



THE FRANCISCAN SCHOOL TIDBITS

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI
JANUARY 8, 2018

"The heavens were opened and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, listen to Him." CF MK 9:7

All Community Mass Tomorrow

Join us for the first All Community Mass of 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in the church tomorrow, Wednesday, January 9th; hope to see you there! The next All Community Mass will not be in February, but will be celebrated as part of Catholic Schools Week, on Wednesday January 30th, 2019.

Transitions

It is with sadness that Michele Northington and I share the resignation of Ben Burnette from his role as kindergarten ITA in Mrs. Jerden's class at The Franciscan School. Ben has been an asset in Mrs. Frank's 2nd grade classroom the past two years, and was a great addition to kindergarten this year. Ben has a great opportunity to work in an area where he can apply his degree and he is excited for prospects in this new position. Please join me in wishing Ben all the best and much success in his new endeavors.

We will be filling the ITA role in Mrs. Jerden's class immediately and expect to be able to announce those plans soon.

Lock Down Drill

We want everyone to be aware that will have our 2nd lockdown drill of the year sometime in the next two weeks. 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 lockdown drills, as well as our fire and severe weather drills, as an integral part of our comprehensive school safety plan.

Winter Open House

Mark your calendars! Our Winter Open House is coming up on Sunday, January 27th beginning at 12:30 pm, to begin in Fellowship Hall. We invite you to help us spread the word and invite your friends or anyone you might know who is interested in learning more about our school to attend our open house. Tours will be given around our beautiful campus and facilities and prospective students and families will have the opportunity to talk with faculty and staff, current parents and students, ask questions and learn more about the curriculum and opportunities available for our students. If you have friends or prospective families that would like to register to attend our Open House, they can go here:

<https://www.franciscanschool.org/open-house-sign-up/>

TFS Alumni & Parent Volunteers Needed: If your child or someone you know is a graduate of TFS and would like to join us for Open House to help, we would love to have them! We are also in need of parent volunteers to help, too! There are many ways to help! We are especially looking to have 15 parent or alumni volunteers to be placed in four groups with student ambassadors and staff members, touring prospective families around the school. It is fun and easy! If you are interested in signing up, please contact Lura Tysiac at lura.tysiac@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Thanks for your help!

Childcare Available During Parent/Teacher Conferences

The Bridges Staff will be offering childcare for families during Parent/Teacher Conferences on Friday, January 18th. Drop off and pick-up will be in Jacoba Hall. Childcare is available to families **only** during scheduled conference times. We are happy to provide this service free of charge. Please contact Joey Bradshaw with any questions joseph.bradshaw@stfrancisraleigh.org. Joey can be reached at (919)610-8104.

DRAFT Calendar for Next Year!

As we turn to a new calendar year, we wanted to send out the [DRAFT monthly calendar for TFS](#) for our NEXT school year, 2019-2020, our 20th year at TFS. We are looking forward to a great finish to our '18-19 school year but wanted to give you an idea of the schedule for next year as well!

Thanks again for all of your support and advocacy for all we do at TFS.

2019 Family Stewardship Forms Now Available

WE WANT YOU BACK!!

As 2019 begins, TFS Admissions is gearing up for 2019-20 re-enrollment which will begin during Catholic Schools Week 1-28-2019!!

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: [2019 Stewardship Form](#).

Stewardship Forms are due by March 1st.

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.

Lunchtime Volunteers

Thank you to all our wonderful parent volunteers who make our new hot lunch program a success.

Beginning in January, the Sign Up Genius will combine hot lunch and milk. There will be three slots available, two for lunch and one for milk. If you have a preference for volunteering, please indicate which spot you would prefer in the comments section.

We look forward to seeing all our returning volunteers in the new year, and to meeting our new volunteers. Join us!

The link for signing up is: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E4EABA723A7FB6-hotlunch>

If you have any questions please contact Alex Rommel at alex.rommel@stfrancisraleigh.org.

TFS National Junior Honor Society Meeting this Wednesday

The next meeting of the National Junior Honor Society will be on Wednesday, January 9th, 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. Attendance will be taken at the meeting. The meeting will conclude by 3:25 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.

