



ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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<i>St. Francis Principal's Newsletter</i>	<i>November 2020</i>
<p>For the month of November we will be looking for students who are modeling the Gospel Value of Gratitude, being thankful for every gift and lesson they learn. We ask our parents to work in partnership with us in teaching your child the importance of understanding and living the gospel values in their everyday lives. Take the time to point out times they are showing the gospel values, especially the ones we have taught: patience, perseverance, humility, understanding, and gratitude. You can also read the bible verses (can be found in the school handbook) in order for your child to understand these are ways that God is asking for us to live our lives.</p> <p><i>“Give thanks to the LORD for he is good, his mercy endures forever.” (Psalm 107:1)</i></p> <p>GRATITUDE REFLECTION: If you were to examine the content of your prayer life over the past month, what would you see? Hopefully there would be many moments to surrender, intercession, praise and adoration. And hopefully there were also many moments in which your prayer consisted of deep thanksgiving to God. Being grateful, truly grateful, and expressing that gratitude in prayer is powerful. We have so much to be grateful for and yet, so often, we become more focused on our problems than on the countless blessings God has bestowed upon us. Even in the midst of life’s darkest hour, there is much that a holy soul can find to be grateful for. Offering prayers of gratitude to God, with much sincerity, has the potential to lift our spirits to the heights of authentic spiritual joy.</p> <p>What are you grateful for? Better put, in what ways has God blessed you in abundance? If you are not immediately aware of your blessings from God, that is a good sign that you may need to spend more time “counting your blessings.” It’s good to keep our eyes on the innumerable blessings God has bestowed upon us, to see them, name them and be joyful in them. The more we see them, the more we grow in gratitude, and the more we grow in gratitude, the more we are blessed.</p> <p><i>Lord, I thank You with profound gratitude for the countless blessings in my life. Help me to daily become more aware of those blessings and to be grateful for them. Help me to see that life itself is a gift and that You are active in my life day and night. Help me to especially see these blessings when life is hard, or when some burden weighs me down. May I be filled with a grateful heart and always rejoice in Your goodness. Jesus, I trust in You.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MASS</u></p> <p>Thursday, November 5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Full Dress Uniform</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4-8 Grade</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:50- Green</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3:50- Gold</p> <p>Wednesday, November 11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Full Dress Uniform</p> <p style="text-align: center;">K-3 Grade</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:50- Green</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3:50- Gold</p> <p>Thursday, November 19</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Full Dress Uniform</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sweater Vest</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4-8 Grade</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:50- Green</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3:50- Gold</p> <p>Tuesday, November 24</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Full Dress Uniform</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sweater Vest</p> <p style="text-align: center;">K-3 Grade</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:50- Green</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3:50- Gold</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Rosary</u></p> <p>Tuesday, November 10</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AM/PM Teacher Schedule</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*Our rosary will be dedicated to all of our United State Veterans,</p>

ST. FRANCIS WILDCAT ANGEL KATE CAMPA



Kate Campa was an extraordinary student who had a true love for life. Petite in stature, she was huge in character, love, and life! Kate joined St. Francis as a second grade student. I met Kate when she was in fourth grade. I was always in awe at how much she loved life, especially her parents and of course, dancing. Kate shared many great memories with her teachers and friends at St. Francis. She was always kind to everyone and a diligent student. She was blessed to have her dad come to eat lunch with her almost every day. It was a joy to see the love they had between each other. She was the apple of his eye. Kate's mom was always there for her when it came to academics, friendships, and dance. Kate was her mom's baby girl! It was a beautiful thing to see the relationship they shared with each other, a strong bond. Something that would bind them even closer together as she battled cancer. St. Francis school is blessed to know that we have one of our own as an angel in heaven, someone we can pray to, to take our prayers straight Jesus, of course dancing and smiling all the way! We love you Kate and we continue to pray for your parents!

