



<i>St. Francis Principal's Newsletter</i>	<i>August 2019</i>
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WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL YEAR 2019-2020

We are so excited to begin our school year and see familiar faces and meet the new members of our St. Francis of Assisi School family. Whether you are a continuing family or brand new to St. Francis my sincere appreciation that you have chosen to have your child(ren) attend St. Francis and are allowing us to be partners with you in their journey to learn more deeply about their faith, grow spiritually as well as academically, and become beacons of hope for all! St. Francis has a strong tradition of building great leaders within their communities and our goal is to continue our tradition for the next generation!

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School
2019-2020 Staffing

Christ could have chosen any title for himself, any way of life, but from all the world's possibilities he chose to be called, "Teacher," and continues his work by calling teachers to do his work today.

PreKindergarten	Erika Garcia
PreKindergarten Aide	Gina Giorsetto
Kindergarten	Eva Torres
Kindergarten Aide	Pending
First Grade	Ana Zazueta
Second Grade	Sr. Hannah
Primary Instructional Aide	Irene Frankart

School Mass

Thursday, August 15

9:00 a.m. (8th Grade)

Friday, August 23

9:00 a.m. (7th Grade)

Friday, August 30

9:00 a.m. (6th Grade)

Don't forget your
\$0.25 for the
collection.

Sunday All School Mass

Sunday, August 18
11:00 a.m.
8th Grade

***Free dress on
Tuesday,
August 20th
For those students
who attended
Sunday's Mass in
Full Dress Uniform.**

Rosary

Thursday, August 29
2:30
5th Grade

Third Grade	Theresa Whitman
Fourth Grade	Yesica Lopez
Fifth Grade	Margie Tanaka
Sixth Grade	Stefanie Cybulski
Sixth Grade Aide	Silvia Lackey
Seventh Grade	Victoria Navarrete
Eighth Grade	Jennifer Casanova
Intermediate/Middle School Instructional Aide	Ashley Taylor
Library	Mary Slater
Computer/PE	Everette McKinney
Art	Amanda Wallace
Spanish	Shitzue Figueroa
Catechism	Charlotte Leukerath
Reading Interventionist	Viola Lopez
Interventionist Aide	Selena Rodriguez
Interventionist Aide	Grendi Noriega
Secretary/Registrar	Stella Ochoa
Administrative Assistant	Alma Lopez
Office Assistant	Sr. Mary Beth
Primary Instructional Coach	Alena Ibarra
Principal	Veronica Lopez

Reminders

*2019-2020
Calendar is located on the website.
School supply list can be located in the St. Francis website in the Brown Envelope and in Forms and Admissions.

August Calendar is now located in Parents Web and in the Brown Envelope and under Calendars tab on our new website.

Hot Lunch Orders Due Thursday, August 15, 2019.

Order forms will be located in the Brown Envelope and under Calendars tab on our website, you can also view the menu items on Parents Web.

ORIENTATION DAY

Orientation Day is Scheduled for Monday, August 12, 2019. On this day your students will not stay at school and will NOT have to wear their school uniform. At this time you will come to the school meet your child's teacher, drop off your school supplies, and see where your students sit in the classroom. Once you've completed your visit you will walk over to the parish hall where I will greet you, then you will visit many different stations and end your visit with Mrs. Alma Lopez and Ms. Ochoa. Home and School will be collecting their fees of \$285, Dads' Club their \$10 fee, and Booster Club their \$10 optional snack fee (Concessions sold on Tuesdays and Thursdays) and \$25 per sport fee (for 5-8 graders who want to play sports). Please come prepared with a check, credit/debit card or cash.

We will also be selling gently used uniforms.

ORIENTATION DAY HOURS

7:30-11:00 (Doors locked at 11:00)

11:30-12:30 STAFF LUNCH

12:30-4:30 (Doors locked at 4:00)

BOOHOO BREAKFAST

We invite all pre-k and kindergarten parents to join us in the school library after drop off on Tuesday, August 13th, 8-8:30 a.m. for a Boohoo Breakfast, courtesy of Home & School Association.

DIOCESAN COMPLIANCE

In order to be a volunteer at St. Francis School you will need to make sure that you have applied for clearance through the Diocese of Tucson. It is Diocesan Policy that everyone is cleared to work around St. Francis students. If you have not completed the proper paperwork OR your clearance has expired, please see Diocesan Volunteer Screening Process Sheet located on our website (About Us, Volunteer/Partnership) or you can pick up and complete the sheet on orientation day. You can also have your fingerprints completed by Mr. Aurelio Alvarez located in the parish hall on orientation day. The process can take from 6 to 12 weeks, so please complete as soon as possible in order to volunteer for our biggest fundraiser, the school BBQ on Sunday, November 3, 2019.

ST. FRANCIS AND PARENT COMMUNICATION

It is vitally important to the success of your child that school and home are always communicating regarding academic and behavioral progress. St. Francis School has purchased FACTS, ParentsWeb to do just that! This is the format that the teachers and office use to communicate with our families. The teachers will also use it to post grades in order for you to have access to your students classroom progress. It is our expectation that all families access ParentsWeb this year. At orientation Ms. Ochoa will have a set of directions for you to use if you have yet to create an account or our new to our school and need to create a new account. I will be checking ParentsWeb the last week of August to ensure our parents are all logged in! Thank you for your cooperation in helping us use ParentsWeb effectively in order to communicate with you throughout the year!

ST. FRANCIS PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK

St. Francis Parent/Student Handbook can be found on our Website. It is vitally important that you read the handbook with your child and ask the school any questions you have regarding the handbook. Once you and your child(ren) have read the handbook in its entirety, please sign and print the back pages and return the signed pages to the front office by Thursday, August 22, 2019.

