Crusader Connections

Father Andrew White S.J. School Newsletter

Sept. 3, 2019

"With God all things are possible."

-Matthew 19:26

Important Dates

September 3: 1st Day of School for Pre-K

September 5: Grades 2-5 Parent Meeting (6:30pm)

September 6: First Friday Mass (9am, hosted by 8th grade)

September 11: Middle School Parent Meeting (6:30pm)

General Home and School Association (HSA) Meeting (7pm)

September 12: Band Demonstration (gr. 4-8)

September 13: St. Mary's Ryken visits 7th & 8th graders

September 19: Grandparents' Day & 12:30pm Early Dismissal

September 20: No School - St. Mary's County Fair

September 26: First Day of Band & After School Advanced Band

We had a great first week back to school! Students learned that our mission is possible and we are all looking forward to a fantastic year!

First Day of Pre-K: Today is Pre-K's first day of school. We are welcoming our youngest Crusaders with open arms. We are happy to have them as part of our school family.

Grades 2-5 Parent Meeting: This **Thursday, September 5th at 6:30pm**, we will have a meeting for parents of all 2nd - 5th graders in the Gym to discuss the ways we are attempting to meet the academic needs of each child by offering a variety of learning opportunities in reading this year. Please plan to attend this brief meeting to understand our new program.

Opening School Mass: We invite our families to join our students and staff as we ask God to bless our work and play this year. Our opening Mass hosted by 8th grade, will be **this Friday, September 6th at 9am** at St. Aloysius Church. Parents are always welcome to join us for 8:30am Friday Mass on other Fridays.

Important Paperwork: Thank you to all the families that made it a priority to return all the important forms that were sent home last week. Kindly double check to make sure you completed and returned the technology fee form and payment (for K-8th grade), emergency contact form, medical forms, milk form, bus information, and government survey, etc. **All forms must be returned by this Friday, September 6th.** Thank you for your cooperation.

Volunteer Form: We encourage all our families to complete the online volunteer opportunity form to learn more about and show your interest for our events this year. **We are looking for 100% participation in completing this form.** Logon today!
https://forms.gle/CNey6BVMKYx6WQZe7

School Hours

8:00am - 2:35pm

Sign up today!

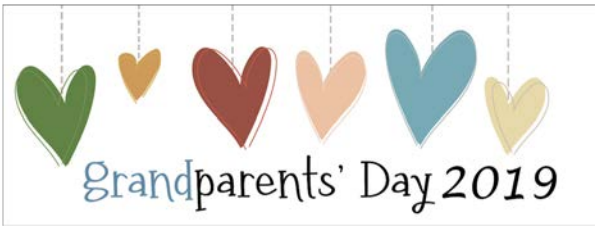
Many Fall field trips are coming up! **Want to chaperone?** You must set up an account at virtus.org, complete a volunteer application, be fingerprinted at one of the approved locations, and attend a training session on the Child Protection Policy. Pick up a packet of information and forms in the office.

"Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long." Ps 25:5

How can you teach others the truth about our Savior? Come to Mass each week and learn how!

Using SCRIP for Tuition Assistance or 8th Grade Trip:

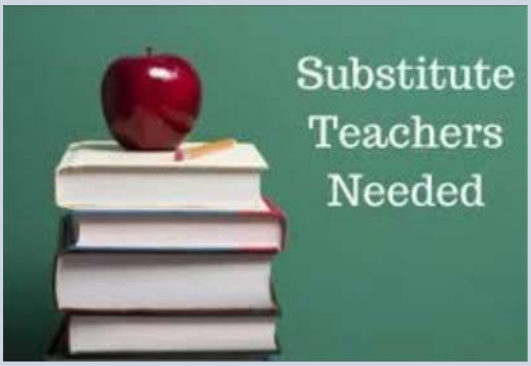
Once again, you can use a portion of your SCRIP rebates for next year's tuition or this year's 8th grade class trip. Remember, if you accept reduced tuition in exchange for volunteer hours, you are required to earn $50 in rebates through the SCRIP gift card program. Once the $50 threshold is met, 75% of your rebates earned can be credited to next year's tuition or this year's 8th grade class trip. Please use the attached contract to indicate where your rebates shall be credited. If no election is made, all rebates will be credited to the HSA.



