

# ***Saint Vincent de Paul School***

## **Bi-monthly Newsletter**



**May 7, 2015**

Dear St. Vincent de Paul Community,

We are thrilled to announce that Kate McCaffrey, second grade teacher, has received the Herbst Award for Teaching Excellence. This year the award recognizes Kindergarten through 5th grade teachers who have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in the classroom. The Herbst Foundation seeks to recognize teachers that utilize a variety of teaching strategies, stimulate the intellectual curiosity of students, involve parents in student learning, and participate in a variety of professional opportunities. Ms. McCaffrey has demonstrated many of these skills during the nine years she has served at St. Vincent de Paul School. This very special award comes with a \$5,000 check to Ms. McCaffrey AND a \$5,000 check to SVDP to help support professional development for teachers. Congratulations, Ms. McCaffrey! We are so proud of you!

As mentioned in our last newsletter, we have been investigating lunch programs. Choicelunch is the group that provided a tasting for parents, students and teachers. The participants of this tasting unanimously recommended that we contract with Choicelunch for next year. Their menu highlights seasonally fresh produce, homemade sushi and soups, and foods that are both healthy and appealing to students. Each day there is a total of 16 entrees available, including hot and cold items, vegetarian, gluten free and vegan entrees. There is quick, flexible online ordering similar to what we currently do. You will receive additional information about this food service in the next weeks. We are seeking parent volunteers to help with the distribution of the lunches. In return, you will be credited with a lunch for your child. If you are interested in assisting, please contact Anna Strain or Kelly Alonso.

First Communion was a beautiful and prayerful event. Our second graders fully participated in this special liturgy by acting as lectors, reading the Prayers of the Faithful, bringing the gifts to the altar and singing a special song at the end of the Mass. The quality of their reading, their confident movement from pew to altar, and their singing were beautifully orchestrated. We thank Ms. Kate McCaffrey and Ms. Mary Broderick for their year long First Communion preparation and their more recent work with the children to prepare a meaningful liturgy and ceremony.

Look at what is happening in the area of technology: Our brand new iPad cart is being utilized by K- 5th grade teachers. Children and teachers are using these devices for learning math principles and creating PowerPoint presentations. Next week Ms. Kersta Bailey and Ms. Micaella Colla will begin using the iPads with the 5th grade students. The teachers will begin to prepare students for middle school by familiarizing the students with the skills necessary to use this learning device in the upper grades. Speaking of the upper grades, it has been exciting to see the innovativeways the iPads are being incorporated into the curriculum. Just this last week seventh grade students wrote poems on current events and recorded them using GarageBand to convey emotion. Other students then re-mixed the poetry. Spanish students worked in pairs to create dialogs using FaceTime. One student sat in the hallway pretending to be a student in Spain while the other student sat in the classroom as a student here in San Francisco. After a particularly interesting lesson on the spread of the plague in a social studies class, the students wrote their reflections on KidBlog. At the end of our first year with iPads, we see students engaging with curriculum in new ways and enhancing their learning experiences through the use of technology.

Yesterday was the altar servers' picnic. This is the first of the many activities that fill these next weeks of May!

