

September 2019

Lower School Newsletter



Dear parents, students and staff,

WELCOME BACK!

I hope that everyone has had a nice and relaxing summer, so that you may all have the energy to start with enthusiasm this new academic year! All signs point to another incredible and productive school year. Our skilled and dedicated teachers have been planning and preparing for our students' return. Our energetic office team has been registering new families, ordering needed uniforms and materials, as well as updating student files. Our hard working custodians have spent the entire summer upgrading our facility. If you've come to school you must have noticed all the improvements around campus. Firstly, the neighborhood sidewalks have been completely paved and our backyard repainted. I am especially happy with our new artificial turf area which will be used for different school activities. Also, improvements to the changing rooms and bathrooms in the gym and main building were completed over summer break.

We are delighted to welcome all new and returning families and staff. In particular we are welcoming our new School Counselor, Ms. Laura Pagliarini, and support teachers Ms. Alejandra, Blanca Calvo, and Daniela Paternostro.

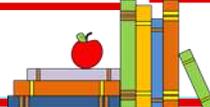
On another note, classrooms have been balanced academically and socially, considering students' learning styles and needs. Our class lists have been structured to provide the best possible learning environment. Thank you so much for being positive about these changes and helping your child understand that it is impossible to place all students with preferred best friends or teachers. Please remember that all our teachers work very hard to make AAS a positive and enriching experience for all our students. It may take a couple of days or weeks for a child to get use to a new grade level, peer group and teacher. But nonetheless, we find that all students integrate happily and quickly to new classes.

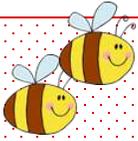
I look forward to meeting families and students again either during morning prayer, dismissal or Family Day.

With the honest support of all members of our community, I know we will make this 2019-20 school year one of positive growth and achievement for all children!

Yours in education,

Mrs. Carbo





9	BACK TO SCHOOL
19	Beginning of Year Mass 8:50 am
28	Family Day at Encinas



1	Open House Grades 4 & 5 1st Day of Encinas for Gr 4 & 5 3:30- 4:30
4	Open House - Grades 1, 2 & 3 1st Day of Encinas for 1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd graders 3:30- 4:30
19	Halloween Trick-or-Treat at Húmera 7:00-8:30 pm
29	All Saints, All Souls Mass 8:50 am
30	Halloween Parade—Only for Students
31-1 Nov	Homework free holiday



Simón Fernández
Rodrigo Sarobe
Daniela Oyarzabal
Alonso Vallado
Guillermo Puig
Carlos Rodríguez
Olivia Matías
Nicolás Matías
Patricia Degano
Javier Cidoncha
Alejo Díez
Martina Ramírez
Alejandra Kaiser
Valeria Couto
Daniel Nestares
Álvaro Puertas
Irene Hormigos



On your special day, I wish you the best. I hope this wonderful day will fill up your heart with joy and blessings.





BIRTHDAY BOOK CLUB

The Birthday Book Club is a voluntary program that provides an opportunity to donate a book in honor of your child's birthday. Instead of sending treats, consider donating a book for your child's class library. The book will be affixed with a special bookplate commemorating your child's special day.

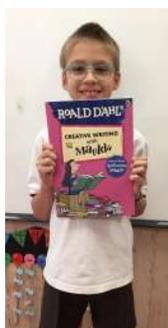
This is a great way to share a birthday gift and your child's birthday with future students as well!

WELCOME!



A warm welcome to our new Lower School teachers and staff:

- Laura Pagliarini
- Daniela Paternostro
- Alejandra Arreaga
- Satonya Thomas
- Noor Kara



WELCOME! NEW FAMILIES AND STUDENTS

We are happy to welcome new students to Lower School. We wish you the best during this school year.



Happy Birthday

Guillermo, Patricia, Carlos, Javier, and Alejo !

- Sergio & Carmen De Horna
- Antonio Puerto
- Sebastian Capuano
- Álvaro & Mertixel Cabrerizo
- Olivia & Mónica Mota
- Rodrigo Saavedra
- Guillermo Martínez
- Lukas Mozley
- Martina Vallejo
- Irene Hormigos
- Emilia Kirby
- Jacobo y José María Ruíz
- Paula Honrubia
- Natalia Gento
- Bosco Miranda
- Tess Kramarz Huegel
- Olivier Lorrain
- Adriana García
- Shivam Patel
- Paula Paz
- Emilia Luquetta





Exact Path for students in Grades 3-5

Exact Path is a digital tool that targets the students' academic needs by tailoring a list of lessons and activities that are just right for them according to their MAP results. Teacher, parents and students can monitor their progress and students may receive rewards along the way.

