



THE FRANCISCAN SCHOOL TIDBITS

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

February 13, 2018

“Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.” Psalm 25

2nd School-wide Lockdown Drill to be held in February

We want everyone to be aware that we will have our 2nd lockdown drill of the year sometime in the next two weeks before the end of February. We will not announce the specific date and time as per the recommendation of the law enforcement personnel we are working with on the Campus Safety Program. Our faculty and staff are well-versed in the procedures used during the lockdown drill, and are prepared to answer any questions their students may have regarding the drill. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mike Watson (michael.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org). We do not want to raise anxiety in any way, but we do want to assure that we are prepared for all possibilities. That is why we have these drills, as well as fire and severe weather drills, as an integral part of our comprehensive school safety plan.

Reminder – Survey Results Meeting

Back in November/December our parish conducted a survey, and the survey contained questions about different aspects of life here at St. Francis – our liturgies, faith formation, outreach, pastoral programs, schools, facilities, and finances. We received the results back in December, and since that time a small group of parish members has been looking at the information we received back, and looking to see what trends or patterns emerge. **On Thursday, February 22nd, we will hold parish meetings to discuss what we learned from the survey. We will hold two sessions: one at 9:30 a.m., and the other at 7:00 p.m.** The location will be either Founders room (at the end of the long hallway off the gathering space, past the restrooms), or Fellowship Hall (the larger space as you exit straight out the church and across the breezeway). All are invited, and we will decide on which location for the gatherings as we get a sense of the size of the crowd. Many thanks to all who helped throughout this process, and blessings on your week!

2018 Family Stewardship Forms Now Available

As 2017 is quickly winding down, Admissions is gearing up for 2018-19 re-enrollment which will begin in the mid-February 2018 timeframe. Part of the re-enrollment process is the completion of

the annual Stewardship Form. If you are an active member of St. Francis parish and wish to be considered for the St. Francis In-Parish Stewardship tuition rate, you must complete the online form located here: [2018 Stewardship Form](#). Stewardship Forms are due by March 15. If you have already submitted your form for St. Francis Preschool or Cardinal Gibbons High School, you do not need to submit another. One form per family is required. Please note: A new form must be completed each year, *even if* you have been awarded the In-Parish Steward Rate in the past.

An important message from the Assistant to the Pastor

We are beginning to see your on-line stewardship forms come in for the academic year 2018-19. Just a note about the Stewardship tuition rate. Each year a portion of our parish offertory is directed toward Catholic Education in order to keep the tuition rate lower for participating parishioners.

In order to qualify for the substantial reduction in tuition, families are expected to:

1. Regularly attend weekly Mass.
2. Engage in **PARISH** ministry to the best of their ability. *
3. Make **REGULAR, IDENTIFIABLE** financial contributions to the parish offertory at a level commensurate with their means.

(Please note that cash contributions, if not enclosed in an envelope with the family name, are not identifiable.) **

*For ways to engage in parish ministry, click on the "Opportunities to Serve" link on the parish website (www.stfrancisraleigh.org) or call Deb Royals-Mizerk at 919.847.8205 x222.

**For options for giving, click on the "Giving" link on the parish website (www.stfrancisraleigh.org) or call Toni Hammes at 919.847.8205 x265.

Principal's Forum

The next Principal's Forum will be on February 20th at 8:30 AM and 6:30 PM, the first session is in Jacoba Hall (Cafeteria) and the evening one is in the library. Bring your questions and we will discuss the parent survey, Re-Enrollment, IOWA tests, and any other topics you might have to bring up. All are welcome!!

Spring Sports Tryouts

After school tryouts for Spring sports are being planned; more information coming soon, and about

Lacrosse:

Soccer tryouts are Feb. 20th and 21st (Tuesday and Wednesday)

Softball tryouts are also on Feb. 20th and 21st (Tuesday and Wednesday)

Baseball tryouts are Feb. 22nd and 23rd (Thursday and Friday)

Lacrosse Tryouts are Feb 20th -23rd, 4:30-6:00 p.m. (Tuesday *through* Friday)

Mother-Daughter Tea at St. Michael The Archangel Church

Grades 5-7; Saturday, February 17th 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Cost: \$20 for a mother and daughter, \$5 for each additional girl PRE-REGISTRATION IS

REQUIRED by February 12th AT: <https://raldioc.configio.com/go/mother-daughter-tea>

Re-enrollment for 2018-19 - Coming Soon!

