ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL

Weekly Newsletter

APRIL 15, 2026





A NOTE FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dear Families,

It is truly hard to believe that our end-of-the-school-year events have already begun! This season always seems to arrive in a whirlwind of excitement and growth, and as we look back on all our students have accomplished from preschool through 8th grade, our hearts are full. Because this is such a busy time of year, please be sure to carefully check the dates listed in this newsletter so you don't miss any of the special moments we have planned.

This Friday, we are especially excited for our "Kids Against Hunger" event. This is such an awesome way for our students to put their faith into action and experience the joy of serving others firsthand. It is a beautiful sight to see our older students mentoring our younger ones as they work together to feed those in need. Be on the lookout for fun pictures from that day on our social media and in next week's update!

Looking ahead to next week, we have two very big events. First, "Xtream Night" is just around the corner! It is going to be an evening full of fun for the whole family. We have designed this as an open-house style event, so please feel free to come and go as your schedule allows. Even if you can only make it for a little bit, it is definitely worth attending to enjoy the fellowship. Additionally, our "Mission Carnival" is next week. This is a highlight of the year for the kids, but we are still in need of donations to make it a success. Please read the details below to see how you can help. As always, thank you for being a part of this amazing community and for your continued support and prayers.

~ SFA Leadership Team

What's inside this issue:

TEACHER APPREICATION

MAY MENU

MISSION CARNIVAL

XSTREAM NIGHT

VOLUNTEERS

MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOD DRIVE

END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

"The world offers you comfort, but you were not made for comfort. You were made for **GREATNESS**.*"*

POPE BENEDICT XVI

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

LETTER FROM FR. PAUL HAMILTON

Dear SFA Community,

We have a few staff departures to announce.

Mike Herries is completing his 12th year of service to St. Francis of Assisi as our STREAM Coordinator, teaching engineering, computer science, and design in middle school and supporting all of our learners from Preschool through 8th grade. Mr. Herries was a member of our Administrative Team which guided our school through this year. Mr. Herries knows every student at SFA by name, and often remembers unique things about them as well. He makes each arriving student feel welcome in the morning, and can often be found in the building late into the evening, or stopping by a practice or game on the field or an event in the Gym to support the students.

Mike has done so many things for St. Francis during his time with us, and his presence will definitely be missed. We wish Mike and his family well as he retires to enjoy more time with his father, his family, and his new grandbaby arriving soon!

Amory DeLay is completing her first year of teaching French at St. Francis of Assisi. In her short time with us, Ms. DeLay has endeared herself to students and staff. God bless her for making the long trip each day to be with us at St. Francis. While she has found work closer to home, we pray that she will always consider St. Francis a home away from home.

-Rev. Paul Hamilton

this week

Our preschoolers are diving into their insect unit, exploring the SFA campus to discover what they can find! Third graders visited the Butterfly House, where they practically became professional lepidopterists while learning all about butterflies and moths. 8th graders explored the diversity of traits through an interactive activity on trait generation, while 7th graders investigated forces of attraction with the floating paperclip experiment.





