

Dear Parents,

The St. Aloysius Spirit of Service (SOS) organization is a service club for 7th and 8th grade students at St. Aloysius School. Our purpose is to perform various services for the school, church, and community. Our aim is to provide your child with the opportunity to work with others, develop an awareness of community needs, and assist with the many activities at school, church, and in our community.

Included in this information are the requirements for participating in SOS, a consent form for participation in the SOS Club this year, and a point form to submit for claiming points.

Several parent volunteers will coordinate SOS Club this year along with the supervision of Stephanie Coxe, 7th and 8th grade reading teacher.

As with any organization, minimum membership requirements must be achieved. Failure to do so will result in a loss of membership in SOS.

Students are required to accumulate a total of 12 points for a school year. Points may be earned for volunteer activities completed between June 1, 2016 and April, 2017 and **should be submitted in a timely manner** (preferably as soon as the service is performed). Points earned over the summer should be submitted by **Wednesday, September 7, 2016.**

All activities will earn 1 service point for each hour served and the maximum points awarded for any single type of activity will be 4 points in a year. If a student would like to serve beyond the initial 4 hours/ 4 points in an activity, the additional time served is appreciated and welcomed but no additional SOS points would be awarded. Please note that community hours should be completed at a Non-Profit Organization in our community. (food bank, St. Vincent DePaul, etc.)

Typically, SOS volunteers earn one point for each hour worked in an approved service activity with strict pre-set maximums for each activity (which encourages students to be active in several activities over time.)

Students are required to file their point sheets in an SOS binder in Mrs. Coxe's classroom. Point sheets require the signature of an adult who can confirm the activity was performed – usually the leader of the activity. Make sure you have a point form with you when you participate in the service activity so that the leader can sign upon completion.

End-of-the-year activities will be celebrated for those meeting their point requirements.
7th Grade: To be eligible for the end-of-the-year party, 7th graders must earn and submit 12 points by **April 27, 2017.**

8th Grade: To be eligible for the spring activity, 8th grades must earn and submit 12 or more points by **April 10, 2017.**

A variety of service activities are available to the students, including some group activities which will be announced to the students periodically throughout the year. **Sign-up sheets for service opportunities will be located on the SOS bulletin boards in the 8th grade building or through Sign Up Genius.** Students are also encouraged to pursue their own ideas for service activities. To determine the point value for any activity, or for any questions pertaining to 7th and 8th grade SOS, simply email Stephanie Coxe at scoxe@aloysius.org.

If your student would like to participate in SOS this year, please complete and submit the Consent Form to Mrs. Coxe by Friday, August 19, 2016. We look forward to working with your children this year.

We hope this eliminates the confusion student have expressed about point calculations and will help them choose a variety of activities throughout the year to complete the required point levels for SOS membership.

If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know.

Stephanie Coxe (scoxe@aloysius.org)