This November we would like to encourage all of our families to join in as we dedicate our spirit day, Veterans' Day (red, white, and blue) to Kate's mission to make sure that children in Yuma have options to fight their cancer locally. She also wanted to support the research behind cancer in order to provide children with a more updated and effective approach to treatment. Our goal is to raise \$1,000 to donate to Yuma Regional Medical Center, Pediatric Oncology Support Fund in honor of Wildcat Kate Campa. These funds will provide financial resources for local families and help bring awareness to childhood cancer.

If you would like to be a part of reaching our goal, we are asking that each family donate \$5 for every child that will be wearing red, white and blue on our Veterans' Spirit Day, on Tuesday, November 10, 2020. Thank you in advance for your support for all local children fighting childhood cancer.

their needs and the needs of their families.

Reminders

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

Student of the Month for November

Will be awarded on Friday, December 4 at 10:00 via Zoom.

Report Cards

Report Card envelopes are due Thursday, October 29, please make sure you sign and return them to your child's teacher.

MAP TESTING

We will be conducting our second MAP testing on the following dates:

November 16-19 - Grades 4-8

November 23-24 - Make-up Grades 4-8

November 30-December 3 - Grades K-3

December 7-8 - Make-up Grades K-3

We kindly ask you to avoid scheduling any appointments at that time and please make sure they are in attendance every day, unless they are sick. Also, please make sure they eat a healthy protein breakfast and get plenty of sleep the night before, and ask your child to do their very best on the test. This will allow us to have good data to help us determine the best way to academically support your child.

* MAP testing for distance learners will be the same as the testing they completed at the beginning of the year. Your child's teacher will provide more detailed information closer to the testing dates.

UNIFORM POLICY

As we have transitioned into our hybrid model, we are asking that all students follow the uniform policy found in our Parent/Student Handbook page. If your child is in person or distance learning, they should be wearing the correct daily uniform. Boy's hair should be trimmed above the ears, eyebrow and shirt collar and out of the eyes and the girls should not be wearing make-up, lip gloss, or colored nail polish or artificial nails. We appreciate your support in helping your child follow our uniform policy.

REMINDER: Beginning November 19, students will be required to wear their sweater vest with the full dress uniforms for Mass days.

K-8 Boys: Blue sweater vest

4-8 Girls: Green sweater vest

Election Day!

St. Francis School students will have an opportunity to vote in a Mock Presidential Election on November 3, 2020! We will have voting booths set up for on-campus students to cast their paper vote. The off-campus students will vote via Survey Monkey at home. It is a great privilege to participate in voting in the United States and we are looking forward to sharing this time honored experience with our students.



VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day (originally known as Armistice Day) is a federal holiday in the United States observed annually on November 11, for honoring military veterans, that is, persons who have served in the United States Armed Forces (and were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable).^{[1][2]} It coincides with other holidays including Armistice Day and Remembrance Day which are celebrated in other countries that mark the anniversary of the end of World War I. Major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. At the urging of major U.S. veteran organizations, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day in 1954.

Veterans Day is distinct from Memorial Day, a U.S. public holiday in May. Veterans Day celebrates the service of all U.S. military veterans, while Memorial Day honors those who had *died* while in military service.^[3] Another military holiday that also occurs in May, Armed Forces Day, honors those *currently serving* in the U.S. military. Additionally, Women Veterans Day is recognized by a growing number of U.S. states that specifically honors women who have served in the U.S. military.

Let us take the time to remember all of our US Veterans and give thanks for their sacrifice. We pray especially for the Veterans that are a part of our St. Francis Family!

NOTE: We will be observing Veterans' Day on Thursday, November 12 instead of Wednesday November 11 to provide our students and staff a small fall break.

ST. VINCENT THANKSGIVING BASKETS

When we began the school year, we took the opportunity to teach our students about the Gospel Values. One of the Gospel Values that we are learning about and working on is **Gratitude, *Being thankful for every gift and lesson I learn.*** We will be showing our gratitude for all the blessings God gives to us by helping those less fortunate. For the past few years our Student Council has worked very closely with the St. Francis Saint Vincent de Paul Society by bringing in food items to stock their pantry and also by helping to organize the food boxes that are given to local families. This year each grade will be adopting a St. Vincent de Paul family for Thanksgiving. This consists of bringing food items that can go into a Thanksgiving basket. We are hoping that these baskets will provide our adopted families with an amazing Thanksgiving dinner. Our St. Francis Student Council will be purchasing the turkeys that will go with the baskets. We encourage all students to participate and hope that they have a sense of selflessness in giving when they see their class basket full of food for their adopted families.

