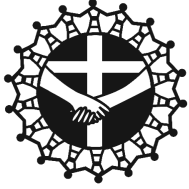


MARK YOUR CALENDAR



December 13, 2017

- Wed Dec 13: Parenting Classes by SPPD at 6:30pm in 4h grade
 - Thur Dec 14: No choir practice today after school
 - Fri Dec 15: St. Paul School Christmas Pageant at Salesian School at ...
 - Sat Dec 16: Robotics competition at St. Mary's School in Walnut Creek
 - Tues Dec 19: Board Meeting at 6:30pm in 4h grade
 - Wed Dec 20: All students - Wear Red and Green/Christmas accessories
 - Fri Dec 22: Noon Dismissal and No After-care - out for Christmas break!
 - Mon Jan 8: School Resumes
- December 2017 tuition payment due by 4pm.

Prayer for the Third Week of Advent

"At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving others with God's own love and concern."

— Mother Teresa, Love: A Fruit Always in Season

Advent

Into the bleakest winters of our souls, Lord,
you are tiptoeing on tiny Infant feet to find us, hold our hands.
May we drop whatever it is we are so busy about these days to accept this gesture so small that it may get overlooked in our frantic search for something massive and overwhelming. Remind us that it is not you who demands large, lavish celebrations and enormous strobe-lit displays of faith. Rather, you ask only that we have the faith of a mustard seed and willingness to let a small hand take ours. We are ready!

Margaret Anne Huffman



May Christ's peace and joy surround you during this Advent Season

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW and/or TAKE ACTION

San Pablo Rotary collecting used purses: If you have any used and in good condition purses of all sizes, please bring them to the office by the Wednesday morning December 13th. The purses will be given to battered women and also local shelters. They will be stuffed with goodies for the ladies. Thank you for your support of our community partner.

Our Annual Christmas Pageant: Friday evening at 7pm we will gather to celebrate the gifts of our children and community at Salesian College Prep. Your family and friends are invited. We ask that your children arrive at Salesian's at 6:30pm. Please dress them in Black bottoms and white tops for performance. We also ask that you arrange to stay and enjoy the entire performance and be mindful of the children's need to shine. Thank you so very much.

Presale tickets for Father Daughter Dance: On Friday, Jan 26th, we will hold our Father (Special friend)/ Daughter dinner on Friday January 26th at 6pm. Presale Tickets on sale now until December 21st. Tickets are \$10 per person. A photo of the adult and child will be included per couple. You will receive PPH for helping to plan this important event. This special semi-formal event for girls and their significant other males will include professional pictures, dinner, and dancing and fun activities. Stay tuned for more details to come.

Robotics Competition: Saturday, December 16th
Robotics Competition 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Registration at 8:00 a.m.
Lunch Provided- 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception School
1158 Bont Lane, Walnut Creek, 94596

If your students are interested in participating in any of these activities, they will have to complete a "21st Century Enrollment Form." This is a temporary enrollment just for that day in order for the 21st Century program to count attendance. Please contact Ms. Victoria with questions in person or at vcooper@csdo.org

Celebrate the Holiday and dress like Christmas: On Wednesday, December 20th, the student council wants all students to Wear Red and Green and/or any clothing and accessories that visually "say Christmas", and get Free hot chocolate and a candy cane at Recess!

Annual Giving is the Season for giving: In this Christmas season, we are asking each family to reach out to alumni, their friends and extended families to give. Gifts of any size make a big difference, but we ask that you consider a tax deductible donation of \$250 or more if you are able. Each dollar that is donated over the \$100 contribution required by each family will be matched by a generous donor. You can easily contribute to the school via our website at www.st-paulschool.org. Just click on the Annual Giving Fund on the home page and follow the prompts.

Looking for Work?: St. Paul Expanded Learning Program is Looking for Afterschool Staff. Do you know someone 21 or older and enjoy working with students TK-8?

