



Aquinas Middle School
315 11th Street South
La Crosse, WI 54601
(608) 784-0156

November 19, 2020

To: Parent(s)/Guardian(s)
From: Mrs. Ring



Congratulations and thank you to:

➤ **Congratulations to our October Students of the month:**

St. Thomas Aquinas Award: Kaitlyn McGovern (7) and Jonathan Kearney (8)

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award: Quinn Williams (7) and Emma Dobbins (8)

- ***THANK YOU to our teachers and staff!*** What you may not realize is that this year instead of four sections of core classes, there are five. Usually one of those Cores is a prep period. When we decided the students would move in cohorts, and we needed smaller class sizes, the prep period was filled with a class. Not only the Cores are affected by this, the Encore teachers have stepped up to provide coverage for resource periods and lunches in classrooms so the Core teachers have a duty free lunch. Remember many of the Encores teach high school classes as well. Core teachers cover afternoon resources and teach religion, leaving them very little time for prep. Their “Frontline” work has been amazing and though it may look easy sometimes, it is not. Planning for online delivery and usually at the same time in-person delivery is taxing. Add on correcting and the constant threat of COVID, for which they are more susceptible and you’ll find one exhausted teacher. They have been resilient but know the stress is much more than a normal year, as I know many of you are feeling that increase as well. While all hands are on deck, we are happy to be in-person! Let’s keep it that way by all concentrating on our COVID positive choices. Thank you.

Middle School News Updates

- The annual food drive that is sponsored by AMS Student Government was supposed to be this week. Unfortunately we were not able to have that during our virtual learning time. WAFER really depends on our large donation every year. It is good to have students understand the local needs right here in La Crosse! We will still have the food drive but tentatively it will be December 14th - December 18th. If you notice items while you are out that were on the list, you can be pre-shopping for this event. Thank you!



- The final candy bar turn in date will be Monday December 7th. We have several more cases of candy bars as well as individual bars remaining. Candy bars make great Christmas gifts and stocking stuffers!
- We continue to see some new COVID-19 cases in the AMS while we are out. It is no fun, but staying away from each other is what the quarantine is all about. This way we can stay healthy as a system and stay open.
- If you plan to **travel** over Thanksgiving Break (or have large group gatherings). **You must quarantine** either 10- or 14- days afterward. This helps us to ensure safety for those in school. If you are traveling (or at a bigger gathering) and you need to know how long to quarantine, please call school and ask.
- **Ways to help raise money for our school:**
 - Box Top for Education - download the app and scan your receipt!
 - RootinCrown donations, volunteering, or shopping
 - Kwik Trip donation designation for your credit card
 - Amazon Smiles ACS designation for the Charity of Choice.

Upcoming Calendar Items to note:

NOVEMBER

- 25 NO SCHOOL – comp day for faculty
- 26 NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Day
- 27 NO SCHOOL
- 30 *Honor Level 1 & 2 \$1 Auction Buck Day*

DECEMBER

- 1 Mass
- 2 *Honor Level 1 & 2 \$10 Auction Buck Day*
- 4 *Mid Quarter 2*
Honor Level 1 \$10 Auction Buck Day
Assembly

As always, please feel free to call if you have any questions or concerns.

AMS VISION STATEMENT:

Aquinas Middle School will inspire students to become critical thinkers, problem solvers, and lifelong learners within a safe, nurturing, Catholic environment. Students will grow spiritually, academically, creatively, socially, and physically, striving to be Christ-like influences in their communities.

AMS MOTTO:

Learn – Share – Serve

“This institution is an equal opportunity provider.”