



The Kaleidoscope Connection

Bringing the Week Into Focus

CYNTHIA RYALS, PRINCIPAL

BARBARA FEIBEL, ASST. PRINCIPAL

Be it known to all who enter that Christ is the reason for our school.

Principal's Message

We celebrated the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8th. We are grateful for the example of Mary and her willingness to do whatever God wanted. In the season of Advent, we pray that we can follow Mary's example and truly live the way God wants us to live.

The Pre-K through Fifth Grade students enjoyed the Holiday Shoppe last week. Thank you to Home and School for sponsoring this fun event. Thank you also for your continued generosity for the toy drive. Many families are feeling the crunch of the economy today and St. Alphonsus students are helping in so many ways!

Next Friday ends the second nine weeks. I will encourage the children to study and work hard the next few days. It is easy for them to get caught up in the holiday excitement.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Cindy Ryals

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

Church Contributions—please be reminded that the \$300 minimum contribution to St. Alphonsus Church must be done by December 31, 2009. This will apply to tuition for the 2010-2011 school year.

Early Dismissal for our Christmas Holidays will be on Friday, December 18th at 1:00 pm. ***There will be NO AFTER CARE.*** Please be sure to make arrangements for your child/children.

Tuition Reminder—We have a few families with delinquent tuition payments. In order to ensure the financial integrity of the school, parents must meet their financial obligations to St. Alphonsus. Failure to remit payment will jeopardize your child's enrollment after the Christmas holidays. Please contact Dot Hernandez at the school office if you have any questions. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Fall Fund Raiser was due on November 18th. We have several families that have not turned in their money. Please send your check made payable to SAS as soon as possible.

Thursday, January 7th will be Parent /Teacher Conference Day. This will be by appointment only from 4:00 pm till 6:00 pm. If you would like to schedule a conference please be sure to contact your child's teacher.

Middle School Parents need to remember to send a note to your child's homeroom teacher if he/she is going to be signed out by someone other than you for early dismissal from exams. Remember—dismissal is at 12:30 pm from the classrooms.

Please continue to send in gently used, like-new toys that do not depict or encourage violence and war. Remember that this is to benefit the members of the St. Paul Parish community. Donations may be sent to school with students or they can be dropped off at the school office. Last day to donate is Wednesday, Dec. 15th.

Dismissal changes for Wednesday, Dec. 16th and Thursday, December 17th— ***BUSSES WILL RUN*** for both of these days. Please check the pink flyer in today's envelope.

Pizza Hut Book It is beginning at SAS. Check out the flyer in today's envelope.

Important Dates:

- 12/15 — 12/17 Middle School Exams 12:30 Dismissal
- 12/16 & 12/17 **Busses WILL RUN** — Dismissal at 3:25 pm
- 12/16 SAS Christmas Program for Pre-K — 5th Grades — 7:00 pm in the Family Center
- 12/18 Christmas Mass 8:30
- 12/18 Early Dismissal 1:00—**BUSSES WILL RUN — NO AFTER CARE**
- 12/21 — 1/1 Christmas Holidays
- 1/4 Classes Resume
- 1/7 Parent/Teacher Conference Day

Some Students

Class Pictures	1
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Youngest & Only

Coca-Cola Flyer (green sheet)	2
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Dismissal Note (pink sheet)	3
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K — 6th Grades (All Students)

Pizza Hut Book It Flyer	4
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HOME AND SCHOOL NEWS!



The December raffle item will be a **Family Movie Bucket** including:



\$50 Rave Movie Theater gift card

(good toward the purchase of tickets or concessions)

5 boxes of movie candy

microwave popcorn bucket

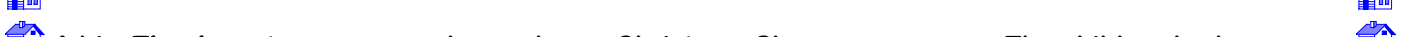


The students will be able to purchase raffle tickets for .25 each or 5/\$1.00. A sheet of raffle tickets will be sent

home December 10th in your child's Thursday envelope. Please fill out the number of tickets you would like to

purchase and cut them apart. Place the tickets and the money (please send exact change) in an envelope and

send it to school with your child on Friday. This month's drawing will be held on December 18th.

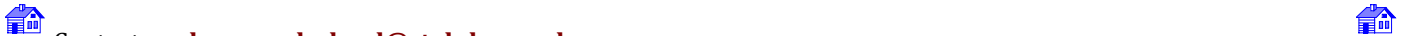


A big **Thank you** to everyone who made our Christmas Shoppe a success. The children had a won-

derful time picking out their Christmas gifts.



The school directory is currently being worked on and will be available soon.



Contact us homeandschool@stalphonusbr.org




The Festival of Two Rivers Auction & Taste Fair

Saturday, January 23, 2009

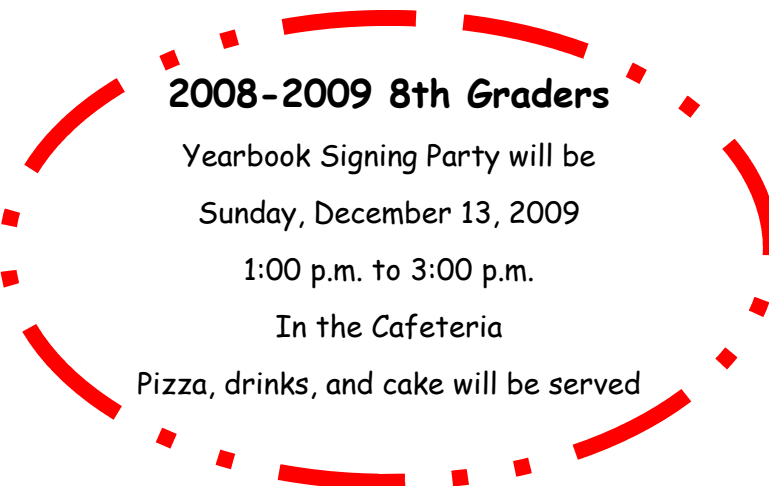
in the Family Center

Be sure to mark this date on your calendar and plan to join us for all the fun!



