



Roman Catholic High School
Parent Newsletter—December 7, 2018
Volume 1-Edition 10

Addressing Academic Concerns

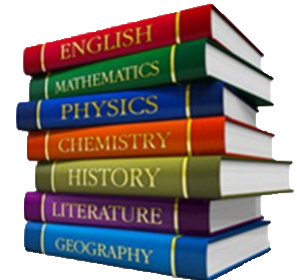
As we continue to progress through the 2nd quarter, it is important to review these best practices for addressing Academic Concerns.

Monitor PowerSchool—parents have access to PowerSchool, which allows them to closely monitor their son's performance in his coursework. Login information was mailed to each family at the start of the school year. If you are still in need of PowerSchool login information, please contact Mrs. Ann Vassallo-Trost via email at avassallo@romancatholichs.com

Open Dialogue with your Son—As grades are entered into PowerSchool, have a conversation with your son about both the positive grades as well as the grades that need to be improved. Providing your sons with positive feedback throughout the marking period often makes it easier to address academic obstacles. When assignments are missing or test grades are low, this timely dialogue with your son is critical. The importance of completing work on time and studying for tests is critical to a student's success at Roman Catholic High School.

Email the Teachers—the Roman Catholic Faculty is comprised of many talented educators who are here to support your sons along their academic journey. After having a conversation with your son, please feel free to reach out to your son's teachers through email. Please give teachers 48 hours to respond as their teaching loads consist of around 150 students. Also, feel free to copy the Department Chair for the academic discipline on your correspondence to the teacher. The Department Chair emails can be found below:

- Theology—Mr. Jim Murphy - jmurphy@romancatholichs.com
- English—Mr. Fitzgerald Gallagher - fgallagher@romancatholichs.com
- Science—Mr. Dennis DiGiovanni - ddigiovanni@romancatholichs.com
- Social Studies—Mr. John Corrigan - jcorrigan@romancatholichs.com
- World Languages—Mr. Joseph Farinella - jfarinella@romancatholichs.com
- Mathematics—Mr. Jim Brennan - jbrennan@romancatholichs.com
- Business—Ms. Theresa A. Lazorko - tlazorko@romancatholichs.com
- Physical Education/Health—Mr. Robert Hill - rhill@romancatholichs.com



If you do not hear back from a teacher within 48 hours, please reach out to their respective department chair with your concerns.

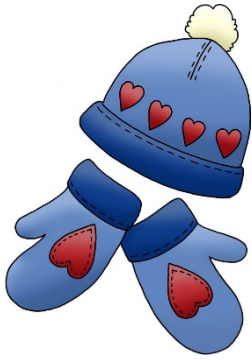
Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs—Mr. Christopher Buck was recently named our Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs. If after reaching out to your son's teacher and the department chair you still have concerns, please feel free to email Mr. Buck at cbuck@romancatholichs.com

Contact the Guidance Department—Our Guidance Director, Mrs. Mary Desmond, may be able to assist you with finding additional resources for your son to improve his academic performance. Please reach out to Mrs. Desmond at mdesmond@romancatholichs.com. We have a dedicated Counseling Department and their contact information can be found below:

- Freshmen Counselor—Ms. Ashley Francello— afrancello@romancatholichs.com
- Sophomore Counselor—Mrs. Carol Snyder— csnyder@romancatholichs.com
- Junior and Seniors— Mrs. Mary Desmond— mdesmond@romancatholichs.com
Mr. Patrick Shields— pshields@romancatholichs.com
(Naviance Lists who the counselor is for 11th and 12th graders)

National Honor Society Tutoring—11th and 12th graders in our school's chapter of NHS are available to tutor students throughout the school day. If you are interested in this opportunity, please email the NHS moderator, Mrs. MacLuckie, at kmacluckie@romancatholichs.com

Advent Service Opportunity Roman Catholic's "Coats and Cans" Drive



With the holiday season here, there are several community service initiatives taking place to help give back to those in our community who are in need.

For each donation made, students can earn service hours that can be put towards the mandatory 20 hours of service required of each Roman Catholic student.



Can Food Drive:

- Theology teachers will collect can food donations during their classes.
- Theology classrooms will have a box for the donations.
- For every 3 cans donated, students will receive 1 community service hour which will be monitored by the student's Theology teacher.