Grandparents' Day is coming! Mark your calendars for Thursday, Sept. 19th!

Grandparents' Day: Please read the information attached about our Grandparents' Day celebration. This is one of the highlights of the year for our children and they love to share this day with their grandparents. We have enclosed an invitation and a request for pictures of children with their grandparents or their grandparents by themselves to display in the gym. We hope to have a wonderful response with many very special guests joining us on September 19th.

Yankee Candle Fundraiser: Our Yankee Candle Sale starts Friday! Be on the lookout for an envelope with a catalog and important information. This is a great fundraiser for our school - you pay retail prices and 40% of all sales comes right back to FAW! Online sales are available as well as catalog sales. These make great gifts for any holiday. Contact Becky Guerre at becky.guerre@gmail.com or 904-891-3644 for more details.



We are looking for cheerful and positive parents and community members who would be available 7:45am - 2:45pm to substitute for teachers as needed throughout the year. Approved applicants who pass a criminal background check can use this for volunteer hours or to receive payment. If you are interested please contact the office, 301-475-9795, for a substitute application and information about what days you would be available.

Have you thought about asking friends to make a foursome for our golf tournament?

THE CRUSADER CUP/ FATHER ANDREW WHITE SCHOOL'S GOLF TOURNAMENT - OCTOBER 18TH, 2019: We would love to see you at THE CRUSADER CUP PAR-TEE for a great cause.

Volunteer Opportunities:

1) Committee Member -- attend golf committee meetings and sign up golfers and sponsors. Wear comfy shoes because we pound the pavement looking for participation! Sign up with Dawn Carroll at dawn@teamcarroll.com. Our first meeting is scheduled for **today, Tuesday, September 3rd** at 6pm at the Carroll's: 22090 Society Hill Road Leonardtown.

2) Day of Event Volunteer -- help the day of the event with set-up, supporting tournament and/or clean-up. Sign up with Julie White at juliemariewhite@outlook.com.

The Virtue of Hope: Our school is participating in a Virtues in Practice program again this year. Each month, the whole school focuses on the same virtue as we hope to grow closer to Jesus by imitating His life and virtues. We also learn more about the saints who exemplify these good habits. This month students and families are learning about the second theological virtue: Hope. Please join us by saying the "Act of Hope" prayer during the month of September.

Did you know we have several parishes that support our school? The parishioners at St. Aloysius, Our Lady's, St. Francis Xavier, Holy Angels, and Sacred Heart offer their prayers and gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Their support means so much to us. May God bless our faithful parishioners! Many thanks!

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

THE BOX TOP CONTEST IS HERE!

Return your box tops (labeled with your family name) for a chance to win gift cards!

Contest ends Sept. 11th!

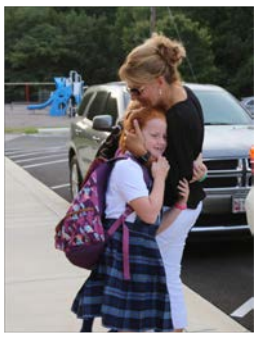
School lunch

The lunch ordering system is open for orders for September. Families may order weekly by Friday of the week prior.

www.orgsonline.com
School code:
410FAWSMD

Handbook Highlight: "Uniforms are worn at Father Andrew White, SJ School as a symbol of unity and school pride. The uniform code creates equity among students, a valuable reminder that all students are equally precious in the eyes of God. The wearing of uniforms is to be a cooperative effort among parents, students, and staff. Uniforms are required and are not subject to modification. Uniforms should be clean and pressed with all buttons attached and hems intact. Students and parents share the responsibility for proper dress and grooming. All students are expected to follow the complete dress code."

HSA and Middle School Meeting: Our first general HSA meeting will be next **Wednesday, September 11th at 7pm**. Our middle school grades will host a meeting immediately preceding at 6:30 pm. We will discuss some of the wonderful projects completed over the summer and upcoming plans for the new school year.



