

St. Francis de Sales Catholic School

Wednesday Newsletter

February 27, 2019

Dear St. Francis Families and Friends,

Part of our school mission statement includes, “**fostering gifts and talents**”. One of my goals as principal has been to provide ways for our students to explore this significant charge. Beginning last year, our middle school students have had the opportunity to choose an elective class in addition to their already rigorous courses. This year we have added a second elective class period to the week. Students enjoy the chance to delve into an area of interest not open to them in the past.

Students in grade six through eight select from a variety of electives. These include: STEM, yearbook, Latin, theater, guitar, teacher practicum, word games, stock marketing, nutrition and wellness, and Busy Beak (newspaper). These choices change for each of the three trimesters. Students request a first and second choice.

Teachers really enjoy working with small groups with a mixture of grade levels. They often team teach. For example, the art teacher is currently working along with the math teachers in the STEM elective to create images using pixelation. This makes it truly a STREAMS activity.

These electives provide for ways that we can partner with others in our community. For example, Salisbury University public health students came for several classes during the first trimester nutrition elective. They shared food safety and nutrition lessons with the students. Our Four H representative lead the students in a squid dissection.

This program is expanding each year. Our teachers are very creative and strive to bring more than one discipline into a lesson. Both the students and teachers have embraced this co-curricular program. Students look forward to their electives each week. We are promoting a love of learning that I hope will stay with the students after they leave St. Francis.

With Joy!

Mrs. Debbie Traum

Lunch for the next few days:

We are always looking for volunteers to serve lunches from 12:30-1:30! Along with the daily entre, students can choose a drink (milk, juice or water) and from several sides (grapes, pudding, carrot sticks, celery sticks, applesauce, Go-gurt, etc.) We always welcome parents to help supervise recess as well.

Thursday, 2/28	Friday, 3/1	Monday, 3/4	Souper Tuesday! 3/5	Wednesday 3/6 Ash Wednesday
French Toast sticks	Pizza	Meatball sub	Chili and chips	Mac and cheese

Reminders

- **The deadline to apply for tuition assistance through the diocese and the parish is due March 4th.** You must be registered for the next school year in order to apply. You will also need your tax return, but can begin the process without it. Families will not be eligible for assistance from the parish unless they have applied for it from the Diocese first.
- ALL visitors MUST report to the main school office upon entering the building. Do not put another parent, student or staff in the position to let you into the building through a door other than the main door. Students who enter or leave at times other than normal school opening and closing must be signed in or out from the main office. Students may not leave with someone other than their parent/designated pick-up person without a WRITTEN note giving permission to do so.
- Keep track of your volunteer hours and send them in to the Home and School Association.
- **SAVE THE DATE!! SFdS SPIRIT NIGHT**

Where: Galaxy Gymnastics

When: Friday, March 29th from 6:30 to 8:00pm.

For: Grades PK-3 through 5th (older siblings welcome)

Bring your children to enjoy an open gym at Galaxy Gymnastics! Pizza and soft drinks will be provided. All donations are appreciated and will go toward the HSA Athletics fund. I hope to see you all at this fun fitness night!!

Important Dates

- Eighth grade play, "Godspell"-Thursday, 2/28 and Friday, 3/1 at 7:00 pm in the parish center tickets-\$5 at the door (cash only)
- Trimester 2 ends on Friday, March 8th-progress reports will go home via email the week of March 18
- Ash Wednesday- March 6th, Mass at 8:30 am with ashes, be on time!
- Pray with us-Live Stations at 2:15 pm and 7:00 pm in the church on Friday, March 29th.
- Uniform Swaps-April 3rd and 10th from 2:30 pm-6:00 pm in the HSA room on the 3rd floor, Bring in gently worn uniforms for credit no later than March 29th. Please put your student name on them.

Home and School Association

Havana Nights 2019 - Auction is 5 Weeks Away

The HSA's biggest fundraiser and biggest party of the year is only 6 weeks away? Get your tickets now at <https://sfdsss.ejoinme.org/HavanaNights2019>! Would your business or family like to support our event through a sponsorship? All sponsorships include admissions to the event, social media recognition, and more. We are also seeking donations for our Silent Auction area. Like and share our event Facebook page to keep up with the latest news for this hot event: <https://www.facebook.com/SFdSHavanaNights2019/>.

Chinese Auction Sign-up

Auction always promises some fun Chinese Baskets! Please consider donating to a basket or two this year. We are grateful for any donated item you can give. Here's a list of basket options: <https://m.signupgenius.com/....> Please contact Suzanne DeVito at smp82@aol.com with any questions.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e4caaab2ea6f85-chinese1>

Penny Wars

Gather your loose change, hunt for some under the couch cushions, or have your kids donate part of their allowance.... The date for our 2nd Annual Penny Wars has been changed to February 25th – March 1st. Each homeroom has a jug to collect money: pennies and dollar bills ADD points, while silver coins SUBTRACT from the classroom total. Send your kids in with a Ziploc bag full of change to help their class and keep other classes from winning. This FUNdraiser makes cents! All funds raised will go towards our playground upgrades!! More details will follow. The class with the most points will receive a NUT day and a popsicle party. The class that collects the most money will also receive a popsicle party!

..\Penny War Flyer 2019.pdf

Scrip Fundraiser

Want to earn tuition credits and volunteer hours just by doing your regular shopping??

Sign up now and do your regular grocery shopping with Scrip!!

You can purchase gift cards and set up your mobile account - it's so simple!

See Kris Reilly after school on Friday in the pick-up line or email her at onehoyarn@yahoo.com

HSA Dues

Families who haven't paid dues or completed volunteer hours will be billed. If you are unsure whether you have paid your dues, please email us at HSA@sfdscs.org

Youth Ministry Grades 7-12 Sign Ups!

For more information email lalvarado@visitstfrancis.org

February 28th 6:30 – 8 p.m. Christian Shelter Assistance

SIGN UP BELOW

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b094fa9ad2ba5f85-christian1>

Friday, March 1st, 6:30 p.m. (First Fridays)

SIGN UP BELOW

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b094fa9ad2ba5f85-youth1>

March 4th and 5th Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Volunteers needed on March 4th and 5th for setting up, serving, and taking down!

SIGN UP BELOW

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b094fa9ad2ba5f85-shrove>

Wilmington Pilgrimage, Saturday, April 13th

SIGN UP BELOW

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b094fa9ad2ba5f85-2019>

Planning ahead.....

National Catholic Youth Conference, November 20-24, 2019, Indianapolis, Indiana. *Register a youth NOW* for the Conference! Space is limited. Student responsibility is \$250. This does NOT include the contribution of sponsors needed. They need to be in 9th grade by November 2019. (For those in 8th grade, think ahead!) This is a bi-annual

event. Don't miss this life-changing event with 25,000 other young Catholics from around the country! Fantastic music and speakers! Website: www.ncyc.info.

NCYC SIGN UP.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b094fa9ad2ba5f85-ncyc>

Confirmation Preparation Update - Next and final class before the Wilmington Pilgrimage is Saturday, March 9th Noon to 5 p.m. Pastoral Retreat with Fr. LaBarge - (Lunch at 12 and Mass at 4:00 pm) LOCATION will be at Holy Redeemer in Delmar, MD.

