

EAGLE EXPRESS



HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

The students of St. Alban's will be celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15 through October 15. The term Hispanic, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, refers to any Spanish-speaking people of any race in the United States. At St. Alban's our students are proud to identify countries such as Peru, Brazil, Panama, Chile, Ecuador, Bolivia, Cuba, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, as well as Mexico as part of their heritage.

A school wide celebration of 16 de Septiembre was commemorated with discussions in Spanish classes with Senora Campos. Students sampled various types of breads and learned the identification of each. As students sampled their "treats" a discussion was held regarding the dates of independence from Spain for various Latin American countries.



Art classes, conducted by Mrs.

Popkes, are studying the art of Frida Kahlo. They will be doing self portraits using techniques identified with the well-known Mexican artist.

State Representative **Eddie Lucio, III** was the first in a series of speakers that will be coming to St. Alban's throughout the celebration. Representative Lucio was invited by St. Alban's parent Evelon Dale to speak with students about the importance of education in his life. After his speech, Representative Lucio presented Mrs. Duffy with a Texas flag that had flown over the Texas Capitol. St. Alban's will proudly fly this flag with their American flag. The second guest speaker was **Dolores G. Zarate**, an attorney from Brownsville. Ms. Zarate came dressed in the traditional costume of the state of Puebla in Mexico. The students were made aware of how each Mexican state has a unique costume.

During the final week of our

celebration, St. Alban's students will enjoy a **TAMALADA** on **October 14** along with an art exhibit of students' art work. The celebration will conclude with dancers from our sister school, **La Ascension, of Matamoros** on Friday, **October 16**.

3rd grade students were very proud to welcome Representative Lucio to their classroom.



Dolores G. Zarate was a nurse before becoming an attorney. She has practiced in Dallas as well as the Rio Grande Valley.



PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Monday, September 28th through Friday, October 2nd, St. Alban's teachers will begin parent conferences. This is a great time to sit down individually with your child's teacher.

October 1 and 2—

students will be released at 11:30 in order to make time for conferences.

If your child needs to stay after 11:30 please turn in your extended care form or notify the office. The form may be

found in the office or on our website under Upcoming Events.

Students will need to bring a lunch Thursday and Friday if they are staying after 11:30. The cost is \$15.00 per child per day.



4TH GRADE—SEQUENCING AND TIE DYE

Giving a demonstration and putting their instructions into sequence was the challenge given to 4th grade students by Mrs. Vano. "This activity went along with our reading skill of sequencing and our writing a composition on following a procedure." Students selected their own topics and a great variety of demonstrations were conducted.



For a fly fisherman, it is important to know the steps involved in making a fly!

To reinforce the difference between a concentric circle and a congruent circle, students in Mrs. Wilson's math class created concentric circle patterns on t-shirts. Each student started with a circle in the center, then continued to add circles around the center circle until they had a design. Once their pattern was made, they used an eye dropper of alcohol in order for the pattern to blend. Each student created their own version of a tie-dyed shirt which they proudly wore the remainder of the day.

I love the way your design looks! This is a good way to study about the different types of circles in geometry.



"My reading buddy is my best friend."

1st grade student



READING BUDDIES

Reading Buddies is a grand way for **5th and 6th grade students** to share in building the reading skills of our 1st grade students. The tradition was initiated to give each 1st grade student a "buddy" that would help them practice their reading. The experience is equally beneficial for all students as they work together to appreciate the importance and the joy of reading. Reading Buddies continues throughout the school year.



"I remember when my reading buddy read to me when I was in 1st grade. Now that I am in 6th grade, I like helping someone else practice reading."

6th grade student



I'M IN MY ANATOMY APRON!

The **four year old classes** showed off their anatomy aprons at Open House. The apron project was designed to help the children remember the locations and functions of some of their organs. The children enjoyed learning these key facts: the body has 206 bones; the heart is the size of your fist; the lungs take in oxygen; the stomach is like a bag that holds the food you eat; the intestines take out waste and the brain



controls everything your body does.

The classes also learned several songs about their bodies. If you would like to hear one, ask a St. Alban's four year old!

Look at me! My toe bone is connected to my ankle bone...