Partners *in* FAITH™

Partners in Faith: Many parents have asked for our help in providing practical ways to raise faith-filled children. We are pleased to offer a publication called, *Partners in Faith* to our school families this year. Each month we will send home a flyer that contains ideas to use at home to build a Christ-centered family life. It is our hope that your knowledge about Catholicism will grow and that you will find valuable tips that are useful. We are proud to be your partners in faith!

Weekly Reminders:

- ❑ Volunteer for the Crusader Cup Golf Committee
- ❑ Attend Grades 2-5 Parent Meeting (6:30pm, Thursday)
- ❑ Return all important forms (by Friday)
- ❑ Attend First Friday Mass (9am, Friday)
- ❑ Send in your Box Tops
- ❑ Complete steps to become a volunteer
- ❑ Sign and return SCRIP Agreement
- ❑ Get a jumpstart on your SCRIP gift card purchases
- ❑ Complete the online volunteer form

Welcome

"Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." Romans 15:7

We extend a warm welcome to all of our new students, families, and staff!

Allan Family
Finnegan, Gr. PK
Sullivan, Gr. 1

Burke Family
Weston, Gr. K

Chewning Family
Christopher, Gr. PK

Conti Family
Sawyer, Gr. PK
Allie, Gr. 2

Dent Family
Robby, Gr. PK

Forbes Family
Riley, Gr. K

Franklin Family
Kayleigh, Gr. 2
Kyle, Gr. 6

Freeman Family
Layla, Gr. 2

Hamm Family
Jack, Gr. 2
Ella, Gr. 3

Huffman Family
Izabella, Gr. PK

Lewis Family
Abraham, Gr. PK

Raiker Family
Declan, Gr. PK

Shelton Family
Leah, Gr. 3

Smith Family
Rachel, Gr. PK

We also would like to welcome siblings of our current students:
Gunnar Casto, Gr. PK, Adam Clements, Gr. K, William Dickens, Gr. PK, Gabriel DiSanto, Gr. PK, Juliete Guerre, Gr. 1, Emma Guy, Gr. PK, Connor Lynch, Gr. PK, Tommy Mayo, Gr. K, Flynn Richards, Gr. PK, Mason Risso, Gr. PK, Reagan Roy, Gr. 2, Payton Russell, Gr. PK, and Anna Weckerly, Gr. PK

Thanks for joining our team, Ms. Julie Verbos, Grade 2, Ms. Shileta Weems, Middle School Literature & Grade 7 Homeroom, and Mrs. Rose Bates, Nurse.

to our Crusader Family!

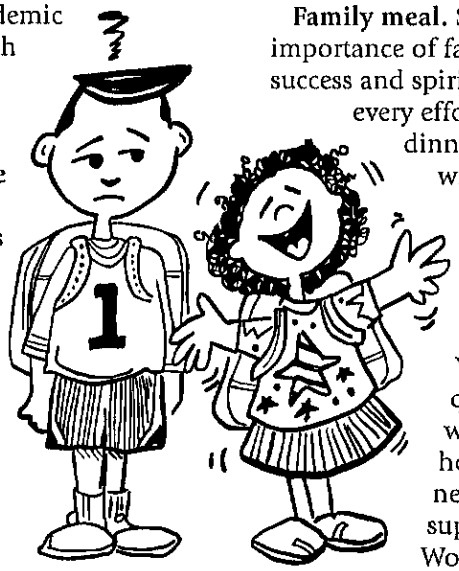
Partners *in* FAITH™

Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith. September 2019

Father Andrew White, S.J. School

Have a great school year!

The first weeks of school present opportune moments to recommit to your child's academic and spiritual growth over the next ten months. Try these tips:



Pray through the day – A key to spiritual strength is prayer. Make prayer central to your family life. Pray together before school and in gratitude when the day is over. Pray before and after meals. Ask your children their intentions so you can pray on their behalf. Prayer joins us together when we are apart.

Recommit to weekly Mass. There is no more important activity any family can share. When we center ourselves around the Eucharist, we are given the spiritual food we need to be strong in our faith.

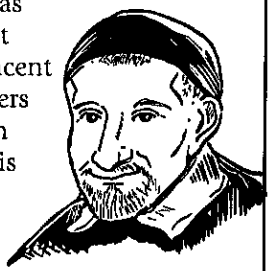
Family meal. Studies attest to the importance of family meals to school success and spiritual formation. Make every effort to gather for family dinners each night. Start with prayer and focus on conversation. Don't let anything interfere with this family time.