Hours

- Monday, Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:30pm-6:00pm
- Wednesdays 1:30pm-6:00pm
- Fridays 1:45pm-6:00pm

Pay:

- \$15.00 per hour. Approximately 18-20 hours a week.
- Must be available 5 days a week and all scheduled times.

If interested please send your resume and cover letter to stpaulelp@gmail.com

St. Paul School Door Decorating Contest: Show some Holiday Cheer with the Celebration of Christmas in the halls of St. Paul School. We are bringing back and making it an annual event! Each classroom is asked to participate in a Holiday Door Decoration Exhibition! The Room parents have the rubric...the classes that show Holiday Cheer by decorating a door get FREE Dress on Friday, Dec. 22nd!

Apply for Financial Aid for the 2018-2019 school year: Any and all families seeking financial aid from outside entities such as FACE, BASIC and the school, must complete a financial aid application. The application is Due March 16th to be considered for tuition assistance. Preliminary assessments for online applications are available immediately upon submission. Final assessments are provided as soon as FACTS have received the necessary documentation for your application. The standard processing time is two-weeks once all applicable tax documents have been submitted. You can find the link on our webpage at www.st-paulschool.org
Please contact the office if you would like to schedule one-on-one system training. See flier now under the section, *Weekly Fliers* under the Parent Portal.

December 2017 Tuition payment: Merry Christmas from the office...your December 2017 tuition payment due by Monday January 8, 2018 by 4pm. After that time your payment will be considered late and late charges will be incurred.

[PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR](#)

Advent Continues: Advent is a time the Catholic Church sets aside for all of us to prepare our hearts and souls for what it means for our own lives to be sent a savior. We hope you will share this preparation time with your families. As we prepare for the coming of Jesus during the Advent Season, we are called to serve as Jesus has served us as a gift from the Father. Please look on the front page on our website at www.st-paulschool.org to find daily observations. *See flier under "Weekly Fliers" under the Parent Portal as to how you can celebrate advent with your family at home.*

Consider the following: How do we prepare the way of the Lord? How do we get ready for his coming? You're thinking, How can I do this? I have so much to tend to right now. I have so much to do. Even if I don't sleep for the next ten days, I have no idea how I will get it all done.

So just think of one or two things that you can do to get ready for the coming of the Lord. Here are a few suggestions that have worked, more or less, for me over the past years. Maybe one or another might work for you.

- Give away one item of clothing each day. A pair of socks, a belt, a pair of shoes, a shirt. Most of us have 22 things that we can give away.
- Say "no" to two things. We are all invited to lots of parties and receptions and events. Just say "no" to two things and use the time to read or sleep or drink a cup of hot chocolate or a glass of egg nog.
- Take five minutes in the day to consciously remind yourself that every person you have interacted act with or will interact with today is a child of God, made in the image of likeness of God, and is destined to live forever with God-and with you.
- Write out one Christmas card per day. And take three minutes to say something you really want to say to that person.

These are simple and doable ways that help us to prepare for the coming of the Lord. Don't set up big preparation plans that probably cannot work. Do one or two simple things as a reminder that, more than anything else, you want to live completely and entirely aware that that you are always and forever in the presence of a God who loves you more than you can imagine.

Save the Date for our Annual Auction for Education and Gala: The Theme is Gala Casino Royale at the Richmond Country Club, it will be amazing. The date is Saturday, May 19, 2018 - **20 weeks to go!** Please go to signup.com ahead of time and sign up if you need PPH hours. We want to be able to make sure that we place you in tasks for you to fulfill your hours.

FYI: The followings meetings are coming up:

- **Auction for Education:** Tonight, December 13th at 6:30pm in the 4th grade classroom.
- **African American Heritage Committee:** Wednesday, January 10th at 6:30pm in the 4th grade classroom
- **Our next PTG Meeting:** Tuesday, January 16th at 6:00pm in the 4th grade classroom. [Click here to sign up here for meetings <http://signup.com/go/xDLCbNN>](#) or here to volunteer for childcare <http://signup.com/go/AYyLmxh>
- **Board Meeting:** Tuesday, December 20th at 6:30pm in the 4th grade classroom.

