



# St. Ailbe Weekly

Academic Excellence

Christian Values

Family Partnership

## Important Dates

- 9.5.16 -**No School**  
(Labor Day)
- 9.6.16 -6:00 pm ACT Aspire Information Session
- 9.8.16 -8:30 am Patriots' Day Mass-Honoring First Responders
- 9.15.16 -8:30am Coffee with the Principal

Volume 1, Issue 1

August 31, 2016

## Welcome Back!

What a wonderful start to the school year! I have been able to meet most of the families and all of the students, and I have to say, I feel right at home. I want to thank everyone, from the bottom of my heart, for your openness and warmth as I start this new position.

With change comes uncertainty. Changes that are made will always be done with the best interest of the students at the forefront. I am still learning about St. Ailbe. I am in the school, the classrooms, the lunchroom, and recess to meet the students. I have met many of the parents, and if I haven't yet met you, please stop to say hi. I am dedicated to staying true to the school motto: Academic Excellence, Christian Values, and Family Partnerships.

Academic Excellence: ACT Aspire scores will go home this week. More information is on the back of this newsletter. Teachers have been planning the school year, beginning with plotting out the scope and sequence for the school year for a strong alignment throughout the school. All teachers are aligning their curriculum with the Archdiocesan standards, which align with the rigorous Common Core Standards. The students will be pushed this year to meet high expectations, and with the support of St. Ailbe faculty and parents, the students will be able to get there! The school year is in full swing, with the rooms starting out strong.

Christian Values: As a schoolwide expectation, students are expected to be respectful, responsible, and safe at all times. The breakfast and lunch times have been running very smoothly, and seeing the students take those expectations to heart is very promising for where the school year is headed.

Family Partnerships: All families are responsible for 20 volunteer hours each school year. In order to be able to volunteer in the school or at events, Virtus training must be completed. If you have done this in the past, you do not need to complete the training again. Virtus training is going to take place on September 25, here at St. Ailbe from 2-5 pm. If this day does not work for you, please check the website <http://tinyurl.com/virtustraining> for additional locations and times.

I want to remind parents that have students in After Care that the pickup door is from the Harper Avenue side of the school, not the Stony Island/ parking lot side of the school.

After school clubs will be starting soon. We would still love to have parents who want to share an interest with children to come sponsor a club or sport. Students have asked for a basketball team, and for that we will need a coach. If you know anyone interested, please have him/her call me at 773-734-1386. A full list of clubs and dates will go home soon!

The first Coffee with the Principal is scheduled for September 15, 2016. I look forward to chatting with you soon!

Mrs. Mostyn

### Inside this issue:

Act Aspire **2**

Quick Updates **2**

Volunteer Opportunities **2**

# ACT Aspire News



## Volunteer Opportunities

Parking Lot Monitors

\*AM Shift - 7:45am-8:15am

\*PM Shift - 2:45pm-3:15pm

Greeter- 7:45am-8:15am

Nacho Day

Coffee With the Principal

Fundraisers (Fall, Winter, Spring)

Parent Ambassador Group

School Programs (Christmas, Black History, Literacy Night, Back2School Parade)

Scholastic Book Fair

Classroom Helper

Athletic Program

Food Pantry

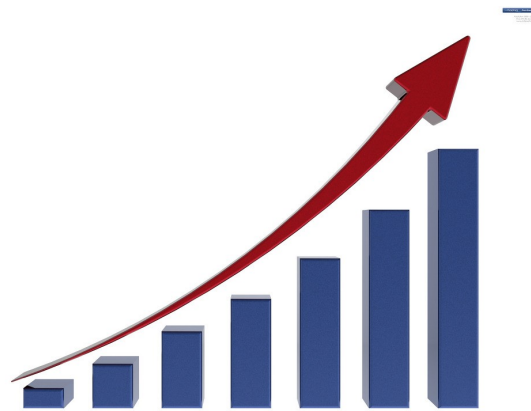
Prayer Group

Field Trips

Spiritual Development

ACT Aspire is here! The scores have been reported from the 2015-2016 school year. The individual reports for students in grades 3-8 are being sent home this week. Here are a few points to keep in mind when looking at your child's scores:

- Students were tested in five categories: Reading, Writing, English, Math, and Science.
- The ACT Aspire aligns with the ACT that many students will take as their entrance exam into college. By seeing where they are now and where they are projected to be in the future, teachers can tailor their lessons to make the greatest impact on the students' performance.
- Students' performances were rated with four ratings: In Need of Support, Close, Ready, and Exceeds.
- This was the first year that students took the ACT Aspire, and with that came some changes in testing techniques, with many more free response questions on Reading, Math, Writing, and Science than on the previously taken TerraNova.
- There will be an informational session for parents to discuss scores and what the next steps are for St. Ailbe on **September 6 at 6:00 pm**. For anyone who cannot attend, a video with the information will be posted on YouTube. More information about the YouTube post will be sent home when available.



Snack time has started with great success in ECC and Kindergarten. Thank you for sending the healthy snacks with your students to keep them going strong all day long!

Thank you to the 7/8th grade students for doing all the readings during the mass on Thursday morning. The choir was amazing, and a special shout out

to Elijah Miller playing the organ and Alex Oray playing the drums.

To all of St. Ailbe's Family Ambassadors, THANK YOU for all of the work over the summer and connections you made with old, returning, and new families. Your work is important to the success of our school!

For all of our new families, on behalf of St. Ailbe, I would like to thank you for choosing our school. Please feel free to reach out with any questions, comments, or concerns.

St. Ailbe passed summer testing of water lead levels at the school drinking fountains. Please check the school website for more information.