



February 7, 2018

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Fri Feb 9: Valentine gram money due. Valentine grams to be distributed on Feb 13th
 Sat Feb 10: Kindergarten, TK and Middle School Testing from 9 to 10:30am
 Diocesan Science Fair at St. Joseph's High School in Alameda
 Tues Feb 13: Valentine's Day Raffle tickets due into office by 4pm
 Fat Tuesday
 Wed Feb 14: Ash Wednesday - LENT Begins
 Noon Dismissal for scheduled parent conferences
 Thur Feb 15: Noon Dismissal for scheduled parent conferences
 Fri Feb 16: Noon Dismissal for scheduled parent conferences
 ELP will be closed for Professional development. Panther's Club available
 Mon Feb 19: No School - In honor of President's Day

Prayer for Joy In Life

Loving Lord, how grateful we are for the many joys in life that You in Your grace have bestowed on us in such abundance. Thank You for the simple things in life and those that we so often take for granted
 - for flowers and food, for mountains and streams, for our senses and the many joys that we gain from seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting and touching.

Thank You for the joy of friends and family, for the sun and rain the seasons and the many phases of the weather that bring such variety, refreshment, warmth and healing. Thank You for the joy of singing praises to You, and thank You Father for the Lord Jesus in Whom is the fullness of joy. Christ's peace and joy surround you.

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW and/or TAKE ACTION

Diocese Science Fair" Winners: Who will represent the school the Diocesan Science Fair at St. Josephs High School in Alameda this Saturday. They will defend their experiment to science experts together with the six children from each of the other 39 elementary schools. We are so very proud of them!

6th grade: Ela, Marisol

7th. Marco

8th Branden, Carlos and Fabian

Robotic competition winners: Congratulations! To St. Paul Team 74012S and Mr. Frank Tucker! This win of 3rd place qualified for the school for the 2018 CREATE U.S. Open Robotics Championship - VEX IQ - ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DIVISION. It is unfortunate, but the school will not be attending the US Championship competition in Iowa. We are thankful for the



students as we continue to focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, ELA, Arts and Math (STEEAM) focused education.

Valentine Grams for your friends and teachers on Sale Monday: Valentine Grams will be on sale from Monday Feb 5th - Friday Feb 9th for \$2 each. Grams will be distributed on Tuesday Feb 13th because Valentine's Day is on Ash Wednesday! Grams will be sold at Recess and Lunchtime. Each gram includes a sweet treat and mardi gras necklaces. Additional forms are available from the office.

Regarding student drop-off in the morning: We want to clarify, parents, please understand that the GATE WILL BE CLOSED AT THE RING OF THE 8:00 BELL EACH DAY. If your car is in the driveway - not on the street, I have instructed the staff at the gate to let you in.

WE CLOSE THE GATES AT 8:00AM BECAUSE AT THAT TIME, THE TEACHERS AND STUDENTS KNOW IT IS SAFE TO WALK ACROSS THE BLACK TOP TO THE PARISH HALL. If a car rushes through as many do, it is a serious safety issue, which was cause for concern last week.

I ALSO WANT TO REMIND EACH AND EVERY PARENT OR CARETAKER TO BE RESPECTFUL TO THE STAFF AT THE GATE WHO ARE JUST DOING THEIR JOB. It is not Christian and is so disheartening to the staff who is just trying to do their job - keeping your children safe.

I understand that everyone is in a hurry. I understand that your clock may be different from the school's bell schedule. Please know that the school's clock is on satellite and rings automatically.

Additionally, we must ask you to consider remaining in your car so you do not hold up the line by getting out of their car making others potentially late. I appreciate your reflection, your cooperation and understanding.

Valentine's Day Raffle: We have 400 tickets left to sell in order to make our goal of \$3,200 to pay for the Middle School Roof. Tickets will cost \$1 each. Tickets are due back on Feb 13th. The Grand prize is a 5-foot tall Teddy Bear, 2nd prize is a \$100 gift card from Toys R Us and 3rd prize is a \$50 Amazon card. I hope you can reach out to friends and family to help us to raise what we need. *See flier for details.*

Mid-Year Conferences: This year the teachers and I have decided to make time for mid-year conferences. Your classroom teacher will send you a conference notice if they find it necessary for a tune-up meeting with a student and their parent. They will send notices by Friday. If you have any questions, please contact the teacher.

Panther's Club Afterschool Program -NEW PAYMENT RATE: Check out the new payment structure of the Panther's Club providing more flexibility and affordability to serve families who are not a part of the ELP program. Beginning the month of February, changes are as follows:

1. *Option to pay a monthly rate of \$175 per child. You may be billed in two payments*
2. *Hourly rate will decrease to \$5 per hour if you are registered*
3. *You pre-register with a \$50 one-time Registration Fee.*

The Panther's Club is available afternoons only - 3 to 6pm daily, Wednesdays from 2 to 6pm and minimum days from 12 to 6pm. Complete information with comparisons and a registration form is attached and will be distributed to all families. Ask your children for the information.

Answers to Questions you may have: If you have already registered than you do not have to do it again. If you want to continue to pay by the hour you will be billed for \$5 per hour in February - Not \$7. If you would like to pay a flat-fee then you will pay \$175/month.

In terms of getting bills. We give the bills to the youngest child. You will need to ask him/her or find it in her folder. We will make sure that a reminder is sent in the newsletter.