St. Paul/ELP Family Night and Dinner: has been postponed until Tuesday, January 23, 2018 from 6:00 to 7:30pm. We are excited to showcase the opportunities and activities your children are learning while being in the 21st Century Expanded Day Program. We will serve spaghetti and will have a short presentation....dinner is on us! *We will ask you to sign up for the event when you sign out your child from ELP.*

GOOD TO KNOW!

Student Days of Service: In these weeks before Christmas, we are reaching outside our school community to serve those in need of God's love. The choir and student council will be delivering socks and signing to the residences of Casa Adobe in San Pablo. With parent's help, the volleyball and basketball teams will also be visiting the Brookvale Senior Center in San Pablo with gifts of songs, smiles and cookies before the school break.

Water bottle filler update: Thanks to Mr. Cruz we should have our bottle filler fountain set up in time for returning in the new year. We were able to purchase this luxury item because of the success we had with our FunRun last year. This year's FunRun is scheduled for March 14th. We hope you will ask your family and friends to support us once again this year....our kick off will be late February.....more to come.

Check out the Parent Resource Section on our Website: New information about helping your children create goals as well as other great research based articles has been uploaded under the parent resource section...be sure to check it out....Password is "pantherpride"

Parents taking students out of school during school time: Please consider the consequences to your child before you make a decision to take your child out of school for a family trip that is not an emergency....understand that when you take your child out of academic instruction it causes stress to the student. They are often lost when they return, feel badly that they are behind, and often struggle to understand what is being taught when they return. We see the stress in the child and often they struggle initially coping with the insecurities and extended demands including the increased amount of homework that is required to bring them back to the level of learning

Having trouble getting into Signup.com?: Some parents have reported that they are having a difficult time using signup.com. In order to use this tool, YOU MUST DOWNLOAD CHROME AS YOUR BROWSER! You must use Chrome to log in to Signup.com with no problems....thank you for your perseverance.

Support St. Paul School While Shopping

You shop. Amazon gives. Christmas is coming...

Remember when you are doing your online shopping at Amazon Smile, a portion of your purchase will be donated to St. Paul School. Feel twice as good by shopping for a cause. Thank you to those who named St. Paul School as their nonprofit of choice. Shop for everyone on your gift list this holiday at smile.amazon.com/ch/68-0041693 and Amazon donates to St. Paul School.



Curious about the program? Read more here: https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/about/ref=smi_se_dshb_aas_saas

Food4Thought Lunch Service: St. Paul School has partnered with Food4Thought as a supplement lunch program. We encourage you to prepare your child's lunch, but if you cannot we ask that you order a fresh lunch prepared daily through Food4Thought Lunch. The office will supply emergency lunches only. If your child needs a lunch and you did not supply one for them, we will bill you \$5 for a main course, water and snack. Please support our lunch program by ordering online at....Foodforthought.boonli.com michael@f4tc.com (925) 876-3150

Volunteer: Go to www.st-paulschool.org > Parents > Volunteer > click on Sign up.com and sign up!

"Tell two Friends" It is not too late to tell your friends about the advantages of St. Paul School's wonderful loving and caring learning environment and parent community. If a family you recommend enrolls and attends the school for a year, you will receive a reduction of \$200 on your last tuition payment of the 2017-2018 school year.

We have been chosen Best of the Bay 2017 this year in four categories:

Thank you so very much parents for your votes and having faith in always trying to do our best for your children....the teachers, staff and I are most honored!



Upcoming
**COMMUNITY
EVENTS**

Sign up for Spring Baseball through TaraHills Baseball.

We hope they will practice some days at St. Paul Field after daylight savings time in March.

See flier for the sign up information not posted in our Weekly Flier section under the Parent Portal.