Cahillites Coat Drive:

- Students are asked to bring in new or gently worn jackets, coats, hats, and gloves for those in need.
- A large box will be kept in the school's Main Office. When students drop off their donations, they must sign-in so that they receive credit for service hours. Each donation of a coat or accessory will earn 2 hours of service.

Please encourage your students to be generous and to get involved in these wonderful service opportunities throughout the Advent Season. **We are currently making arrangements to support the St. Joseph Welcome Center in Kensington and also St. Joan of Arc Food Cupboard with all that we collected during this service project.**

Since Monday, November 9th, our "Coats and Cans" drive has been very successful. Students have donated:

41 Adult Jackets/Coats
82 Children Jackets/Coats
69 Winter Hats, Pairs of Gloves, and Scarves
554 Can Goods



Counselor's Corner

Counselors Visit 9th Grade Theology Classes

Guidance Director, Mrs. Desmond, and Freshman Counselor, Ms. Francello, visited all 9th grade Theology classes this week. During the visits, the importance of academic performance was stressed and connected to GPA, Transcripts, and the College Admissions Process.

The counselors also reviewed the significant nature of coming to school each day and making sure one is on time. Additionally, each 9th grader was assisted with creating a CollegeBoard Account which will eventually give them access to their PSAT scores. This is the Collegeboard account your son will use throughout high school. Please do not create a second account as this will lock him out. If your son does not remember his user name and password, you can contact Ms. Francello (afrancello@romancatholicchs.com) or Mrs. Desmond (mdesmond@romancatholicchs.com) for assistance.

International Student Summit Trip for World Affairs

Next Tuesday, December 11th, a group of students will be attending the International Student Summit for World Affairs Club.

Michael Barton, AiJohn Bayhon, Stephen Helfrich, Anthony Pantalone, Brendan Storino, Aidan Cotton, Ryan Frank, Oisin Carthy, Joseph Barrett, Nicholas Diehl, Timothy McFarland, Gabriel Poessl, Nicholas Poessl, and Sean Riehmman-Murphy will be participating in the experience.



Roman Student Graduates from Montgomery County Fire Academy

Senior, Bill Suter, recently graduated from the Montgomery County Fire Academy. In addition to his dedication to his course work, he also volunteers at Barron Hill Fire Company. Congratulations to Fire Fighter Suter on this wonderful accomplishment! Your Roman Family is proud of you.



Digital Video Students' Homecoming Video



A new course offered to Roman students during the 2018-2019 school year is our Digital Video class, designed and taught by our new Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs, Mr. Buck. The students are now using brand new equipment and the quality of their work has been improving each week. In order to see one of their most recent works, click on the following link, which will take you to their Alumni Homecoming Recap Video.

Link to RCTV Video on Homecoming: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Q5Laysh7c0&feature=youtu.be>

Vaping Resource for Parents

Attached to this edition of the Parent Newsletter is the FDA and Scholastic Youth E-Cigarette Prevention Infographic for your review. Additional resources will be included in the newsletters as they become available.



Jared Dillon Earns All-American Title



For the first time in Roman history, a member of our soccer program has been named All-American. Since 1997, the Philadelphia Catholic League has only had 3 All-American players.

In addition to this well-deserved honor, Jared was named the PA Player of the year. Jared is the 1st player to be named PA State player of the year from the Philadelphia Catholic League.

Congratulations, Jared, on your two amazing achievements!

Philadelphia Phillies Looking for Student Workers

We recently received information from the Philadelphia Phillies Marketing and Events Department that they are in need of student workers for the upcoming season. Below you will find specific information concerning the positions sent by the organization.



Available Position – Seasonal/Part-time

- Marketing/Events
- Game Day & Non-Game Day Staff
- Entertainment Staff

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES: This position will primarily assist the Marketing/Events & Entertainment department with fan interaction areas throughout the ballpark. This position may also assist in a variety of marketing events, campaigns, special events, and non-game day events. This position includes time requirements on nights, weekends and holidays.