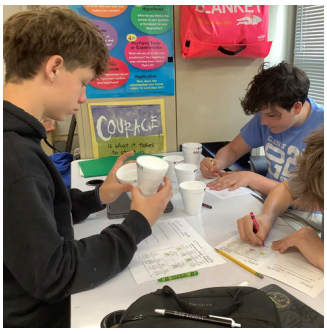




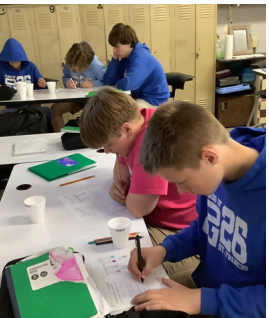


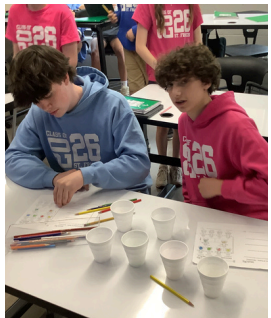


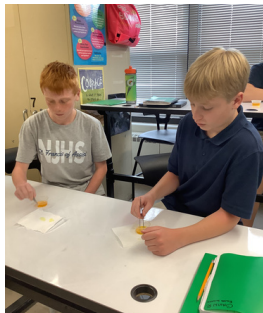








FIRST HOLY *Communion*



















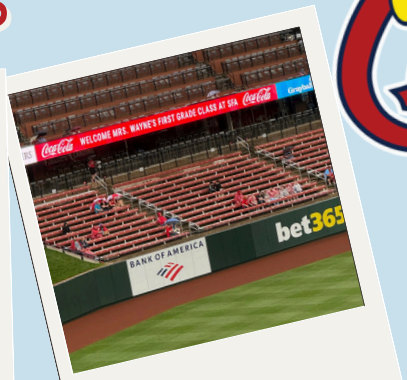
TAKE US OUT TO THE BALLGAME!

Our 1st graders had a great day at Busch Stadium, where they learned all about weather—and even got some firsthand experience with the rain! And our middle school Safety Patrol and Ambassadors also enjoyed their annual field trip to the St. Louis Cardinals game. It may have been a rainy day, but it was full of fun for everyone!

1ST GRADE FIELD TRIP

















SAFETY PATROL & AMBASSADORS





















Helping Hands Needed for a Day of Service!

We are looking for parent volunteers to support our *Kids Against Hunger* service event on **April 17th from 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM.** The event will take place in the gym helping students prep meals

Volunteer Requirements & Details:

- Volunteers must have completed all required school safety requirements.
- Upon arrival, please sign in at the school office before heading to the gym.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Sarah Bundren at sarah.bundren@sfaschoolstl.org.

Thank you for your generosity and support!



Flyer created by: *Joe Cummings, Gus Bryson, Benny Birnstill, Lillie Ratliff, Avery Mattingly, Emma Cieslinksi, Maria Hunt, Farrah Kauffmann, Maezy Sokolich, Kinley Brechin*

Confirmation Service Project:

Canned Food Drive April 20–24

Our middle school students will be leading a Canned Food Drive as part of their Confirmation service project.

We will be collecting non-perishable and canned food items throughout the week of April 20–24.

Donations can be brought in and placed in each homeroom.

All students and families are invited to participate, and every contribution will help support those in need within our community.

HOMEPAGE

Donations Due April 17th

COME ONE, COME ALL!

SFA

MISSION CARNIVAL HOSTED BY NJHS

FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH

Cost: $5/child OR $10/family

donation includes a dress out day

Donations go directly to purchasing food packing kits for ***Kids Against Hunger***



GAME PRIZES NEEDED:

- CANS OF SODA (6-12 PACKS)
- GATORADES, JUICES
- CANDY
- HOSTESS TYPE TREATS
- NEW OR GENTLY USED SMALL STUFFED ANIMALS OR TOYS (CHILDRENS MEAL TOYS, PARTY FAVORS, ETC)
- NO ENERGY TYPE DRINKS PLEASE

All food/candy donations **must be individually packaged with nutrition information listed**
contact Mrs. Della Croce sarah.dellacroce@sfaschoolstl.org

HOMEPAGE

SFA Home & School Association presents

Xstream Family Night

STATIONS

- OSMO
- 3D pen sculptures
- Ozobots
- Makey-Makey
- Vex Robotics Challenge
- Cup Stacking Challenge
- Grow SFA Green
- Sphero Lego Adventure
- Stack Those Books
- Rosie Revere Helicopter Challenge

4.23.26
6:30 - 8 PM in the SFA Gym

Experience what learning at SFA is like!

This evening is all about family fun! Students, parents, and siblings will have opportunities to check out the way we use technology and devices by doing activities and experiments that mix different subjects. There will be stations set up throughout the gym. Each station will be attended by an SFA faculty member to help guide you!

