

THE CRUSADER TIMES

THE ATONEMENT ACADEMY

15415 Red Robin Road, San Antonio TX 78255
Phone: 210-695-2240 Fax: 210-695-9679
www.atonementonline.com info@atonementonline.com



"Fides et Ratio"

January 27, 2010

Open House This Sunday



Have you ever wanted to roam the halls at The Atonement Academy, peek into classrooms, take a look at student's work in the lower school wing, see the choir room or gym? This Sunday you have an opportunity to get a feel for what life is like five days of the week on our campus. Beginning with Mass

at 11:00, we will host an Open House for our enrolled families as well as prospective families. Please invite your relatives and friends (a printable flyer is on page four of this newsletter).

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Jan. 29:** January birthday observances, PK-5th grade only.
- **Jan. 31:** OPEN HOUSE! 11 am Mass, followed by an open house until 1:30 pm. Invite your friends!
- **Jan. 31-Feb. 6:** Catholic Schools Week observed nationally.
- **Feb. 6:** Rodeo-theme Stampede for the entire family. Gymnasium, see p. 5
- **Feb. 9:** Parent Formation Night and PTC meeting, St. Anthony Hall, 7 pm
- **Feb. 11:** St. Valentine Day observances, PK-5 only
- **Feb. 11:** St. Valentine Day Dance, Upper Scholars
- **Feb. 12:** Parent-Teacher Conferences, NO CLASSES
- **Feb. 15:** Federal Holiday. NO CLASSES
- **Feb. 16:** Mardi Gras at Maggiano's
- **Feb. 22:** Junior Ring Ceremony at the 9:15 Mass

See School Website for Complete Calendar

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

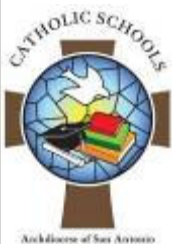
Use our general e-mail : info@atonementonline.com
We check it daily and someone will correspond as soon as possible!



A National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence



One of America's Top 50 Catholic High Schools



OUR MISSION

At The Atonement Academy we strive for excellence in the physical, the intellectual, and the spiritual virtues through a challenging course of classical and Catholic education.



Nota Bene — Note Well:

- **The Open Application Period for 2010-2011** began on Jan. 25 and we now have over 300 students registered for next year! Watch for our ads in this Sunday's Express-News and in Thursday's Today's Catholic.
- **The Family Stampede is Back!** The Feb. 6 event is fast approaching. See p. 5 for more detail. Several families have asked for ways to help, and one great way is to donate bottled water and soft drinks.
- **Confirmation and First Communion Photos:** If you would like to have professional photos taken, our school portrait photographer, Carlos Ramirez, will be here Feb. 4 & 5 from 4 until 5:30 in the conference room.
- **Class Rings** will be blessed and presented to Juniors at the 9:15 Mass on February 22. Parents of Juniors are invited to attend and join the class for a reception after Mass (to be held in the courtyard —weather permitting). Freshmen and Sophomore parents will be contacted to help host this event.
- **Hand in Hand** will be going downtown to pass out food to the homeless on Sat. Feb. 20th. Please meet in the church parking lot at 7:05am. All Upper Scholars are responsible for finding their own ride to and from this activity. Middle and lower school students are welcome to participate with their families. We will return to the church by 9:00 am. Anyone who would like to donate individually packaged food (noodles in a cup a big hit), please drop it off in the narthex of the church. For more information please contact Kristie Weems at kweems@atonementonline.com.
- **Help and Hope for Haiti:** We collected \$1,064.25 in our collection box in the school foyer. Thank you so much! The funds will be sent to Haiti through Catholic Relief Service.

Choir News

The Upper School Honors Choir has accepted an invitation from the Catholic Schools Office to help kickoff Catholic Schools Week. They will be the featured guest choir at San Fernando Cathedral on Jan. 31 at the 10:00 Mass celebrated by Archbishop Gomez.

The Honors and Prep Choirs combined to enjoy the privilege of a workshop with Jean Ashworth Bartle, a world-renowned children's choir expert. Mrs. Bartle is in great demand as a clinician, adjudicator, and guest conductor, and we were fortunate to have had her on campus for three days last week.



Silver Arrow Student Success



Andres Profenna (6th grade) was erroneously left off the Silver Arrow Award list announced during our assembly on Jan. 13th. Here he models the secret to his success: he studies during the wait for Car Line. We apologize for the oversight and congratulate Andres.

