



Cathedral School News—9/4/2019

A Message from Mrs. Gallagher-Kosmatka

It has been a great start to the 2019-20 school year. Happy faces and energy fill our classrooms and I appreciate the kind words and smiles that are shared throughout the day by students and faculty.

As we settle into the school year please know that you will be receiving your "Cathedral News" every two weeks. My hope is to keep you informed about activities and events that will be happening as well as share information we receive at school that may be beneficial to you in your planning and organizing for your child and family.

Every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. our Cathedral family gathers in the worship area for a Prayer Service or Mass. Parents, grandparents, and family guests are welcome to attend. This first week we viewed a message from **Bishop Callahan**. The beginning of the school year message from our Bishop challenges young people **to be heroes - saintly in their words and actions**. Hearing from our Bishop as we start a new year reminds all of us of the purpose for our school and the enormous responsibility teachers and staff have to share God's word with our children, and each other. Every day brings that responsibility, and privilege, to life.

Again, I ask that you please take time to note the details in this newsletter. Always feel free to call if you have questions or need clarification in regards to activities and events. Thank you for entrusting your children to our care. Cathedral faculty and staff are committed to supporting your desire for a Catholic education in a safe and nurturing environment.

In service of your children,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patty Gallagher-Kosmatka". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Patty Gallagher-Kosmatka
Principal, Cathedral Elementary School





Cathedral School Fundraiser



Information for parents regarding our School Fundraiser went home with students last Friday, August 30. This year's "Adopt a Pet" theme allows students to collect 'pets' when they turn in fundraising orders each Thursday. Our first turn in day is tomorrow, Thursday, September 5. As indicated on the prize sheet that was inside the fundraising packet the other turns in days are Thursday, September 12 and Thursday, September 19. This fundraising sale is conducted simultaneously at Blessed Sacrament School and St. Patrick's School. The theme and structure of the Sale is similar at all three schools but I do try to keep the prize details simple at Cathedral School in order for students to easily understand and participate. I realize that families may have students at several schools so want to be sure to help all children in a family experience success.

This is the one major fundraiser for the school year. I thank you in advance for your participation and support. Homerooms with over 50% student participation will be providing the homeroom teacher \$50 in free shopping items from the catalogs.

Please know that the profits we earn this year will support the needed updates to our phone system, the completion of fencing on 13th Street, portions of student field trips, and other instructional or facility projects at Cathedral Elementary School.

Billing-Aftercare, Extended Care & Lunch



Your student's August lunch statement is in this folder. Lunch statements are sent home monthly. EFT/ACH lunch billing will run on the 5th of each month. The months which the 5th falls on a weekend, it will run on the following Monday. The billing cycle for Aftercare and Extended Care starts Thursday, September 12. We process ACH/EFT payments every other Thursday starting on September 12. If you are not set up to pay by ACH and would like to be, please see the office. Payments by cash or check can be turned into the office. Please look over your billing carefully and contact us for any discrepancies and concerns you may have.



Aquinas Fest on Friday, September 6

On Friday, September 6, the Aquinas Foundation will be hosting Aquinas Fest at Aquinas High School, on Cameron Street, with student games and activities after school until 6:00 p.m. To support this fun event and celebrate Aquinas Catholic Schools students may dress in any Aquinas Catholic Schools apparel, which includes our Cathedral Spirit Shirt. Please note that new students will be receiving Cathedral Spirit shirts by the end of September so at this point, if you do not have any Cathedral or Aquinas apparel wearing anything that is red, blue or gold will celebrate the spirit of Aquinas Catholic Schools. Students may wear non-dress code bottoms for the day as well.



Try-It Day

At least one time each quarter as part of our health and wellness curriculum, **Mrs. Czeiska** will be hosting a 'Try-It Day' at lunchtime. This program is a fun way for Cathedral students to taste something new and different in a comfortable environment. Our first Try-It day will be Tuesday, September 10 at lunchtime. Please ask your student if they tried something new at lunch on Tuesday. Thanks to **Mrs. Czeiska** for providing these opportunities.

