

THE CRUSADER TIMES

News from The Atonement Academy ----- Vol. 2019-2020. No. 29, February 28, 2020

"Do you want to do a good deed?
Teach the young!
Do you want to perform a holy act?
Teach the young!
Do you want to do a holy thing?
Teach the young!
Truly, now and for the future, among holy things, this is the holiest."
--St. John Bosco

The Atonement Academy supports the efforts of our younger scholars at the annual PSIA (Private School Interscholastic Association) Competitions. Assisting the preparation of our students this year are a number of upper scholars, including those featured here. The competition is March 21 in New Braunfels. We so appreciate their help, and we ask that you please pray for their efforts!



A few of our upper scholars who volunteer their time to help prepare our younger students for the PSIA competition: Olivia Kisgen, Franco Navarrete, Natalie Pecha, Mary Sommer, Nico Nyberg, and Katherine Monroe.

Weekly Letter from Mr. Watson

February 27, 2020

Dear Atonement Families,

Yesterday, I wrote to you about our investigation into whether it was still prudent to proceed with our plans to send a group of students and parents on pilgrimage to Rome next week. We have continued meeting with medical personnel as well as monitoring official government statements in an effort to gather information about the spread of COVID-19, commonly referred to as the "Coronavirus." Out of an abundance of caution for both our student pilgrims and the school community to which they would return, we have decided to postpone our upcoming pilgrimage to Rome. We recognize that this will be disappointing to students and parents who had planned to travel with us this spring break. In the coming days, we will be working with our travel agent to arrange a safer date for travel.

Thank you for patience as we have worked to make a wise decision.

Your servant,

Matthew David Watson
Head of School

NOTA BENE / NOTE WELL...

Upcoming Events

February 28: Last day to test for Third Quarter AR Program

March 3: National Latin Exam

March 4: End of Third Quarter

March 5-13: Spring Break

March 16: Classes resume

March 21: PSIA Competition, New Braunfels TX

March 23-27: IOWA Testing

March 25: Third Quarter Academic Awards (2:25 pm)

March 26: Confession and Potluck Supper

April 3: Coffee with Mr. Watson

April 9 & 10: Holy Thursday and Good Friday. (No School)

April 12: Easter Sunday

April 13-17: Easter Break (No School)

Every Wednesday at 3:00 pm in The Sacred Heart Chapel:

Join us in praying a weekly rosary for our school -- and if you can't join us, set your phone for 3:00 pm to remind you to join us and pray the rosary together!

Well, You Did It: 250 Students--and More--Enrolled for 2020-2021



Last week we asked you to help us get to the 250 mark before the end of February, and Rececca and Joseph Barron were #250 and #251! Actually, ***we just hit 266 enrolled for next year.*** Thank you so much for re-enrolling and for spreading the news about our school to others!

SEEN ON CAMPUS: FAT TUESDAY FUN

Our upper scholars enjoyed a Mardi Gras treat: Ice cream sundaes served up by Head of School Mr. Watson and



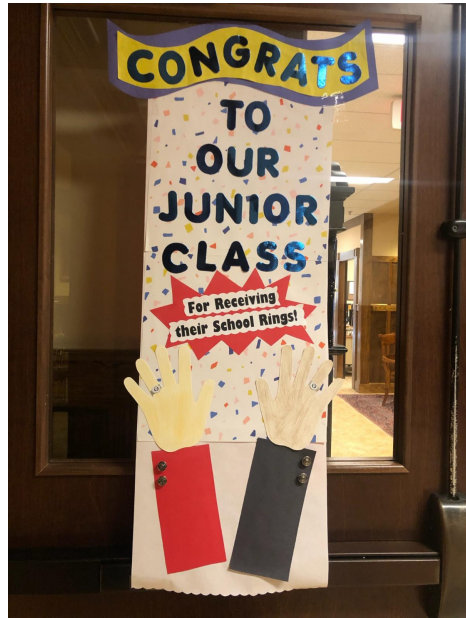
Upper School Dean Lamascus along with parent volunteers including Mrs. Pro and Mrs. Landry! As you can see, students and their teachers enjoyed the Fat Tuesday dessert after lunch.

