



THE GREAT GAZETTE

School edition January 2019

St. Albert the Great Catholic School



Our Mission:

With Christ as our model, the community of St. Albert the Great Catholic School welcomes and values people of all faiths, cultures, and economic backgrounds.

We establish a firm foundation in Catholic values, personal character, academic excellence and service to others.

WE LEARN

ACADEMICS

Blending Contemporary Teaching with Traditional Values



St. Albert the Great School balances traditional teaching techniques with a diverse and modern learning environment. Our blended teaching style utilizes teamwork, textbooks, smart boards, hands on activities, laptops & tablets, outside play and service based experiences.

We have also incorporated new curriculum, such as robotics for our budding engineers and cooking courses that teach students about food science and safety.

Our unique style of teaching merges those traditional methods of an academic experience with cutting-edge technology, giving our students a high-quality, comprehensive, and meaningful faith-based educational experience.

“My years at St. Albert prepared me for academic success. I am grateful for the kindness and community spirit that began as early as Preschool, guiding me to become an even more successful student.”

~Hannah Overton,

St. Albert the Great alumni and current senior and honor student at Alter High School

Team Teaching



We recognize that collaboration is an essential part of the learning experience. So, for the first time, **“Team Teaching” was introduced for the 2018-2019 school year.** This approach allows us to customize the curriculum around the individual strengths of our teachers and provides each student a challenging environment that encourages high expectations for success.



Teamwork extends into the student body as well, creating a sense of community in the school. Students in grades 5-8 help younger students with reading, service projects, computers, as well as lunchroom duties and daily dismissal. Having this buddy system stays with the students even after graduation; STAG alumni return to volunteer their time tutoring and helping with class projects. This speaks volumes of how our community involvement starts in our classrooms.



Even with recent advancements, our school still embraces those core elements that have always made the elementary school experience memorable.

Whether it's the smell of a freshly sharpened pencil, writing in cursive on lined paper, or the enthusiasm of opening a new box of crayons, our school is committed to giving all students a fun, safe, and supportive environment they will remember for years to come.

Our goal is to provide a well-rounded, enriching experience that enables our students to become life-long learners, problem solvers, and contributing members within their communities.

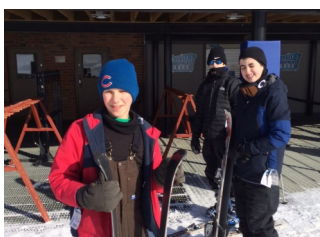


The Learning Experience

Our student's learning experience is not limited to just the classroom.

Outdoor adventures, like field trips to Perfect North to ski, Glen Helen to conduct nature studies, or visits to Metro Parks for river explorations, are an important aspect of our curriculum.

Students also attend multiple shows at local theatres, like The Victoria Theatre and Schuster Center, to see different performances throughout the school year. Our newly renovated Pete's Park Playground gives students a chance to run, jump, and climb on safe and sturdy structures that encourage exercise and imaginative play. Our school campus even has its own field to host athletic events & community building activities.



We strive to help our students develop self confidence and provide an academic foundation necessary for them to reach their true potential, enjoying a successful experience in higher education.

Our staff develops young and creative minds, while instilling in our students a sense of understanding and compassion for others, and the courage to act on their beliefs. We stress the total development of each child: spiritual, moral, intellectual, social, emotional, and physical.

We empower all students to apply their acquired skills and knowledge, and to rely upon their personal attributes to lead productive lives in the image and likeness of Christ.

Technology Upgrades in the last three years

- New cabling for the entire building
- Installation of wireless access points throughout the building
- Onsite tech administrator 3 days per week
- Professional development for our teachers
- 3 Projector-less interactive Smartboards
- 150 total Chromebooks
- 6 total computer carts
- 14 New Smartboards : Total of 17 Smartboards in school
- 30 iPads

School Statistics

- StAG students outscored the Archdiocese of Cincinnati average on the IOWA Basic Skills test in Math and English and Language Arts (2018)
- 75% of the student body is Catholic
- 85% of StAG students continue to Catholic High School
- Only School in the Dayton Deanery with an Autism Program
- Winner of the "It's Elementary" Dayton Metro Library Summer reading challenge (2018)
- All 3rd grade students meet the Ohio Reading Guarantee
- 100% of StAG teachers are Ohio licensed
- Active PTO & Athletic Board lead by dedicated StAG parent volunteers

PROGRAMS

STREAM Enrichment

St. Albert the Great School's new STREAM Enrichment classes provide students in the upper grades an opportunity for hands-on learning in the areas of Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art, & Mathematics.