MS Basketball Team Parents' Night Tues., Feb. 2, 2010

MS Crusaders
Vs.
St. Mary's (of Fredricksburg)

A special ceremony will take place at the beginning of the girls' 5:30pm game and at the end of the boys' game to recognize all the wonderful parents who supported the team and the athletic program this season.

Helping Your Children Become the Children God Wants Them to Be Parent Formation Night: February 9

Our second Parent Formation Night is next week, and we will have a guest speaker from Family Lifeworks develop the theme "Helping Your Children Become the Children God Wants Them to Be."

That night the PTC also will sponsor a "Uniform Swap," so if your child's uniforms are getting too short, too tight, too worn, now is the time to trade or buy used uniforms at VERY deep discounts!

The Library Thanks You!

A hearty thank you to all who participated in Angel Tree Donations. Your generous gifts allow us to acquire over 100 new books!

Students, be sure to keep checking the AR display to see some of our new arrivals. Remember to also check the Saints of the Month display to learn more about some of the inspiring men and women mentioned in Father's sermons.

Anyone who missed out on the trees is welcome to browse our Wish List anytime at:

<http://www.amazon.com/wishlist>

and type: The Atonement Academy Library in the "Find someone's list" search box.

Thank you again for your wonderful support!

YEARBOOKS ARE COMING!

We should begin
distribution
of last year's
yearbook
on February 5!

A Note from Your Teacher...

SCIENCE FAIR PROJECTS

As a reminder, Science Fair Projects are due, Friday, February 5th. Projects will be judged in the Common Room on Saturday, February 6th, from 9:30-3:00. Please make sure you have scheduled an interview time for your student. All students without a previously confirmed interview time will be assigned one on Friday, January 29th. Student interviewees should report 10 minutes before their start time to give them time to do any last minute tidying up of their projects. Academy uniform is required. The science fair projects will be on display after the 9:00 and 11:00 masses on Sunday, February 7th, after which they will be taken down.

—Dr. Vallor

Mr. Caudle's Greek and M.S. Religion

Mr. Caudle's eighth grade religion class has been studying the life of Our Lord and the founding of the Church. We will soon move from our study of the New Testament to the many important and life giving teachings of the Church. After a brief look at what the girls will be covering in their Freshman theology class, we will move on to the history of the Church to wrap up the year.

The Greek students of the upper school have recently learned the Our Father, or 'Pater Hemon' in Greek, and have been reading some of the history of the Peloponnesian Wars in some texts which are edited from original Greek authors. Soon we will be moving on to reading some Plato and Xenophon and learning about the philosophy of Socrates. The students have been making great progress, and we may be able to make it as far as some of the comic poets of ancient Greece before Easter break!

Mr. Caudle's seventh grade religion class has finished the somewhat historical part of the course, which went up to the founding of the Church and her spread throughout the world. We have most recently been learning about the Church's doctrine of grace and will be studying the Theological and Moral virtues and the Sacraments that help to develop them throughout the quarter.

—Mr. Caudle

World Geography

The freshmen have begun a new section studying political thought and models, including Constitutional Monarchies, Fascism, Council Communism, Dictatorships, and Republican forms of government. Along with those models, we're looking at political philosophers and revolutionaries, too. Among them: Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels, Adam Smith, [Mao Zedong](#), and [Vladimir Lenin](#).

Second Grade

With great enthusiasm, Mrs. Weems and Mrs. Kennedy's Second Grade classes are taking on an exciting literary unit, [The Boxcar Children](#). In addition to reading and journaling each day the students look forward to cooking with the Boxcar Children Friday, January 29. Along with parent volunteers, the Second Grade students will be making Mary's Cherry Dumplings, Dr. Moore's Favorite Brown Cookies, and Hen's Nest Scrambled Eggs. Let's see if the children have mastered their measuring skills!

—Mrs. Kennedy & Mrs. Weems

Mrs. Garant's Classes

Lit & Comp students are nearly through working on their note-taking skills. They have discovered that writing papers by using their notes is much easier than writing papers without notes. They have also had the opportunity to take notes and use these notes on quizzes, when they remember to bring their notes on the day of the quiz. On Monday, Jan 11, they wrote essays reflecting upon their study skills or lack of study skills and the connection between their homework strategy and their quiz scores.

Mrs. Garant's 8th Grade Boys Religion class is embarking on a study of Holy Week. They have been drawing sketches of events and re-enacting scenes. Go on, ask them a question about Holy Week.