If you need a copy of the past bills please email the office at zguardado@csdo.org or khenriquez@csdo.org

Intent to Return and Registration for 2018-2019: Last week, the Intent to Return form has been sent home to you with your child. This form is not a contract rather a way for us to gauge how many spots will be open in a class for next year so we do not over accept children. It is important for us to maintain our community that we have all

grown to cherish. If you are undecided I hope that you will take the time to let me know why so I may use that information to continue to best serve you.

I anticipate that estimated tuition contracts will be sent to those whose financial situation remains the same or warrants aide the end of February.

Every current family will have to enroll for the 2018-2019 school year: *Beginning today, you will receive an email from zguardado@csdo.org that provides current families a link and invitation to enroll for the 2018-19 school year.* If your information remains the same, the process should be no more than 10 min. At that time, you will need to pay a registration deposit of \$262.50. Although we encourage you to do so then, you can check the box marked "check" and pay in the office. Note that you will not be considered registered until your full registration is paid.

Apply for Financial Aid for the 2018-2019 school year: *Any and all families seeking financial aid from outside entities such as **FACE, BASIC** as well as **the school** for the 2018-2019 school year, must complete a financial aid application. The application is Due March 16th to be considered for ANY and ALL tuition assistance.* Please do not wait to apply. *If you qualify and neglect to apply for outside aid, the school may not be able to compensate for you not applying. We will give aid on a first come first serve basis. If you need personal assistance to help you complete these applications, please call the office for an appointment.*

FACE financial aid opportunity: Preliminary assessments for online applications are available immediately upon submission. Final assessments are provided as soon as FACTS has 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 or go to online.factsmgt.com/aid and clicking the "Applying for a Grant?" tab. All applications must be completed online.

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.

Basic Fund financial aid opportunity: Very important for those families applying for BASIC Funds: Please submit BASIC applications as soon as possible. The BASIC fund grants on a "first come first serve" basis. Families submitting BASIC applications before March are FAR more likely to receive a grant than anyone applying in March. Apply at <http://www.basicfund.org/how-to-apply-english/>

FUN RUN is coming: Monday, February 26th, we will begin pledging for our annual Fun Run event. Last year the school net over \$20,000 that helped with long time facility repairs and additions like our bottle filler! We also purchased an addition chromebook cart for the students. The outstanding amount also helped close the gap between our tuition charged and our budgetary needs. I know with your support and that of your families, we will be able to increase our goal to \$25,000 net this year. Stay tuned for more information... see flier attached.

[PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR](#)

Sign up for Girl's Basketball: It is time to sign up for CYO basketball for girls from 3rd thru 8th grades. We need coaches and parent volunteers to help form and make these teams possible. You will receive parent hours for your time. Contact our Athletic director - Joel Saefong to pledge your commitment. *See sign up fliers for details on website.*

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 - **13 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:** Tuesday, February 27th at 6:30pm
- **African American Heritage Committee:** Tuesday, February 6th at 6:30pm in the 4th grade classroom
- **Our next PTG Meeting:** Tuesday, February 13th 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, February 20th at 6:30pm in the 4th grade classroom.

GOOD TO KNOW!

Winners of Crazy Hat Day

Most creative: Liliana in 7th grade
 Tallest: Marisol in 6th grade
 Silliest: Viviana in 8th grade
 Most Unique/homemade: Davion in 3rd grade

How do you get your kids to do Age-Appropriate Chores: You will want to read this! Copy and paste the preferred link into your browser.

Preschool: https://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/5-great-chores-for-preschoolers/?utm_source=newsletter_121717&utm_medium=email&utm_content=012818

Kindergartners: https://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/7-great-chores-for-kindergartners/?utm_source=newsletter_121717&utm_medium=email&utm_content=012818

1st thru 4th graders: https://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/8-great-chores-for-kids-elementary-schoolers/?utm_source=newsletter_121717&utm_medium=email&utm_content=012818

5th thru 8th graders: https://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/10-great-age-appropriate-chores-for-tweens/?utm_source=newsletter_121717&utm_medium=email&utm_content=012818

This new information about helping your children and other great research based articles has been uploaded under the parent resource section...be sure to check it out....Password is "pantherpride"

"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 need your help to spread the word!**

Give a GreatSchools Review: Thank you to all parents who have provided a review in the past. **We need your opinion again!** We are beginning our new campaign for our 2018-2019 school year. We are very excited about the changes we have made this year to better serve our students with high academic expectations, opportunities to discover with creativity and social/emotional growth. Please go to www.greatschools.org and take a few minutes to complete a review of the school. Print the review turn it into the office and **get one PPH hour** for your time and effort. Follow the instructions attached.

Annual Giving is the Season for Giving: 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.

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.

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!

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 Tara Hills 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.

Vacation Bible Camp: St. John The Baptist Church 17th Annual Vacation Bible Day Camp will be held June 25-29th, 2017. The theme is "A Wild Ride at "Avalanche Ranch".

All Day Campers are 9 a.m. - 5 p.m for only \$170, Morning only Campers are 9 a.m.-12 noon For \$70.

Prairie Dog Pre-School is for 3-5 year olds who haven't started kindergarten.

Kids will enjoy; Sing & Play Stampede Skits & Songs, Cowpoke Crafts & Science, Wild Bible Adventures, Chuck Wagon Chow Snacks, Horseplay Games, Special Guests & Service Projects, new friends and much more!

Mark your calendars & set the date for the Coolest week of the Summer!

On-line registration will be available in March: www.sjtbc.us/vbdc.html

Questions: Pam Vincent [email:pam@sjtbc.us](mailto:pam@sjtbc.us)