

THE AUGUSTINE ARROW NEWSLETTER

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219-866-5480

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- * **PFA Meeting**
January 6 @ 6:15 pm CT
Please join us on Tuesday at Maria's Mexican Restaurant for our monthly PFA Meeting. ALL are welcome, please help us in supporting our students!
- * **3-5 Mass**
January 7 @ 12 pm CT
If you are able, please consider attending mass with our students!
- * **Principal Advisory Council**
January 7 @ 5:15 pm CT
We now have a council of members to help our leadership team in creating more opportunities for our students and our school.
- * **PK- 5th Grade Mass**
January 9 @ 8:15 am CT
If you are able, we would love for you to join us for our school wide mass. If you are/were Catholic, Christian, or not sure what to classify yourself as, we want to encourage you to participate in the mass. Seeing and hearing the students in church is truly one of the best parts of the week!
- * **Eucharistic Adoration**
January 9 from 9 am to 5 pm CT
Come and sit in the church where you will be able to pray and spend time with the Lord. Eucharistic Adoration is an amazing opportunity to spend time with Him away from the distractions of the world.

Parent Hours Opportunity

Remember parents to students in grades **K-5 are required** to volunteer with the school for **15 hours (per family)** each school year. If you do not, you will be required to pay **\$25 per hour** that is not completed.

There was, and still is, some confusion for all on how these hours should be tracked. A part of that confusion is my fault because I also wasn't sure. Last night (Sunday) I sent out a form on BrightWheel to track the hours all in one place. Please let me know if you have questions on how to fill out the form, I am hoping that this makes it a little easier for us for this school year. You do **not** have to have your hours complete to start the form. Fill out what you have done, then you can send it to me. I am able to send it back to you, that way you can add more on after you have completed more hours.

Here are some suggestions on how you can earn some hours!

- Sign up to help Mrs. Carlson in the atrium on Wednesdays with religion special (email her at carlson@s-augustine.org) to sign up!
- Attend PFA meetings (earn time while drinking a margarita!)
- Sign up to help with serving lunch to the students, or to cover a teacher's recess duties!
- Contact your student's teacher, several have stated they would love for someone to come in and help tear pages from workbooks or make copies.
- Assist with planning or preparing for Catholic Schools Week.
- Sell Raise Right gift cards after weekend mass.

These are just a few ideas for how you can earn time. You are also welcome (and encouraged!) to reach out to your student's classroom teacher to see how you can assist them, and earn volunteer hours with that too!

We are **ALWAYS** in need of help at the school. If you have a day where you aren't busy contact the office and volunteer to come in and help with some of our many projects!

Raise Right Pledges

Please remember to be working to fulfill your Raise Right pledges from the beginning of the school year. This total was already deducted from your tuition bill, but if you do not meet the pledge you will receive a bill to cover the remainder in April. This is an easy way that we can earn funds for our school. If you have any questions about how to use Raise Right, or about the program in general, please reach out to the office. We are hoping to have an update on your family total sent home soon.



Raise Right Link

Here is the link to our Raise Right community. If you have questions, please reach out to Mrs. Allison, or call the school office at 219-866-5480

New Staff and New Schedules

We are very excited to be able to share a couple personnel changes with our families! Beginning this semester, Mrs. Eileen Phegley will take over teaching our PE and Computer classes, as well as supervising our after school care program. Mrs. Phegley is coming to us with years of experience in early elementary, and we are beyond excited to welcome her to our Saint Augustine Family!

Miss Jesi Fleming, our preschool assistant teacher, will now be joining us all day on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and still be here in the morning on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We are very excited to be able to have Miss Jesi for more hours throughout the day!

Catholic Schools Week

The end of January (January 25- 30) is designated as Catholic Schools Week across the United States! This is a week where we are excited to celebrate various aspects of the amazing education and unique opportunities our school is able to provide to our students! YOU are a huge part of our Catholic school! We would not be able to offer as many wonderful opportunities for our families and our community without the support that you all offer.

The overall theme this year's Catholic School's Week is: United in Faith and Community. We will also have a different theme for each day where we are able to celebrate some of the aspects of our school family. Sunday evening you should have received a BrightWheel message in regards to Catholic Schools Week with two links. One of these links is to express interest for your student(s) and family to participate in mass on January 25, and the other is to express ways that you as a parent and community member would be interested in assisting us in these celebrations. Please take a moment to fill these out, it is not binding, we will contact you individually to set up a way for you to help based on what you have said you would be interested in.

Mass on 1/25/2026



Catholic Schools Week Volunteer



Faith in Action Challenge

Over the weekend I was talking with a couple of parents and parishioners after mass, it is absolutely mind boggling to me that we are already in the second semester! Part of me feels like I blinked and ended up here, while the other part of me feels as if this school year has been five years long. At the end of the day, even with all the chaos and craziness, I am still feeling beyond blessed to be here. As an educator and as a mama to two Saint Augustine students, I am confident that our students are receiving the best care, support, and education.

Is it just me or has it felt like, as parents, we have been running a marathon at sprint speed? I almost felt like there was more to do over Christmas break than during the regular school time. As a principal I still work some days over breaks to ensure that things at the school are getting taken care of, and projects that cannot be completed easily with kiddos in the building can get done. Trying to navigate work, kids' schedules, holiday schedules, doctor's appointments, etc may have caused more than a few new gray hairs to come in. There are so many times that I feel as if I am running on fumes and not being the mom that I want to be. Something that I have been trying to start doing in those moments is praying a few Hail Marys. I know that may sound insignificant to some, but it has helped me so much to refocus and ground myself. Plus it's always nice to call your mom when you're in need of some reassurance. This week I want to challenge you to call on your mom, or our Heavenly mom, when you need comfort, reassurance, or a pep talk. May she bring you comfort and support!

