



# Elementary News

December, 2017

St. Albert Elementary

400 Gleason Ave.  
Co. Bluffs, IA 51503  
323-3703

[www.saintalbertschools.org](http://www.saintalbertschools.org)

PK-12 Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass, Friday, Dec. 8th, 9:30 MS/HS Gym

K-5 Christmas Concert, Sunday, Dec. 10th, 4:00 MS/HS gym

Christmas break begins Thurs., Dec. 21st following our 11:30 dismissal. Classes resume on Thurs., January 4th. Have a blessed Advent and Christmas season !

*O God of wonder,  
As we are busy preparing for Christmas help  
us prepare our hearts for Jesus.*

*We are grateful for your simple words of  
hope and the gift of new life in the Christ  
child. May we follow the true light of Jesus  
that shines for all people through the dark-  
ness of sin and sorrow. Amen.*

Thank you to everyone for supporting our fall fundraiser this year. We are very close to reaching our goal of \$12,000 profit, and the fundraiser sales rep is sure that we will surpass it with online sales that are still coming in! She will be scheduling Sean Watson, the Master Illusionist, to come to our school when he is in the area. If you are still interested in ordering something, you can go to [www.gaschoolstore.com/sponsors](http://www.gaschoolstore.com/sponsors). Enter our online ID 4578985 & Password 900522 and we will get credit.

Classroom Christmas parties will be held at 10:00 on Thursday, December 21st. Thank you to the Falcon Family Connection for purchasing the treats for the parties. Some of the grades also do a craft during their party that is purchased by the FFC. Thank you to the room parents for helping to plan the Christmas parties. As always, all parents are welcome to attend the classroom parties.

## Mission Statement

**Saint Albert Catholic Schools, in partnership with our local parishes, will inspire our students to fulfill their spiritual, academic, moral, and physical potential by following the teachings of the Catholic Church.**

## Catholic Math League

Dear Families,

Once again the 3rd, and 4th graders are participating in the Catholic Math League. This league allows our students the opportunity to showcase their math abilities. The students will take four tests throughout the year. The first test date was earlier this month and we won't know the results until after December 1st. There are three more tests—December 6th, February 7th and March 7th. The top three scores from each grade level will be entered into the databases online. At the end of the competition the top three students (or more if there are ties) will receive certificates. The top four students in each division receive an additional certificate. The top student and school within each division will receive a trophy or plaque. You can go online to [www.catholicmathleague.com](http://www.catholicmathleague.com) to learn more about the league.

Blessings, and thank you for your support,

Mrs. Gorman

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Thank you to the following volunteers who helped on the *rescheduled* fundraiser delivery and pick up day:

Mary & Larry Pierson, Lisa Rosloniec, Tara Sommerville, Megan Duncan, Penny Julian, Mary Simms, Melissa Harrer, Sandy & Gary Petry, and Carolyn Moses. Thanks also to the Pierson, Roloniec, and Moses children who helped people with their orders. A special thank you to Tara Sommerville who also helped early on with counting money and organizing the order forms as they were turned in. Please accept my apologies if I have forgotten someone!

Thank you to the people who chose to make a donation in lieu of/or in addition to, participating in the fundraiser. Over \$800 was donated, in addition to the almost \$12,00 profit from the fundraiser! This money will be used to help fund more Chromebooks for the classrooms, and technology improvements, as well as to fund classroom materials, field trips, classroom magazines, etc.

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We had an extremely successful Book Fair this year, raising \$14,191.97 for the elementary library! Ms. Schnitker and Maureen Garrigan (Book Fair Coordinator) would like to thank all of you who supported our library by buying books. They would also like to thank the following volunteers: Amy Carter, Lisa Rosloniec, Mary Pierson, Grace Garrigan, Kristen Kirwan, Wil Kirwan, Mackenzie Pierson, Dakota Pierson, Lena Rosloniec, Molli Rosloniec, Hunter Venteicher, Olivia Gardner, Megan Duncan, Reese Duncan, Mary Simms, Lisa Gubbels, Lysette Caraballo, Laura Heisterkamp, Cristy Ballenger, Stephanie Koch, Piper Fagan, Lili Denton, and Katie Salvo. Please accept our apologies if we have forgotten anyone, and know that all of you are appreciated!

