

St. Alphonsus Catholic School The Buzz

Forming Faith and Future

Kristy M. Monsour, Principal

May 15, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 16 School
 Mass
- May 20 Kindergarten Promotion
- May 20-22 Middle School Exams
- May 21 PK3/
 PK4 Last Day
- May 23 School
 Mass / Spirit
 Dress / Awards /
 Last Day of School
 I:00 p.m. Dismissal / No Aftercare
- May 26-30 School Office
 Closed
- June 2 Summer
 Office Hours
 Begin / First Day
 of Summer Camp
- June 7 Used
 Uniform Sale
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6th and 7th Grade Exams

Please see the 6th and 7th grade exam schedule below. Child care will not be provided for middle school students after exams. Reminder that all middle school students will be dismissed at **12:00 p.m.** on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Tuesday, May 20th:

6th- History and English
7th- Science

Wednesday, May 21st:

6th- Math and Reading 7th- History and English

Thursday, May 22nd:

6th- Science 7th- Math and Reading

Summer Office Hours

May 26th-30th - Office Closed

June 2nd - Summer hours start / Closed on Fridays 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

July 7th - 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

July 21st - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Congratulations to SAS 8th Graders

Best wishes and blessings are sent to our 8th Grade Class of 2025. We are so proud of all you have accomplished during your time here. Your growth, determination, and spirit have left a lasting mark on our school.

Thank you to the students, faculty, staff, parents, and families whose hard work, dedication, and faith have made this journey so special. We are truly blessed to be part of

ST. ALPHONSUS
CLASS OF 2025!

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremich 29:11

such a caring and supportive community. Congratulations, graduates, your future is bright!



2025-2026 School Year News

New PE Uniforms and Spirit Shirts

Order your new PE Uniforms and Spirit Shirts today! The shop will remain open until June 2nd. Click **HERE** to order.

*Check your email for more information.

New Tuition and Fees Refund Policy for the 2025-2026 School Year

For any enrolled student who withdraws from school, the refund policy is as follows:

- May I to July 31 100%
- August I to October 31 75%
- November I to December 31 50%
- January I to March 31 25%
- April I to end of the school year - 0%

Extended Care Registration for the 2025-2026 School Year

It is now time to register your child(ren) for the St. Alphonsus Extended Care Program for the **2025-2026** school year. We will be implementing a new online sign up and payment platform called Cheddar Up. You will be able to fill out necessary forms and make monthly recurring payments through Cheddar Up. Please make note of the following:

- 1. There is a one time registration fee **PER FAMILY**. Please only add to cart once.
- 2. The monthly recurring payments (either for morning care, aftercare, or both) will be **PER CHILD**. Please add to cart for each child.
- 3. Make sure to add a family registration fee (add only once) **AND** a recurring monthly fee choice (either mornings, afternoons, or both) to your cart before you check out.
- 4. Exception: Drop-in care will only pay their registration fee at this time.

Click <u>HERE</u> to register your child(ren) as soon as possible. The registration fee will increase to \$100.00 after **July 31, 2025**. If you have any questions, please contact Bethany Richard <u>brichard@stalphonsusbr.org</u>.

School Supplies

Order your K-8th grade student's school supplies for the 2025-2026 school year today! The deadline to order is **July 1st.** Click **HERE** to order.



^{*}Fees (student and security) are refundable until July 31.





Football Skills Camp

- Boys, rising 2nd-6th grade
- June 24th 26th, 6:00
 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- Cost: \$75 *Includes a T-shirt

Click **HERE** to register

The Mission of St. Alphonsus Liguori
Catholic School is to form students in the Catholic Faith spiritually, academically, physically, and culturally in an environment of academic excellence.

Armor of God Prayer

I put on the helmet of salvation to guard my mind. I think the thoughts of Jesus.

I put on the breastplate of righteousness to guard my heart. I am righteous in Jesus.

I put on the belt of truth. I don't believe any lies, and I don't tell any either.

I put on the Gospel shoes of peace because I am on a mission for Jesus.

I take the shield of faith to stop all the darts of the enemy.

I take the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, and I defeat the devil.

Amen



Summer Reading 2025-2026

Dear Parents,

We're excited to share some updates to our summer reading program for the 2025–2026 school year that we believe will make the experience more engaging and meaningful for both students and teachers.

Students entering 3rd–8th grade will read two books over the summer: one required title and one book of their choice that is appropriate for their reading level, based on their 4th nine weeks STAR scores. This approach allows students to enjoy more personalized reading while still engaging with a shared text that will connect the class in the fall.

There will no longer be a separate summer testing schedule. Instead, when students return to school, they'll take an AR test on their chosen book, and their class will dive into fun and enriching activities based on the required reading.

To help select a book at the appropriate level, families can use <u>arbookfind.com</u>.

We're confident that this refreshed approach will help foster a love of reading and build a stronger classroom community from day one!