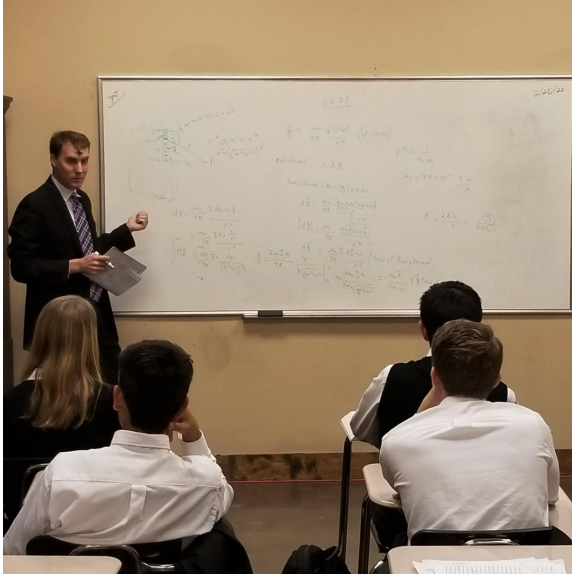


ADDITIONAL SCENES ON CAMPUS...

Many classrooms are decorated for the Lenten season, and the work of many classes takes on Lenten themes. Pictured here, third graders work on their crucifixion paintings, and in fourth grade, Ms. Czech's Lenten banner holds a prominent spot in the classroom.

Also featured are our tennis team, our fourth graders and their Presidents' Day projects as well as Mr. Adian's calculus class and our juniors after receiving their class rings!





PreK-3 and PreK-4 Learn About Lent



Ms. Pyle sent in this photo of the PreK-3 class displaying their Lenten artwork along with their ashes after Mass on Ash Wednesday. Ms. Lozano also sent in photos of her Pre-K 4 students learning about the Lenten Season in ways in which the littlest ones can relate with these beautiful watercolor paintings.



The Atonement Academy Penny Wars Begin March 4

Gather your pennies! We will launch our Penny Wars with attacks beginning next week. This traditional Lenten competition pits classes against each other to will compete with pennies to see who wins by earning the most money for charity when the "war" ends on the Wednesday of Holy Week. The PTC will award prizes to the top three classrooms or classes raising the most money. (Remember that silver-toned coins and paper money work as "sabotage" when you place them in the competition's bin!)

IlluMEN On Campus for Lenten Evensong

We hope you will join us for the next event of Our Lady of The Atonement Catholic Church's Parish Music Series, *Choral Evensong for Lent*, on Sunday, March 15, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. IlluMEN, San Antonio's only professional male choral ensemble, will be the guest choir and sing works by Purcell, Rachmaninoff, Willan, and more. A reception will follow in the library. All are invited!



NATIONAL LATIN EXAM NEXT WEEK

"Salvete, amici Latinae!

Next week, students of The Atonement Academy from grades 8 to 12 will participate in the National Latin Exam. The National Latin Exam, which is presented by the American Classical League and the National Junior Classical League, is an international test given to Latin students; students who perform well on the test may earn certificates, medals, book awards, and scholarship opportunities. The Atonement Academy has a proud history with the exam, and, as we continue to more fully embrace our 'classical' and 'Catholic' mission, it is certain that our students will continue to perform well on this test for years to come. Please wish our Latin students *'bonam fortunam'* as they take the test next week." --Mr. Nicholas Mataya, Latin and Theology Teacher

MOTHER-SON GAME NIGHT WAS A BLAST!

Mothers, grandmothers, and aunts joined in the fun last Saturday for rounds of games and refreshments with our Crusader boys! Friendly competitions in one-on-one games as well as group board games made for a nice evening for all participants.





Grades K-8

It's BOOK FAIR TIME!

Would you
like to
VOLUNTEER?
RECEIVE a
20% discount!

Important Dates--

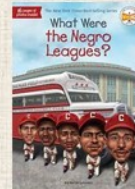
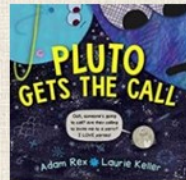
March 27th : Student and Teacher Sneak Peek Day

March 29th : Parishioner, Family and Friends Day *after 9am and 11am Sunday Masses*

March 30th – April 3rd : School Book Fair Days, 8am – 4:30pm

All purchases benefit our school library!
Questions? Contact Mrs. Wendtland,
dwendtland@atonementonline.com

Unsure about sending cash safely with
your student?
Send them with a book fair gift card!



