



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL



Est. 2001 Principal's Message – May 2018 – #3 Visit Us on the Web At: www.icsannandale.org

From Mr. Stone's Desk

Greetings Immaculate Conception School Community,

"If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Although...

We should also strive to not become stagnant. We should prudently and with appropriate consideration continue to learn, explore, and evaluate options which may enhance our school program.

ICS is a fine Preschool-Grade 8 Catholic school. ICS is not a broken school. It is not a 'fixer upper' as I have heard some principals characterize their schools, particularly when first appointed to their position. ICS has consistently demonstrated the merit of our mission, "to foster in each student, spiritual growth, academic excellence and moral integrity."

Consistent demonstration of the merit of our school program is reflected in the continued foundation which we provide graduates of Immaculate Conception School. In this respect this school year is no different insofar as many of our graduates are once again going to the high schools of their choice, whether they be considered elite private schools, catholic schools, or public schools.

Looking forward, continuing to learn and evaluate options which may enhance our school program, I am very thankful for the significant contribution made via our recent GALA Paddle Appeal, with said financial contributions being specifically designated for Professional Development of our staff. As our teacher presenter/speaker Mrs. Ziembra put it, quite well in my opinion, these funds will go directly toward the continued enhancement of our professional educators. They will be used to fund Orton-Gillingham training sessions, Next Generation Science Standard training sessions, STREAM programs, etc. At this time I am happy to report that we will be sending three ICS teachers to a week-long NGSS workshop this August. I will also seek to continue reporting on each professional development opportunity our teachers attend and benefit from, thus providing a level of

confidence to those who graciously and generously chose to support this year's GALA paddle appeal topic that 'yes', your donations are being spent on that which you chose to support. Thank you.

These kinds of professional development training sessions will help our school move forward, continuing to enhance the already very capable talents of our teachers. Some of these professional development opportunities, particularly those related to NGSS and STREAM for example, will fit in nicely with my objective to have ICS learn and explore how we can continue to grow and update our math and science offerings.

I believe that while our current math program is and obviously has provided a good foundation for ICS students, we should explore the potential adoption of a math curriculum that incorporates and integrates STEM. To this end, all ICS teachers of math spent part of a professional development day this year examining a math curriculum alternative (Sadlier). While purportedly incorporating STEM via each chapter our teachers found this particular curriculum/publisher to be thin and lacking in a number of areas. Hence, of course I did not pursue adoption of such. While I have a targeted interest in incorporating a math curriculum that integrates STEM I also will not choose a math program that does not have the endorsement of our teachers. Hence, to date, I have charged our Math Department Chair, Mrs. McCarron, with looking at additional options this summer which we may be able to subsequently have presented or reviewed by the faculty during the next school year.

I hold a similar objective when it comes to utilizing and incorporating Next Generation Science Standards throughout our K-8 program. Under my predecessor, Ms. Cynthia Kitts, ICS already began sending teachers to NGSS professional development workshops. I will continue this practice, including three more teachers this summer, with the gradual objective being to have all of our K-8 teachers NGSS knowledgeable and capable of implementing lessons and units via their delivery of instruction. Our school Science Dept Chair, Mrs. Jones, will help lead this effort.

REMINDER

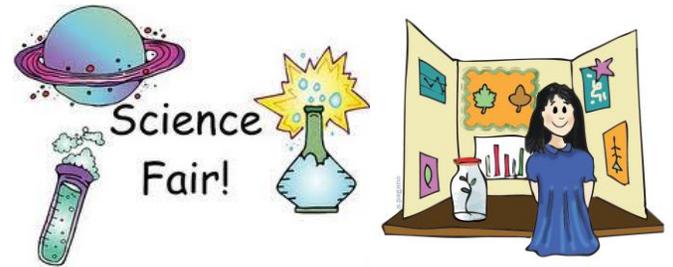
05/17 – Adoration – For 8th grade graduates & Fr. Jay

05/17 – Spring Music Program – 7:00p.m. – MPR

05/20 – Pentecost Sunday

05/27 – Trinity Sunday

05/28 – NO SCHOOL – Memorial Day



Congratulations Science Fair Winners! 🎉

The 7th grade students started working on their science fair projects back in October. Last week they presented their experiments and results at the science fair. All of the students did an amazing job; the judges were impressed by the creativity and science behind the projects. Each project was judged by two judges, following a rubric, and the top projects in each division, Life Science and Physical Science, were given awards.

Life Science Awards:

1st Place – Jack Sicat

2nd Place – Ally Moore

3rd Place – Sean Newcomb

Honorable Mention (3 Awards) – Meghan Crowley,
Danny Fischer and Maria Loss

Physical Science Awards:

1st Place (2 Awards) – Gabriella Graham
and Sophia Latini

2nd Place – Isabella Latini

3rd Place (2 Awards) – Ivy Murphy
and Sarah Wojcik

Honorable Mention (4 Awards) – Patrick Egg, Ryan
Gilhooly, Julia Lance and John Paul Smart

Thank you also to our own Mrs. Stacy Jones for the excellent guidance, support, and encouragement which she provided all of our students.



Finally, there are a few other areas of individualized program enhancements which I will be seeking to follow up on. For example, due to the gracious Art Grant we received this past fall from ‘Art by Jeanne’ (Vanderbeek and Downey Families) I am currently consulting with two of our teachers regarding the possibility of utilizing these funds to purchase a 3D Printer. I am not interested in acquisition of such just to have it, as a novelty or status symbol, but rather as an instructional tool which could help enhance student learning. If/when such an objective is identified we may well use our art grant monies to purchase a 3D Printer.