# Counseling Corner

## **Second Step and other lesson topics**

The topics to be covered in December are:

- Preschool: Same or different feelings, holiday-themed social skills centers.
- Kindergarten: Same vs. different; caring and helping; holiday-themed social skills centers.
- First grade: Accidents; showing care and concern; holiday-themed social skills centers.
- Second grade: Predicting feelings; introducing emotion management; holiday-themed social skills centers.
- Third grade: Showing compassion; holiday-themed social skills project.
- Fourth grade: Holiday-themed social skills project.
- Fifth grade: Managing anxiety; holiday-themed social skills project.

The Second Step program includes a series of Home Links to help parents reinforce the skills their students are learning. Students will bring home those links throughout the year. Students in preschool through third grade are not responsible for returning completed Home Link papers to school. Fourth- and fifth-grade students may return their completed and signed Home Links for an incentive that has been discussed in class.

The counseling department welcomes an intern this year. Mrs. Tara Sommerville will be providing the Second Step classroom lessons to our kindergarten, first-grade, and second-grade classes in collaboration with Miss Baldwin. Mrs. Sommerville is a graduate student at Buena Vista University. She will split her time between the elementary, middle, and high schools, and she will be with the elementary school on Mondays and Tuesdays.

### **Recommended Resource: Common Sense Media**

Some Saint Albert students might find new devices under the tree this Christmas. Technology offers a wide range of benefits to our children, and it can also bring some threats to their privacy and mental health. Common Sense Media offers information for parents on a range of topics, including healthy media habits, digital citizenship, and cyberbullying. The site also provides a device contract that parents and children can use to establish rules of use for a cell phone, tablet, or other device. You can visit them online at [commonsense.org](http://commonsense.org).

## Thank You!!!

Mrs. Johnson would like to thank Velda Ring, Harper Frahm, Norah Simms, Robbie Huck, Emmett Reikosfski, Hadley McAtee, Grayson Poole, Sydney Tallman, and Donna Barry for books purchased at the Book Fair.

Thank you from Mrs. Burgan to Mrs. Smith, Mrs. McGill, Mrs. Applegate, Mr. Harrer, and Mrs. Rossbund for coming to the classroom for Read-N-Feed.

Mrs. Epperson would like to thank all of the families that donated books to the classroom library from the Book Fair. She's also like to thank the following families for volunteering their time to help with some classroom projects: Yrkoski, Nick, King. And thank you to Sue Willms, Mrs. Epperson's mom, for helping with the endless pile of cutting projects for the classroom!

Thank you from Mrs. Marshall to Summer Stidham and Jensen Shomshor for the stools. Thank you to Jack Goltl, Stacy Kinney, Cathy Stidham, Laura Heisterkamp, Mary Pierson, Julie Manz, and Fani Barajas for being guest readers and bringing treats and drinks!

Sheryl K Johnson Child Care Center would like to thank the Till family for the large toy donation! Thank you also to everyone who donated books from the Scholastic Book Fair!

Mrs. McColloch would like to thank Hailey Hansen, Mary Morrow, Chase Stidham, Grace Hoferer, Noah Narmi, Aubree Brandau Murray, Kellen Poole, Mollie Rosloniec, and Nolan Collett for donating books from the book fair to the classroom.

Thank you from Miss Edler to all who made the third grade program a success: students, staff, and families! She says she couldn't have done it

without you!

Mrs. Avalos would like to thank everyone who donated books to the classroom library from the Book Fair. She'd also like to thank Myleen Mares and Aiden Gaul for the classroom donations.

Thank you from Miss Baldwin to Grace Garrigan, Mary Ann Bragg and family, Walter Cady, and Ms. Schnitker for the book fair donations.

