

Saint Vincent de Paul School

Bi-monthly Newsletter



September 11, 2014

Dear St. Vincent de Paul Community,

At this morning's assembly we celebrated Patriot's Day with a beautiful prayer service honoring all of those service men and women who protect us each day. This day remembers those who lost their lives on 9-11 and those who continue risking their lives for the well being of our communities.

Some of you have asked to be notified when there are special activities planned for morning assembly. It is difficult to always do that, but we will try to alert you when we know in advance of videos or other presentations that may be of interest to you. In the meantime, please know that we welcome your presence and participation in morning assembly. We have space in the front for our kindergarten parents and there is plenty of space in the back for other parents. The new configuration at assembly is intended to showcase the 7th and 8th grade students as role models for the younger students. In addition, it allows our older students to more easily participate in assembly. Please join us for prayer, pledge, birthdays and presentations.

As you know we are in the final stages of preparing for our upcoming WASC/WCEA accreditation that occurs every six years. We are nearing the end of our written report and working to put everything in place for the November visit of our accreditation team. A part of the process was to create Schoolwide Learning Expectations (SLEs) that represent our expectations for each of our students. The acronym GROW easily reminds us of these expectations: God-centered individuals, responsible and globally aware citizens, outstanding lifelong learners, and well-rounded individuals. The SLEs in their entirety are listed on the back of this letter.

Twenty-first century learning skills is a phrase bandied about frequently in educational circles. It refers to skills such as collaboration, communication, and creativity. Team Steam has been created in order to help develop these skills in grades K, 1 and 2. Every Monday and Friday afternoons students participate in interdisciplinary activities designed to emphasize collaboration, cooperation and communication using Science, Technology,

Engineering, Arts and Mathematics curriculum. Last week students focused on the attributes of a cube by making predictions (Science), using iPad pictures (Technology), building a cube (Engineering), decorating each face of the cube (Art), and learning geometric vocabulary and counting skills (Math). Stand by for more exciting news from Team Steam!

Calling all junior high parents! You are invited to morning coffee in the Parish Hall on Tuesday, September 30 from 8:30 - 9:30am. We are aware that junior high is very different from the lower grades presenting its own particular challenges. As always, it is our desire to partner with you in assisting our children to develop to their fullest potential. We hope to see many of you that morning.

Beginning in January 2015 we will discontinue the hard copy Thursday envelope. As you might imagine, it is labor intensive to stuff all of those envelopes, but our greater concern is environmental. In this day and age when electronic communication is pervasive, we believe we need to model good stewardship of resources by providing you with an electronic copy of the information typically found in the Thursday envelope. We began this last spring. During this fall we will continue to send you information both in hard copy and electronically.

Blessings,

Nancy Barrett and Marguerite Pini

Keep in your prayers...

- Those who lost their lives 13 years ago today
- Those who protect and serve our communities--our first responders
- Those in the SVDP community who are ill or hospitalized

Thank you to...

- our 8th graders for leading us in our Patriots' Day prayer service
- our 5th graders for leading us in song

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.



Common Sense Media is a great resource for families and educators. Visit the website by clicking the provided link and check out the posted tip-sheets for families.

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/educators/educate-families/tip-sheets>



At the first ALL School Mass, on September 24th, we will be recognizing and celebrating Ruth DeLutis for her service to St. Vincent de Paul School and Parish.

We will be collecting letters and gifts at the front office. If you would like to drop something off, please do so by Tuesday, September 23rd.

Calendar

Year at a Glance for the 2014-2015 school year

Hard copy available in your Family envelope or download a copy here.
[Year at a Glance 2014-15](#)

SVDP 2014-2015

Month	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F
August					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29
September	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30			
October			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	31
November						3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28
December	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31		
January				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30
February	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27					
March	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30	31			
April			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	
May					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29
June	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30			

KEY

- Early Dismissal 2:15
- Minimum Day 12:30
- Holiday
- Vacation
- Work Days (No School for Students)
- End of Quarter

School begins August 21, 2014
 School ends June 5, 2015

Regular School Day 8:00-2:45 Grades K-2
 Regular School Day 8:00-3:00 Grades 3-8

Thanksgiving Vacation November 26-28
 Christmas Vacation December 22-Jan 2
 Easter Vacation April 3-10

Family Envelope

Flyers you will find inside:

- Community Letter
- Mission statement and SLEs
- Yearly Calendar of Events 2014-15
- Clothing Drive Flyer
- Academic Chess
- Play-WELL Engineering with LEGOs

Back2School Dance

5:15p.m. Mass followed by our dinner/ dance

August 13th

"Wisdom is not a product of schooling but of the lifelong attempt to acquire it."

- Albert Einstein

STAY IN TOUCH



2350 Green Street, San Francisco, CA - 415.346.5505

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