I hope this edition of my Principal Comments accomplishes two things. First, I hope it helps to provide a ‘Thank You’ to all those who are supporting our school's efforts, whether it be financially via a method such as the recent GALA paddle appeal and/or spiritually via prayers for our continued best efforts.

Second, I also hope that my comments provide some idea of where I believe ICS can continue to grow, to enhance our program. ICS is a great school. It is not a fixer-upper. Still, just as we encourage our students to be, the professional educators in the building also strive to be life-long learners. We care about the program we provide, thankful for the trust families extend us by sending your children to our school, and we will continue to give appropriate consideration to how we might continue to go forward, never wanting to become stagnant, always willing to enhance and improve.

Thank You Kindly – Serviam, David



Prayer for Immaculate Conception School:

Dear Lord, bless our Catholic school. Help us to continue to be a humble source of wisdom, always yearning to learn more about your tremendous love for us. May all who enter Immaculate Conception School be filled with the gift of your Holy Spirit, coming to know you in a more meaningful way. Guide us as a community that respects and welcomes everyone. May Catholic education continue to grow so that your good news can be taught to children throughout the world. In your son Jesus’s name we pray, Amen.

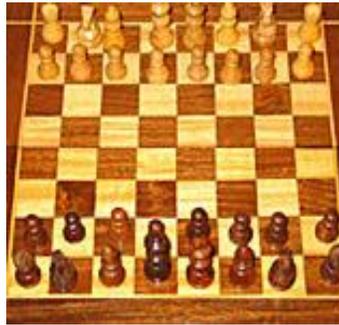


**2018-19
REGISTRATION
IS NOW OPEN**

2-Year-Old Preschool - 8TH Grade

Register online at:

<http://www.icsannandale.org/2018-19-registration>



**Congratulations School Chess
Tournament Winners!**

1st Place – Nick Sargent

2nd Place – Mac Kraft

3rd Place – Adam

Bunger-Spiecha

4th Place – Thomas Wojtal

5th Place – Jake Dunham

Thank you as well to Coach,
Mr. Louis DeLauro!

Art Show & Portfolio Day

Thursday, June 7th
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

**Please join us for our Annual
Portfolio Day & Spring Art Show!**

In addition to students exhibiting artwork in the hallways, we will again hold an art fundraiser in the Multi-Purpose Room. Artwork from all TR-K-8th

Grade students will be on display—framed and ready for purchase: **\$27/frame**

(cash, check, or credit card). A percentage of the sales go directly to help

purchase art supplies for next year. If you cannot attend the show, you may

pre-purchase your child's framed artwork by filling out the order form below. Thank you for supporting the art program.

Thank you for supporting the art program.

Hope to see you at the show!



YES! I would like to pre-purchase my child(ren)'s artwork:

1. Student's Name _____ Class _____ x \$27

2. Student's Name _____ Class _____ x \$27

3. Student's Name _____ Class _____ x \$27

4. Student's Name _____ Class _____ x \$27

5. Student's Name _____ Class _____ x \$27

TOTAL: _____

Please include a **check made payable to ICS** (to the attention of Karen McBride, Art Teacher). The frames will be held for you in the school office if you are unable to pick them up at the show. Thank you!!

Your Name _____ Phone # _____

May Crowning at ICS – Monday, May 14th – Celebrating the ‘Month of Mary’





Immaculate Conception School
Annual
Spring Program

Thursday, May 17, 2018 @ 7:00 PM
MPR

Performers:
4th Grade
ICS Band
ICS Glee Club
ICSingers

Please come out and support our performers!

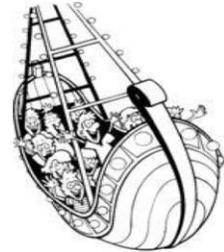
Band and ICSinger please wear black and white attire. Glee Club and 4th Grade please come dressed in your best spring outfit





2018

**Bargains
From
The Big Top**



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION 17th ANNUAL
PARISH FESTIVAL

PRE-SALE RIDE TICKET ORDER

Immaculate Conception will host our 17th Annual Parish Festival on June 20th through June 24th. This exciting community building event will feature Rides, Games, Entertainment, a Super 50/50 Raffle, Tricky Tray, two fireworks nights, great food, entertainment and so much more.

We are delighted to welcome back Majestic Midways as our ride vendor this year. Here is your opportunity to get your ride tickets early and save money. A sheet of 25 tickets is available now for only \$20.00. Tickets will be available in the Parish Office starting immediately, after weekend masses from May 20th until June 17th, through Immaculate Conception School, or by contacting The Parish Office at (908)735-7319.

Name _____

Phone _____

Quantity of Sheets @ \$20.00 _____

Total Enclosed _____

I will pick up my tickets at the Parish Office (Monday through Friday 10:00-4:30)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



SERVICE HOUR OPPORTUNITY

Volunteers are needed to assist with the Parish Festival Mailing. Service Hours will be applied to the current school year. Please lend us a hand on:

May 16, 2018
9:30 a.m.
In the Mary House

For additional information, please call 908-735-7319

17th Annual Parish Festival
June 20-24, 2018