Re-enrollment forms will be sent electronically to all current students on February 16.

One form per student will be sent. Please note the following:

- **Re-enrollment fee** of \$400 per student will be due in full with re-enrollment forms. Payment may be made online via credit card or electronic check, or by written check payable to *The Franciscan School* and delivered to either the Siena Hall or Thea Hall front office. Contact Donna Sincock at donna.sincock@stfrancisraleigh.org for information.
 - If you are in need of **Tuition Assistance**, contact Donna Sincock at donna.sincock@stfrancisraleigh.org, for information and forms. Tuition assistance is available for all TFS families.
 - Re-enrollment forms are due on **Friday, March 16th**
 - **Tuition Assistance** applications are due by **Friday, March 16th**
 - **Non-TFS siblings** of current students, including incoming Kindergarten students, who wish to enroll at TFS must first complete an application. Click here to access the TFS application: [TFS Application](#).
 - **FACTS:** All families who have not set up a TFS FACTS account previously & choose to use FACTS must complete an online FACTS agreement. Families who choose the monthly & trimester plans must set up a FACTS account if you do not already have one. Click here if you need to set up a FACTS account: [FACTS](#)
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New Strategy Club Forming for MS students

The middle school will be offering a new club for Middle School students, the Strategy Club. This club will hold its first meeting for interested students after school on February 20th in Mr. Braga's

room (772). The club will discuss how strategy plays a role in board games, video games, and other formats and how to develop a strategic thinking mindset.

Checking-in at TFS

Parents/visitors who pick up a child, or stay on campus to volunteer, please remember to bring in your Driver's License. Thank you for emailing the teacher and terri.layer@stfrancisraleigh.org at the front office as soon as there is a change in pickup. Please be certain that all who you deem as Authorized Pickup for your child are listed in our database.

Yearbooks

Yearbooks are now available for pre-purchase. [The order form is here](#). If you wish to pre-order a yearbook, fill out the order form and send it in with a check made out to TFS. If you have any questions, please contact Eva Socko at Eva.Socko@stfrancisraleigh.org

Golf

Golf Lessons available at TFS beginning February 28th on Wednesdays after school, [click here](#) for more information

Send Pictures for Yearbook

The yearbook committee is looking for pictures of our students in various school activities. Such as, school plays, field trips, class parties, etc. We are also in desperate need of our TFS Middle School winter sports teams – Cheerleading and Varsity and JV basketball teams. If you have any pictures that you would like to be considered for the yearbook, please e-mail them ONE OR TWO at a time (so we do not overextend our server) to Eva Socko at Eva.Socko@stfrancisraleigh.org. If you have a lot of pictures you'd like to send, you could burn them onto a CD or send them to Eva on a flash drive that I will return to you. If you have any questions, please contact Eva Socko. Thank you!

St Mary Magdalene Catholic Schools Chess Challenge

The Annual StMM Chess Challenge will be held Saturday, March 3rd, from 8:30 am until 3:00 p.m. All TFS students are invited to attend this tournament at the St Mary Magdalene Catholic School in Apex. You must contact Stuart Long stuartlong@westat.com to be added to the TFS Team roster and participate in this tournament. There is a \$1 entry fee for this event. Tournament entry details and location will be sent to those who email Stuart Long.

Field Day Save The Date

Rain or shine, we need YOU!!! Field Day is Friday, May 4th and it is the day the kids wait for all year!! Mark your calendar and do not miss this!! Sign Up links and more details coming soon! For more info, contact chairs Cathy Coury ccoury@gund.com or Jenn Lopez at jenniferlopezrph@gmail.com.