Mrs. Garant's Speech students are learning to adapt their speeches to their audience. They created lessons based upon picture books for grades pre-Kinder through 2nd Grade. Fortunately, no pre-Kinder students were present as we had a few mishaps, but they are definitely learning what not to do, and how to provide constructive feedback to each other.

—Mrs. Garant



BRING A FRIEND!

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 31, 2010
Holy Mass 11:00 am

Open House following until 1:30 pm

The Upper School Honors Choir will provide a short performance at 1:00

Light refreshments in the John Paul II Library

- *Come and bring your family and friends!*
- *This is a great opportunity to visit your child's classroom as well as check out the entire school facility!*
- *We would love to share insights into our school with parents and students interested in learning more about the PK through Grade 12 education at The Atonement Academy.*
- *Our current teachers, students, and parents are encouraged to come help others experience our school and its culture and close-knit community firsthand.*



PTC Family Night Out

The Stampede

Saturday Feb. 6th at 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. during Rodeo Week!

Popcorn, hot dogs, nachos, soda, beer, wine, candy, and baked goods to purchase.

Professional Roping...Music...Dancing...Raffle...Fun!!!

\$5.00 per person at the door or \$15 for the whole family (3 or more)

Dress: Western

Please bring donations of bottled water, sodas, and baked goods to the school office.

PTC Adult Night Out



Mardi Gras

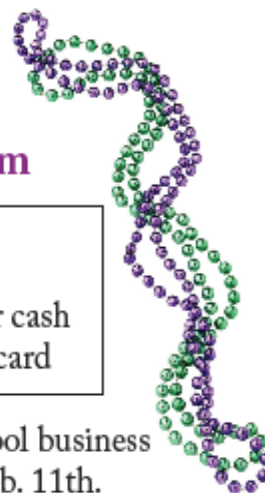
Tuesday Feb. 16th

Maggiano's Restaurant at the Rim

6:30–7:00—Appetizers and Cash Bar
7:00—Family Style 3-Course Dinner
\$55 per person or \$100 per couple by check or cash
\$60 per person or \$110 per couple by credit card

All tickets must be purchased in advance at the school business office. Deadline for purchasing your tickets is Feb. 11th.

*Make this your **Valentine Night** and Support the School Fundraiser.*



Upper Scholars & Parents Needed! TAPPS Academic Competition Coming Soon

Students can participate in academic contests such as:

SCIENCE
NUMBER SENSE
MATHEMATICS
READY WRITING
SOCIAL STUDIES
CURRENT EVENTS
CALCULATOR APPLICATIONS
SPELLING
SOLO OR DUET ACTING
INDIVIDUAL SPEECH EVENTS

The contest is Monday, March 8 in Boerne (yes, a school day)
Deadline for registration is February 8.

Generally three students are allowed per category.
If there is a greater interest in a particular contest,
input from teachers will be taken into account.

**PARENTS: We will need volunteers to help
with the meet on March 8 in Boerne!**

The state meet is April 9-10 in Austin, Texas.
(This is the weekend of Atonement spring break.
You can still participate at regionals even if
you are not sure about committing to going to state.)

Contact Mrs. McDonough at mcdonoughlori@aol.com to sign up.

PSIA UPDATE

January 26, 2010

We are about 11 days away from submitting our final lists for the District Meet in Fredricksburg! They are due February 6, only about 6 weeks from the meet, itself, on Saturday, March 6th.

Hearty CONGRATULATIONS to all those who won places on the Listening Skills, Mathematics, Science and Vocabulary teams (see list on the pages that follow). These students and the others who have signed up for various contests need to attend the Tuesday, February 2nd meeting at 7 pm in St. Anthony's Hall, unless you have turned in your permission slip, interest/identification sheet and paid your fees (\$3 per entry, cash or check to The Atonement Academy).

At the meeting, the parents may sign permission slips and pay the fees--\$3.00 per event. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please contact me to make sure your student is signed up and has the appropriate paperwork filed and fee paid.

Calling all Writers! We need writers especially for Middle School---contact me if you are interested.

Music Memory Contestants: I have the discs and supplements for the final preparations--We have about 6 weeks to go and this is prime time for using these supplements!

1st and 2nd Grade Storytelling Contestants, 2nd 3rd and 4th Spelling contestants: as there are more than 3 signed up for these events, we need to have a school contest. Please keep alert for details. I am coordinating times and places with Sister Mary Margaret and we hope to have a final list this week if possible.

PLEASE CHECK THE LIST CAREFULLY. If there are any errors in name, grade, availability, etc., please do not hesitate to inform me as it is difficult and confusing to make corrections at the contest. Thanks to all for their cooperation, especially Sister Mary Margaret and the teachers administering the qualifying tests. I could not do as well without that help.