Mrs. Gorman would like to thank Mrs. Wredt and the Zuehlke family for the classroom donations, and the Hoy, Heisterkamp, Simms, Jones, Nick and Morrow families for the classroom donations from the book fair.

Thank you from Mrs. Nohr to Wil Kirwan, Grayson and Kellen Poole, Ms. Schnitker, and the friends of SA for donating books to her classroom.

Mrs. O'Neil would like to thank the PreK3 families for the donations for their Super Salad Bar. She would also like to thank the Stidham family for their donation of all of the grains needed for both 4th and 5th grade art projects! And thank you to Mrs. Garrigan who donated plastic table cloths.

Ms. Straka would like to thank Natalie Burkey for the hand soap, the Shomshor family for the Ziploc bags, and Bonnie Wredt, Sam Hargens, and Candy Narmi for the treats for the staff.

Thank you from Ms. D to the Fidone family for the snack donations.

Mrs. Behne would like to thank the Venner, Rosloniec and Slater families for the snacks. She'd also like to thank the Juranek and Hannan families for the colored pencils.

Thank you from Mr. Schaeffer to Maura Ryan for the PE donations.

## Classroom Activities

The 3 year old students have been working on fall and Thanksgiving themes this month. They finished the nursery rhymes and color instruction. They learned about the 5 food groups and began to classify foods. They explored leaves and painted with turkeys. They talked about hibernation and the animals that do and do not hibernate. The Super Salad Bar was so yummy! The kids explored new, healthy choices. Thanks for your donations! Their life-sized gingerbread friend is up next!

In language arts the Pre K4 students worked on the letters G, H, I, J, and K. In math, they worked on identifying left and right hands, along with using position words to describe the location of objects. They are currently working on learning to write numerals 0-10. In science, the students talked about animals and their homes. They also learned which animals hibernate during the winter months. The religion lesson introduced students to the celebration of All Saints Day. They will be learning about the season of Advent.

Kindergarteners have been working on sight words and reading from little readers to build reading confidence and fluency. They have been trying to understand the "tricky teens" better in math. In religion, the students have been continuing to learn about Old Testament Bible stories.

In math class, the first graders have been learning new strategies to help them with addition and subtraction facts. They studied our country, Native Americans, and the Pilgrims in social studies. In religion, the students learned about Jesus healing and teaching, and about prayer.

Second grade has been busy learning about making and reading bar graphs and picture graphs. They have begun a unit on objects in space. The students finished up taking Iowa Assessments. In religion they learned about the three persons in the Holy Trinity.

The third grade students have been writing letters to authors and have heard back from both authors who were thrilled by their letters. They just finished subtracting 4-digit numbers and will be working on fact families and rounding in math, along with learning their multiplication and division facts. The students will be starting a cultural quilt project after Thanksgiving break and will be needing their family's support to create a square that represents themselves and their family's culture.

In math, the fourth grade students have been working on a variety of skills through fall themed activities. In religion, they are studying the Liturgical Year. For social studies, the students have been exploring our nation's capital and will be moving on to studying how our government is set up. In language arts, the students are identifying the elements of tall tales. They are reading a variety of tall tales, and will write one of their own. The fourth graders are continuing to explore the processes that shape our earth in science class.

## Classroom Activities continued

The fifth graders created egg drop structures for engineering in science. In social studies, the students are learning about Iowa History. They completed their Ten Commandments project for religion. In language arts, the students have discussed Old Yeller and Wonder.

In art this month the students explored the fall themes of trees, leaves, turkeys, scarecrows, and Native American art forms. They were busy using many different media and techniques. They used natural resources, paper, crayons, grains, paint, and sand to create with. The students experimented with sponge, straws, sand painting, printing, and collage.

Mrs. Farris' students in reading have been learning sight words, learning about pumpkins, and learning about Native Americans of the Great Plains. Math students have been working on math facts, how to subtract, and how we can use math in our daily lives.