This program will target reading, language arts and math skills. Students will receive a unique learning path addressing these skills through instructions, games, and quizzes. The reward area will show trophies, and challenge badges.

Students in grades 3–5 will receive their username and password so that they can start using Exact Path to support their learning and academic growth.

PARENTS' CORNER

RECOMMENDED READINGS

“Keyboards are overrated. Cursive is back and it’s making us smarter”

<https://qz.com/1037057/keyboards-are-overrated-cursive-is-back-and-its-making-us-smarter/>

“The hidden benefit of reading aloud—even for older kids ”

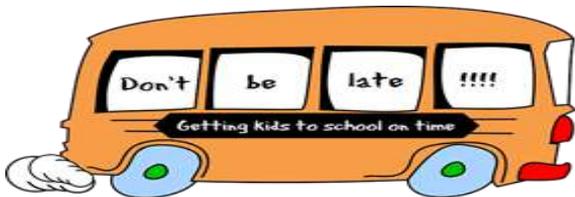
<https://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/read-aloud-to-children/>

READ! Reading is the KEY to Learning.



Scholastic Book Club is back!

Order your books until October 11.



We expect regular and punctual attendance from all our students. Arriving on time ensures that your child has a better opportunity to develop skills and a positive attitude towards learning.

Students arriving after 8:45 are considered LATE. Students that are late should check in at the Reception Desk before entering their classrooms.



Visit our Website

We are constantly updating our School website to provide current information about school events.

<http://aquinas-american-school.es/>





What's Been Going on in Lower School?



Sports, New Friends, Learning



Faith



LOWER SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE:

RESPECTFUL

RESPONSIBLE

SAFE



KIND





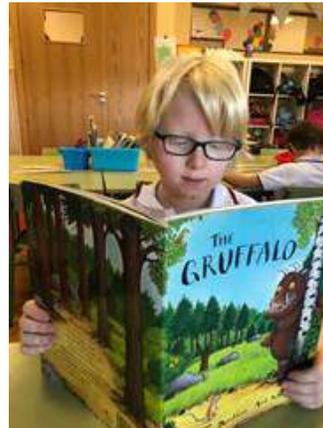
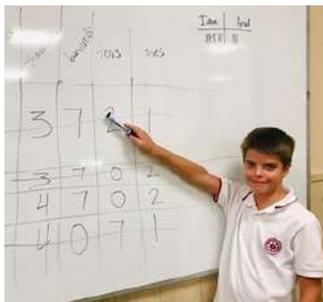
CHESS GALORE!



STEAM

Science, Technology, Engineering,

Art & Math





I would like to extend an invitation to all our K1 to 5th grade students to participate in this wonderful American tradition, Trick-or-Treating on Halloween night. We will be joining ASM and many other expat families in Madrid in their annual Húmera Trick-or-Treating this coming October.

In order for this event to be successful, we must ask for everyone attending to bring candy. The organizers are requesting **60 individually wrapped candy per child in a sealed bag (no open bags, and recently bought candy are a must, as soft candy becomes very hard if it is from the previous year).** If a family has **more** than one child, they need to multiply that amount (**60**) per any additional child. It seems like a lot, but by the end of trick-or-treating, kids usually have that amount or even more in their bags. I kindly ask you to **write** your full name and our school name on the bags. I will be collecting the Candy. You may bring it to my office from October 14th to the 16th. The **last day** from bringing the candy is **October 16th**. Please no later than that.

A few days before the event, I will send you a map showing all the houses distributing candy. It is important that you **follow that map**, as not all houses in Húmera will participate and we have to be very careful not to knock on doors that do not wish to take part in this events. At the same time, I would like for all of you to apply the **4Bs** while trick-or-treating in Húmera: **Being Respectful** of others property and neighborhood, **Being Responsible** of your children, **Being Safe** while walking around and entering the gardens, and **Being Kind** with everyone, in particular to the house owners who will be handing out the candy. Do remember that when approaching someone's property, be mindful about where you walk and don't leave a mess of wrappers or costume accessories in your walk. It can get pretty hectic on the porch during peak trick-or-treat hours. Once you take your share, move out of the way for the next person and don't trip the person behind you. And one last thing, don't forget to say *Trick-or Treat* and *Thank You*. Let's show our Aquinas spirit at all times!

On a final note, all participants should be wearing a nice Halloween costume, carry a bag for collecting candy, and be accompanied by an adult.



This year's Halloween event will take place on

Saturday October 19th from 7:00-8:30 pm.