Duties Include:

- Monitoring the Phanatic Phunzone; children's play area located near the First Base Gate
- Monitoring The Yard and all elements including: hot dog launcher, climbing wall, Phan Field, and The Bullpen
- Assisting the Events Department as needed with promotional events
- Implementing special marketing campaigns such as MLB All Star balloting
- Providing assistance as needed with sponsor and marketing activations
- Staffing the Phillies Social Media kiosk during Phillies home games

Requirements:

- Strong customer service skills
- Energetic, motivated individual comfortable with interacting with large crowds
- Professional demeanor at all times
- Ability to work a minimum of 40 home games
- Ability to interact and work with children effectively – must complete child abuse clearance within a week after hire date
- Candidate must be at least 16 years of age
- Strong verbal and communication skills
- Flexible schedule allowing candidate to work around the Phillies seasonal home schedule
- Availability of nights, weekends and some holidays
- Must be available for some special events that are non-game days

Interested candidates should submit their resume to:

afigazzotto@phillies.com

Roman Catholic Selected to Participate in PMA Art Futures Program

Congratulations to Mrs. Gallagher and our art students for being selected as a participant in this year's Philadelphia Museum of Arts (PMA) Art Futures Program. As a participant, a professional artist will spend 30 hours in residence at Roman, working directly with Mrs. Gallagher's classes. Using the Museum's collection as inspiration, Mrs. Gallagher and artist-in-residence will design and implement an engaging art project to develop critical thinking and expose students to new art-making materials and techniques. Mrs. Gallagher's classes will also receive an \$850 check for art supplies to use towards this project, two trips to the Museum led by professional museum educators, and a free one-year admission pass to the Art Museum for participating students. Congratulations on this wonderful achievement!





PowerSchool Mobile version 2.6.0 for iOS Now Available

A new version of PowerSchool Mobile for iOS (2.6.0) is now available in the Apple App Store for parents and students.

This release provides a new enhanced student schedule, and fixes to existing issues.

- A new main navigation button allows users to open a bell schedule view of the day (iPhone) or week (iPad) which includes course name, period, start and end times, and room number for each class.
- Resolves existing issues related to authentication and data sync.



Help Wanted

Part-time position
available working in
the RCHS School
Store, The Forum.
Responsibilities

include selling clothing, food items, restocking merchandise, etc. Hours are from 9 to 2. Days flexible.

Full-time position, (second shift (2 PM-10PM)) available working in Maintenance. Responsibilities include general custodial and light maintenance. Health benefit package included along with tuition reimbursement for child enrolled in any diocesan high school.

Please send resume to
avassallo@romancatholicchs.com

Christmas Angels—Helping Families in Need

A few members of our faculty are passionate about helping Roman families who are in need of assistance during the holiday. Below you will find a message from our Christmas Angels Committee:

"We are reaching out to you today to ask you to share your love and light with members of our Roman family during this Holiday Season. The Christmas Angels Program was started last year and through your generosity we were able to assist over 50 Roman Catholic High families last Christmas. We are asking for your help again and are looking for donations of gift cards to food stores, retail stores or a monetary donation. If you would like to contribute, please bring the donation to either Miss. Kuvik in Room 65 or Mrs. Desmond in the Guidance Office. Please do not feel obligated to donate – the most important gift you can give is your prayers.



*If your family is in need of assistance, please contact Mrs. Desmond at
mdesmond@romancatholicchs.com*

Thank you in advance for helping us continue this tradition of generosity and support for the Roman Family. You are truly ANGELS. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

*Sincerely,
The Christmas Angels Committee"*



Roman Catholic High School Highlighted in Suburban Life Magazine

Roman Catholic was featured in the October edition of Suburban Life Magazine. Below is a link to Bill Donohue's Article, *"Finishing Strong: Students Hunger for the Skills Needed to Become Leaders, Risk-Takers, and Agents of Change Once They Complete High School."*

Link to the article

<http://www.suburbanlifemagazine.com/articles/?articleid=2078>



Roman Students Invited to Work the Philadelphia Union League Christmas Bazaar

On Wednesday, December 5th, five Roman students volunteered their time at the Philadelphia Union League working their Christmas Bazaar. Following the event, we received feedback from one of the event's coordinators concerning our students work. (Story Continued on next page)