Things are going well in the P. E. World. All of the grade levels are learning/practicing Basketball skills. Soon grades 2-5 will play in a friendly basketball tournament. Mr. Schaeffer continues to stress good sportsmanship. Before playing any game, the students recite the sportsmanship code. He is noticing good things with regards to sportsmanship.

### Thank You!!! (Continued)

Thank you from Mrs. Rallis to Mrs. Cady and Mrs. Sherrill for reading to the class during Read and Feed and bringing treats. Also, thank you to Margie Johnson and Phyllis Damgaard for the classroom donations.

Thank you to all of the third graders and their families who donated books from the book fair to our third grade classroom libraries. Thank you to Jensen Shomshor and her family for donating a book to Mrs. Stevens' library.

Thank you from Ms. Hutcheson to the following families for the Book Fair purchases for the classroom library: McKenna, Lucas, Jacksen, Otto, Stone, Samuel, Alli, Braden, Natalie, Ellianna, Ms. Schnitker, and Mrs. Delgado. Her class really enjoyed their Read-n-Feeds this month. Thanks to Natalie, Otto, Austin, and Cooper for sharing fun stories!

Mrs. Lynch would like to thank the anonymous donor who gave band-aids for our nurse's office supply.

Congratulations to the Book Fair raffle winners—Patrick Ryan and Ben Krohn.

## Our Wish List

Miss Baldwin is requesting yoga mat cleaner spray, Tangle or Tangle, Jr. She is also asking for the following games for the Enrichment Center: Set card game, Anomia, Sequence, Apples to Apples, Jr., and Quiddler.

Mrs. Gorman would like Windex Moistened Wipes to clean the Chrome-books.

Mrs. Nohr is asking for Thin Crayola Markers.

Mrs. Marshall is requesting white Christmas tree lights, and galvanized steel book tubs.

Mrs. Farris would like Clorox Wipes and hand sanitizer.

Mrs. McColloch is asking for a heavy duty electric pencil sharpener.

Ms. Hutcheson is requesting miscellaneous stickers and travel sized Kleenex packs.

Ms. DeRocher would like watercolor paints.

Mrs. Rallis is asking for quart sized baggies.

Mrs. Stevens and Ms. Assmann are requesting monetary donations for their 3rd grade book challenge.

Ms. Straka would like quart and gallon sized zip loc bags.

Mr. Schaeffer is asking for jump ropes, hula hoops, basketballs, and plastic bowling pins.

Mrs. Lynch would like Clorox Wipes, and sandwich baggies for the nurse's office.

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The rosary is prayed each Friday morning that we have mass. It starts at 8:15 in the Elementary Chapel before the elementary mass at 8:45. We Offer the rosary for the needs of the St. Albert Community. Come join us! Rosaries and prayer cards are provided. This month the following classes will be praying the rosary: Dec. 1st, Mrs. Gorman, Gr. 4; Dec. 15th, Mrs. McColloch, Grade 4.

Please join us on December 8th for our PreK-12 Feast of the Immaculate Conception mass in the MS/HS Gym @ 9:30.

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Reminder: Kidz Kare is closed from December 25th through January 1st. They will be open on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 2nd & 3rd. School resumes on Thursday, January 4th.

# December, 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 School Re- sumes on January 4th					1 Rosary in Chapel @ 8:15 Mass in elem. Gym @8:45 First Friday reception	2
3	4	5	6 Dismissal @ 1:10; Faith For- mation for faculty	7	8 Feast of the Im- maculate Con- ception PK-12 Mass @9:30 MS/HS Gym	9
10 K-5 Concert 4:00 in Mid- dle School/ High School gym	11	12	13 Dismissal @ 1:10' Prof. Devop- ment for fac- ulty	14	15 Rosary in Chapel @ 8:15 Mass in Elem Gym @ 8:45	16
17	18	19	20 Dismissal @ 1:10; Prof. Dev. for faculty	21 Red/Green play clothes day, Christ- mas parties @ 10:00; Dismissal @ 11:30	22 No School Christmas Break	23
24	25 <i>Merry Christmas!</i>	26	27	28	29	30



