

THE AUGUSTINE ARROW NEWSLETTER

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- ✳ **No Uniform Day!**
September 30
Students will be able to wear "regular" clothes to school! This is a prize for raising so much money during the Pennies for Parker drive!
- ✳ **K-5 School Mass**
October 1, 2025
8:15 am CT
We are celebrating the Feast of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux! Students will come together for mass (mass uniform is NOT required) in the morning to learn about this influential young saint!
- ✳ **Leading Ladies Luncheon**
October 1, 2025
Moms, grandmas, special lady friends of our female students! You are invited to this special lunch and prayer service! Bring a lunch, and come eat and learn with your kiddo about the amazing things that Saint Thérèse of Lisieux did at such a young age!
- ✳ **Living Rosary**
October 2, 2025
2:15 pm
Come to the gym and be part of our living rosary! October is the month of the Holy Rosary, let's come together in prayer with our students!
- ✳ **K-5 Mass**
October 3, 2025 @ 8:15 am
Come and celebrate the sacrifice of the mass with our K-5 students!
- ✳ **Pet Blessings**
October 3, 2025 @ 3 pm
Bring your pets to Susan Lot (grass field just across Susan St) for a special blessing from Father Bennett in preparation for the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi



Our Coming Weeks will be Bright!

Starting the day I knew I would be applying at Saint Augustine Catholic School, I have reached out to a variety of stakeholders and asked for feedback on what they believe to be the most pressing matters. By and far, regardless of the affiliation with the school, the top two responses have always been: safety and communication! During my first two months in the principal position I have been working hard to address the safety concerns that I have had (both from the parent point of view as well as an admin point of view), and that you all have brought to me. I have also been working hard to increase communication between the school and families, the school and church, and the school and the community. Working with the tools I inherited with this position, there are unfortunately only so many things that can be done to improve these lines of communication. We only have the free version of Remind, which limits our capabilities drastically with the amount of people we can communicate with, the amount of characters we can use in a message, as well as a lot of limitations with oversight and management.

Another piece of common constructive criticism that we have received, from myself even, is the frustrations of payments. We currently only accept cash or check, and we're living in an age where the majority of parents probably do not have a check book that is regularly used. I have been asked so many times if we can accept a card for payment, and it's frustrating to have to say no.

With all of those things considered, I went forth on a mission to find a better communication app to use with our families, as we are not supposed to be using our personal cell phones to communicate per the diocese. I came across **Bright Wheel** and requested a quote. I had a meeting with them and it has gone above my expectations ten fold! Not only does this appear that it will solve the communication problems that have occurred because of the Remind app, but it also offers an option for payments inside of the software that include the use of credit or debit cards, as well as linking your bank account right in!

Please be on the lookout in the coming week for an invite from Bright Wheel, when I used my daughter's account as the guinea pig, the message to sign up came via text message. Our teachers and staff will be receiving training on this over the coming week and will hopefully be ready to utilize this wonderful resource very soon!

In the meantime, if you have any questions about this process or concerns, please know you can always reach out to me! I have been having issues with Remind alerting me to parent messages, yesterday I got on the app and saw that I had messages from Thursday that I was not notified for! We're making progress, and that's the important thing!

Raise Right

We will be ordering physical gift cards on **October 14!** If you need something sooner, please reach out to the office, and we will try to help!

Remember 100% of what you earn is applied to your tuition. Each family has a set pledge for raising funds through the Raise Right app, this total was deducted from your tuition prior to the calculation of your monthly/ semesterly/ yearly bill. If you do not reach your pledge, you will receive a bill for the difference in April.

Literacy Night

Next Friday, October 10, is our Literacy Night and it is going to be **Out of this World!** We have some fun events that will revolve around literacy and space. Come on out from 6:30 to 8! There will be fun for the whole family, and fun prizes for all! If you are interested in helping to set up/ tear down from this event please reach out to me or Mrs. Angie Nagel to volunteer!

Faith in Action Challenge

October is the month of the Holy Rosary in the Catholic Church. When I was younger I didn't really know or understand what the rosary was, or much about its importance. As I have grown into an adult, and especially after having my own kids, I find myself praying the rosary almost daily. I, like many other Catholics, look up to the Blessed Virgin with awe and thanksgiving. One of the things that our kiddos always ask me about is why I veil during mass, I always explain it to them that I am trying to be more like Mary, because she is the mother of Christ, which means she is probably a pretty good role model as far as moms go! In praying the rosary we are being taught to see life through Mary's eyes; the struggles in parenthood that we are all facing, she faced them first! The embarrassment that we feel when things don't necessarily go our way, or when our kids are a little too feral, she felt that too, and we see that in the Gospel of John when the wine ran out at the wedding she and Jesus attended. The agony that unfortunately some of us have felt with losing a child, we can see in her during Christ's crucifixion. The joy she shows during His resurrection is something that we may only be able to compare to the birth/adoption of our children when we finally had them in our arms at last.

This week I challenge you to find time to work through a rosary, maybe not all in one sitting, but a decade at a time. Use this time to connect with our Heavenly Mother, and find rest in her embrace.

Upcoming Important Dates

Here are a few dates to keep in mind and on your refrigerator/ in your calendar. More information about each will come out closer to the event dates!

October 6: Picture Day!
 October 6: Fire Safety Presentation by RVFD
 October 8: First Grade Biome Project Presentations
 October 9: End of First Quarter
 October 10: Family Literacy Night
 October 13: PFA Meeting **6 pm @ Ayda's!**
 October 21 & 22: Parent Teacher Conferences
 October 24-27: FALL BREAK, so school!
 October 31: All Saint's Day Votive Mass and All Saint's Presentation

Early Release 10/1/2025

Our first early release day is THIS WEDNESDAY! This time is extremely important for our teachers to be able to work through professional development to better teach your kiddos. This week we will be receiving training on deescalation and crisis intervention strategies. Teachers do remain in the building until after 3 pm on these days.

Please ensure that you have communicated your child(ren)'s plan for getting home on early release days to the office ASAP!

Emergency Kit Items

I am working on putting together emergency lock down kits for each of our rooms. We are in need of some items for the kits, if you have any of these items at home that you are not using, or if you have access to some things, please consider sending them to the office. I pray we will never have to use the kits, but in the even we do I want us to be prepared. We have had some very generous donations for our emergency kits! Thank you to those that have helped! We are still in need of the the following:

- 7 five gallon buckets with lids
- 10 non-transparent shower curtains
- 10 rolls of duct tape
- 10 rolls of paper towels
- 10 clipboards
- 10 battery powered flashlights
- 10 bottles of hand sanitizer
- 10 packages of baby wipes
- 10 boxes of large Nitrile gloves
- 10 bags of dum dum suckers
- 10 bags of jolly ranchers

Parent Hours Opportunity

In preparation for our Literacy night next Friday, we are in need of someone to help put crafts together. If you have a hot glue gun, or know how to operate a hot glue gun, and are willing to help please let me know! [This is something you can do from home!](#)

Billing- NEW OPTIONS COMING

One of the recommendations that we have received from several families is the need to be able to accept cards for various payments, instead of only cash, check, or ACH pulls. We take your concerns and suggestions very seriously, which is why I am excited to announce that with the launch of Bright Wheel we will be able to accept more payment options, including credit or debit cards! Be on the lookout for a message from Bright Wheel with information on how to add your payment information to your student(s)'s profile!

SCAN HERE



Raise Right Link

Here is the link to our Raise Right community. If you have questions, please reach out to Mrs. Allison, or come to the "Raise Right Boot Camp" on 9/18/2025 to get more information!