Blessings,

Nancy Barrett  
Co-Principal

Marguerite Pini  
Co-Principal

## *First Communion 2015*

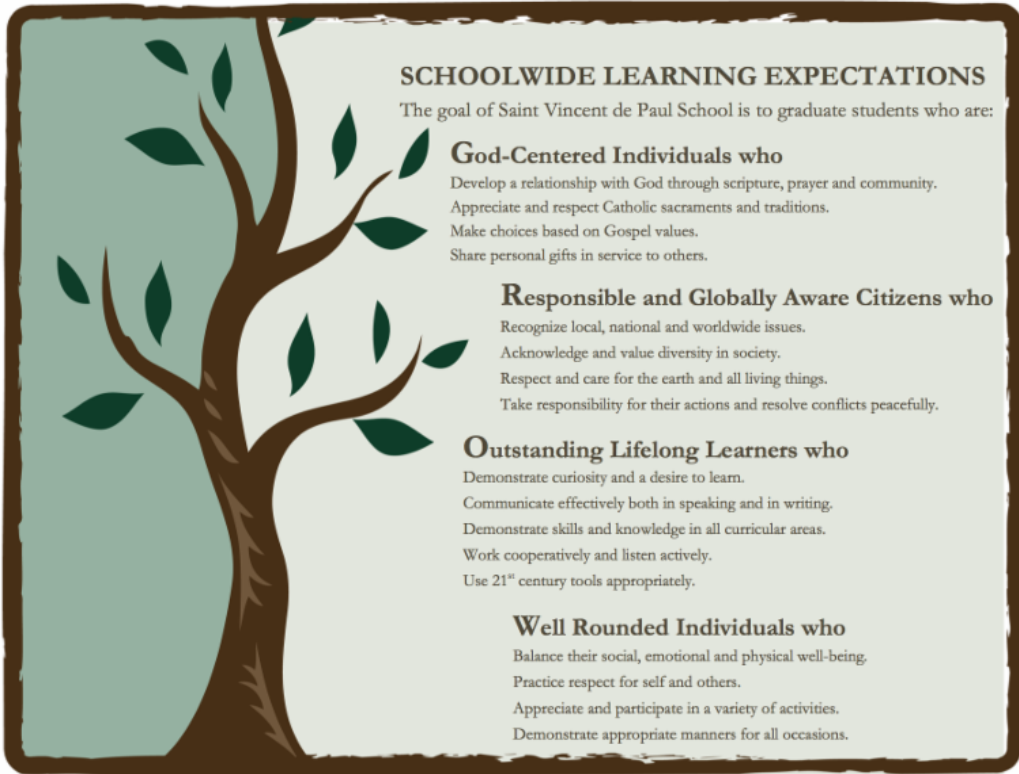


Calendar reminders:

May 8	Altar Servers Picnic
May 12	CoffeeTALK with the Principals
May 13	May Crowning at 11:45a.m. Minimum Day 12:30 dismissal
	Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
May 20	Drama Performance at 6:30p.m.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Saint Vincent de Paul School is to educate our students in the Catholic tradition. We aspire to teach as Jesus did, with a focus on the gospel values. As facilitators of learning, we recognize parents as the primary educators of their children. We encourage our students to be responsible and sensitive to church, school, and neighboring communities. We challenge our students to build their moral intelligence and become self-motivated lifelong learners who will share their gifts with the world.



**SCHOOLWIDE LEARNING EXPECTATIONS**

The goal of Saint Vincent de Paul School is to graduate students who are:

- God-Centered Individuals who**
  - Develop a relationship with God through scripture, prayer and community.
  - Appreciate and respect Catholic sacraments and traditions.
  - Make choices based on Gospel values.
  - Share personal gifts in service to others.
- Responsible and Globally Aware Citizens who**
  - Recognize local, national and worldwide issues.
  - Acknowledge and value diversity in society.
  - Respect and care for the earth and all living things.
  - Take responsibility for their actions and resolve conflicts peacefully.
- Outstanding Lifelong Learners who**
  - Demonstrate curiosity and a desire to learn.
  - Communicate effectively both in speaking and in writing.
  - Demonstrate skills and knowledge in all curricular areas.
  - Work cooperatively and listen actively.
  - Use 21<sup>st</sup> century tools appropriately.
- Well Rounded Individuals who**
  - Balance their social, emotional and physical well-being.
  - Practice respect for self and others.
  - Appreciate and participate in a variety of activities.
  - Demonstrate appropriate manners for all occasions.

## Electronic Family Envelope

**Flyers:**

[Year at a Glance 2015-16 Updated 5.5.15](#)

**Minimum Day**

*May 13th*

*12:30 dismissal*

Noble Saint Vincent de Paul,  
beloved servant of the poor,  
may we follow your example and do good works  
among those whom society has abandoned,  
enslaved, or forgotten.  
Amen.

STAY IN TOUCH



2350 Green Street, San Francisco, CA - 415.346.5505

[Forward this email](#)



This email was sent to mferdon@svdpsf.com by [mailinglist@svdpsf.com](mailto:mailinglist@svdpsf.com) |  
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



Try it FREE today.

St. Vincent de Paul School | 2350 Green St | San Francisco | CA | 94123