



March 7, 2018

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Fri Mar 9: Noon Dismissal/Teacher -In-Service
Report cards are sent out
- Sat Mar 10: Parent Portal in Powerschool reopened
- Tues Mar 13: **4th and 5th grade Mandatory Parent Meeting**
PTG meeting in the 4th grade room at 6:30pm
- Wed Mar 14: FunRun
National Pi Day
- Thur Mar 15: 2nd Registration payment due for the 2018-19 school year
- Fri Mar 16: No School/Teacher -In-Service
FACTS/FACE and BASIC financial applications due
- Mon Mar 26: **4th thru 8th grade Mandatory Parent Meeting**
- Thur Mar 29: Seder Meal
Noon Dismissal - ELP and Panther's Club available
- Fri Mar 30: No School - Easter break
- Mon Apr 9: School resumes

Prayer for Lent

We tend seeds growing. We knead bread patiently.
We break apart in the ground of daily giving: we grow, ripen and are harvested.
We are ground in the mills of fidelity.
We are Bread broken and given in the communal forum.

May God who blessed us with wisdom, grant us strength to give voice to our vision. By our own works, by our witness, by our longing, by our power, may we birth our dreams and our purpose in our days.
May Christ's peace and joy surround you...Amen.

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW and/or TAKE ACTION

FUN RUN is Here: Our 2nd largest fundraiser is off to a great start. We have already logged over \$11,000. Many of the students are getting prizes. Beginning yesterday, we have added incentive to bring in pledges awarding the top girl and boy as well as the top class each day...See the flier for details.

You will get an email from the Fun Run people reminding you to pledge. Don't forget to send it out on your facebook page or with your Twitter account to friends and family so they too can support your child's school. Help us raise even more money this year to help give students more resources and opportunities. See the flier attached and call with any questions!

Report cards: Report cards will be sent out Friday, March 9th. We would like to have signed report cards returned to your teachers by March 15th. Along with your report card, an updated PPH report, financial statement and student's Star Renaissance report is included.

NOON DISMISSAL on Friday: Please mark your calendar, Friday is a noon dismissal. Teachers will be participating in professional development. There will be both ELP and Panther's Club available. Please make sure you send your child with a lunch.

Important - Panther Club: Invoices are sent out Payments are due. If you do not pay on time, a late fee as with tuition, will be applied.

Sign up for Track and Field: It is not too late.... Students in TK-8th grade can sign up now. If you are interested, please send your completed forms to Coach Nicole Cruz. More info online at <https://st-paulschool.org/spring-track-field>

Parental Permission, Health Authorization, Release Form

<https://www.oakdiocese.org/CYO-and-scouts/cyo/CYOForms/PermissionFormFillable613.pdf> (English)

<https://www.oakdiocese.org/CYO-and-scouts/cyo/CYOForms/PermissionFormSpanFillable.pdf> (Spanish)

Concussion Form

<https://www.oakdiocese.org/CYO-and-scouts/cyo/CYOForms/CYOConcussionInformationSheet.pdf> (English)

<https://www.oakdiocese.org/CYO-and-scouts/cyo/CYOForms/InformacionConmocionesCerebrales.pdf> (Spanish)

Last Week for Financial Aid for those who need it: *Estimated tuition proposals have been sent out to existing families who received them last 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.*

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/>

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.

Enroll for 2018-2019 school year: Everyone has to enroll with InfoSnap for the next school year! *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.

Mandatory Parent meetings: Changed.....Due to scheduling conflicts, **we will combine the two mandatory parent meetings and present the information during one meeting on Monday, March 26th at 6:30pm in the parish hall.** Be the change will work with students during the day the week prior regarding difference, community and personal responsibility. That evening, they will work with parents to help continue the success of their children. You will receive PPH for attending. We will send out more information next week.

Save the Date for our Annual Auction for Education and Gala:

We have 10 weeks to go before the event. This year it will be held on Saturday, May 19th and the theme for the Gala is Casino Royale. It will be held at the Richmond Country Club....it will be amazing.

We need you to help get donations. Go to <http://stpaulschool.schoolauction.net/auction2018/>

We also need you to sign up on signup.com ahead of time. We will give you PPH for your time.

We have some great items but we need more! And we can do it with your help. Ask businesses and restaurants that you frequent for a donation. See the donation letter attached.

Think about these ideas -

Pick A Party -> Sponsor a Party that we can auction...

- Cupcake making party for children
- Clothes swap with wine and cheese
- A Tea Party
- Evening Spa sleepover

Donate a ticket packages that can be purchased from:

_Costco or from other online sources

- Santa Cruz Beach and Boardwalk
- Cirque de Soleil
- Universal Studios Hollywood tickets

ANNOUNCING THE 2018 SEASON OF BOYS' CYO SAND VOLLEYBALL: It's almost springtime and that means another year of Boys' CYO Sand Volleyball - "Fun in the Sun and Sand!" * For pictures of the sport and for other information, check out the Boys' Sand Volleyball Page of the CYO Website

at <http://www.oakdiocese.org/CYO-and-scouts/cyo/boys-sand-volleyball>

The organizational meeting will **tonight, Wednesday, March 7, 7:00 p.m.** at the Oakland Diocese Chancery Office, 2121 Harrison Street, Oakland. The season will begin on Sunday, April 8, the Sunday after Easter - there is lots of time to organize teams! See flier attached.

PPH opportunities: If you would like to donate instead of working your hours, you can donate paper towels, both Clorox and baby wipe, both 1 gallon and 1 quart ziplock bags. You will receive one hour PPH for each \$25 worth of items you donate. Please bring in your receipt and the items to the office. Thank you.