We offer **TEN** different Enrichment electives, one per quarter.

All 6th graders take a Personal Health & Wellness class;

All 7th graders take a Mental Health class; and

All 8th graders take a Drug & Alcohol Prevention Class.

This provides the student with an opportunity to take **three** different Enrichment courses per year.

Recently added Electives include Bible Study, Careers, Cooking, Creative Writing, Drama, Engineering, Personally Fit, Public Speaking, Research Current Events, and Robotics.

Extraordinary Performing Arts

Music: For 5 years in a row, we have received the **National Association of Music Merchants Foundation Merit Award for *Outstanding Support*** of Music Education.

Art: Students proudly showcase their work in a local Art Show every year.

In School Enrichment

Bible Study

Study the readings for Sunday Masses and support the liturgical planning for Wednesday School Masses.

Careers

Speakers from each of the STREAM fields speak to students about careers and demonstrate their work.

Cooking

Apply cooking methods, ingredients, and nutrition information by preparing selected food dishes.

Creative Writing

Study and apply variety of writing skills.

Drama

Students work with many styles of the dramatic arts.

Engineering

Introduction to the engineering design process.

Personally Fit / Health

Work with Personally Fit on health and body fitness.

Public Speaking

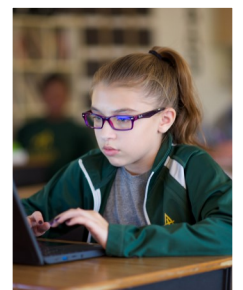
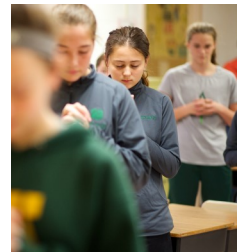
Introduces students to the many purposes of formal communication and building presentation confidence.

Research of Current Events

Examine current events at the local, state, and national levels.

Robotics

Study of Robotics through creations of simple machines.



Science, Technology, Engineering, Math

Our STEM Education

STEM education incorporates scientific inquiry & technological design through student-focused, project based curricula to develop skills of communication, teamwork/collaboration, creativity/innovation, critical thinking, and problem solving. We incorporate STEM into our Math and Science classes with:

- Glen Helen Outdoor Education
- National Museum of US Air Force
- Elementary Engineering Program
- Trips to Boonshoft
- River Study
- Wizards of Wright guest speakers
- Trips to Cincinnati Zoo
- Science Club

Special Needs & Autism

Intervention Specialist & Tutoring

Students K-8th grade can get extra assistance with reading, grammar, math, writing, fine motor and organizational skills.

Autism Program

St. Albert the Great School has the only Autism curriculum in the Dayton Deanery. The Mission of this program is to:

- ensure that each child is able to reach his or her full potential in a setting where they feel comfortable, confident and safe.
- teach and/or improve social, behavioral, communication, and academic skills for children with Autism and Asperger Syndrome.
- blend proven behavioral and developmental methods to create a program that meets the individual needs of each child, collaborating an approach between home & school.
- provide a tailored educational setting which addresses the full spectrum of autism treatment needs, to the best of our ability.



“Through our gardening with the Garden Guild, Composting and Recycling of paper/plastics, students are reflecting on how to reduce trash and be a steward of God’s creation.”

~Christine Evans,

St. Albert the Great Science and Computer Teacher

After School Enrichment

Art Club

Together with local artist Terri Melia Hamlin, students create art with different mediums.

Brain Bowl

Pictured to right. Competitions were held at Alter High School with teams from Incarnation and St. Charles.

Jr. Achievement Club

Hands-on classroom activities provide students with practical information about the nation’s free market system.

Lego Club

Pictured to right. Legos are used for imaginative fun, and to develop skills such as problem solving, critical thinking, & collaboration.

Math Counts

Provides schools with activities engaging in a wide variety of math.

Power of the Pen

A program committed to being the leading interscholastic program in written expression.

Rosary Club

Students make, learn, and say the Rosary.

Science Club

Pictured to right. Learn about plants & animals, hiking, nature, water, rocks, and sustainability all through hands-on field trips.