Science Fair

It's time for the TFS Science Fair on Thursday 1/24. Judges, Chaperones and Set-up help (1/22 evening) are needed and welcomed. Breakfast and Lunch to be provided on the day of the Science fair which typically runs from 8:15am to ~ (2:00 - 2:30) pm. It's a great way to interact with the students and provide individual positive feedback. No experience needed, just a desire to help the students. Please email Charles.Guerra@Xellia.com to volunteer.

Safe Environment class this Saturday

Saturday, January 12th, 2019, from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. in Founders Room. 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: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/safe-environment/>

If you have any questions please contact Trina Sugrue at trina.sugrue@stfrancisraleigh.org

Bricks 4 Kidz

Bricks 4 Kidz is a STEM-based after school enrichment program that provides your child with an intellectually engaging and fun after school experience by teaching conceptualization and problem solving. Using LEGO® Bricks and Technic® Elements as well as batteries and motors, students will be building working models and exploring the science behind them. Not only is a Bricks 4 Kidz class exciting, but it helps students improve their fine motor skills, reinforce STEM principles, explore their creativity and most importantly, teaches engineering skills to prepare the next generation for the future. Students will explore themes across a myriad of fields in the Natural and Life Sciences, Energy, Space Exploration, Inventions and Contraptions and many others! [Click here to register](#), first class is the end of January

HSA

Cookie Exchange Dishes – Please Pick Up by Thursday, January 10th

If you brought cookies to the staff cookie exchange sponsored by the HSA, thank you so much! We have a few dozen unlabeled containers here, most are recyclable, and we will send them on to be recycled by January 10th. If you need yours returned to you, please stop by Thea Office before then, thank you!

Academic Talent & Duke TIP

Join us **January 10th at 6:30pm in Jacoba Hall** to learn more about Duke TIP.

Duke University Talent Identification Program is a nonprofit organization that supports academically talented students in grades 4th – 12th. Through above-grade-level testing, enrichment resources, year-round learning options, residential summer programs, online courses, need-based financial aid, and original research into the needs of gifted students, we help support and nurture our students' talents. For more information on qualifying for Duke TIP, check out their website: <https://tip.duke.edu/>

Last Uniform Sale Until June – January 12th

Come out for the Uniform Sale on **January 12th from 9:00-11:00 am** in Jacoba Hall. We are currently collecting clean, gently used uniform pieces in Thea Hall until January 9th. Be sure to include a completed [TFS Seller Form](#) in the bag with your items to receive Uniform Bucks credit or a tax donation receipt. We still need volunteers to make the sale a success! Please visit the Sign-Up Genius at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0E44ABA829A7F94-2019>. Volunteers will have the opportunity to shop early.

Got any torn or ripped TFS polos, t-shirts or sweatshirts? The Earth Day committee wants your items to make dog toys as a service project for the students! Place these items in a separate bag marked 'Earth Day' and drop it off in Thea Hall with your other uniform donations.

Questions about the sale or donations? Please see the [FAQ's](#) or email Karen Sterling and Bijal Galloway at tfsuniformsale@gmail.com.

To Be or Not To Be...Popular – Learn More January 16th

The times, players, styles and verbiage all change, but the price of popularity is evolving. Curious? Join us for the next **HSA General Meeting on January 16th at 6:30 pm**. Mr. Watson will provide a brief update, followed by a fall fundraiser results share by the HSA Board. Guest speaker, Mitch Printstein, author of *Popular: The Power of Likability in a Status-Obsessed World* will then shed light on this relevant topic. Mitch is the John Van Seters Distinguished Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience, and Director of Clinical Psychology UNC-Chapel Hill. Mitch will offer us insight regarding how adolescents' interpersonal experiences, particularly among peers, are associated with depression, self-injury, and health risk behaviors.

Important Dates	
January 9th	HSA Uniform and Earth Day Collection--Last Day Thea Office
January 9th	Community Mass 9:00 a.m. Church
January 16th	HSA General Meeting 6:30 p.m. Jacoba Hall
January 18th	Early Release – Parent-Teacher Conferences
January 21st	Martin Luther King Holiday NO SCHOOL
January 27th	Winter Open House 12:30 p.m.
January 27th – February 2nd	Catholic Schools Week