Soon we will receive our volunteer assignments. (Note: In the PSIA competition, each school is responsible for 1 adult volunteer per every 2.5 entries.) Last year we had over 50 students in over 100 events and were responsible for 40 volunteer positions, some grading, some administering contests, some judging, etc. As soon as we receive the list, I will post it and we can begin to fill the positions. I will be the assistant contest director and working in the tab room as soon as results are received but can judge very early in the day. Thanks in advance for all your cooperation and congratulations to all that made and/or volunteered for our academic teams.

Laura Hubert Surovic

PSIA Campus Coordinator

gsurovic@aol.com; 452-3443 (cell)

CURRENT LIST OF CURRENT AND POTENTIAL PSIA STUDENTS FROM THE ATONEMENT ACADEMY

1st Grade:

1. Creative Writing (only 3 can compete, need to be tested)

Kayla Brady
Thomas Christianson
Thorne Christianson
Adriana Delagarza
Anais Garza
Kennedy Goddard
Lisette Gonzalez
Mary Ruth Valor
Alt: (?) Alex Sanchez

2. Storytelling (only 2 can compete; need to be tested)

Kayla Brady
Thomas Christianson
Thorne Christianson
Adriana Delagarza
Anais Garza
Kennedy Goddard
Lisette Gonzalez
Katie Sanchez
Mary Ruth Valor

2nd Grade:

1. Creative Writing

Sean Brady
Benjamin Joseph
Asa Waterman

2. Spelling (only 3 can compete, need testing)

Sean Brady
Benjamin Joseph
Nestor Leal
Simone Remandaban

3. Storytelling (only 2 can compete, need testing)

Sean Brady
Benjamin Joseph
Nestor Leal
Michael Potter
Simone Remandaban

3rd Grade:

1. Music Memory

Anna Marie Surovic

2. Ready Writing

3. Spelling (only 3 can compete; need testing)

Alfonso Castaneda
Nicholas Lozano
Jeremy Perez
Chiara Profenna
Anna Marie Surovic

4. Storytelling

Sloan Enstad
Nathan Winfrey
Alternate: Anna Marie Surovic

4th Grade:

1. Art Memory

Vanya Arguello
Kristina Delagarza
Abby Flores
Daniel Henriquez

2. Dictionary Skills

Isabelle Christianson
(Need 2 more)

3. Listening Skills (team tested)

Travis Prochko
Thomas Hinojosa
Ivan Arguello
Alternate: Jacob Rivera

(4th Grade continued)

- 4. Maps, Graphs & Charts**
Isabelle Christianson
(Need 2 more)
- 5. Mathematics (team tested)**
Isabelle Christianson
Kristina Delagarza
Hailey Tackett
Alternate: Travis Prochko
- 6. Music Memory**
Abby Rodriguez
- 7. Number Sense**
Vanya Arguello
Aissa Castaneda
Isabelle Christianson
- 8. Poetry Interpretation**
(Any volunteers? Contact me!)
- 9. Ready Writing**
Kristina Delagarza
Isabelle Christianson
(Need 1 more!)
- 10. Spelling (only 3 can compete, need testing)**
Vanya Arguello
Aissa Castaneda
Isabelle Christianson
Kristina Delagarza
Daniel Elias
Marisa Gonzales
Eliza Shafer

5th Grade:

- 1. Art Memory**
Marie Schofield
(Need 2 more)
- 2. Dictionary Skills**
(Any volunteers? Contact me!)
- 3. Listening Skills (tested team)**
Abigail Brady
Meg McDonough
Rebecca Wiessing
Alternate: Katy Dinkins
- 4. Maps, Graphs & Charts**
(Any volunteers? Contact me!)
- 5. Mathematics (team tested)**
Meg McDonough
Onora Cruser
Katy Dinkins
Alternate: Chloe Daring
- 6. Music Memory**
Marie Schofield
(Need 2 more)
- 7. Number Sense**
B. J. Garza
Meg McDonough
(Need 1 more)
- 8. Poetry Interpretation**
(Any volunteers? Contact me!)
- 9. Ready Writing**
(Any volunteers? Contact me!)
- 10. Spelling**
Chloe Daring
Meg McDonough
(Need 1 more)
- 11. Vocabulary (team tested)**
Abigail Brady
Kiersten Winfrey
Luke Griego tied with Ian Peifer (3rd) (testing?)
Alternate: ?