Yoga Club

Parishioner & instructor Jeanine Parisi leads students in beginning yoga.



SERVICE

Service as a Way of Life

At St. Albert the Great School, volunteering becomes a part of our student's identity. Making a difference becomes a mission that is incorporated into daily lives and extends into the community.

The Spirit of Giving

This past Thanksgiving, each grade level donated a Thanksgiving dinner food item, like boxed stuffing or boxed potatoes. Enough food was collected to put together TEN boxes of Thanksgiving dinners for St. Vincent de Paul.



*"St. Albert the Great is no stranger to community outreach.
The School's volunteer and community programs are worth talking about."*

~Erin Gardner,

Editor for Dayton Magazine (see back page for details)

Monthly Canned Goods Food Drive

The monthly canned goods food drive, in conjunction with the Parish, benefits Catholic Social Services. "On average, we collect 150 items each month that goes to the Food Pantry," says Sherry Gabert, School Principal.

Veterans Affairs Toiletries Collection

Students donated travel sized toiletries that were donated to the VA Hospital. Thank you to Catherine Miller, former STAG graduate, for your help with this project.

Peace Maker Program

Colleen Henderson, counselor from UD's ECHO Program (Empowering Children with Hope & Opportunity) coordinates this program. Students in the 7th and 8th grades are chosen by their peers to represent their class. These selected students become the "leaders" of their class, and coordinate service projects, pep rallies, and attend leadership training activities with other local area catholic schools.



FAITH & SPIRIT



Liturgical All School Mass

At St. Albert the Great School, students attend and participate in weekly liturgy.

Our students are active in the roles of readers, servers, music and petitions. We welcome families and the community to our All School Masses every Wednesday at 8:30am.

In addition to weekly Mass, our Religion curriculum is designed to help students grow in their knowledge and practice of the Catholic doctrine and Gospel values.

“One of the best things about St. Albert is the tight-knit faith filled community. No matter what is needed, everyone comes together to help and support.”

*~Patty Gross,
Mother of five St. Albert students*

Net Ministries Yearly Retreat

Net Ministries is comprised of college aged & young adults who volunteer a year of service as Catholic Missionaries. This retreat is held during Catholic Schools Week for 6-8th graders.

CYO & Pee Wee Sports

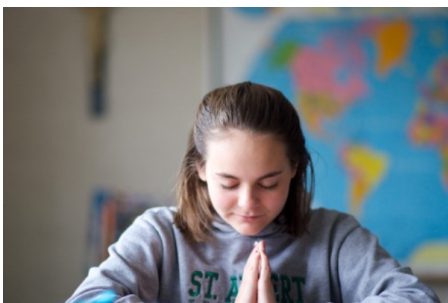
Students of all ages have the opportunity to participate in team sports. CYO (grades 4-8) includes basketball, golf, soccer, track & volleyball. Pee Wee sports (PK-3) includes basketball, soccer & track.

Run with the STAGS

This 1 mile or 5k fun run is held in August to kick off the school year. We had close to 100 runners in 2018.

Spirit Days

Students show extra school spirit twice a month by wearing StAG colors & apparel. Students bring either a canned good or \$2. Proceeds benefit Catholic Social Services & our PTO - which funds many school activities.



Did you know?

- In Dayton Magazine's September 2018 issue, St. Albert the Great was named one of **Miami Valley's Best Schools**. You can find the article on our website under *Celebrate Success*.
- St. Albert has an all day **Preschool and Prekindergarten Program**. We have many Preschool and Prekindergarten options available: five full days a week, five half days a week; or three days a week (both full & half day options).



- St. Albert the Great has **Full Day Kindergarten 5 days a week**.
- St. Albert the Great **Spanish Classes** are offered to **all students, K-8th**.
- St. Albert the Great **Music Program** includes visits from Dayton Philharmonic, off-campus field trips to plays / musicals, and holiday musicals. The **Muse Machine**, sponsored by PTO, has been a part of St. Albert for more than 25 years. Together with *Resident Artist Michael Lippert*, our K-5 students write and perform their own musical in just 3 weeks!



Contact Us!

St. Albert the Great

Catholic School

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Schedule a Tour!

Tours are available anytime from 8am to 3pm.

Please provide 48 hours notice.

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