



La Salle Academy

PHILADELPHIA

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LSA's Annual Day of Giving!

April 7, 2026



Ways to Give:



Venmo



Givesmart

Check: made payable to La Salle Academy
Memo: Day of Giving

Stay Connected With LSA



@LaSalleAcademyPhiladelphia



@ La Salle Academy



Winter 2026

La Salle Academy NEWSLETTER

PHILADELPHIA

In the News...

LSA's **Day of Giving** is **April 7th**. Help support our students and mission.

Check out the **Apply/Register** page of our school website to view our new **Virtual Tour of LSA**.

Save the Date for our Annual Proud Golf Outing - **Monday, September 28, 2026!**

Our **First Look Fridays** are a great opportunity to learn about what LSA has to offer. Join us on **April 10th** or **May 1st** from 8:30am to 10am to see our mission firsthand!



Please fill out our **Donor Survey**

Catholic Schools Week 2026

The January snow storm may have interrupted Catholic Schools Week, but that doesn't mean we didn't celebrate the power of Catholic schools and education when we were safely back at La Salle Academy! During our rescheduled Catholic Schools Week, our students:

- Celebrated our Administration, Faculty, and Staff with a game of Guess Who based on their baby pictures
- Wrote letters to our Board of Trustees and Benefactors
- Thanked their parents and guardians for sending them to a Catholic School with a personal letter and
- Enjoyed a dress down day with an afternoon of Olympic themed activities: Bingo with candy prizes, Jeopardy, and Olympic Games: Touch Relay and Speed Skating- in the Gym!

We are a proud Catholic School with strong roots in the traditions of the Sisters of Saint Joseph and the Christian Brothers. We are thankful for the gift of the Catholic Education we provide our students as we understand how a high quality Catholic education can change the trajectory of a child's life.



YOU'RE INVITED!

Wednesday, March 25, 2026
4:30PM - 7PM

CONNECTION IN ACTION: AN EVENING WITH



With Special Guest
Motivos magazine
and Meet LSA's New Principal
and Assistant Principal

La Salle Academy, 1434 N. 2nd Street Philadelphia, PA 19122
www.lasalleacademy.net



RSVP HERE 
By March 20th



Letter From the President

“Lasallian educational centers must be places where peace and respect are lived out in communities characterized by the acceptance of each person.”

– FROM AN ACT OF HOPE, THE LASALLIAN MISSION



Dear Friends of LSA,

The Lasallian mission is alive and well at La Salle Academy through the dedication and commitment of our wonderful teachers and staff, who live the spirit of St. John Baptist de la Salle’s vision each day. Our students are doubly blessed – not only by the Lasallian mission but also by the faith-filled spirit of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

The 20-plus year legacy of La Salle Academy is in the process of being strengthened through a comprehensive Strategic Plan Process being led by ADAC, an educational consulting organization that works nationally with private and Catholic schools and archdiocese. This process has brought together more than 40 key stakeholders from the La Salle Academy community, who have tirelessly volunteered their time and expertise to assess LSA’s needs and priorities for future generations of the school. Committees are focused on important operational areas, including Mission and Catholic Identity, Operational Vitality, Governance and Leadership and Academics.

The need among our students and families is still great! Your continued support of our unique mission provides opportunities for our students that they would not normally have access to, including extended day, summer and enrichment programs (e.g. music, art, swim lessons) and more.

Thanks, always, for the blessing of your support for our students and mission!

Peace and blessings,

Maria J. Walker
President

La Salle College High School Alumni Day of Service

On President’s Day, LSA welcomed members of LSCHS’s Alumni Association for a Day of Service. They worked alongside LSA staff to clean and disinfect desks, chairs, tables and other shared spaces in classrooms, the Assembly Room and Cafeteria. They also packed supply kits for our LSA Families with items such as Clorox Wipes and Tissues. We are so grateful for them taking the time to support LSA and look forward to growing this relationship in the future!



SAVE THE DATE!

La Salle Academy’s Annual Golf Outing

- MONDAY, SEPT. 28, 2026**
- WHITEMARSH VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB**
- ENJOY GOLF, A SILENT AUCTION, AND LIGHT DINNER HOSTED BY WVCC**

Letter From the Principal

“Don’t be discouraged by anxieties and troubles, life is full of them.”

– JOHN BAPTISTE DE LA SALLE



Dear Friends and Supporters of La Salle Academy,

Because of your generosity, hope is not simply something we speak about at our school. Learning at La Salle Academy continues to be both joyful and deeply meaningful. I am grateful to share several moments from this year so far that beautifully reflect the impact of your investment in our mission and in the lives of our children.

- **High School Success:** 100% of our eighth-graders are accepted into the high school of their choice, reflecting their academic growth and readiness for a bright future built on a foundation of faith, care, and opportunities made possible by you.
- **EcoPhilly Initiative:** Students in grades 3-5 are exploring Pope Francis’s *Laudato Si’* through environmental projects and sustainability lessons focused on caring for our common home.
- **Collaborative Learning:** A mentorship project between 3rd and 6th grades explored stories of faith, service and cultural identity through the stories of Latino and African Saints. Their Ignatian Volunteer Corps Public Speaking classes served them well as they presented their research to the entire school community at assembly!
- **Financial Literacy:** Eighth-graders are learning from Junior Achievement to gain hands-on skills in budgeting, saving, and career readiness to foster lifelong financial independence and responsible decision making.