6th Grade:

- 1. Calculator Applications**
Masha Arguello
Sebastian Barrera
(Need 1 more)
- 2. Dictionary Skills**
(Any volunteers? Contact me!)
- 3. Listening Skills (team tested)**
Samuel Koch
Jessica Tuholsky
Diego Diaz
Alternate: Thomas Pecha
- 4. Maps, Graphs & Charts**
(Any volunteers? Contact me!)
- 5. Mathematics (team tested)**
Thomas Pecha
Sebastian Campbell
Mary Henriquez
Alternate: John Wilkerson
- 6. Music Memory**
Sarah Henriquez
(Need 2 more)
- 7. Number Sense**
Sebastian Barrera
(Need 2 more)
- 8. On-Site Drawing**
Brielle Divis
(Need 2 more)
- 9. Poetry Interpretation**
Mary Henriquez
(Need 2 more)
- 10. Ready Writing**
Mary Henriquez
Sarah Henriquez
(Need 1 more)
- 11. Science (team tested)**
Thomas Pecha
Sebastian Barrera
Jessica Tuholsky
Alternate: Nicolas Cardenas
- 12. Spelling**
Masha Arguello
Nathan Jimenez
Andres Profenna
- 13. Vocabulary (team tested)**
AmyGrace Weems
Jessica Tuholsky
Tie: Kira Casares and Mary Henriquez (need testing)
Alternate: Jarrod Bianco

7th Grade:

- 1. Calculator Applications**
(Any volunteers? Contact me!)
- 2. Dictionary Skills**
Daniel Surovic
(Need 2 more)
- 3. Impromptu Speaking(combined with 8th Grade)**
Veronika Prochko (other 2 in 8th grade)
- 4. Listening Skills**
Gerald Potter
Gabriel Reiber
Matthew Wiessing
Alternate: Lauren Winfrey
- 5. Maps, Graphs & Charts**
(Any volunteers? Contact me!)
- 6. Mathematics (team tested)**
Brigid Crusier
Daniel Surovic

Shannon Murray
Alternate: Veronica Kløver

(7th Grade continures)

7. Modern Oratory (combined with 8th Grade)

(Need 2 more)

8. Music Memory

(Any volunteers? Contact me!)

9. Number Sense

Yolanda Perez

(Need 2 more)

10. On-Site Drawing

Logan Enstad

(Need 2 more)

11. Poetry Interpretation (combined with 8th Grade)

Brigid Cruser

Bridget Kennedy

Lauren Winfrey

12. Ready Writing

Sherylynn Norton

Garrett Holden (?)

(need one more)

13. Science (team tested)

Shannon Murray

Daniel Surovic

Melody Logsdon

Alternate: Connor Quinn

14. Spelling

Abigail Lozano

Yolanda Perez

Jacob Murray

15. Vocabulary (team tested)

Daniel Surovic

Connor Quinn

Shannon Murray

Alternate: Aaron Bell

8th Grade:

1. Calculator Applications

Ruthanne Reiley

(Need 2 more)

2. Dictionary Skills

Ruthanne Reiley

(Need 2 more)

3. Impromptu Speaking(combined with 7th Grade)

Ruthanne Reiley

Elizabeth Murray

(need one in 7th grade)

4. Listening Skills (team tested)

Emily Knodell

Joseph Pecha

Romulo ("Romi") Montenegro

Alternate: Olivia Blevins

5. Maps, Graphs & Charts

Romulo ("Romi") Montenegro

(Need 2 more)

6. Mathematics (team tested)

Joseph Pecha

Christian Havel

Laura Phinizy

Alternate: Romulo ("Romi") Montenegro

7. Modern Oratory (combined with 8th Grade)

Ruthanne Reiley

(Need 2 more)

8. Number Sense

(Any volunteers? Contact me!)

9. On-Site Drawing

Elizabeth Murray

Ruthanne Reiley

Christian Cruz?

Olivia Blevins?

10. Poetry Interpretation (combined with 7th Grade)

(8th Grade continued)

11. Ready Writing

Emily Knodell (?)
Laura Phinizy (?)
(Need 1 more)

12. Science (team tested)

Joseph Pecha
Christian Havel
Ruthanne Reiley
Alternate: Elizabeth Spalding

13. Spelling

(Any volunteers? Contact me!)

14. Vocabulary (team tested)

Mercedes Conroy
Chloe LaPresta
Laura Phinizy
Alternate: Elizabeth Spalding

Laura Hubert Surovic
PSIA Campus Coordinator
gsurovic@aol.com; 452-3443 (cell)