ST. FRANCIS SUNDAY ALL SCHOOL MASS

The third Sunday of the month, the 11:00 AM Mass, is sponsored by St. Francis of Assisi School. St. Francis of Assisi School is a ministry of St. Francis of Assisi Church and a part of the larger community! Each month a different class is responsible for planning and participating in the Mass (lectors, altar servers, and ushers). All St. Francis Students are highly encouraged to attend this Mass representing our school in their full dress uniform (they also earn a free dress day by wearing their full dress uniform) in thanksgiving to our Parish community in supporting our school! Our first All School Mass is scheduled for Sunday, August 18, 2019 sponsored by the eighth grade class. Free dress passes will be for Tuesday, August 20, 2019 (please follow free dress uniform policy, found in the handbook).

MEASURE OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS (MAP) TESTING

The Diocese of Tucson has adopted the Measure of Academic Progress to help us measure our students' academic progress throughout the year. The test is administered three times a year fall, winter, and spring (exact test week is listed on the yearly calendar). The students are tested in reading, grammar, and math. Middle School students are assessed in science as well. The tests provide the teacher and school with pertinent data in regards to individual student progress, effectiveness of our curriculum and instruction. We ask that you support us in having your child have a good night's rest, protein rich breakfast (avoid sugary cereals), and avoid scheduling any appointments during that week so your child can complete the entire test and not have to "make it up" at a later date. Your child's teacher will share the first MAP test during the first parent teacher conferences in October.

ST. FRANCIS OPEN HOUSE

St. Francis of Assisi School will host their 2019-2020 Open House on Thursday, August 22, 2019. During our Open House meetings parents are provided with very important information regarding grade level behavioral plan and homework expectations. This is a highly informative meeting and we ask that you commit to attending one of the three sessions. The middle school will hold only one session from 6:00-7:15 p.m. Prekindergarten-Fifth Grade will hold all three sessions.

Session 1 - 6:00-6:30

Session 2 - 6:45-7:15

Session 3 - 7:30-8:00

ST. FRANCIS HOMEWORK CLUB

Homework Club is open to all families who need after-school care for their children. Homework club is open from 3:30-5:30pm at \$5 an hour for each child. Students who stay should bring a snack on Monday-Thursdays and a lunch for Fridays. Parents are also going to be given a Homework Club Handbook, please read this over with your children, sign, and return to the Homework Club coordinator.

HOME AND SCHOOL BOARD 2019-2020

PRESIDENT	NERISSA FREEMAN
VICE- PRESIDENT	AMANDA WALLACE
SECRETARY	LUCINDA CARRASCO
TREASURER	CHRIS LACKEY
HISTORIAN	ERIKA RASCON
ROOM LIAISON	JEAN AMON

AUGUST VOLUNTEER NEEDS

- Monday, August 12, 7:30-11:30am & 12:30-4:30pm - Adopt a Book station at Orientation. Please contact Mrs. Slater.
- Box Tops Coordinator, please contact Mrs. Slater for more information.
- Patriot Day, volunteers are needed to assist with purchase and set up of snacks for first responders and service men and women. Please contact Chris Lackey, (928)580-8299.

DADS' CLUB

PRESIDENT -

VICE-PRESIDENT - FRANK RASCON

TREASURE - ALEX GALLARDO

SECRETARY - STEPHEN KING

SERGEANT AT ARMS - JUSTO CARO

BOOSTER CLUB

PRESIDENT - CYNTHIA VALENCIA

VICE-PRESIDENT -

TREASURE - NOYRA MADSEN

SECRETARY -

SNACK COORDINATOR - ARYANA ESPARZA

Students who are planning on participating in our fall sports (girls' softball and boys' football) please make sure that you have a current sports physical prior to practice. Students who do not have a current physical may not play until one is on file. Physical Forms are located on the website in the Brown Envelope and in the School Forms section of the website.

SF Girls' Softball - Coach Ron Madsen would like all interested girls to sign up on the first day of orientation. The sign up list is located on Mrs. Ibarra's door.

SF Boys' Football - Coach Israel Valencia will be providing us with more information regarding football practice.

ST. FRANCIS RENOVATIONS

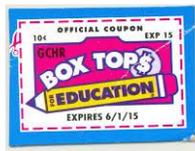
We are excited to be in the final stages of another summer construction project. Thank you to Home & School for contributions to the renovations for the North Elevation of the Main Bldg. New brick veneer walls and windows are receiving the final touches from Pilkington Construction Co. and new interior cabinets are going into fabrication for these four classrooms.

Our Dad's Club assisted us in leveling out the corner of our soccer field and is funding the installation of our campus camera system and the security upgrades to our entry gate. We are looking to have these improvements completed in the next several weeks as well.

Efforts are also being made to eradicate some invasive grasses in our school field and improve the durability of the native turf for a better playing surface. This is an unfortunately slow process but will prove to be a long term benefit for our children.

Box Tops App

Send in your **BOX TOPS for Education** labels! When you have collected 25 you are eligible to choose a prize from the Library Treasure Chest. This will be a limited opportunity as clipping Box Tops will soon be a thing of the past!



Donating Box Tops to Saint Francis School will now be easier than ever!

Please download the Box Tops App on your Smartphone. Box Tops will be transitioning from the physical Box Tops to digital only. All you will need to do is scan your grocery receipt into the app and all your Box Top donation

money will automatically transfer to St. Francis School! If you have any questions, please contact Nerissa Freeman, (602) 402-1964.