These accomplishments are not accidental - they are the direct result of a community of donors who believe that every child deserves access to an excellent, faith-filled education regardless of financial circumstance. Your generosity shapes minds, forms hearts, and opens doors that change lives. Thank you for standing with our students, our families, and our mission. Thank you for continuing to encourage our students to hope and to dream.

With gratitude and prayers,

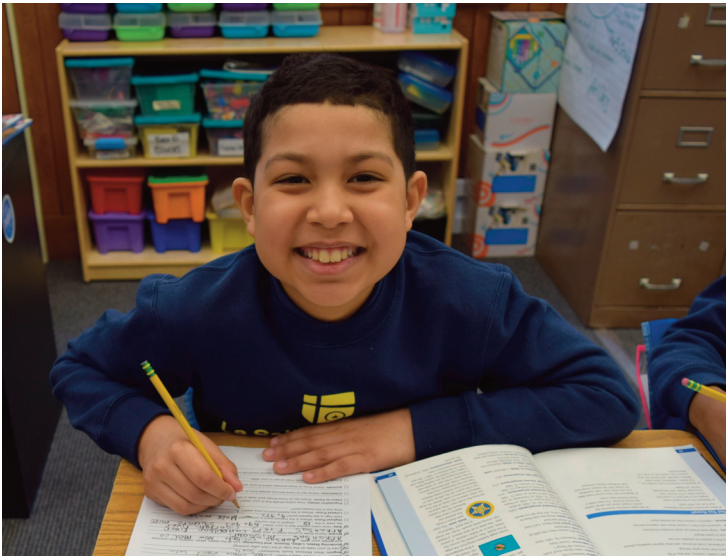
Brigid McClelland
Principal

**Go Explorers: LSU Supports LSA!**

LSA students had a **BLAST** attending a La Salle University basketball game! The ball was definitely in LSU’s court as they claimed victory over Rhode Island. *Students also saw an LSU student make a half court shot for \$10K!*

Special thanks to the members of the Sigma Phi Lambda Fraternity for their continued efforts of supporting LSA, our students, and our mission. Thanks to their hard work, they raised a total of \$53,000 for LSA!





Third Grade

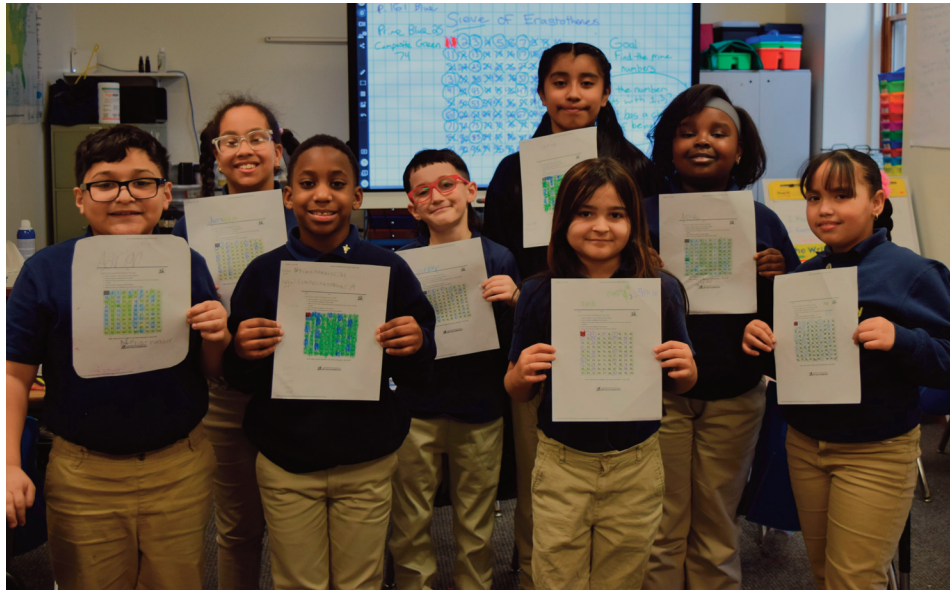
Teacher: Mr. Derek Rodriguez

Our third graders are hard at work on their State Projects! After visiting the LSA library, students chose a state to research and began taking notes and organizing the information in their own words. To prepare for their presentations, they are designing colorful brochures and PowerPoint presentations that highlight key facts and details. I am so proud of their effort, creativity, and growing confidence as young researchers!

Fourth Grade

Teacher: Mr. Jack Plumer

Fourth grade has been busy learning about prime and composite numbers in math class! By identifying factors of given numbers, they did a fun activity where they were able to identify all the prime numbers up to 100! I'm happy to see them learn and grow in math.



