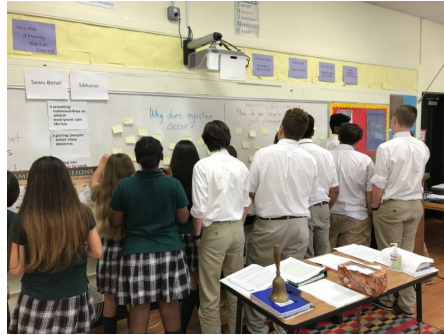




Message from the Head of School



Dear Families,

During the first week of school, I spent some time with our Loyola Academy students. I noticed that many of our grade six students were struggling to open their newly assigned lockers. Their nervous fingers were spinning the dials too quickly. Many seemed convinced that they would never be able to open them. Checking in with them a few weeks later, most had mastered the master lock! That being said, a few have also exercised their creativity to find ways to intentionally keep their locks from locking.

One clever lad figured out that he could wedge a paperclip in the mechanism and the lock would stay unlocked. This remedy was shared with classmates and even with students in different grade levels. While they were in class, I went from locker to locker and removed the paperclips. After all, lockers are designed to protect one's belongings. At locker break, students discovered that their lockers were once again locked. An astute grade eight student exclaimed: "Why do we have to keep our lockers locked? Nobody at this school will ever mess with our stuff!" This statement gave me pause and I am considering removing the locks next year.

We are blessed to have a school where children feel safe, secure, connected to one another and to their teachers. Children here have been taught to respect others and their belongings. They have been taught not to fear one another and that there is a solution when they find themselves in conflict with each other. Our school culture is in stark contrast to the current climate in our nation where divisiveness abounds. I am disheartened by the acrimony in our nation that has mistrust at its root. I think about the events in Charlottesville, the conflict with North Korea and, this past week, the NFL protests.

It is a shame that we have to teach our students to lock up their belongings and parents must teach their children to be suspicious of strangers who may want to do them harm. At the same time, we must not forget to teach our children to be open-minded and trusting. We must protect them from the hate-mongers, teach them how to resolve conflict and become instruments of peace.

I am distressed at the political climate of our country and worry that our children will become infected by the negativity. At the same time, I am happy to report that children at school act from their God-given instincts to trust and respect others. I am grateful that our school is a joyful school.

Sincerely,
William Gartside

News & Updates

Girl Scout - Daisy Troop Sign Up

There will be a Girl Scout Daisy Troop held at STCPS starting this fall for girls in K2 and Grade 1. This troop will be led by a STCPS parent. There are limited spots available. To sign up click the link below. The troop number is 82473.

Questions? Email Kim Herzig at Kimberlyherzig@gmail.com.



[Sign up here!](#)

Grade 4 students playing a math game in which all students were playing fairly and encouraging one another.



Grade 1 students working on counting strategies by grouping 2's.

Family Resource Guide

The community building committee has created a family resource guide which outlines the important events throughout the school year.

To download the guide, click the link below. It can also be found on the school webpage under the Parent Tab.

[Family Resource Guide](#)

Special Elders'/Grandparents' Morning
Friday, October 6, 2017
9AM to 11AM

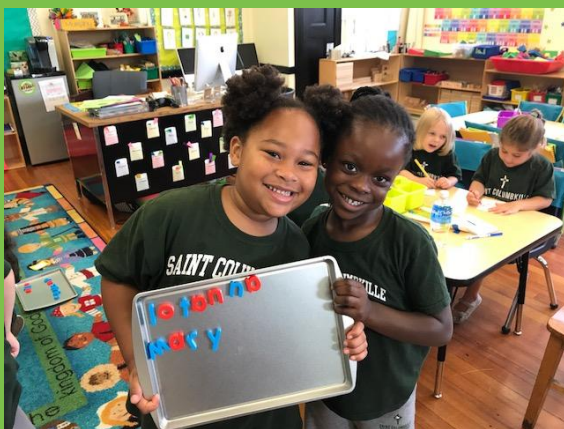
[Sign up now!](#)

Save the date for our annual event! We will gather on the plaza for refreshments and a welcome and prayer service by our Head of School, Dr. Gartside. The choir and band will perform before guests are welcomed into the classrooms.

In order to plan for the event, we ask that you register your child's Grandparents/Special Elders by Tuesday, October 3rd.



Pre-Kindergarten students learn about friendship and the importance of being kind to one another.



K2 students loved using magnetic letters to spell out their names!

Parent Volunteers Needed!

The community building committee is looking for parents to chair events throughout the school year including the Thanksgiving Lunch, Pancake Breakfast, Christmas at St.Cols, Easter Lunch, Potluck, and the Race to Educate.

If you are interested in helping to run these events, please email communitybuilding@stcps.org.

Calendar Of Events

Friday September 29

- Spirit Day - ALS

Tuesday, October 3

- Grade 1 Morning Coffee 8AM in the library

Friday, October 6

- Special Elders'/Grandparents Morning 9AM - 11AM
- Early Dismissal 1:15PM

Monday, October 9

- No School - Columbus Day

Tuesday, October 10

- Grade 2 Morning Coffee 8AM in the library

[Click here to download the October Lunch Menu](#)

Spirit Day

ALS Support

Friday, September 29, 2017
\$1 or more!

This month we will be donating to the **Massachusetts chapter of the ALS Association.**

Their mission is to discover treatments and a cure for ALS; to serve, advocate for, and empower people affected by ALS to live their lives to the fullest. They are also a resource for caregivers of ALS patients.



Wear **RED** in support of those affected by ALS.

[Website](#) [Our School](#) [Admissions](#) [Calendar](#) [Support Our School](#) [Contact Us](#)