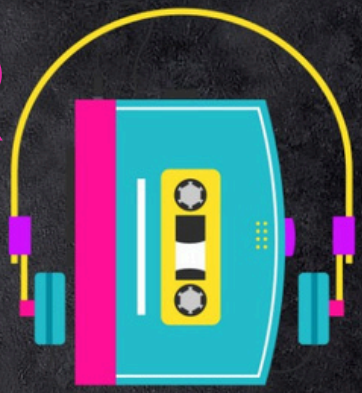
No need to RSVP! Call for any questions! **314.487.5736 x.121**

H&S will be providing a snack & drink at the event. This is a family event, There is NO babysitting and parents must stay with their kids.



2026 TEACHER AND STAFF

APPRECIATION WEEK



Dear Parents,

We are excited to celebrate our annual Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week at St. Francis Assisi! Our activities will take place from May 4th - 8th, and we look forward to making this week extra special for our amazing teachers and staff.

We are incredibly fortunate to have such dedicated educators who work tirelessly to support and inspire our students every day. This year, our theme is:

TOTALLY RAD & TOTALLY APPRECIATED!

Here are three easy ways to contribute:

- Have your student write a card/note for each of their teachers/aides and send it in between May 4 - 8! >> **Teacher Appreciation Questionnaire**
- Donate to our "Bloom Bar" for flowers - send money in an envelope marked "Bloom Bar" or Venmo @Patricia-Fechter Gates.
- Sign up for one of the **volunteer opportunities** throughout the week.

Thank you for helping us celebrate the wonderful people who make our school a great place to learn!



Warm regards,

St. Francis of Assisi Home and School





TEACHER AND STAFF

APPRECIATION WEEK

DEAR STUDENTS AND PARENTS,

We will be celebrating our annual Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week at St. Francis of Assisi from May 4 - May 8, 2026. This year's theme is:

THANKS FOR BEING TOTALLY RAD!

Below is the itinerary for the week. We'd love for each student to bring a note of appreciation in for their teacher/teachers at some point during the week.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
We Couldn't BLOOM Without You! Teachers will enjoy a Flower Bar in the Teacher's Lounge today!	**Rollin' with my Teachers!** The SFA Treat Cart will roam the halls with treats today.	**Welcome to the Space Jam Snack Slam!** Popcorn and Candy Bar in the Teacher's Lounge today!	**Pump Up the Jam!** Travlin Tom's Coffe Truck will be available for our Teachers and Staff this morning along with some breakfast treats!	**T.G.I.F!** Appreciation Luncheon in the Lounge today! Parent volunteers needed to cover lunch and recess duty.

We need parent/grandparent volunteers to help with lunch/recess coverage on Friday.
Click here to sign up!

For any questions, please contact Tricia Fechter Gates at 970-231-0295 or pfechtergates@gmail.com

Sincerely, SFA Home and School

HOMEPAGE

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
END OF YEAR Celebrations

END-OF-YEAR CELEBRATIONS ARE HERE!

This year, our K–7 awards will be celebrated a little differently. Instead of a full-school assembly on the last day, students will enjoy their awards, pins, and certificates in their own classrooms during the final week of school. Then, on the last day, we'll come together for a school-wide celebration filled with fun activities—a perfect way to honor our students and kick off summer!

Our 8th graders will still have their formal awards assembly as part of their end-of-year events!

last week of school

MAY 18

8th Grade
Last Mass & Final Walk the Halls.

8th Grade Award Assembly
(after Mass)

MAY 19

8th Grade Mystery Trip!

Kindergarten Graduation
Gym 9 AM

MAY 20

8th Grade Graduation
Mass 6 PM
Reception to follow

MAY 21

Preschool Graduation
Gym 9 AM

MAY 22

Last Day of School!

