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The Falcon's Nest



Student Spotlight

Cameron C. 5th Grade

"I'm more of a leader now and people notice."

This school is special...you can tell when you meet us. I've been here since the 1st grade. I really like the new teachers I've met ...they are always there to help. They keep track of where we're at, and I have changed my act because of them. I am more of a leader now and people notice.

I'm not sure what I'll be when I grow up yet—I'm still learning. My favorite class is science because of the experiments we get to do—I like working with my hands. I also love playing on the basketball team. One day, I hope we get a mascot to show how proud we are to be Falcons.

Join Our Wings of Hope Giving Challenge!

SLCA has seen significant change. The school's reformation began with new school leadership, Ms. Sandra Morton, and is now part of the Archdiocesan Elementary School Model. Under this model, the school is given significant funding and support from the Archdiocese of St. Louis and the Today and Tomorrow Educational Foundation. We are also increasing our partnerships in the community. In the 2017-18 school year, ACCESS will be partnering with SLCA.

Our next task as a school and a community is to begin building and cultivating a fundraising donor base. While we are receiving significant support from many partners, including Mercy Kids in School, Catholic Family Services, and ACCESS, it is imperative that the school receive financial support from the St. Louis Community. St. Louis Catholic Academy has been given a needed boost this year thanks to a challenge grant provided by the Brown Sisters Foundation, which offers a 2:1 match for donors via a \$30,000 matching grant. In order to receive this matching funding, the school must raise \$60,000 from new donors or existing donors with an increased annual gift. This infusion of financial donations will support continued academic programming enhancements primarily for our extended day curriculum.

How can you help?

*Prayerfully consider a gift or increased gift to the school. Your gift will be boosted with the match from Brown Sisters. You can use the envelope enclosed or go online to slca-stl.org.

*Talk to your friends and neighbors about coming by the school to meet a few of our students and hear about the exciting happenings at our school. Ask them to consider a \$25 gift to the school.

*Host a lunch or dinner at your home with a few friends, and we can come to you. We will give a brief presentation about our students and school.

*Like us on Facebook and share our good news.

*Write a letter (we can do the heavy lifting here) and ask your friends and family to consider a gift to the school.

If you'd like to help us meet this challenge and increase our SLCA friends, please contact Toni Ponder at 314-792-7045 or toniponder@archstl.org.

A Message from Principal Morton



Every day I come to work, I am reminded of the abundant blessings at St. Louis Catholic Academy. To assist in the learning and growth of such special children is truly a gift. It is already a wonderful year, and our children are working diligently to be the absolute best. As the Principal at SLCA, one of my jobs is to help provide our children with the tools they need to be successful. Our goal is to educate and serve the needs of the whole child---socially, emotionally, academically and spiritually.

One focus of this “whole child” approach is to inspire and enhance our students’ leadership skills. Several students in the middle school, grades 6-8, have become school Ambassadors. The process is selective, but students volunteer for consideration. SLCA’s Student Ambassadors are, in many respects, the faces and voices of our school. It is our hope that the Student Ambassador Program will develop an even greater sense of ownership among our already proud students and to inspire our younger students to become Ambassadors as they advance at SLCA.

Engaging our community is another way that we serve the “whole child.” A number of deeply committed volunteers have continued to say “yes” to the school’s need for tutors and mentors from across the region. Because of the tremendous commitment involved in establishing a tutor/student relationship, teachers and volunteers are able to fully engage in student learning and their success in and out of the classroom. Please consider tutoring as a way to support SLCA.

We’ve re-established our girls and boys basketball teams and games that are greatly attended by the student body, and our winter play was a hit amongst all those in attendance. However, one of the most compelling opportunities at St. Louis Catholic Academy is the chance for home and school (PTO) to work together. Parent involvement is very important to a child’s success in school as well as at home.

Finally, our 8th graders have received their high school acceptance letters, and are ready to take their next step. We are so proud of their many accomplishments. We are praying for God to help them see the path that He has laid before them for their growth academically, emotionally and spiritually.

Although this is my first year at an elementary school, this year as a principal has helped me understand why God wanted me here—to fully help our students be successful in high school and to prepare them early for their journey.

Abundant Blessings,
Sandra Morton, Principal

Students Embrace the Arts!



Thanks to support from various benefactors, students from St. Louis Catholic Academy have participated in several special arts programs to enrich their education:

- Students created their own original paintings at a special workshop at UMSL with the professor of Arts Education, thanks to the E. Desmond Lee Fine Arts Collaborative.
- The Sheldon Concert Hall hosted SLCA for an all school field trip to learn about the Blues—past and present!
- 7th and 8th graders enjoyed a play at the Missouri History Museum put on by the Metro Theater Company: The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane, thanks to sponsorship from Thrivent Financial.*

*Thrivent Members:

If you haven’t used your Action Teams we would love to help you do a project! Here are some projects we have that would be perfect for your Action Team:

**Repainting and Decorating Classrooms — Coat, Clothing or School Supply Drives
Replacing landscape — A work day at our Community Garden—Working in our library**

To learn more or to apply to lead your own team, visit Thrivent.com/Actionteam

2016-2017 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

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Thank you to the generous individuals, corporations, and foundations that have supported St. Louis Catholic Academy! This alphabetical list of donors is for the time period of July 1, 2016-January 31, 2017. To be included in our next newsletter, please make a gift online to slca-stl.org or use the envelope provided. We try our best to include every gift (including in kind) and apologize if you were omitted. If you gave a gift to SLCA during this time period and your name is omitted, please inform our development office at 314-792-7045.

Mr. and Mrs. John Anderson

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Aubrey

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Brown, Sr.

The Brown Sisters Foundation

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Clermont

Footwear Unlimited, Inc.

Mr. Patrick K. Hambrough

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Mr. Steve Mullen

Ms. Colleen Nuxoll

Ms. Gloria Openlander

Our Lady of the Pillar Parish

Mr. Richard Range

Mr. and Mrs. Art Scheer

St. Augustine Church

St. Clement of Rome Catholic School

St. Elizabeth, Mother of John the Baptist

St. Joseph Catholic Church - Cottleville

St. Louis Catholic Academy

Golf Tournament

Ms. Dawn Sullivan

Ms. Augie Swengros

The Today & Tomorrow Educational
Foundation

Ms. Theresa Trafton

Trinity Lutheran School

U.S. Bank - The Private Client Reserve

Jim Velten

The Westerman Foundation

Friend of SLCA (1)

GET INVOLVED!

To learn more about giving opportunities at
St. Louis Catholic Academy, please contact
Toni Ponder at toniponder@archstl.org or 314-792-7045



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2017 SPRING EDITION

The Falcon's Nest

slca-stl.org

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Day.orgSM

MAY 11th, 2017

On May 11th, Give STL Day is back in business, and St. Louis Catholic Academy is a proud partner. Mark your calendar for this great opportunity to make your gift to benefit SLCA students!

And remember, your gift is boosted 2:1 thanks to our challenge grant from the Brown Sisters Foundation. Your \$50 gift becomes \$75! To learn more, visit slca-stl.org.