## DECEMBER 2017 BREAKFAST MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>Menu is Subject to Change without Notice</p> <p>Extra Milk is at the cheap price of \$.50</p>				<p>1 Cinnamon Rolls &amp; Fruit</p> <p>Or Cereal &amp; Toast</p>
<p>4 Breakfast Burrito</p> <p>Or Cereal &amp; Toast</p>	<p>5 Biscuits &amp; Gravy</p> <p>Or Cereal &amp; Toast</p>	<p>6 Jan's Pancakes</p> <p>Or Cereal &amp; Toast</p>	<p>7 Cream of Wheat w/ English Muffin</p> <p>Or Cereal &amp; Toast</p>	<p>8 Blueberry Muffin &amp; Yogurt</p> <p>Or Cereal &amp; Toast</p>
<p>11 French Toast Sticks</p> <p>Or Cereal &amp; Toast</p>	<p>12 English Muffin Breakfast Sandwich With Sausage , egg &amp; Cheese</p> <p>Or Cereal &amp; Toast</p>	<p>13 Oatmeal and Cinnamon Toast</p> <p>Or Cereal &amp; Toast</p>	<p>14 Breakfast Skillet With Potatoes, cheese and sunny side up egg on top</p> <p>Or Cereal &amp; Toast</p>	<p>5 Cereal &amp; Toast</p>
<p>18 Cream of Wheat With Bagels</p> <p>Or Cereal &amp; Toast</p>	<p>19 Company French Toast</p> <p>Or Cereal &amp; Toast</p>	<p>20 Egg Bake With English Muffin</p> <p>Or Cereal &amp; Toast</p>	<p>21 <b>CHRISTMAS BREAK</b> May God Bless you as we enter the season</p>	<p>22 <b>CHRISTMAS BREAK</b> Take Time to remember those we love</p>
<p>25 <b>CHRISTMAS BREAK</b></p>	<p>26 <b>CHRISTMAS BREAK</b></p>	<p>27 <b>CHRISTMAS BREAK</b></p>	<p>28 <b>CHRISTMAS BREAK</b></p>	<p>29 <b>CHRISTMAS BREAK</b></p>

# DECEMBER ELEMETARY LUNCH MENU 2017

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<i>Menu Subject to Change without notice</i>	Extra Milk \$.50			1 Breakfast at Noon Omelets w/ cheese Hash Browns Link Sausage Applesauce
4 Walking Taco Refried Beans Fried Rice Fruit	5 Mac & Cheese Little Smokies Steamed Green Beans Dinner Rolls Fruit	6 Mandarin Orange Chicken Rice Pilaf Sugar Snap Peas Fortune Cookies Fruit	7 Cheese Pizza Mix Salad w/ cucumbers and tomatoes Steamed Corn Fruit	8 Grilled Bacon Ranch Chicken Sandwich Sun Chips Corn on the cob Fruit
11 Garlic Cheese Bread Marinara Sauce Green Beans Caesar Salad Fruit	12 Cheese burger French Fries Steamed Carrots Fruit	13 Spaghetti & Meatballs w/ Marinara Sauce Roasted Vegetables Bread Sticks Brownies Fruit	14 Chicken Noodle Soup Baguette Bread Lettuce Salad Fruit	15 Beef Enchiladas Refried Beans Fried Rice Fruit
18 Corn Dog or Beef Burritos Bake Beans Tatar Tots Fruit	19 Chicken and Rice Soup Grilled Cheese Sandwich Christmas Cookies Applesauce	20 Chef's Choice	21 Christmas Break  No Lunch	22 Christmas Break  No Lunch
25 Christmas Break  No Lunch	26 Christmas Break  No Lunch	27 Christmas Break  No Lunch	28 Christmas Break  No Lunch	29 Christmas Break  No Lunch

*CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO OUR SAINT ALBERT FAMILIES*

*Tis the season for making our lists and checking them twice!  
Please don't forget to include some very important  
people in the "NICE" column this year!*