Required Books

3rd Grade: Third Grade Angels by Jerry Spinelli 4th Grade: Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo 5th Grade: One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate

6th Grade: Wonder by RJ Palacio

7th Grade: Watson's Go to Birmingham by Christopher Paul Curtis

8th Grade: The Wednesday Wars by Gary D Schmidt







Vacation Bible School

https://vbsmate.com/events/alphonsusVBS25/29965

VBS is in need of your help. We are planning a wonderful week of fun and excitement. This year's theme is "True North." We are hoping to borrow items from the community for some of our décor. We need a canoe, paddles, camping equipment like a small tent, fishing poles, hiking boots, camp chairs, cooking equipment. If you have some of these items and would allow us to use them, please contact the Faith Formation Office at 225-261-4644 for details.

We also need help making decorations. If you can cut paper, you and your scissors are needed. We have the supplies and directions in the Faith Formation office. Please contact us and we will get you started. Items are due back in the Faith Formation Office by **Friday, May 23, 2025.**



TIPS FOR HELPING KIDS TRANSITION TO KINDERGARTEN

Before School Starts

Kindergarten brings many new experiences for kids, especially if this is their first time in a school setting. Here are some things you can do before the big day to help your child:

- Get to know the school. If your school offers a back-to-school night, or open house, try to attend. If this isn't possible, contact the school and try to schedule a time when your child can come see their new classroom and meet their teacher.
- Let your child know what to expect. Before school begins, make sure that your child knows as much as possible about what will happen before, during, and after the school day including transportation plans. Assure them that if they have questions during the school day, their teacher will be able to help them.
- Practice new tasks and routines. Things like opening a lunchbox, eating within the specified lunch time, and raising your hand might be new to your child. Take time to practice these things at home so your child can feel confident with these new tasks.

Managing Feelings

Starting kindergarten can bring up a lot of feelings for kids. Here are some tips for helping your child work through these in a positive way:

- Model a positive attitude. Let your child see that you are excited about the school year.
- Remind them that their feelings are normal and okay!
- Teach positive ways to cope with feelings like talking about them, deep breathing, and using positive self-talk.



The First Few Days

It is normal to be nervous on the first few days of school! Here are some ideas to help your child feel more calm:

- Create a morning routine. When your child knows what to expect and what's expected of them, there may be less stress and chaos. This will help your child begin the school day with a positive attitude!
- Make sure your child has what they need. Check ahead of time with your child's teacher to see what they will need to bring to school. Knowing that they have what they need for the day can give your child one less thing to worry about.
- Make your goodbye short and simple.
 Even if your child is having a hard time separating from you, a quick drop-off can help your child move more smoothly into the rest of their day.

Morgan Bueche

mbueche@stalphonsusbr.org

https://www.stalphonsusbr.org/parents/counseling-corner.cfm



TIPS FOR HELPING KIDS TRANSITION TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

Before School Starts

Middle school can bring many new experiences for kids like switching classes, using lockers, and having more independence. Here are some things you can do before the big day to help your child feel less anxious and more confident:

- Get to know the school. Attend your school's back-to-school night or open house. If that isn't possible, schedule a time when your child can come see where their classrooms are and learn the layout of the school.
- Talk to your child about who they can reach out to at the school for help with different things.
- Practice new tasks and routines. If your child will be using a locker for the first time, make sure they spend time practicing opening and closing the lock.
- Work with your child to set up organizational systems. Switching classes may mean that they need many different folders, binders, etc. Help your child find ways to keep track of their things.

Managing Feelings

Starting middle school can bring up a lot of feelings for kids. Here are some tips for helping your child work through these in a positive way:

- Model a positive attitude. Let your child see that you are excited about the school year.
- Ask your child to share the things they are most excited about and the things they are most nervous about.
- Remind them that their feelings are normal and okay!
- Teach positive ways to cope with feelings like talking about them, deep breathing, and using positive self-talk.
- Reflect on ways that your child has adapted to new situations in the past, and remind them that they can do it again!

It is normal to be nervous on

Starting School

It is normal to be nervous on the first few days of school! Here are some ideas to help your child feel more calm:

- Make sure your child has what they need. Knowing that they have what they need for the day can give your child one less thing to worry about.
- Remind your child that everyone in their grade is new to the school, and that it may take some time to get used to the new routines.
- Be available to listen to anything your child wants to share about their new experience.



Morgan Bueche

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https://www.stalphonsusbr.org/parents/counseling-corner.cfm



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School Closed/Holidays



Indicates First/Last day of school

Important Dates

Please note these dates are subject to change & families will be notified if changes are made.

August 7 First Day of School September 1 Labor Day October 10 Fall Break Nov. 24-28 Thanksgiving Holidays

Dec. 22-Jan. 2 Christmas Holidays

January 19 Feb. 16-20 **April 3-10** May 22

January 5

Students return to school Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

Mardi Gras Holidays Easter Holidays Last Day of School