

# *Saint Vincent de Paul School*

## Bi-monthly Newsletter



September 25, 2014

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Dear St. Vincent de Paul Community,

It is very quiet these mornings as Iowa testing continues for 2nd through 8th grades. While a single test captures only a moment in time, the longitudinal test results give teachers and administrators an overview of a student's progress throughout their time at St. Vincent de Paul School. This information is helpful as teachers plan for your child's education.

Last Friday afternoon the eighth grade class returned from their Caritas retreat looking sleepy and hungry after spending the week in the great outdoors bonding with one another, learning about nature, and contemplating ways to create a solid eighth grade community. Thank you to Mr. Walsh and Ms. Nejmich for joining the students for this experience.

In an effort to provide greater access to STEAM curriculum, Jenifer Spinale has arranged a special opportunity for our K-6th grade students. Tomorrow, through hands on experimentation, students will learn about the position and motion of objects as they explore the basic principles of flight. Students will witness the effects of gravity on a tennis ball, the thrust provided by an inflated balloon, the drag created by friction and the lift produced by their own hands in a stream of air. And who better to lead these experiments? How about an expert from NASA!

We celebrated the first Mass of this school year yesterday. In planning the liturgy, the 7th grade class focused on St. Vincent de Paul and his service to the poor and marginalized. They organized the entrance procession, wrote petitions, and read the scripture passage of the day. The opening slides and procession assisted us in reflecting on the people supported by St. Vincent de Paul. Seventh grader Sophia Maneschi shared her gift of music by playing a beautiful after Communion reflection on her violin. This liturgy also celebrated Mrs. Ruth de Lutis. We are grateful for the many years she worked with our students. Finally, Fr. Ken led the recessional and all of the student to the recently renovated lower floor where he blessed the newly created spaces.

Yesterday, the second grade kicked off our service program. They made 120 sandwiches that were donated to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. This activity was in conjunction with addressing a learning standard to write a "friendly letter." Students wrote birthday cards and letters to be given to those served by the St. Vincent de Paul Society. This activity helped the second graders connect more fully with the ideals of our patron saint whose feast day is celebrated on Saturday.

Junior high parents please remember that you are invited to a coffee with the principals next Tuesday, September 30. We hope to see many of you there.

Just a reminder that we will continue to provide hard copies of the Thursday letter and envelope contents through December. After that, you will receive these communications electronically only.

As we transition from summer to fall, let us remember to take pleasure in the bounty of autumn and in the abundance of the simple things of life. May we, like St. Vincent de Paul, share our gifts with the poor and marginalized.

Blessings,

Nancy Barrett  
Co-Principal

Marguerite Pini  
Co-Principal

Keep in your prayers...

- Those in the SVDP community who are ill or hospitalized

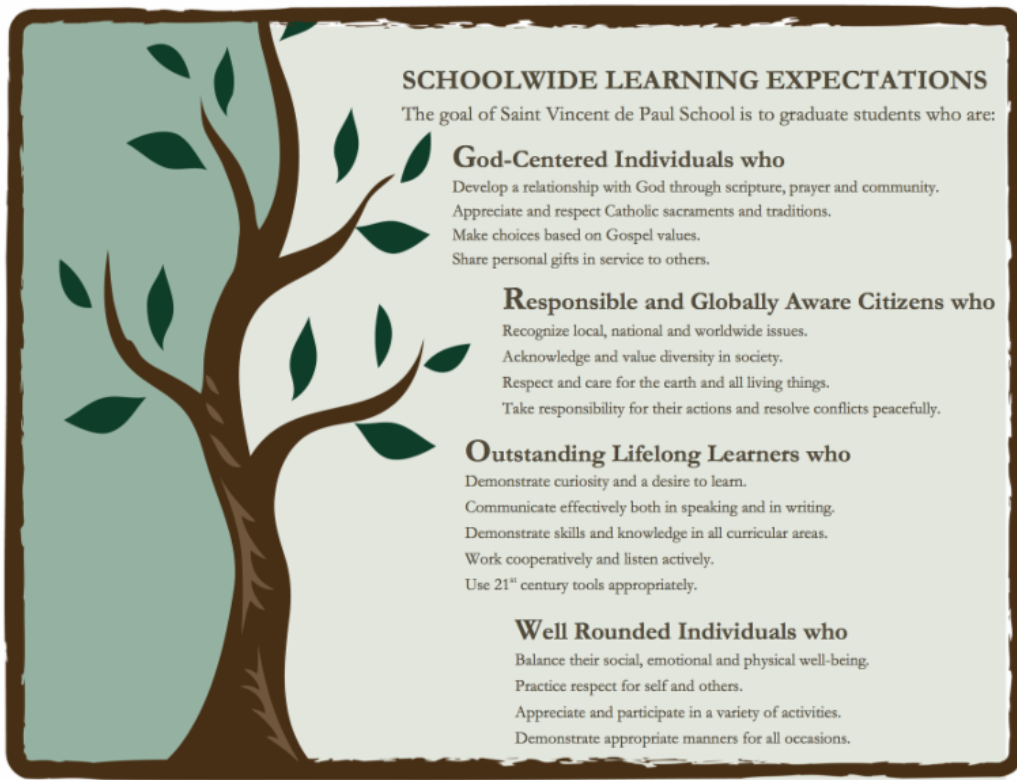
Thank you to...

- Ruth DeLutis for her many years of service to the SVDP community
- our 6th graders for leading us in our International Peace Day prayer service
- our 2nd graders for leading us in song
- our 7th graders for leading us in our first ALL School Mass

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### 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>

## Family Envelope

Flyers you will find inside:

No hard copy envelope today!

Community Letter  
(Handed out to students in each class)

Middle School  
Parent Meeting

8:30-9:30  
*Parish Hall*

*September 30th*

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

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