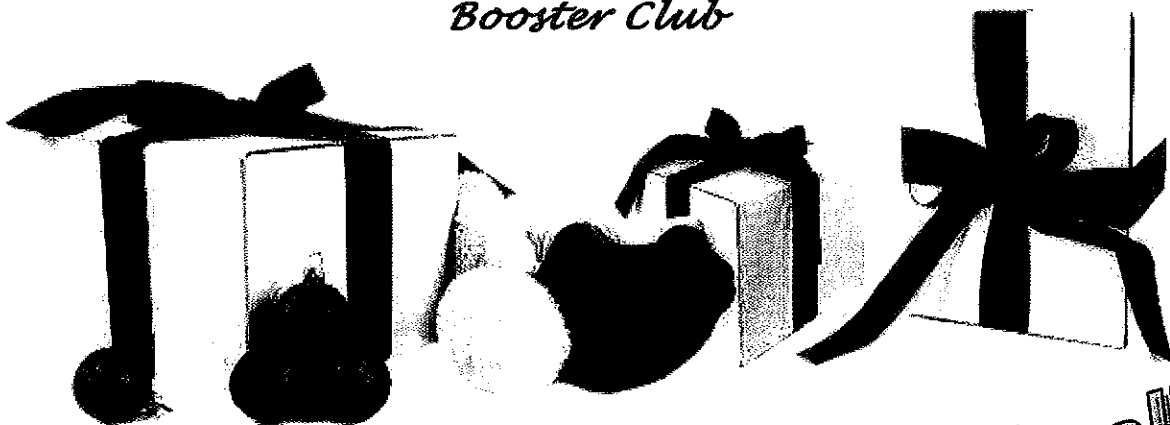
*Our Saint Albert teachers, associates, cooks, bus drivers,  
office, maintenance and child care center staff look forward  
to their Christmas gift card of choice.*

*It's a special way for families to say "thank you"  
for all that they do throughout the year.*

*A suggested donation of \$5 per child or \$10 per family would  
be greatly appreciated. Please send donations by  
Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>  
to either the child care, elementary or middle-high school,  
office in an envelope clearly marked  
"Christmas Gift Collection."*

*Thank you for your generous support in making this  
Christmas Season merry and bright  
for our Saint Albert Family!!*

*Family Falcon Connection  
&  
Booster Club*



**Merry Christmas to all  
and to all a good night!**



# ATTENTION PARENTS!

MAKE THIS YOUR "DOUBLE GIFTING" HOLIDAY SEASON!

AND

**SUPPORT Our School AT THE SAME TIME!**

**OUR HOLIDAY ONLINE STORE IS OPEN!**

By shopping at our school's Online Store, you truly are buying gifts that keep on giving. You will give the gifts your family and friends will love at great prices.

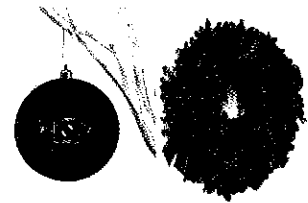
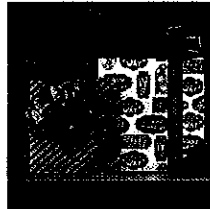
**We get the funds we need to help our students all year long!**

Your support allows a substantial portion of the price to stay at our school!

(wrapping paper, jewelry, candy, collegiate gear, holiday wreaths, personalized stationary, personalized stoneware, kitchenware, magazines, and so much more!)

**Orders Placed by December 10<sup>th</sup> will arrive by December 25<sup>th</sup>**

(Magazines and Personalized items may take longer!)



## AS EASY AS 1-2-3!

1. Go to [www.gaschoolstore.com](http://www.gaschoolstore.com)
2. Enter our Online Store Code:  
**4578985**
3. Enjoy knowing every purchase you make Helps Our School!

At our online store, you can even email friends and family and they can shop and support our school!

To shop hit

**SHOP NOW**



To Register and ask friends, hit

**REGISTER NOW**

*Thank you for your support and Happy Holiday's!*