Reminder about Sharing Food at Lunch and Recess: Parents, please remind your child that we do not encourage children to share their lunch or snack with each other. Many students have food allergies and are not aware of the ingredients they may be sharing. If your child is hungry and you did not order lunch, we can give them an emergency lunch for \$6. They will get to choose from Mac and Cheese or Top Ramen as the main entrée.

PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR

ELP Summer Program announcement: We are holding summer program for the first 70 students who sign up. We haveThe program will begin on Monday, June 18 and end July 20th. The program will go until 3pm with after care available until 5pm. We have asked teachers to recommend students for the program. Next week, we will open the program up on a first-come-first serve basis. See flier for your review.

FYI: The followings meetings are coming up:

- **Auction for Education:** Tuesday, March 27th at 6:30pm in 4th grade classroom
- **African American Heritage Committee:** Wednesday, March 14th at 6:30pm in the 4th grade classroom

- **Our next PTG Meeting:** Tuesday, March 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, March 20th at 6:30pm in the 4th grade classroom.
- **Cinco de Mayo Meeting:**
- **6th, 7th and 8th Mandatory Parent Meeting:** Monday, March 19th in 7th grade classroom at 6:30pm

Multicultural Week Moved: In order to incorporate some of the new activities we have in mind, we want to have nice weather. With direction of our PTG president, Sherrice Dorsey-Smith, the African American Cultural committee and our rock star teacher Ms. Wadsworth, the students have been working on multicultural lap books, helping them learn specifics about many cultures. We need one more Faith Family date to complete that project....therefore we will be moving the week's event to May 7th through May 11th. Thanks so much for your support.

GOOD TO KNOW!

What's the Best Way to Study: "A lot of students, and even a lot of parents and teachers, don't really make a distinction between working hard and working smart, and a kid who puts in hours and hours of study time may be doing that studying very inefficiently, and not end up learning or remembering that material very well at all. The way most students study is by re-reading, and highlighting and underlining their text books and notes, and the science of learning suggests that that's one of the least efficient and effective ways to study. So what students should be doing instead is putting away their textbooks, and their notes, and recalling that information from memory. One sort of old-school technique that is really well supported by the evidence is flash cards, because it works on that same principle that you are withholding information from yourself — you're not reading it over, it's not right in front of you. You have to call it up from your own mind, and the more you can generate the information yourself, rather than just passively reading it over, the better you'll remember that material when test time comes."

For more information: <https://www.greatschools.org/gk/videos/study-smart/>

Why Testing Makes our Brains Smarter: "One thing that parents might be surprised to learn about testing, is that it's actually one of the best ways to support students' memory — and even their deeper learning. I think there's the perception that testing is all about 'drill and kill', and it's just about rote-ly memorizing a list of facts... but it's actually a way to make deeper learning, more creative learning possible by taking those facts and moving them into our long-term memory — so that we have more room in our short-term working memory to take those facts, combine them in new ways, think of new ideas that are sort of jumping off from what we know... That's one reason that testing, by consolidating memories, moving them to our long-term memory, is really a great way to promote deeper learning."

For more information: https://www.greatschools.org/gk/videos/testing-makes-our-brains-work-better/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=030418.4

Other Resources for your review.... See the flier included - **How to support your child's mental health.**

Need verification of tuition and enrollment for your 2017 taxes?: In September we send out a tuition confirmation form that indicates payments and fees for your 2017-18 school year. Because of the new tax laws, you are able to deduct a portion of the cost you pay for private school. If you phoned me a few weeks ago to ask for a copy, please call the office. I did not write down all the information needed to respond to your request. I apologize....they do not like when I fill in at the office! Anyone who does need a copy for their taxes, please do not hesitate to phone or email the office at zguardado@csdo.org

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.

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**

March Brings Spring Color to the Richmond Art Center

- Appreciate the last week of [The 22nd Annual Art of Living Black](#) and [The Cutting Edge: Collage](#) before our galleries prepare for our [upcoming exhibitions](#) later this month: [Face Forward: Self-Image & Self-Worth](#) and [The 53rd Annual WCCUSD Student Art Show](#).
- Spring classes and workshops begin on March 26! [Have you registered yet?](#)
- Get your family ready for summer by registering for Summer Art Camp now! [Check out our summer camp offerings and register before March 31 for a discount.](#)

Summer Reading at the library for free: See flier attached or go to.... www.csueastbay.reading.program.org

Community Opportunity for Seniors: The Rotary Home Team (light home repair - for seniors) want to share with families who may have senior citizens in the area who may need their help. It's a free service. Our next project is on Saturday, March 31, 2018 in the morning. (See flyer for details).

FYI from Supervisor Gioia:

March 2, 2018 Contra Costa County launches deportation defense hotline and deportation defense services Supporting our community's families regardless of immigration status I'm proud that Contra Costa's residents and political leaders are strongly supporting our county's families, regardless of immigration status. The hateful attacks and threats on immigrants compel us to act. Nothing is more patriotic than protecting our most vulnerable. On March 1, we launched Stand Together Contra Costa, our new immigration hotline and rapid-response deportation defense initiative to support County residents. The number is: 925-900-5151 The Board of Supervisors approved this program last year in response to the growing hate and discrimination toward immigrant families. The mission of Stand Together Contra Costa is to ensure that all families in our County, regardless of immigration status, are afforded the due-process rights established by the U.S. Constitution. Stand Together Contra Costa provides these free services to keep our families together

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)