Mass 7:45 AM & Franciscan Awards
(in church after Mass)

End of year fun!!

FRIDAY, MAY 22 A day to celebrate!

All School Mass 7:45 AM



Franciscan Award Ceremony
(In church following All school mass)

Celebrate!
Students will head back to the school for an end-of-year celebration / kickoff to summer fun!

DISMISSAL AT 11 AM!

Thanks for an amazing year!

Hot Lunch

HOMEPAGE

MAY IS THE MONTH OF SUBSTITUTIONS. AS WE RUN OUT OF THINGS, WE MAY SUB OTHER ITEMS WE HAVE IN STOCK.

ALSO, FOOD WISE, I WILL BE TRYING TO ORDER AS CLOSE TO THE NUMBERS I HAVE AT 8:00PM ON TUESDAYS. IF THE LUNCH ORDER DEADLINE IS MISSED, I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE ADD ONS.

MAY 2026

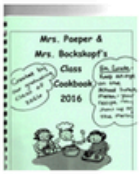
FIELD TRIPS IN MAY:
K (5/6), 4TH (5/11) 2ND (5/12)

ON THE HOME STRETCH!

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
4 TOASTED RAVS W/ MARINARA SAUCE SALAD (RANCH OR ITALIAN DRESSING) WATERMELON BROWNIE A LA MODE	5 GRILLED CHEESE BURRITO (CHEESE, RICE, TACO MEAT) CORN WATERMELON	6 (K FIELD TRIP) BIG SALAD (WITH CHICKEN, CHEESE, CRUTONS, CUCUMBERS, TOMATOES) WATERMELON CHEESE CAKE CUPCAKES	7 FRENCH TOAST STICKS BACON STRAWBERRY BANANA SMOOTHIE	8 DOMINO'S PIZZA (CHEESE, PEP OR SAUSAGE) GOLD FISH/ CHEEZE ITS SLICED CUCUMBERS WATERMELON
11 (4TH FIELD TRIP) CIRCLE CHEESE PIZZA PARTY SALAD FRUIT SALAD COOKIE	12 (2ND FIELD TRIP) BIG MAC CASSEROLE ASPARAGUS FRUIT SALAD	13 BLT SANDWICH OR TURKEY SANDWICH BUTTERED NOODLES FRIED ZUCCHINI CHOCOLATE CHIP OATMEAL MUFFIN	14 ORANGE CHICKEN FRIED RICE STEAMED BROCCOLI KIWI	15 FIELD DAY 11:30 DISMISSAL NO LUNCH
18 HOT DOG ON A BUN TATOR TOTS COOKED CARROTS HONEYDEW	19 PANCAKES SAUSAGE YOGURT HONEYDEW	20 CHICKEN NUGGETS FRIES CORN ON THE COB HONEYDEW	21 MYSTERY LUNCH COOK'S CHOICE	22 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 11:00 DISMISSAL NO LUNCH HAPPY SUMMER!

B-DAY LUNCH

8TH GRADE'S LAST SCHOOL LUNCH



OUR LAST RECIPE FROM THE 8TH GRADE'S COOKBOOK FROM PRESCHOOL. GOOD LUCK CLASS OF 2026. WE WILL MISS YOU!

APRIL MENU

BIRTHDAY LUNCH

If your child is one that celebrates their birthday this month, you or another significant adult can come eat with your child during their lunch period. You can bring fast food or homemade lunch for the birthday child and for yourself! Please check the dates for the monthly birthday lunches.

UPON ARRIVAL FOR BIRTHDAY LUNCH
Please sign-in (in gym lobby sign-in sheet) You may enter the gym, have a seat at a table and wait for them to arrive.