Safe Environment

Saturday, February 24 from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. in Founders Room. You must be a Level C Volunteer to attend all field trips for the 2017-18 school year. In order to become a Level C Volunteer, you must: take a Safe Environment class, submit a Level C Application original and have three written references originals for your file. All employees and those in leadership positions with children and youth, including chaperones, are required to take this free training. It can serve as your initial training or your five-year renewal. To sign up: http://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/safe_environment/ If you have any questions please contact Trina Sugrue at trina.sugrue@stfranciraleigh.org

Cardinal Gibbons Summer Programs 2018

Registration is NOW open for Cardinal Gibbons Summer Programs 2018 with camps in athletics, academics, and the performing arts. For additional information and to register, please visit www.cghsnc.org/summerprograms. For questions, please contact summerprograms@cghsnc.org

Stations and Suppers

Make your plans to join us for Stations and Suppers every Friday during Lent. All are welcome, and no reservations are needed! The evening will progress as follows:
6:00 PM Stations of the Cross in the Church; 6:30 PM Family Friendly Supper in Assisi Café; 7:00 PM Family Friendly Entertainment. For information on the menu and the entertainment, please visit: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/stations-supper/>

Camp Francis 2018

Registration is OPEN! Camp Francis is our popular summer camp, and has lots of cool opportunities in athletics, technologies, arts and various enrichment areas! Camps are half day or full day. For more information, our brochure and all other summer camp offerings, visit our website: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/camp-francis/>

2018 Mercy Camp registration closes on February 14th!

Mercy Camp is a Social Justice Camp for Middle School youth (rising 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th graders) led by High School youth (rising 10th grade through college freshmen).

Our 2018 Mercy Camps will be held June 11-15 and July 9-13. The purpose of Mercy Camp is to provide parish youth with an understanding and appreciation of the **Corporal Works of Mercy** and to empower them to live as disciples of Jesus in our world today. For more information about Mercy Camp, to register for Mercy Camp and more about this year's **new registration process**, please visit <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/mercy-camps/>. Mark your calendar! The links to registration packets will go live on 1/29/18 at 10:00am and the links will be deactivated on 2/14/18 at 10:00am. **Mercy Camp fills up quickly, so be sure to submit your registration form between 1/29/18 and 2/14/18!**

Questions? Please contact: Jennifer McCourt at jennifer.mccourt@stfrancisraleigh.org or (919) 847-8205 x269.

For VBS, we are now closed in grades 1, 2 and 4.

Spots are filling up quickly for Vacation Bible School!

This summer, watch as Shipwrecked transforms St. Francis into a place buzzing with excitement and teaches children that Jesus carries them through life's storms!

Dates: July 23-July 27, 2018

Time: 9:00am-12:30pm

Campers: Pre-K (age 4 by 8/15/18) through rising 5th grade. **Grades 1, 2 and 4 are full.**

Teen Leaders: rising 6th grade and up.

Cost: \$65

Additional information about VBS is available in the Camp Francis packet <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/camp-francis-booklet/>. To register, please visit <http://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/formation-camps/>

Volunteers Needed for VBS!

Looking for a fun way to give back this summer? Consider volunteering at Saint Francis of Assisi's Vacation Bible School!

Adult leaders are needed to co-lead small groups of children, facilitate music, share Bible stories, and more.

Considering sign up? Fill out the link here: <https://form.jotform.com/80024858731154>

Questions? Email sarah.bowser@stfrancisraleigh.org

We would love to have you on our Vacation Bible School team!

HSA

SAVE THE DATE!! Field Day is May 4th *rain or shine* and we need YOU!!!!

Field Day is FRIDAY, May 4th and it is the day the kids wait for all year!! Mark your calendar & do not miss this!! Sign Up links & more details coming soon! For more info contact chairs Cathy Coury ccoury@gund.com or Jenn Lopez jenniferlopezrph@gmail.com.

Box Top Collection:

Please send in Box Tops for Education for the spring submission! Box Tops should be clipped around the edge and should not be expired. Box Tops can be sent into your homeroom teacher for collection. Please send in all box tops by February 14 for the spring submission.

Important Dates	
February 14th	Ash Wednesday - All Community Mass 9:00 a.m.
February 16th	Morning Prayer & Pep Rally Gym
February 16th	Early Release
February 19th	President's Day – No School
February 20th	Regular School Day (Snow Make-up)
February 20th	Principal's Forum 8:30 AM or 6:30 PM in Jacoba (Cafeteria)