Homework help. Youngsters need a quiet environment in which to do homework, the necessary supplies, support and supervision. Work with teachers to learn what your students need to be successful. Treat religious education homework with the importance of any core subject. Its benefits are lifelong.

Share the love. Choose many different ways to tell children how much you love them. Be generous

Thoughtful Moments

St. Vincent de Paul



Though he was born to peasant farmers, St. Vincent rubbed shoulders with nobility in the course of his career. He was born in France, educated and ordained a priest. He served as chaplain to the Countess of Gondi, King Louis XIV, and Queen Anne of Austria. Seeing the spiritual suffering of the poor, he cared for them and worked to reform the priesthood. He founded the Sisters of Charity and a hospital in Marseilles.

Cardinal Virtues

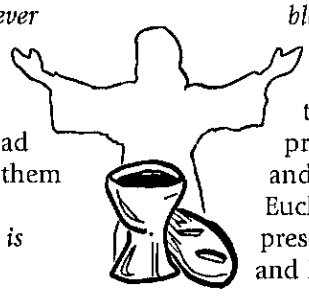
The Church suggests acquiring four good habits necessary for us to get to Heaven. They are **prudence** (the ability to choose and do good), **justice** (the will to give what is due God and neighbor), **fortitude** (ensures firmness in difficulties), and **temperance** (moderates the pursuit of pleasure).

"Mother Teresa of Calcutta was once asked what needed to change in the Church. Her answer was: You and I!" Pope Francis

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics believe Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist?

When Jesus said, *"whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life"* (John 6:54), he spoke literally. Later, taking bread and wine, Jesus changed them into his body and blood, saying, *"Take and eat; this is my body"* and *"this is my blood"* (Matthew 26:26-28).



The Catholic Church calls this action transubstantiation. When the priest consecrates the bread and wine into the Holy Eucharist, Jesus is literally present—Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity—just as he said.

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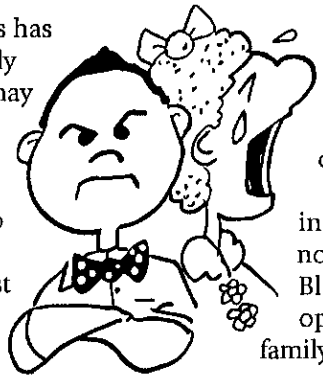
Do fussy children belong in church?



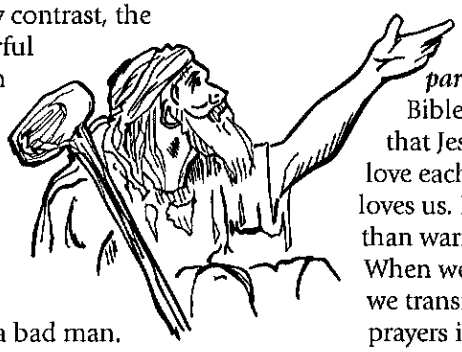
If you have ever raced into the pew after Mass has started, juggled a crying child during the homily or settled spats during the Consecration, you may feel that fellow parishioners are judging you harshly. It may seem like church is only suited to perfectly behaved and pious families. Yet messy, wonderful families of God are critical to the Catholic Church.

Children are our future. Parents are the most influential teachers of faith and catechesis for their children. Children first learn about God's love from their parents. That makes you valued and important to building up the Catholic Church. Those occasionally scruffy, sometimes noisy children you bring into the church are our future.

The Church is for you. Jesus truly comes to us in the Eucharist at every Mass. There is no better nourishment for our souls than his Body and Blood. Come to Mass weekly and give children opportunities for his grace. Seek support in your family faith journey. It's what the Church is meant to do.

Scripture LESSON — Luke 16:19-31, Faith formed by love

In this passage, Jesus told the story of Lazarus, a beggar who lay suffering, miserable and ignored outside the home of a rich man. By contrast, the rich man had a wonderful and comfortable life on earth, clueless to what was happening outside his very door. Yet in the afterlife, it's the rich man who suffers torment and begs for relief.