Monthly Birthday Lunch
OCT 10/10
NOV 11/14
DEC/JUN 12/12
JAN/JUL 1/9
FEB 2/6
MAR 3/6
APR 4/10
MAY 5/8

The School LUNCH periods

11:20 - 11:40 // 3,4,5
11:30 // Preschool
11:45 - 12:05 // K, 1, 2
12:15 - 12:35 // 6,7,8

ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

For any LUNCH questions please contact Jo Hufker *at* jo.hufker@sfaschoolstl.org or 314-487-5736 x126



reminders & save the dates

HOMEPAGE

WELCOME TO THE WORLD, BABY THOMAS





Congratulations Rolwes family!

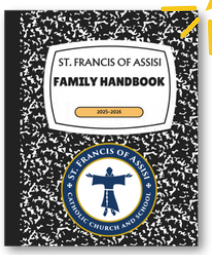
We are so excited to share joyful news —the Rolwes family welcomed their newest little blessing, Thomas!

Thomas was born on Thursday, April 9, and is already so loved. Big sister Victoria (3rd grade) and big brother William (PK-4) are incredibly proud and excited to welcome him home.

Congratulations to the Rolwes family on this beautiful addition!

Snack & Scripture

FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL
Every Wednesday
3-3:45PM
IN YOUTH MINISTRY ROOM



SUBSCRIBE

*To our weekly **Bulletin** to see what's going on in the Parish!*

And check out our Parish website for more events and all things SFA!

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH





- Quick Guide to ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES
- SFA DRESS CODE
- SCHOOL UNIFORMS — *Just Me Apparel* www.justmeapparel.com
- P — ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL AND PARKING ASSIGNMENTS

Save the Date!

SEE FULL 2025-26 SCHOOL CALENDAR

april

17 Raising Canes Restaurant Night 3-30PM // Arnold
18 SFA Athletics Ice Cream Social @ Oberweis
23 Xstream Night
24 Mission Carnival | Mid-Q4

may

1/2 SFA Broadway Play
6 School Board Meeting
8 Birthday Lunch
15 Field Day | **11:30 Dismissal**
18 8th Gr Final Mass & 8th Gr Award Assembly
19 8th Gr Mystery Trip | Kindergarten Graduation 9am
20 8th Gr Graduation 6pm
21 Preschool Graduation 9am | SFAAA Panera 4-8PM
22 Franciscan Awards (after mass) **Last Day of School** | **11:00 Dismissal**

Volunteering at SFA

If you're planning to volunteer at the school in any capacity, please make sure you've completed the Protecting God's Children training. Click here to visit the Archdiocese of St. Louis website and register for an upcoming training session. If you've already completed the training through another school or parish, you will need to log in to your account and add **St. Francis of Assisi** to your profile to verify your training and so you will be included on our approved volunteer list.

sfastl.org
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School
4550 Telegraph Rd. St. Louis, MO 63129
Phone: 314.487.5736 **Fax:** 314.416.7118
School ext: 121 // **Preschool ext:** 132 // **Parish ext:** 150

Tuition Questions

Please contact **Dan Denton** our new business manager at businessmanager@sfastl.org or 314.487.5736 ext: 142

FACTS Parent Helpline: 866-441-4637

JOIN OUR FUNDRAISER at

Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers

April 17, 2026 **03:00 PM - 10:00 PM**

1163 Jeffco Blvd, Arnold, MO

Mention the fundraiser at the Restaurant or apply code **RCFUND96** to online or app orders at checkout and Cane's will **donate 15% of Net Sales*** to:

SFA School

Raising Funds with Raising Cane's



Learn more about how we can support you at **CanesAndCommunity.com**

Minimum donation amount will be 15% of the Net Sales donated directly to your organization. Not valid on kiosk orders. **"Net Sales" means the purchase price of food and beverages sold during the event to customers who (i) mention your organization when ordering in person or (ii) use the code RCFUND96 when ordering online or in the Raising Cane's app. The purchase price excludes special or limited time offers, discounts, returns, and taxes. "Net Sales" does not include gift cards and retail merchandise purchases.*

RaisingCanes

HOMEPAGE

Come Support SFA Athletics From 11 AM - 10 PM

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Mention SFA Athletics at the register when dining in or placing a takeout order. Oberweis will contribute 20% of your meal's price to SFA Athletics. Don't forget to explore their dairy coolers and stock up on your favorites!

