is very much needed in the City of Brotherly Love. Let's go Phillies, Red October is Here!



EAGLES-

The Eagles' season so far has had its ups and downs, with our current record sitting at 2-2. Unfortunately, we've lost arguably our three best offensive players: Lane Johnson, AJ Brown, and DeVonta Smith. While players like Dallas Goedert and Saquon Barkley have stepped up, it's difficult for any quarterback to operate without his right tackle and two starting wide receivers. Our defense has only had one solid game, and they need to step it up. The defensive line, in particular, has to show more impact. Come on, Jordan Davis — you're 6 foot, 1,000 and 336 pounds — go get a sack! The only way the Eagles have a chance at the playoffs is if we can get healthy. Meanwhile, the Washington Commanders may have found their quarterback in Jayden Daniels and are looking like the early frontrunner to win the division.



SIXERS-

This summer, the Sixers are finally free from Tobias Harris' contract. With that contract off the books, it has opened up significant cap space, allowing the Sixers to sign Free Agent Paul George. This move has excited many fans, including our biggest Sixers supporter, Sister Jane. We had the chance to sit down with Sister Jane, who shared her excitement: "I feel as though Paul George is the answer the Sixers have been looking for. I'm excited for the season to start, and everyone should get their number 8 jerseys ready!" Sister Jane mentioned this because Paul George has announced that he will be wearing number 8 for the Sixers this year.



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JOKES AND RIDDLES

On the first day of school, what did the teacher say her three favorite words were?

June, July, and August.

Why did the echo get detention the first day?

It kept answering back.

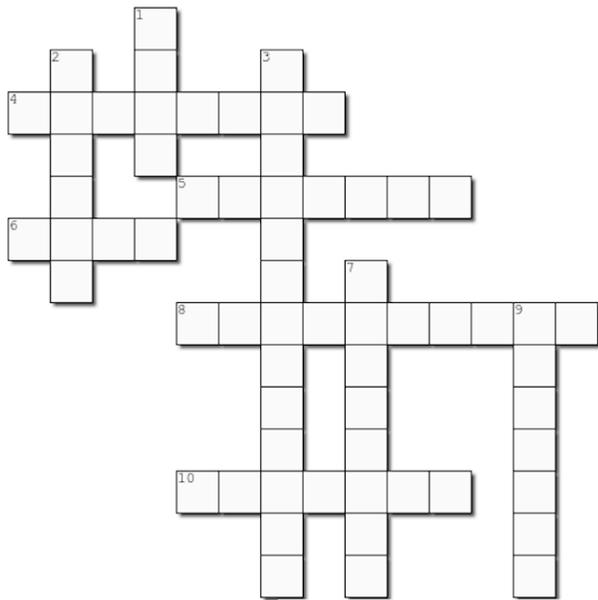
Where do writing utensils go on vacation?

Pencil-vania

What happened when the teacher tied all the kid's shoelaces together?

They had a big class trip.

BACK TO SCHOOL CROSSWORD



Across

4. A resource full of lessons and chapters.
5. In this subject we do experiments and make discovers.
6. Our school mascot is this animal.
8. The principal of our school.
10. In this subject we express our thoughts on paper.

Down

1. In this subject we work with numbers and equations.
2. You need one of these to take notes.
3. In this subject we study history and geography.
7. In this subject we pray and learn about God.
9. In this subject we decode words and stories.

Prayers and Intentions

- All of our Benefactors
- Joanne R..
- Michael M.
- Sean Casey
- Mary D.
- Marie R.



"Every morning, after we finish listing all the intentions, we lift them up to the Lord and pray the Our Father," said Sister Mary.

"The prayers of the St. Francis' children are very powerful." Sister Mary explained, "When the children pray together, their faith creates a strong sense of community and connection with God."