The rich man wasn't a bad man. The parable didn't say he got his wealth through dishonest means or had done anything evil. He was blind to the suffering of others. He knew what God expected of him, didn't do it, and didn't care. Jesus portrays his suffering in the afterlife as just punishment.

What can a parent do? The Bible makes it plain that Jesus wants us to love each other as he loves us. Love is more than warm feelings. When we live our faith, we transform our prayers into acts of love as Jesus asked. It isn't always easy or pleasant doing the right thing, but the reward for doing what Jesus asked will be eternal joy.

Parent TALK

A girl named Ryan was new to Tessa's class this year. She must have missed her old school and friends because Ryan cried the first few days of school. Tessa got upset when the other girls made fun of her during recess. She asked how she could help.

I explained how Ryan must feel coming to a new city, a new home, and a new school. I remembered that I had moved when I was Tessa's age and told her how it felt.

Then I asked Tessa for ideas for how she could help Ryan feel welcome. She resolved to sit next to her at lunch and play with her at recess. She also had a notebook and matching pen she decided to give to Ryan as a welcome gift.

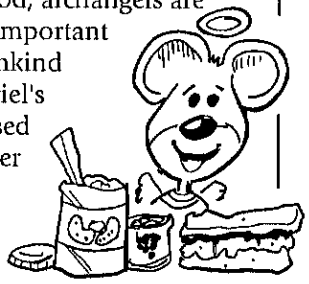
It must have worked because Tessa said Ryan didn't cry at recess. Instead, she smiled and my girl learned compassion.

Feasts & Celebrations

September 15 – Our Lady of Sorrows. In Luke 2:35, Simeon predicted Mary's sorrows as *"a sword piercing"* her soul. This partly referred to a time when Mary would stand at the foot of the Cross. Despite her sorrow, Mary stood dignified and fearless while others ran away. Mary shows us how to respond to suffering - with love and faith.

September 17 – St. Robert Bellarmine (1621). A Jesuit, Robert was a scholar devoted to studying and writing about Church history, Scripture, and the fathers of the Catholic Church. He worked to accurately record Church doctrine to explain and protect it from attack by Protestants. Although a cardinal and counselor to Pope Clement VIII, he lived a simple life.

September 29 – Saints Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael. Members of the third hierarchy of angels around the throne of God, archangels are entrusted with important missions to mankind such as St. Gabriel's visit to the Blessed Mother to tell her she had been chosen as the Mother of God.



Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children

Success Publishing & Media, LLC
Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™
(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
http://www.partnersinfaith.com

(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

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Grandparents,

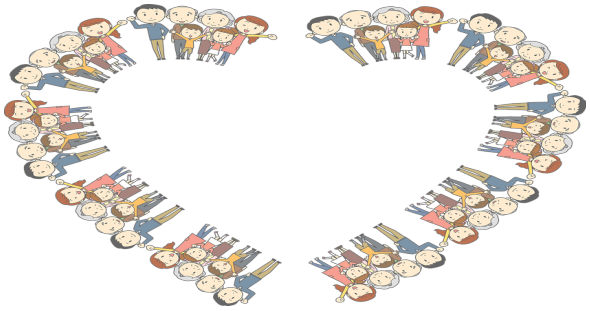
To show you what a blessing you are to us,
We invite you to join us for

Grandparents' Day

at
Father Andrew White S.J., School

Thursday, September 19, 2019
9:30am

Grandparents are the apples of our eyes!



Grandparents Day

Thursday, September 19, 2019

September 3, 2019

Dear Parents,

We will celebrate Grandparents Day on Thursday, September 19th, from 9:30 am-11:00 am. We are all very excited about having the grandparents of our school children come to F.A.W. to spend this special morning with their grandchildren.

Please inform grandparents of our special day by giving them the invitation that is being sent home in Tuesday Folders today. If your child's grandparents are unable to attend, please feel free to invite another family member, special neighbor, or friend.

We are planning to have a display dedicated to our grandparents. If you have any pictures of your children with their grandparents or their grandparents alone, please send them in to school with your child no later than September 19th. Please put your child's name and grade on the back of the pictures. You may want to make copies of your pictures before you send them in. We will do our best to return all pictures.

