



ST. PIUS X PARISH SCHOOL
FAITH ACADEMICS COMMUNITY
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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER FAMILY NEWSLETTER

September 24, 2018

FAITH & COMMUNITY

IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

“John said to him, ‘Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.’ But Jesus said, ‘Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterword to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea.’” – *Mark 9:38-42*

COURTESY

Jesus teaches many lessons in the Gospel of Mark on Sunday. He warns the disciples not to judge others. Courtesy toward those who follow Jesus, whether friends or not, will be rewarded. Finally, we have a responsibility to be good examples for the “little” ones,” Jesus’ loving name for those who follow him. How do you show courtesy to others each day? Think of ways you do this. Share as a family how you can be courteous to others – even when they might not reciprocate the actions.

WEEKLY SCHOOL MASS - EVERY FRIDAY @ 8AM – Please join us on Fridays for school masses! This is a wonderful opportunity to be a part of our students’ daily faith formation at school. On October 12th Bishop Marc Trudeau will be celebrating mass with our school community. Be sure to mark your calendars to join us for this special occasion!

REMINDERS

- NO SCHOOL on Friday, September 28th – the faculty is participating in a Professional Development Opportunity
- NO SCHOOL on Thursday, November 1st in observance of All Saints Day (this is a change to the tentative calendar that went home over the summer).
- *See the school calendar for other events*



UPDATES

WCEA/WASC ACCREDITATION

Congratulations to our school community that was awarded a six year term of accreditation after our full WCEAL/WASC visit last spring. The faculty, staff, and administration of our school did an

outstanding job of presenting our school to the Visiting Team. The team commended the school faculty, administration, and parents for all they do to ensure all of our students are successful individuals of Faith, Academics, and Community. As a school community, the goal will be to maintain these efforts and accomplish the three goals set by the faculty, administration and visiting committee over the next three years:

- Improve ACRE scores in the areas of *Knowledge and Faith* and *Liturgical Life*
- Improve STAR Reading scores in the areas of fluency and comprehension
- Pursue ongoing professional development focused on the integration of technology (*to develop a focused grade-level appropriate technology curriculum*)

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

In the late spring, the school was awarded a \$7,500 grant from the Seaver Foundation to renovate our lower grade bathrooms. Donations were obtained from school families to complete the project and the bathrooms were completed in early August. There are now automated soap dispensers and hand dryers in the bathrooms. Thank you to all those that helped make this possible for our school.

The flooring in Kindergarten, First grade, and Second grade were also replaced. Old carpet and padding were removed from all three classrooms and replaced with vinyl tiles. Funds earned through the Fireworks booth were used to cover the expenses of the flooring and labor.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Advisory Committee is working to send out a parent survey in the next two months focused on obtaining parent opinions on tuition rates and fundraising. Please keep an eye out for the email and make sure to provide your input. Informed decisions can only be made when there is feedback from all families.

We encourage all families to reach out with any ideas, questions, or concerns at any time. Email at spxac@spxraiders.com at any time.

TUITION & FUNDRAISING

Fundraisers conducted at St. Pius X ensure that the school can maintain lower tuition rates, as tuition does not cover the full cost of educating each child enrolled at our school. Through fundraising, the school does not charge an actual “cost per pupil” tuition rate (approximately \$7,000), and can also offer multiple student family rates. For many of our families that have more than one student enrolled in our school, this discount is a necessity for their children to be able to receive a private Catholic school education.

Fundraising allows our school to continue to offer a quality program without making unreasonable increases to tuition and fees. Fundraising details and requirements are published in the Parent-Student Handbook yearly. The efforts of our families to help raise funds for the school are always greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all of our families that participate in fundraising, meet their goals, and go above and beyond to ensure St. Pius X can continue to offer a quality education to all of its students!

FIESTA NEWS

The Parish Fiesta this year was a great community event. Efforts to increase parent involvement were successful as the school’s booth did great! Funds raised for the school through the Fiesta

were approximately \$15,000 as the whole event profited approximately \$30,000. Thank you to all those families that completed their required five hour shifts and also to those that put in extra time to ensure the success of the event.

FIREWORKS

Thank you to all of our families that fulfilled their five hour shift during our Fireworks booth this summer! This year the booth profited the school approximately \$6,500. Unfortunately the busiest hours were on the 4th of July after 7:30 pm when there were only TWO parent volunteers working with two school staff members. This booth is a yearly fundraiser for our school and could potentially profit the school and its students over \$20,000.00 if the availability of our families to work on the 4th of July were more flexible. Please consider working on the evening of 4th of July in 2019!

PARENT VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS & UPDATES

Please note: It is imperative that any parent who volunteers for school activities and events in which students are present must have completed the "Protecting God's Children" VIRTUS class and REMAIN CURRENT by registering their email address and completing monthly training bulletins. If you have completed this course, and have not been receiving training bulletins, you MUST retake the 3 hour VIRTUS® certification class. Your cooperation and participation are greatly appreciated! As our Church moves through a difficult time, we ask that our families support the requirements of the Archdiocese and understand the school's efforts to remain compliant. The goal of all efforts set forth by the Safeguard the Children© program are to keep ALL children safe at ALL times and in ALL settings of our school and parish.

Also note that any parent who has not completed the trainings will not be allowed to attend classroom field trips. Should you have questions about your account, please contact the VIRTUS helpline, accessible through www.virtusonline.org.

All parents that took the VIRTUS class over two years ago and have not received and/or completed online training bulletins MUST take the 3 hour VIRTUS certification class AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Parents must also be fingerprinted through the LA Archdiocese sponsored LiveScan. Fingerprinting schedules are located on www.la-archdiocese.org under "Protecting Children" and VIRTUS class schedules are available at www.virtusonline.org under "Registration." We are located in the **San Pedro Region of the Los Angeles Archdiocese**. Notices will be sent to all school families when classes are available through the St. Pius X Parish.

***Please check www.spxraiders.com for calendar, announcements,
& other school information!***