Below you will see the list of items students will be assigned by their teacher to bring. Feel free to bring other items that are not listed. Students can start bringing in the items on November 16, 2020. All items are due Monday, November 23, 2020. Please send in an email to your teacher to let them know if you do not want to participate.

- 2 boxes of mashed potatoes
- 2 cans of green beans
- 2 cans of yams
- 1 bag of brown sugar
- 2 pies
- 2 cans of fruit
- 1 container cool whip (please bring freezer items Nov.25)
- 2 2-liter sodas
- 2 boxes of stuffing mix
- 2 cans of corn
- 2 jars of gravy
- 2 cans of chicken broth
- 2 bags dinner rolls
- 1 bag of marshmallows
- 1 turkey - Student Council will purchase**

St. Francis Student Council would like to thank you in advance for your support in helping us make a special Thanksgiving meal for a St. Vincent de Paul family!



COVID SYMPTOM PROTOCOL REMINDER

Please remember to check your child's temperature and note if they have any of the symptoms, listed in our Safety Protocol. If they do, please keep them home and call Ms. Ochoa to report symptoms. Also, please remember that if a student reports or is sent to the office with any of the symptoms listed, parents will be called and the student and siblings will be sent home. IF you have any student with any other health issues such as allergies and/or asthma, please call Ms. Ochoa as she will provide you with the necessary paperwork to provide your doctor.

SCRIP

Please remember that we are still continuing with the commitment of \$2,000 per family of Scrip purchases. The holidays are around the corner. Make you holiday shopping count by using Scrip to make your purchase at the store, online, or as a gift. You can purchase the physical gift cards at school or use the Scrip website - ShopwithScrip.com to purchase egift cards or to reload your gift cards. Our Enrollment Code is 15LD9B9C9L9 to set up your online account. Please contact Ms. Ochoa with any questions.

We will be sending out a Scrip invoice on December 3, 2020 via email letting you know how much Scrip you have purchased up to that point, which is about half the year. Most families should have already purchased at least \$1000. All SCRIP family commitments must be completed by Friday, May 14, 2020.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH FOR OCTOBER

For the month of October we are celebrating students who have exhibited the Gospel Values of ***Humility and Understanding***. As we worked through distance virtual learning and hybrid this second quarter, we all had to depend on placing our lives in God's hands and work on practicing the Gospel Values of humility and understanding. The following students showed exceptional humility and understanding during distance learning and we are very proud of them! Congratulations.

October	Student of the Month Humility and Understanding
Prekindergarten Andrew (AJ)Herrington	AJ is a well rounded individual. Since school started he has shown humility through his actions and the way he treats others. He is kind, patient, and accepting of his classmates. When his classmates face challenges, AJ is always willing to help out. Thank you AJ for being such a light to our classroom!
Kindergarten Max Freeman	Max shows humility in the classroom everyday. He always thinks of others before himself by helping them and making sure his classmates are okay. He compliments his classmates and teachers! He is always understanding and patient, especially when the teacher has technical difficulties. He offers help! Awesome Job Max, keep on shining!
First Grade	Bruno demonstrates humility and