Follett
Book Fairs

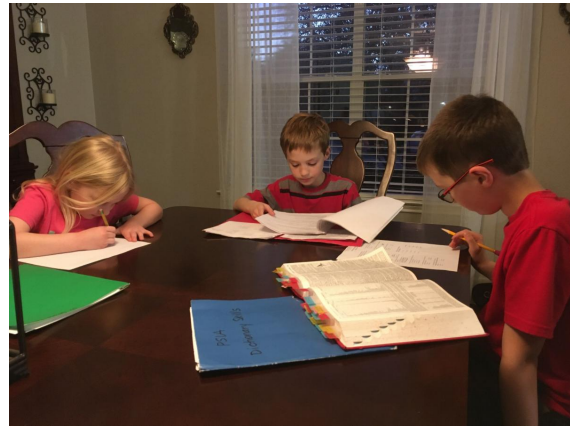
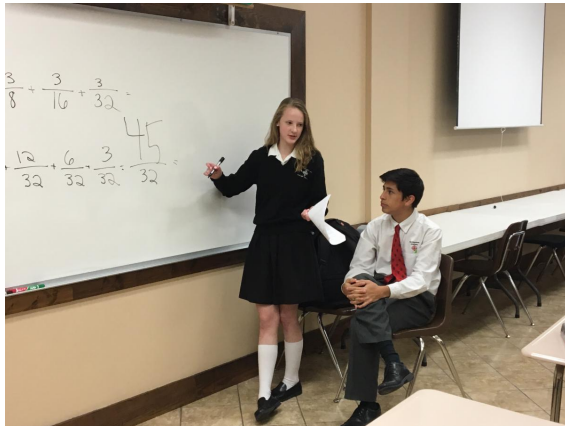


Accelerated Reader Deadline for Quarter 3 is Today!

A new AR Quarter begins next week! Find a great book to read this week -- or to take on your upcoming spring break!

PSIA IS UNDERWAY-- Preparations, Part III

Students prepare for the PSIA after school and at home. Parent volunteer/coach Dr. Yadira Hernandez is shown here with 3rd graders Julia Moselina and Gabriela Hernandez studying math. Mrs. Wendtland working with a group of students in the library, Natalie Pecha and Franco Navarrete coaching 4th graders, and Luke, Logan, and Simon Farber working on their PSIA preparations at home.



MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR



Last Saturday our middle scholars had their science fair, and they presented their projects and conclusions to a panel of judges. Included are a few photos from the competition: presentations, posing in the hallway, and waiting to be called in for presentations.

Our Science department chair, Mr. White, is happy to announce the following winners:

Eighth Grade

1st Place: Surrena Luna

2nd Place: Hannah John

3rd Place: Noah Gulick

Honorable Mention: William Jones, Karolina Garza, and Isabel Spiller

Seventh Grade

1st Place: Adrian Garcia-Tovar

2nd Place: Megan Guerra

3rd Place: Dominic Le

Honorable Mention: Sean Brosnan, Isabela Gabino, and Dylan Markey



Second Grade Carries Out Boxcar Children Day

What a fantastic day of fun for Second Grade at The Atonement Academy as we had our Boxcar Day, drawing from the literature series *The Boxcar Children*, studied by our second graders. From group a spelling bee, to skits, making teddy bears, having a mini field day, hunting for treasure, boxcar making, jump roping, baking cherry dumplings, and performing skits based on the novel...the students loved every moment of it! Thank you to all of the wonderful parents who helped make it possible--what a great memory for these children. Mrs. Weems is one exhausted but happy teacher!







February 28, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Next week, on Thursday, is the start of our school spring break and many of us are preparing to travel. Thus, I would like to share with you this link from the CDC as the **most up-to-date and reliable** Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) information for international Travel:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>

Please check this link frequently as it gets updated according to any COVID-19 situation changes. Per the last update on February 26, 2020, these are the affected geographic areas with widespread or sustained community transmission:

- China
- Iran
- Italy
- Japan
- South Korea

Other links to keep in consideration are the following:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/faqs.html> (CDC COVID-19 Travel: Frequently Asked Questions and Answers)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html> (this website presents a COVID-19 situation summary, and also it gets updated frequently to show the most up-to-date information)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html> (this website shows the current cases of COVID-19 in the US and gets updated each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday)

<https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/> (this website has current information about COVID-19 in the state of Texas, the latest update was made yesterday)

<https://dshs.texas.gov/regions/2019-nCoV-Local-Health-Entities/> (List and contact information for COVID-19 Local Health Entities)

Please visit our government travel advisories website for general planning of trips abroad:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html/>

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



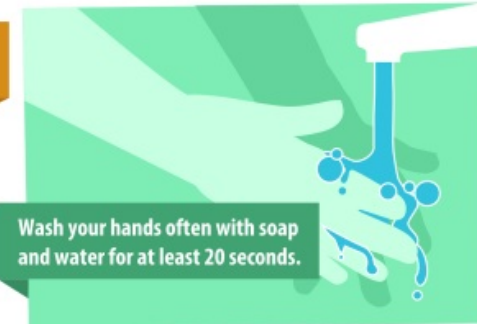
Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

For more information: dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus

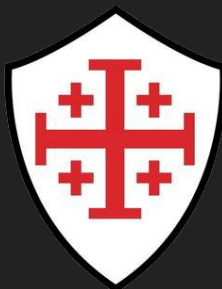
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