Dearest Lord,
We have so much to do
before Christmas is
here.

Help us to remember in our busy
times that we are also making a
place for Jesus in our hearts.



2008-2009 8th Graders

Yearbook Signing Party will be
Sunday, December 13, 2009
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
In the Cafeteria
Pizza, drinks, and cake will be served



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St. Alphonsus Catholic School Library has been selected by the Perkins Rowe

Barnes and Noble as their 2009 Holiday Book Drive Recipient!



What does this mean for our Library? It means that every time a customer checks out at the **Perkins Rowe Barnes and Noble** from now until Christmas they will be asked to consider purchasing a book for St. Alphonsus Catholic School's Library. Generous donors have already given over 60 books. With the help of our SAS family, friends and the community we hope to receive hundreds more. Each donor is able to sign a

nameplate that is placed in the front cover of the book.

How can our family help make this a success for our great readers?

1. Shop at the Barnes and Noble on Perkins Rowe between now and Christmas and purchase books from our wish list. Be sure to thank the employees for helping our school! Tell everyone you know about this exciting program to benefit our students. Books selected range in price from \$3.95 to \$18.95. Consider asking your friends, employer or businesses to purchase a special set of books or target a certain author or age group for purchase. Mrs. Bordelon can share a copy of the wish list with you and help you make a selection. If you have ideas on others who may want to help let Mrs. Bordelon know as well.

2. Check your Christmas Shopping List for family and friends who may want books, DVD's, CD's or other related gifts for Christmas. Then use a special voucher at **ANY** Barnes and Noble between **December 6th and 12th** to be a part of our St. Alphonsus in-store Book Fair. We will earn a percentage of net proceeds from bookfair sales. That's right! Grandma can shop in Metairie, Nanna can shop in Pensacola, and Cousin Sue can shop in Dallas. Vouchers will be sent home with students and available on our school web site. On-line purchases are not eligible. Mrs. Bordelon and other teachers will be on site to make recommendations at a time to be announced during the week of December 6th.

3. Join us at the Barnes and Noble on Perkins Rowe on Thursday, December 17th as we showcase St. Alphonsus School. Teachers and students will participate in storytelling and musical performances. Student art will be displayed; essay winners will present their papers and much more. Look for more information in our Thursday Kaleidoscope.

4. Volunteer to help St. Alphonsus wrap gifts at the Barnes and Noble on Perkins Rowe between December 16th and 24th. Teachers, parents, grandparents and SAS friends can volunteer to be Santa's helpers for two-hour shifts during store hours. The gift-wrap table is set up by Barnes and Noble and offered as a holiday helper for their shoppers. The store provides all gift-wrap and includes a tip jar with all proceeds for the week going to the volunteer group.

How was St. Alphonsus selected for this incredible opportunity? Our wonderful families are always making great things happen for our students and teachers. This opportunity was made possible through the efforts of SAS parents, Dr. Brent and Nikii Helouin, Sr. Mrs. Helouin submitted St. Alphonsus Catholic School for consideration. She noted in her application that she was inspired by the true love of reading that she had witnessed with her children, Brent, Teddy, and Martin. Mrs. Helouin shared with Barnes and Noble different ways our Library has motivated our children to read and our need to update and increase our collection. Her enthusiasm for sharing how our school feels about our children and reading was contagious. Barnes and Noble graciously accepted us for their drive.

How were the books selected for the Holiday Book Drive? Mrs. Bordelon, Mrs. Aydell, Mrs. Lonibos and Mrs. Frank were able to go through every shelf in the Barnes and Noble Perkins Rowe store and scan books that were best for our students. An entire day was spent going from book to book in the fiction and non-fiction sections. Each of us laughed and cried as we thought about what an amazing opportunity this is. We scanned books that desperately needed replacing, picked others because we knew certain students were hooked on the author and chose still more because we knew the story's message would inspire our children. Books that we selected were pulled by the store and placed behind the cashier's counter. When individuals agree to purchase a book for the school they are asked a price range and the bookseller is able to pick a book from our wish list to match their generous contribution.

Please return the volunteer form included in your envelope if you are able to help.



ST. ALPHONSUS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM HOLIDAY TRADITIONS IN STORY AND SONG

*We invite you and your family to an evening filled
with Christmas spirit and song!*

When: Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Time: 7:00 pm in the Family Center

Schedule: 6:00 pm—Students in Pre-K, 2nd, 3rd
and 5th grades arrive in
classrooms

6:15 pm— Students in Kindergarten,
1st, and 4th grades arrive
in classrooms

6:45 pm — Teachers will bring
students to Family Center

7:00 pm — Christmas Program begins

*****Students will be dismissed from the Family
Center after the program is over.**