Thank you for all of your help!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Leake and Mrs. Young
(Grandparents Day Committee)

September 3, 2019

Dear Pre-K, K, 1st, and 2nd Grade Parents,

Grandparents Day at Father Andrew White is Thursday, September 19, 2019. We are asking for your help in providing money for refreshments and other supplies needed to make Grandparents Day a success. We would appreciate if you could please send-in $5.00. Please send the form below and money no later than September 17th. Thank you for your efforts and support!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Leake and Mrs. Young
(Grandparents Day Committee)

Child's Name:

_____

Grade Level:

_____

Please enclose this form and the $5.00 in an envelope and return to school no later than September 17th.

MANDATORY SCRIP Purchase
And Tuition/8th Grade Class Trip Credit

2019/20 school year

1. What is SCRIP?

   SCRIP means gift card.

2. How much will I have to purchase?

   Each family is required to generate $50 in profit which means they will have to purchase about $1,000 to $1,500 in face value.

3. What is the tuition/8th grade class trip credit?

   Once you have earned $50 in rebates from the purchase of scrip, any rebates you earn over $50 can be split in which 25% remains with the school and 75% is credited to your 2020/2021 tuition OR the 2020 8th grade class trip. A form will be sent home to allow you to choose one of these options.

4. How does this work?

   FAW purchases gift cards at a discount and sells them at face value which allows the school to make a profit on each gift card.

5. How do I use the gift cards?

   For every day purchases like gas, groceries, dining, household supplies, movies, hotels, Amazon and more.

6. How will this be tracked?

   Our scrip software tracks all purchases and reports will be sent home.

7. How long do I have to make these purchases?

   The reporting period is April 1, 2019 through **March 31, 2020**.

8. Where do I buy SCRIP gift cards?

You can send an order form and check to school; order on-line and pay by check, credit card (*new this year – online orders only*) or Presto Pay at www.shopwithscrip.com; purchase after Mass at St. Aloysius; or purchase on Friday afternoons in the car rider line. We have a number of gift cards from local retailers in stock, and can order many more, including national chain retailers.

9. Can I opt out?

   Yes. You can write a check for $50 to cover this requirement without buying gift cards.

10. Questions?

    Contact faw.scrip@gmail.com or view our presentation on the FAW website. You will need an enrollment code to set up your online account. E-mail faw.scrip@gmail.com for the code.

Father Andrew White, S.J. School
Scrip Program Agreement
2019/2020

Father Andrew White, S.J. School manages a scrip gift card fundraising and tuition assistance program. The gift cards purchased through the program generate rebates from the participating retailers. After earning $50 in rebates for the school, a participating family may designate a portion of the remaining rebates to be used as a credit to a student's tuition account (tuition assistance), a credit to an 8th grader's end of year trip, or a donation to the school.

1. Rebates earned will be used in the following ways:
    a. The first $50 in rebates earned will be retained by the Home and School Association.
    b. Anything over $50 will be credited in April 2020 and split as follows:
        i. 25% will be retained by the Home and School Association
        ii. The **remaining** 75% will be used as directed below (check one):
            1. _____ All credited to tuition for the 2020/21 school year (Student's name: _____)
            2. _____ All credited to 2020 8th Grade class trip (Student's name: _____)
            3. _____1/2 to Tuition, 1/2 to 2020 8th grade class trip
            4. _____ Contribution to the school (If no selection is made, all contributions will be credited to the school.)

2. Our program will distribute rebates once a year in the month of April. This year the reporting period will cover the period June 1 through March 31. Participating families will receive a statement indicating the total amount of scrip rebate generated and amount of rebate allocated to the selection above.
3. Families who have accepted the Service Scholarship, i.e. reduced tuition in exchange for volunteer hours, are required to earn a minimum of $50 in rebates. If the required rebate amount is not met by March 31, 2020, an invoice will be sent with the balance due.
4. If your child is not enrolled for the 2020/2021 school year, any rebates generated will remain with the school.

Please sign and date below to indicate your acknowledgement of this agreement.

Purchaser's signature: _____

Printed name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

ACKNOWLEDGED:

_____

By: Heather Francisco, Principal Date: _____