



THE FRANCISCAN SCHOOL TIDBITS

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI
FEBRUARY 27, 2018

"I, the LORD am your God, you shall not have other gods besides me. You shall not take the name of the LORD, your God, in vain. Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day. Honor your father and your mother. You shall not kill. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods." Exodus 20

Friday March 2nd Early Release

A reminder that we have an early release this Friday (Car Pool times are 11:35, 11:50 and 12:05). There will be NO BRIDGES program that day as our faculty and staff have an afternoon of professional development to better serve your students. Thanks.

Think you have the Flu? Here's what you should do!!

We have a number of students out with the flu; it's that time of year!!

Please, please, please keep your child home until they are fever-free for 24 hours without the aid of fever reducing medicine. (Such as: Tylenol, Advil, and other over the counter cough & cold medicines that may contain acetaminophen or ibuprofen).

Reminder

If your child is sent home with a fever (anything over 99.6) please do not send them back to school the next day.

This is recommended by the CDC to prevent the spread of the virus, and is **school policy**.

Other tips to help prevent the spread of viruses include:

- Covering your mouth/nose when coughing and sneezing.
- Washing hands with soap and water is preferred but hand sanitizer will also work.
- Limit contact with others as much as possible if you are sick.
- Disinfecting surfaces, desks, door knobs, light switches etc...

Please note*Once diagnosed with the flu you are contagious the day before symptoms start and 5-7 days after; even if you are taking Tamiflu.**

If you care, do not share (the flu!)

Dr. Hero to Speak to TFS Students March 2nd

On Friday, March 2nd, our students will have the exciting opportunity to hear Dr. Hero speak at one of three different presentations before the early release. Dr. Hero is an international speaker, author of 50 superhero books, and a contemporary storyteller. He speaks at schools and business conferences about finding the hero within and using our super powers to make the world a better place. As a follow up to TFS's **We ROCK!** (**We aRe Offering Christ's Kindness**) anti-bullying program, Dr. Hero will build confidence, self-worth, and a superhero community through his story telling and activities. Thank you to the TFS Home and School Association for making this opportunity possible!

Class Pictures

Class Pictures will be held on Monday, March 5th. Please be certain that your child is in full uniform this picture day. If they are wearing a hoodie, please make sure that your child is wearing a polo shirt

underneath it for ease of changing, as hoodies will not be worn for the picture. If your child has P.E. that day, be sure to pack clothes for that class. Thanks. Spring Individual Student Picture Day will be on Friday, April 13th, when students wear their favorite outfit.

Re-enrollment for 2018-19 is happening now!

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

One form per student was 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.
- **NOTE:** If paying by check or cash – to be delivered – you must still click on “Pay and Submit”. On the next payment screen, click on “Pay by mail”, then “Submit”. Re-enrollment is not complete, and the forms will not be submitted unless this step is taken. **IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT THAT YOUR FORM WAS SUBMITTED, YOUR CHILD IS NOT YET ENROLLED.**
- 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](#)

529 Plans and Catholic School Tuition

Recent changes in tax law now allow 529 College Savings Plan funds to be used for K-12 education. Up to \$10,000 can be disbursed from these funds each year per beneficiary in connection with enrollment or attendance at an elementary or secondary public, private, or religious school. If you would like more general information, please contact Mike Watson. However, all questions regarding your personal finances should, of course, be directed to your financial advisor.

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.

Morning Middle School Carpool

As a reminder for those who drop off in the morning at the Siena end of the covered walkway:

- Please enter through the main Church entrance and drop off at the end of the covered walkway. Please follow the direction of the staff and pull all the way up to the car in front of you. You cannot enter the School lot from the Church lot.
- You can pull in and park in the Church lot BUT must wait until carpool drop off starts and then please walk your child to the crosswalk where the faculty member is crossing people to the covered walkway. Do not drop your child off early as they will not be under adult supervision.

Having children wandering through the Church lot is dangerous as Parish staff are arriving and our car pool is exiting that way. Thanks for your help in assuring we have a safe campus!

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 regarding Stewardship

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 x 222.

**For options for giving, click on the "Giving" link on the parish website (www.stfrancisraleigh.org) or call Toni Hammes at 919-847-8205 x 265.

St. Francis of Assisi Preschool International Festival

Sunday, March 11th, 12:30-2:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.

The International Festival is an afternoon to celebrate the rich cultural diversity of our area. Parents of our students will serve as Ambassadors for various countries. You will have the opportunity to taste food, make a craft and learn about the different countries as you travel around Fellowship Hall.

Safe Environment class

Saturday, March 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@stfrancisraleigh.org

Losing Their Religion: Raising Catholic Kids in 2018

Roughly ½ of teens lose their Catholic identity by their 20s. Join us at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 11 in the main church as Scott Boyle of Notre Dame's McGrath Institute for Church Life encourages and equips parents and ministers with strategies and tools to combat this trend. RSVP at: bit.ly/losingtheirreligion

Bricks 4 Kidz

"Bricks 4 Kidz" will be held after school on Tuesdays for seven weeks beginning March 6th, 2018. Click [here](#) for more information.

Milk Parents

We'd love your help with serving milk – once a week or even once a month, it's lots of fun and a great way to visit your child and their friends at lunch time!

Pick a date that works for you, set out milk at the kitchen counter and take tickets. Please contact Karen Munroe at kdm822@yahoo.com Many thanks to next year's coordinator of the Sign Up Genius link for Milk Parents, Kelly Matson!

Yearbook Order Forms Due

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 *All orders should be sent into school by tomorrow, Wednesday, February 28th.*

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.

TFS National Junior Honor Society Meeting

The next meeting of the National Junior Honor Society will be on Wednesday, March 7th after school in the chapel. All seventh and eighth graders who are members of NJHS should plan to attend, as attendance at the monthly meetings is one of the requirements of being a member of NJHS. The meeting will conclude by 3:30 P.M., and students should be picked up outside the chapel at that time (or will be taken to their after-school sports practice by a faculty member). Anyone who normally attends Bridges after school will be escorted to Bridges after the meeting.

Please contact Mrs. Linda Sullivan (linda.sullivan@stfrancisraleigh.org) with any questions regarding NJHS.

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/>

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.

Important Dates	
March 2 nd	Early Release/Staff professional development afternoon. No Bridges
March 5 th	Class Pictures (full uniform)
March 7 th	End of 2 nd Trimester
March 16 th	Re-Enrollment Due
March 16 th	Report Cards sent home electronically
April 13 th	Spring Student Individual Pictures (favorite outfit)