

St.Anthony School Programs
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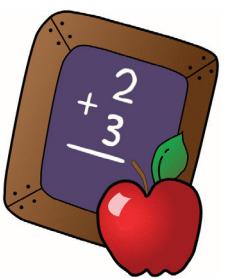
Spirit Newsletter



VOLUME 5

Upcoming Events!

- **Annual Golf Outing at Oakmont Country Club, April 27th**
- **Inclusive Games, SS. Simon & Jude School, May 5th**
- **Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community, May 16th**
- **Spirit of St. Anthony Breakfast, Rivers Club, June 4th**
- **Scholarship Golf Outing, Green Oaks CC, July 17th**



Apples for Students Program

Registering your Giant Eagle Advantage Card is a simple way to support our students. Simply create an account by visiting www.gianteagle.com/Save/Supporting-Our-Schools/ and enter #1034 as our school code in the "My School Programs" section. This program allows us to earn points every time you shop which we redeem for needed classroom supplies. For more information, visit our website at www.stanthonykids.org and click on the link under What's New.



Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community

On Saturday, May 16, 2015, families, staff and friends of St. Anthony School Programs will participate in the Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community at Stage AE on Pittsburgh's North Shore. In addition to the 5K or 1-Mile Fun Walk, there will be snacks, entertainment, health screenings and children's activities to make it a morning of fun for the whole family. Highmark underwrites 100% of the event cost, so all money raised directly benefits St. Anthony's!

So how can you get involved? 1) Register and walk with us! 2) Make a personal donation to sponsor a St. Anthony student or team. 3) Get your workplace involved-form a walking team, designate St. Anthony's walkers as a beneficiary of a casual Friday collection, or simply collect donations in support of one of our Walk teams.



Find more information, register or make a donation on the Highmark Walk website beginning in February. Visit www.walkforahealthycommunity.org and select St. Anthony School Programs from the list of participating organizations.



Scholarship Grant

The Cahouet Foundation made a \$450,000 grant to St. Anthony School Programs through the Diocese of Pittsburgh's, Our Campaign for the Church Alive! The Church Alive Campaign is committed to expanding ministries throughout the Diocese of Pittsburgh and providing extraordinary resources for extraordinary needs. The grant will not only provide full scholarships to many families but will help increase and grow the program. The invaluable education that St. Anthony's provides helps each student reach his or her highest level of independence and intellectual capacity.

St. Anthony School Programs currently serves 105 students with Down Syndrome, Autism or other Intellectual Disabilities. Now because of The Cahouet Foundation grant, an increased number of families, who previously could not afford a St. Anthony's education, can receive the education they need and deserve to grow as individuals. "Through the generosity of the Diocese, the Our Campaign for the Church Alive! and The Cahouet Foundation," says Jerry Gaughan, CEO of St. Anthony Charitable Foundation, "many families will see their children educated in a loving, faith-based environment. The Cahouet's wish is to provide significant funds to help expand our St. Anthony services to children with special needs."

In addition to providing grants to 20 families for the 2015-16 academic year, St. Anthony School Programs is working to add a new elementary classroom in the South Hills. This new classroom would open at Saint Thomas More in Bethel Park and should accommodate an additional 10 - 12 students. The Cahouet Foundation grant will expand enrollment throughout the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

The Cahouet Foundation gift helps the St. Anthony Kids Education Fund, which provides tuition assistance for students with Down Syndrome, Autism or other Intellectual Disabilities who seek an inclusive education that prepares them for the future academically, socially and vocationally. For more than 60 years, St. Anthony's has helped students grow and become active and contributing members of society. For more information or to apply please visit our website: www.stanthonykids.org or e-mail: info@stanthonykid.org.



Annual Dinner and Auction

On Friday, October 17, 2014, St. Anthony School Programs celebrated its 17th Annual Dinner and Auction at Heinz Field.

We were once again blessed with two couples that chaired this year's event, Kate Wrenshall and Joshua Lewis and Stephanie Solomon Benestad and Brian Benestad. With their help and the dedication of sixty volunteers, over 478 guests joined together for an evening of fun and fellowship. The evening featured a live and silent auction as well as a student speaker and student presentation.

Proceeds from this year's event support St. Anthony's mission to provide moral and spiritual formation, an academic course of studies and vocational training for students ages 5 to 21 with Down Syndrome, Autism or other Intellectual Disabilities.



Accepting Applications

St. Anthony School Programs is now accepting applications for the 2015/16 school year. St. Anthony's provides students with a unique inclusive educational program for children with Down Syndrome, Autism or other Intellectual Disabilities in kindergarten, grade school, high school and a unique post-secondary program at Duquesne University. Whatever the child's age, we can help them!



We do have scholarships available for those that qualify. If you would like to learn more about St. Anthony's, contact us at 724-940-9020, info@stanthonykids.org or visit us online at www.stanthonykids.org and click on our admissions tab and complete the online application.



Christmas Dance

St. Anthony School Alumni came together for a Christmas Dinner Dance on Monday, December 8th at Duquesne University. This annual event is sponsored by St. Bede Parish and the St. Anthony Alumni Committee. Thanks to all alumni and parents who attended. A great time was had by all.

Stay tuned for information for our next alumni event! We hope to see you there!



St. Anthony's Works!

Meet AJ, one of the many star students who are the core of St. Anthony School Programs.

AJ is a 7 year old kindergartener in our program at St. Thomas More School in Bethel Park. He was three when he was diagnosed with an intellectual disability. His parents were relocating to Pittsburgh for a new job opportunity and were looking for an inclusive program that allowed AJ and his sister to attend the same school together.

AJ's parents googled for information on Inclusive Education Programs in Pittsburgh that were faith-based and St. Anthony's came to the top of their list.

"St. Anthony's program at St. Thomas More was the right choice for us" according to Christine, AJ's Mother. "Public schools were unable to provide the services AJ needed. It was also important to us to have his sister, Julia, attend the same grade school and for both to receive a Catholic education." Christine added "St. Anthony's has enabled AJ to be included with his peers in many classes while getting one-on-one instruction for his core needs. He has learned self-control and the students are compassionate and positive with my son and daughter. Enrollment in St. Anthony's has helped his confidence and enabled AJ to feel comfortable in the outside world. We are so grateful to St. Anthony's. We feel blessed to be able to attend and look forward to many more successful years."

AJ's favorite classes are Spanish and Art. For fun, AJ loves coloring and celebrating holidays, swimming and hanging out with his family.

Thanks to your prayers and financial support we continue to help many students and their families become stars.