SALLY SUITER VILLARREAL, BOARD PRESIDENT, ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL DAY SCHOOL

Sally Villarreal, current Board President, has served on the School Board for St. Alban's for three years and has been affiliated with St. Alban's Episcopal Church for two.

and support that our Board President gives us. Thank you, Dr. Villarreal.

"I hope to contribute through my abilities anything that benefits the school and the children." Dr. Villarreal would like all prospective parents to know that St. Alban's has been more in every way than she ever knew a school could be for her children. She believes that the focus placed on the whole child by the staff and students is the most important attribute of the St. Alban's family. "A student can benefit from the dedicated staff at St. Alban's"

The administration and staff of St. Alban's is extremely grateful for the time



WHO IS THE APPLE OF YOUR EYE?

"Bring your favorite apple," Mrs. Contreras and Mrs. Leimon told their 1st grade students. The students counted the apples, then they counted the seeds in the apples. They prepared graphs to show the results so they could decide which apples were the favorite and which apples had the most seeds! The best part, though, was when they got to eat the apples. They tasted them with cinnamon and then they even ate

them as an Apple Crisp (a special treat prepared by a parent). Another fun activity was when the students created a puppet and then gave a "show" for their classmates.



*"...And so I thank the Lord for giving me the things I need, the sun and the rain and the appleseed. The Lord is good to me."
The movie, Johnny Appleseed*

TODDLER CLASS

St. Alban's is delighted to introduce a toddler class to our pre-school program. According to Mary De la Rosa, toddler teacher, there are 12 children enrolled. The toddlers work on fine motor skills and interacting with each other.

The monthly theme for September has been the color red, the shape circle and the Bible story of God's creation of the world. Each day the students have an

art activity and they learn nursery rhymes, such as Hickory Dickory Dock.

"The children have settled in and are becoming more comfortable each day with Ms. Diana and myself," said Ms. Mary. Ms. Mary and Ms. Diana are especially grateful to have the opportunity to work with these precious toddlers.



Partners with Target!

St. Alban's recently received a check for **\$158.01** as our donation from the "Take Charge of Education" program with Target. Target asks customers to designate a school to receive credit for a percentage of their purchases. St. Alban's uses money earned from this program to supplement our scholarship funds.



**Diana Garza, Extended Day
Teacher of the Month**

The Extended Day staff voted **Diana Garza** as the Extended Day Teacher of the Month. Ms. Diana has been with St. Alban's for 15 years. She is well respected by her peers and loves the challenge of working with our 2 year old toddler class. St. Alban's is grateful for dedicated teachers like Ms. Diana.

Boxtop for Education!

Thank you, **Gianne Fuentes**, for your diligence and dedication to raising money for St. Alban's library through Boxtop for Education collections. Through the efforts of Mrs. Fuentes, St. Alban's earns an average of **\$158.90** per month. Each month a pre-school class and a grade class are recognized for raising the most money. Their classes are rewarded with a party.

<http://www.MindsSharpenedDaily.com>

SELF CONTROL

Juan C. and Ms. Yvette are practicing their "Self Control"?



Each month the Chapel Team is featuring a different theme for the month. The team consists of Father Scott, Mrs. Duffy, Juan C. and Ms. Yvette.

The **September** theme has been **Self Control**. Students have practiced their Bible verse, "**Like a city whose walls are broken down is one who lacks self control.**" **Proverbs 25:28**

October's theme is **Patience**. There will be four bible stories that bring this theme to life. Moses, Jesus in the desert, Abraham and Joseph will be the biblical characters that illustrate this trait.

"We will also be talking about how our children can apply patience when dealing with problems in their daily lives," according to Ms. Yvette. "We will also be teaching our children some Spanish Praise and Worship songs in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month."

"A person's wisdom yields patience; it is to one's glory to overlook an offense."
Proverbs 19:11

Each Monday

- Morning prayers at 8:05 and 8:30 in Chapel

Each Tuesday

- Sermon days at 8:05 and 8:30 in Chapel

Each Wednesday Religion classes are held in classrooms

Each Thursday

- Praise and worship at 8:05 in Chapel

Each Friday

- School assembly at 8:05 in Chapel