

# THE FAMILY CONNECTION

Seton Grade School - 808 E. Lucas Street - Algona, IA 50511 - (515) 295-3509 - June 2009

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[www.garrigan.unlimitedweb.net](http://www.garrigan.unlimitedweb.net)

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## SETON SUMMER HOURS

May 29 - June 10	8:30am - 12:30pm
August 3 - August 18	8:00am - 4:00pm
August 19	8:00am - 4:00pm

The office will be closed after June 10, and will reopen August 3, 2009. Please call for an appointment with Kathee Froehlich at 515-295-5702 (my home), if needed. If it is an emergency and you are unable to reach me, please call Bishop Garrigan at 515-295-3521.

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## PARENT FALL CHECK-IN DAYS (And Uniform Exchange)

A note for new parents - fall check-in days are the time when parents pick up student packets, and student classroom assignments for K-8 are posted on the wall inside the office.

There is a change - Uniform Exchange will take place only one day instead of two. The last several years no one came the second day. But the Packet Pick-Up will still be held for two days.

August 3 - 18	8:00am - 4:00pm
August 13	7:30am - 4:00pm check-in times
August 14	7:30am - 3:00pm check-in times

## FIRST DAY OF CLASS

August 18	Open House PreK-8 5:30 - 6:30pm
August 19	First Day of Class - all day
August 24	Parish busing, no school at ACSD

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## WELCOME NEW STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

We welcome you to the Seton School family and look forward to many wonderful years working with you and your children.

If you are new to the system and haven't returned registration papers, please do so as soon as possible. Families new to the system want to be sure to have applied for the Msgr. Lafferty money through the FAIR application process.

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## EARLY CHILDHOOD INFORMATION

There will be **Parent Orientation meetings** this fall for parents of the **Early Childhood Programs**. The dates and times of the parent meetings are as follows:

3-year-old Preschool	Thurs., Aug. 13, 6:00pm
4-year-old Preschool	Thurs., Aug. 13, 6:00pm
** Prep Parents	Tues., Aug. 18, 6:30pm

The **Den Program** will be discussed during the meeting pertaining to your child. There will be a letter mailed during the summer (after August 1) reminding you of the meeting dates.

If you know of any other families that would be interested in our programs, please help us by spreading a good word and encouraging them to call me at school or at home.

A reminder that by law students need to have a lead test before starting school. Preschoolers also need a physical and up to date immunizations.

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## HELP WANTED

Seton has several job openings:

- The first is for a part-time custodian.
- The breakfast position opening is mentioned under the "breakfast" heading.
- We are also needing coaching staff (M.S. girls' basketball, JV and freshman volleyball, varsity boys' golf).

If you are interested in any of these positions, or know someone who is, please call Gene Meister (295-3521).

- If you or someone you know would be willing to build some shelving for the Early Childhood, please call me at 295-3509.

## **IOWA CORE CURRICULUM FOR PARENTS**

Iowa Core Curriculum (ICC) has provided a website to help Iowa citizens learn more about the state-wide academic expectations for kindergarten through 12th grade students. The website offers a look at the skills and concepts all Iowa students must know under the ICC, signed into law by Governor Culver in 2008. The new website is [www.corecurriculum.iowa.gov](http://www.corecurriculum.iowa.gov). It is our hope that you will enjoy learning about the ICC.

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## **DRESS CODE REVISIONS**

As determined by a committee of K-12 school board and staff, the new dress code revisions are published with this newsletter, and will begin in August. Please go through the dress code carefully, as there are changes for both Seton and Bishop Garrigan H.S.

If you are not purchasing the approved uniform, please look over your children's clothing to ensure that a difference cannot be noticed.

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## **BREAKFAST AT SETON**

Seton is going to "pilot" breakfast next school year. That means that we are going to try it to see how it works for our students. If it doesn't go over, then we will not continue it for the next year. Breakfast will begin at 7:35 and end at 8:10. Currently we are in need of someone who would like to assist with the breakfast hour each day. If you are, or know someone who is, interested in helping with breakfast from 7:30 - 8:30am school days, please call Seton - 515-295-3509.

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## **AUNT BONNIE'S COOKIE DOUGH COMES TO SETON**

Aunt Bonnie's cookie dough is the same product that is being sold in the community during the fall months, and Seton students will be selling it during our fundraiser in October. Seton is going to try a new fundraising company for the coming year - Four Seasons Fundraising. And yes, Aunt Bonnie's will be part of it. There will still be pizzas, mixes, cheese cakes, etc. The company offers Blow Ups, which we can still provide during Catholic Schools Week. We have to assure the company that we will sell \$30,000 of product to get the Blow Ups, and we have been able to do that in the past. Our starting date will be October 16 and ending date will be October 27.

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## **GRADE 2 SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION**

Next year the cluster parishes are providing more opportunities for parents to work with their children on sacramental preparation. The role in the formation of Christian values for your children is irreplaceable, and this will be a great opportunity to work closely with your children in preparing for the sacraments. The team will teach parents how to proceed. The first meeting will be Wednesday, September 16, at 6:30pm in the Rochleau Center.

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## **SOIL CONSERVATION WINNER**

Congratulations to Emily Arnforfer, third grade daughter of Maria and Kevin Arndorfer of Algona. Emily placed first in Division 2 with her entry "Dig It - The Secrets of Soil" poster for Kossuth County. Her poster will now be submitted to the regional level of competition.

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## **NEW HANDBOOKS**

The Parent-Student Handbook has been revised. There will be a new handbook for each family at fall packet pick-up in August.

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## **INTERNET SAFETY**

Enclosed in this newsletter is a handout regarding internet safety for children. There are lots of tips for parents and areas to monitor. The U.S. Attorney's Office states that one in seven youths received an unwanted, online sexual solicitation, and one in three is exposed to sexual material online with only 2% reporting the experience to an adult. In our society we can't be vigilant enough for children.

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## **REMINDERS**

- With the security system, entry into the building is by the north door on Lucas Street. Upon entering the building, sign in at the office and receive a "pass".
  - All adults who wish to volunteer at Bishop Garrigan Schools are required by the Council of Bishops to participate in a VIRTUS training session and consent to a simple background check. The training is provided through Deacon Bob Larsen from St. Cecelia's Parish.
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**COUNSELOR'S CORNER**  
**Looking Calm When We're Not**  
**(Love and Logic)**

One of the biggest parenting challenges is keeping your cool when your kids are getting on your nerves.

Why is it so important to at least *look* calm and collected as we provide consequences for our children's misbehavior? Because .....

- Anger creates resentment and rebellion
- Empathy ups the odds of genuine remorse and responsibility
- Anger says, "I can barely handle you!"
- Empathy communicates, "I'm such a great parent that I can handle you without breaking a sweat!"
- Anger creates kids who get sneaky and do irresponsible things behind our backs
- Empathy creates kids who are more likely to behave even when we are not watching them.

When parents get into unhealthy habit of nagging and repeating themselves, their anger builds up inside. By the time they finally follow through, they are too angry to think straight! Wiser parents set limits and follow through quickly ... without using too many words. Because problems are dealt with in their early stages, the parent remains calmer, and the kids learn that it is not okay to perform "water torture" by consistently repeating the same frustrating behaviors.

- Mr. John Byrkeland

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*The Seton Faculty and Staff wish you a blessed and restful summer.*

*We look forward to working with you in the fall!*

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