Fifth Grade

Teacher: Mrs. Maryann Fynes

Fifth grade students explored Work and Simple Machines by building and testing levers and pulleys in construction systems. They measured mass using a triple beam balance, converted centimeters to meters, and calculated work using the formula $W = F \times d$. Using spring scales, students determined the force needed to move objects and learned how simple machines make work easier.





Sixth Grade

Teacher: Mrs. Jennifer Mulderig

At LSA in sixth grade math class, the students are working on dividing fractions. They are very successful in using the Keep, Change, Flip, Method! In Religion class the students are moving through the Old Testament learning about the Kings of Israel as well as preparing for the season of Lent. In writing class they are creating Slideshow Presentations for Black History Month. For Valentine's Day, the students researched the story of St. Valentine, tried to come up with a definition of love, and celebrated their friendships at LSA with a Baby Photo Slideshow.



Seventh Grade

Teacher: Mr. Michael Shackelford Peña-Taylor II

Our seventh graders at La Salle Academy are rising to the challenge of learning in a world increasingly influenced by AI by balancing traditional instruction with meaningful, project-based learning. Students continue to engage in activities such as reciting Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech, presenting on Presidents Day, and studying Black History, Women's History, and the Gospels of the New Testament. At the same time, project-based assessments encourage them to go deeper—expressing ideas in their own words, researching historical context, and making real-world connections. Through this approach, students are developing critical thinking skills and learning to connect their studies to both the sacred and everyday world around them.

Eighth Grade

Teacher: Mr. Chris Dana

LSA 8th graders will be leaving us in just a few short months and are preparing for the expectations of high school. They are working on organization, increased responsibility, and producing thoughtful, complete work.

In preparation for our recent visit to The Franklin Institute, we studied the life of Benjamin Franklin. At the museum, students explored exhibits such as the Giant Heart, the Brain, and interactive activities — including measuring how high they could jump. They then created slideshow presentations on their favorite exhibits and the science behind them. Several students noted that jumping uses the entire body — not just the legs — and that swinging your arms adds upward force and increases height. The resulting momentum helps explain why you can jump higher with a running start.

Way to go, 8th graders!





Art

Art Class allows our students' artistic talents to shine as they apply various mediums, techniques, and skills to their projects. For example, seventh graders learned exciting clay techniques to create clay flowers. They rolled out slabs, cut and textured the clay, and added finishing touches and colors to bring their flowers to life. Eighth grade explored a different subject- figures and shadows. Here, students shaped a figure out of tin foil and chose an object to accompany it. A light was then cast over the piece and students replicated the shadow it cast. These and all of the artwork shows that creativity lives outside a frame and makes every line have a purpose!



Technology

In Technology, we continue to explore how coding works using [Code.org](https://code.org) and practice our typing skills. We have also enjoyed getting creative by learning how to use conditional formatting to create pixel art using Google Sheets. Animal research projects have begun as well. Students learn how to gather information and add it to Google Slides to create an engaging presentation on their animal for their class.



Music

Music class allows the talents of our students to soar. From learning to follow the beat of the song on the drums to making sure they sing the right notes, our students always produce beautiful music for our school community. We are grateful to have Mr. Williams leading our Student Choir during school Masses and at our events. Join us at our upcoming *Connection in Action: An Evening with LSA and Motivos Event* on March 25th to witness their talent in person! (See invite on front cover)





Sewing the Beads of Friendship

LSA had the opportunity to welcome students from Mount Saint Joseph Academy to spend time with our sixth to eighth grade girls. They spent an afternoon making friendship bracelets and building new connections with each other. Students discussed what high school is like, from classes to expectations to extracurricular activities, so that our students can be better prepared to take the next step in their educational journey. LSA is so grateful to be a part of building a new bond between our young women and those of Mount Saint Joseph Academy!



"Ready for Any Good Work"



The Sisters of Saint Joseph are always 'Ready for Any Good Work.' This could not be any more true for the Sisters who serve on our Board of Trustees - Sr. Jeanne McGowan, Sr. Rosanne Orchon, and Sr. Karen Dietrich! We thank them for their years of dedicated service and for serving as a physical reminder of the rich traditions that helped shape LSA into what it is today. We also thank Sr. Charlene Diorka, President of Mount St. Joseph Academy, for hosting our recent Board of Trustees meeting.



Annual Report Update

Note that the following donors should be added at these levels as **2024-2025 supporters** in our annual report:

- Partners in Mission level - Alfred and Leslie Salvitti
- San Miguel Circle - Anonymous Donor
- Medaille Circle
 - Anonymous Donor
 - Don and Marie Mulholland
 - Michael and Denise Nuccio
 - Michael Scully
 - Patricia C. Worley

The Cardinals of Baltimore Swooped in for a Day of Service

LSA was joined by a team of twelve high school students from Calvert Hall College High School, located in Baltimore, for their day of service. The students took a quick tour of the school before jumping into our classrooms to assist with teaching our students their lessons. They also had the chance to interact with our students during recess! Special thanks to Br. Len Rhoades and Ms. Mary Kate Fasy for making this rewarding experience possible!