"After spending a few hours this morning with five amazing students from Roman Catholic High School, I felt compelled to write to you in hopes that you can forward this onto the academic leadership at the school. I truly have nothing but heaping praise for these young men! I know that you arranged to have them receive community service hours this morning in exchange for helping with the setup at the Union League's Holiday Shop, where a percentage of the sales is donated to the UL's charitable foundations which you manage. For starters this morning, these young men not only arrived on time but when they arrived they were all ready to work and were very eager to help the 22 unaffiliated vendors move their wares into the League House. They adeptly maneuvered through the back hallways, staircases and elevators of the League House all the while carrying boxes and pushing carts that were piled high with holiday sale items. All of them were fabulous young people who were extremely polite and positive at all times. Because of the helpful spirit they exuded, they received compliment after compliment from the vendors and Union League members alike. I am sorry I don't know their full names but I came to know them as Marvin, Daten, Dan, Nick and Nick. I am certain the leadership team at Roman Catholic is fully aware of who these fine young men are. They needed to return to school this morning around 10:00AM and, unfortunately, I didn't have the time to personally show them around the League House. I welcome the opportunity to have them return to the Union League so that they can become more familiar with our rich history and enjoy some of our hospitality for themselves.

Thank you to Nick Hamilton, Marvin Moore, Nick Torelli, Dan Kleinkurt, and Daten Beasley for making our school community proud!



Student Leaders Attend ADL Leadership Conference

Earlier this week, our young men had the opportunity to meet students from all around the region at this year's ADL Leadership Conference. Students discussed topics about bullying and bias and had the honor of listening to a holocaust survivor tell about his life experiences.



A Thank You from the Mothers Club to An Anonymous Donor

THANKS

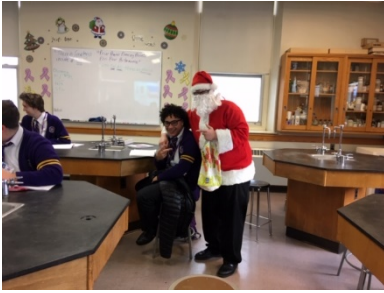
The Mothers' Club would like to thank the anonymous Mom and Dad from the Class of 2020 who kindly donated to our efforts in purchasing supplies and refreshments for upcoming events here at Roman Catholic. The Mothers' Club's purpose is to support the school and work to make our sons' time at Roman just a little more special.

Your generous donation is much appreciated and we are grateful for your kindness in helping us give back to the Roman Family.

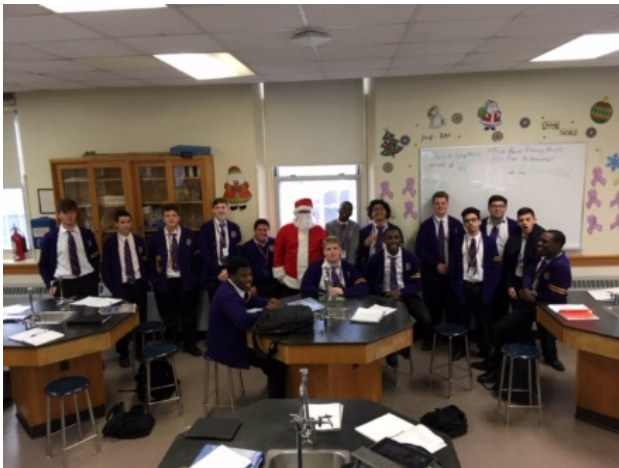
Have a happy and blessed holiday!

*Sincerely,
The RCHS Mothers' Club Board*

St. Nicholas Visits Chemistry Classes



On December 6th, St. Nicholas celebrated his Feast Day at Roman Catholic High School and took part in Ms. Kuvik's Chemistry Lessons.



Roman Students Decorate Old St. Mary's Home for Senior Women

On December 5th, a group of Roman students and a couple of Hallahan girls stopped by Old St. Mary's Home for Senior Women to spread some Christmas Spirit by decorating for the holidays. They also brought some cookies and candies to the residents of the home!



Angels in Motion



The Community Service Corp gathered on Monday, December 3rd to create Blessing Bags for those suffering from addiction. Over a dozen students spent time making 75 bags which contained pop tarts, juice boxes, and 8 other snack items as well as cards for the recipients. These Blessing Bags were delivered to a



coordinator who supports those suffering from addiction and they will be distributed this weekend to those in need. Additionally, besides making the Blessing Bags, students prayed for those who suffer from addiction in the chapel. The supplies were purchased using the Community Service Corps' grant which was received from Notre Dame.