Saturday, April 18th

OBERWEIS DAIRY

4590 Telegraph Road, Saint Louis, MO 63129



RAISE SOME DOUGH

Help support us!

25% of sales will benefit

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH OAKVILLE

May 21, 2026
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
5696 Telegraph Road
St Louis, MO

In Cafe Drive-Thru
Pick-Up Delivery

Enter promo code FUND4U at online checkout.

Panera
FUNDRAISING



HOMEPAGE

Mark your calendars!

St. Francis of Assisi

PARISH PICNIC

10.10.26

21+ Night 10.9.26



Join us for a day of fun, fellowship, and community at the

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Picnic

October 10, 2026

Bring your family, gather with friends, and come enjoy a great day filled with parish spirit as we celebrate the wonderful community we share.

More details to come—we can't wait to see you there!

Be sure to check out our Parish Picnic Facebook page, too, for updates and fun sneak peeks!

QUESTIONS?

Contact Abby LeCroy at 314.369.1051
or **abigaillecroy@gmail.com**



Bunco Night

Sponsored by St. Anne Sodality

MAY 8th



Raffles-Basket Raffles-Attendance Prizes-Pot of Gold

GUYS and GALS grab your mom for a fun filled night at Bunco Night, sponsored by
St Anne Sodality at St Francis of Assisi.
Give mom an early Mother's Day gift, a night out with her favorite child.

Doors open at 6 pm game starts at 7 pm.

No need to know how to play.

Tables of 4,8 or 12. Cost $15.00 person adult beverages and non alcoholic beverages included in price.
Bring your own snacks.

RESERVE YOUR SPOT
BY MAY 1st
call Carol 314-892-6690

St. Francis of Assisi 4556 Telegraph Rd. 63129

3RD ANNUAL SFA SUMMER VOLLEYBALL CAMP



SCAN HERE

DATES **15-18 JUNE** 2026

Camp is all skills and open to all
BOYS & GIRLS entering 2nd - 8th Grades!
Campers will be grouped by age & ability.

Times

Incoming 5th-8th:
9:00-11:00 AM

Incoming 2nd-4th:
11:30 AM -1:30 PM

COST **$90**
INCLUDES FREE T-SHIRT

Camp Venue

St. Francis of Assisi
4556 Telegraph Rd
Saint Louis, MO 63129

Camp Director:

Coach Deb Nicollerat
debnicollerat722@gmail.com

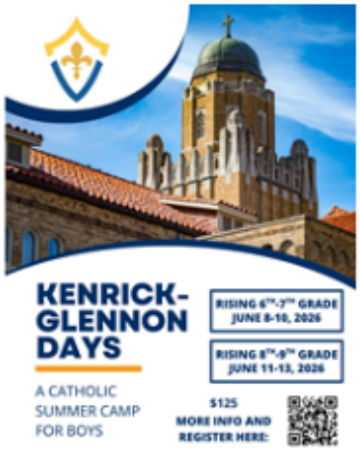
Coach Deb has 35+ years of coaching experience training all levels of players in all aspects of the game. Her camp is staffed by club coaches and players.

Registration Link

tinyurl.com/SFAVolleyCamp

Kenrick-Glennon Days

Kenrick-Glennon Days is an overnight summer camp for boys that provides an opportunity to experience life at the seminary. This two day/night camp is designed for 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th grade boys. Campers will join small groups led by seminarians and high school junior counselors to experience games, prayers, and activities that promote an openness to growing in holiness, as well as, discernment to a possible priestly vocation.



Kenrick-Glennon Days Info



Register at: https://
ursulineacademystlcheerleading.ryzerevents.com/
Email Coach Sam with questions: slewis@ursulinestl.org