Bruno Discua	understanding in the classroom and before in distance learning. He is polite and humble. He turned every assignment in on time following every step and procedures to do the work. Keep up the great work Bruno!	
Second Grade Louis Renteria- Ochoa	Louis is a very kind boy. He has a natural desire to do the right thing and to help make things better for others. He will generously let others go first and pick up things for them. His kind and thoughtful heart shows forth in all his work and actions. Great Job Louis!	
Third Grade Genevieve Trevino	Genevieve has a big heart! Genevieve puts others before herself. She is the first person to praise another student's success or give the first compliment. Great job, Genevieve.	
Fourth Grade Camila Garcia	Camila has demonstrated understanding by waiting patiently for the teacher to answer her question. She has also demonstrated humility by asking to pray for others that are in need of prayer. Good Job!	
Fifth Grade Issis Melendez	Issis is in distance learning, but she has demonstrated understanding by waiting patiently for explanations if needed. She shows humility by asking if we can pray for others at the end of class. I am very proud of Issis and her determination to maintain consistency with her in-person classmates. Awesome Job, Issis. God bless you!	
Sixth Grade Christian Castro	Christian is a role model demonstrating the Gospel Values of Humility and Understanding. Christian is kind, compassionate, and always considerate of others. His work ethic and kind heart will take him far! Christian is interested in trying to improve himself and strives to follow Christ's example in all he does. We are so proud of you, Christian! God Bless!	
Seventh Grade Julissa Piedrahita	Julissa has demonstrated a great deal of humility and understanding with her peers and teachers alike. Using her talents for the good and needs of others, she exemplifies what it means to be humble. She shows understanding and care for others, even in the little things such as taking the time to wish a great day for her teachers and offering help to those around her. Julissa continues to be a role model of the humble servant in and out of the classroom. May God continue to work through you in bringing blessings to	

	everyone around you! Keep up the great work Julissa!
Eighth Grade Gabrino Fernandez	Gabrino has modeled humility and understanding. He has shown great efforts in being understanding and humble - his interactions with others, his schoolwork, and leadership in class. He has a humble spirit and is always thinking of others. His good works are leading with a sense of humility and understanding-keep it up!
Library Emma Lackey	Emma displays a beautiful quality of being humble when she doesn't demand to be first and puts the needs of other students before her own. She is understanding of her classmates' needs and treats them with respect. Emma is not one to draw attention to herself and is dignified in her actions. You can always expect a gracious smile from her. God bless you, Emma. You are a beacon of light to our school.
Computers Ethan Lackey	Ethan understands patience. He can be the first to ask a question but if someone else needs help, he will tell the teacher, "it's okay I can wait." He shows humility every single day. He would rather sacrifice something to see someone else happy. As a teacher/coach I enjoy seeing him do that. In sports, that is a person who you build a foundation off of. He leads by example. His actions are much louder than his words. Great job Ethan and may God Bless you.

[HOME AND SCHOOL NEWS](#)

SAVE THE DATE! January 31, 2021 will be our St. Francis BBQ. Please make sure you save the date! Our BBQ will officially kick off Catholic Schools Week.

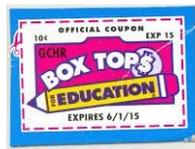
We also invite all our students and families to celebrate Catholic School Principal Appreciation Day on Thursday, November 19th. We encourage our families to lift Principal Lopez up in prayer and gratitude for all she has done and continues to do to lead Saint Francis School, especially amidst this pandemic. God bless you Principal Lopez!

ST. FRANCIS PARENT CLUB MEETINGS

Please join us at any of our meetings and see what we are all about! We always need new and more members. Please contact Home and School President, Nerissa Freeman for the Home and School meeting, and contact the school office for the Advisory Council and Dads' meeting.

Home and School	November 13	3:00 pm	Zoom
Advisory Council	November	3:00 pm	Zoom
Dads' Club	November 5	6:00 pm	The Patio

Box Tops App



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.

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 the Diocesan Volunteer Screening Process Sheet located on our website (About Us, Volunteer/Partnership). Please complete the process by December 11, 2020.

If you have completed the application and the fingerprint process you will need to call Eve Villegas at the parish office to verify that you have been cleared. If you are still not cleared she

will let you know the reasons why you still have not been cleared to volunteer at the school. Here are a few reasons she has listed as to why our families are not cleared. **Please make contact with Eve Villegas, St. Francis compliance officer, to determine if you are cleared to volunteer, 928-782-1875.**

1. Wrong phone numbers for some of the references listed on the application.
2. References not responding to our calls
3. References not wanting to answer our questions until they clear it first with the applicant.
3. Applicants failed to electronically sign the PTO Form within the 7-day period.
4. Some background checks expired and need to be resubmitted.