

Newsletter: October 15, 2025

# Assumption Catholic School

## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

What a Week at ACS! Last week was filled with excitement, learning, and community spirit! We kicked things off with Walk Your Child to School Day, where the Perth Amboy Police Department joined our students for a fun morning of photos, pencils, and smiles. Midweek, our 7th and 8th graders enjoyed an inspiring visit from St. Thomas Aquinas High School, learning about the many opportunities that await them in high school. We wrapped up the week with a visit from the Perth Amboy Fire Department for Fire Prevention Day—always a favorite, complete with safety lessons and those much-loved fire hats! We're so proud of the strong relationships we share with our community partners who help make learning fun, engaging, and meaningful for our students.

This week's discussion topic: **MATH.Yes, we are more than our fundraisers! I know many parents have been feeling the IXL pressure, and I completely understand. I wanted to take a moment to share why we work so hard toward mastery. Each skill we focus on is a building block — together, they create the strong foundation our students need to walk into high school algebra with confidence and the tools to succeed.**

**We are partners: you support learning at home and we guide and encouraging growth at school. When we work together, we help our kids not only master the skills but also develop the confidence to take on new challenges.**

Let's walk through how students build up to evaluating an expression like 2x - 8 when x = 4 — starting from what they learn in 2nd grade and moving up step-by-step:

### 2nd Grade: Understanding Numbers and Operations

- Skills learned:
    - Add and subtract numbers (e.g., 12 - 8 = 4)
    - Recognize patterns (e.g., skip counting by 2s)
    - Begin to understand what it means to "have groups of" something (a foundation for multiplication)
- Connection to our problem:
    - They could understand parts like "8 less than something" or "2 groups of something."

Example: "If you have 2 groups of 4, that's 8. Then if you take away 8, you get 0."

This is an early verbal version of 2×4 - 8 = 0.

### 3rd Grade: Introduction to Multiplication and Patterns

- Skills learned:
    - Multiply and divide within 100
    - Understand multiplication as repeated addition
    - Work with basic equations using a symbol for an unknown number (like a box or a letter)
- Connection to our problem:
    - They might write: $2 \times 4 = 8$
    - Or: “Something times 2 minus 8 equals what?”

This builds the idea that a letter or symbol can stand for a number.

### 4th Grade: Expressions and Variables Begin to Appear

- Skills learned:
    - Use letters to represent numbers in simple equations
    - Evaluate simple expressions by substituting numbers for letters
    - Practice order of operations
- Connection to our problem:
    - They can now read “2x - 8” as “two times some number, then subtract eight.”
    - They substitute $x = 4$: $2(4) - 8 = 8 - 8 = 0$

### Middle School Grades: Extending to Algebraic Thinking

- Skills learned:
    - Write and evaluate expressions for given values
    - Understand variables as numbers that can change

- Solve for unknowns in simple equations

- Connection to our problem:
  - They formally evaluate:

    2x - 8  x = 4
    Step-by-step:

    1. Replace x with 4 → 2(4) - 8
    2. Multiply → 8 - 8
    3. Subtract → 0

# Upcoming Events:

**Friday, October 17th:** $3 Dress Down Day for our afterschool program

**Friday, October 17th:** Dine and Donate at Buffalo Wild Wings. See flyer on REMIND.

**Wednesday, October 22nd:** Regular $3 Dress Down Day

**Thursday, October 23rd:** PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO AFTERCARE OR CLUBS AVAILABLE

**Friday, October 24th:** NO CLASSES - Our school is hosting SingCon!

**SPIRIT NIGHT at URBANAIR!! 4-8pm**

**Last time we hosted a night everyone had a lot of fun!**

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR MONDAY October 27th to THURSDAY NIGHT October 30th

**Thursday, October 30th:** Trunk or Treat 6pm car setup! See google forms!! (Book fair will be open for families who want to shop)

**Friday, October 31st:** FSA sponsored Pancake breakfast WEAR YOUR FALL COLORS to school ! Want to volunteer? Call the office!

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# Family & School Association - What's Happening?

1. Family School Association (FSA): Fall Clothing Drive going on until November 15th.

2. Gertrude Hawk Due November 7th!

3. Christmas Bazaar Planning coming soon - December 7th!! Start sending in any unused, new items to ACS to use in our Auction - it's my favorite time of the year! SEE ALL THE PAPERWORK - help where you can, get involved!

# Parish Corner:

Looking to join a parish? Look no further! Join us at Ukrainian Assumption parish any Sunday at 11:30am.