Walking School Bus

Cathedral Elementary School participates in the **Safe Routes to School** program through La Crosse County. A variety of activities will happen throughout the school year that are part of this program.

One of the activities in the Safe Routes to School program is the "Walking School Bus". Our "Walking School Bus" meets at 7:30 a.m. at Weigent Park by the shelter on 15th Street. The 'bus' leaves promptly at 7:35 a.m. with the plan to arrive at school in time for students to go to their classrooms at 7:45 a.m. Parents are welcome to join the 'bus walk' and assist us in ensuring that students are safe when walking to school.



The Cathedral "Walking School Bus" will happen on the following days and dates this fall:

Friday, September 6	Friday, September 13
Friday, September 20	Thursday, September 26
Friday, October 4	Thursday, October 10
Friday, October 18	Friday, October 25

Students and families may join in the walk as it fits into their schedule. You are not obligated to walk nor do you have to walk every week. **Mrs. Czeiska** hosts a "Walking School Bus" opportunity at lunch recess so that students not able to walk before school have an opportunity to participate in the Walking School Bus program. We will walk in the spring (end of the week in April and May) as well.

Food Drive **Monthly Food Collection-Children Feeding Children**



As we teach our children about caring for others, Cathedral Elementary School has a "Children Feeding Children" service program in place. Every third Wednesday at our Prayer Service or Mass students are asked to bring a non-perishable food item to school. Students present their food item at the altar during our 9:00 a.m. Prayer Service or Mass. The food items collected are donated to various food pantries in the greater La Crosse area. The first food collection is scheduled for Wednesday, September 18.

Volunteers and Safe Environment

All parents who are planning to **regularly** volunteer, chaperone, or help in classrooms **MUST** complete the online training video, a basic background check and safe environment confidential questionnaire. These forms can be picked up in the school office and the training video is on the Diocese of La Crosse website under "Safe Environment". Completed forms must be submitted to the main office before you can volunteer, chaperone, or help in classrooms. Thank you.

Mrs. Bagniefski is looking for several substitutes to help in the kitchen on occasions when she or Mrs. Gundersen are not available. Hours are typically between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Volunteers would assist in preparing and/or serving lunch for the day. Please contact the school office if you are interested (608-782 -5998).



Cathedral Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

The Cathedral Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) fosters communication among parents, teachers, and school administration in working to strengthen the Cathedral School community. PTO organizes social events and hosts small family fundraisers to raise funds that contribute to school programs and teacher needs.

The Cathedral PTO meets regularly on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at Cathedral School. All parents are welcome to attend meetings and assist as is possible with activities and events. The first meeting will be Wednesday, September 11. The PTO will be seeking parents to serve as homeroom representatives. Each homeroom will have one or two "reps" who will help communicate with homeroom parents and help organize parent homeroom needs (Christmas gifts, end-of-year baskets, Bike Rodeo, Field Day, etc.). The PTO has already been active this school year as they hosted the Family Fun Night at the north side pool on August 2. PTO is sponsoring Cathedral Spirit shirts for all students new to Cathedral School. We will be placing the shirt order on **Friday, September 6.**

The Cathedral Grade School Parents page is a place to post announcements and questions about school-related activities. If you would like to join this closed group, you can search for "Cathedral Grade School Parent" on Facebook and ask to be added. Alternatively, send the email address you use for your Facebook account to cathedralpto@gmail.com and you will be added to the group.

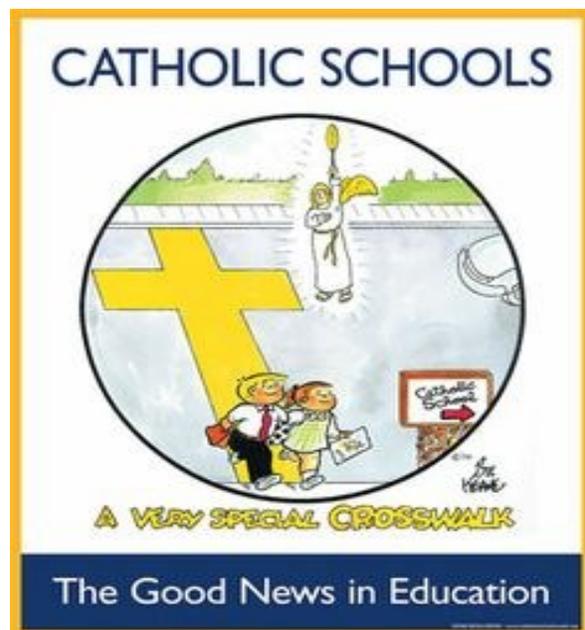
The 2019-20 Cathedral PTO executive committee members are **Kelly Nowicki, mother of Rory VanRooyen; Jessica Neubauer, mother of Olivia; Jill VandenLangenberg, mother of Mason; and Sara Wabaunsee, mother of Paxico.** Their efforts and support of school activities and expenses are greatly appreciated!!!

SCHOOL - Fleece Order Forms

SPIRIT

We have an option in our dress code that allows students to wear a full zip fleece over their polo shirt. Order forms are included in your folder. There are sample sizes on a table in the lobby. The order form, with payment is due in the school office on or before **September 26.**

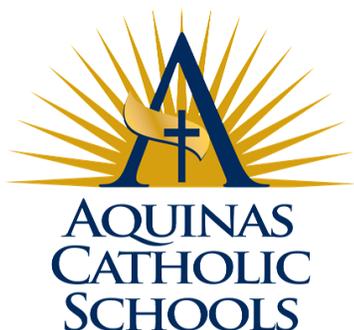
There is also an order form to purchase an Aquinas hat in support of the Aquinas Dance Team. Order forms can be turned in to the school office with payment.



**Cathedral Elementary
School**

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AQUINAS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
MISSION STATEMENT

**Aquinas Catholic Schools is a
Christ-centered family
devoted to nurturing students of all faiths
through educational excellence
in its vibrant Catholic tradition.**

CORE VALUES

FAITH—Serving Jesus and His Church
INTEGRITY—Cultivating moral character
**EXCELLENCE—Pursuing daily improve-
ment through life-long learning**
**LEADERSHIP—Inspiring achievement and
stewardship**
DIGNITY—Respecting God, others and self

www.cathedralementaryschool.new.rschooltoday.com/

School Calendar Reminders

Thursday, September 5
Friday, September 6

Fundraising Sale turn in day
Aquinas Catholic Schools Spirit Day
Walking School Bus 7:35 a.m. at Weigent Park
Aquinas Fest at Aquinas High School 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.
"Try It" Day at lunch
Prayer Service at 9:00 a.m. in Worship Area—Mrs.
Flottmeyer's' class leads
PTO meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 10
Wednesday, September 11

Fundraising Sale turn in day
Walking School Bus 7:35 a.m. at Weigent Park
Fire Education Presentation by La Crosse Fire
Department at 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 12
Friday, September 13
Tuesday, September 17

Prayer Service at 9:00 a.m. in Worship Area—
Miss Wirth's class leads with "Children Feeding
Children" Food Donation (non-perishable item)
Fundraising Sale final turn in day
Aquinas Spirit Day
Fundraising Sale ends
Walking School Bus 7:35 a.m. at Weigent Park
Grade 2 to Mary, Queen of Angels Chapel at St. Rose
Convent at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, September 18

Thursday, September 19
Friday, September 20

Aquinas High School Homecoming Parade at 2:15 p.m.
Prayer Service at 9:00 a.m. in Worship Area—
Mrs. Johanns' class leads

Wednesday, September 25