



ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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<p>St. Francis Principal's Newsletter</p>	<p>October 2020</p>
<p>St. Francis Families,</p> <p>We are so excited to have our students back on campus and still sharing our classes with those who are in distance virtual learning. Our Wildcats have done an amazing job transitioning into school and seem to be happy and eager to be back at school.</p> <p>As we continue with our hybrid model, 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. In a previous email dated September 25th, I sent an addendum to our Safety Protocols, please read, sign, and send to Sister Mary Beth, mbkornely@stfrancisyuma.com by Friday, October 9, 2020. You can find the letter in our brown envelope as well. This letter states very clearly that if a student reports any of the symptoms listed, parents will be called and the student will be sent home. Please read the letter carefully. 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.</p> <p><u>SAFETY SAFETY SAFETY SAFETY SAFETY</u></p> <p>It is of the utmost importance that we ask that everyone follow our drop-off and pick up procedures for the safety of all of our students. Please remember that drop off is at 7:15 for the green schedule and 12:15 for the gold schedule. When you are dropping off in the south parking lot we ask that you and your children stay in your car until a staff member reads your card and gives you a thumbs up to allow your children to get off the car. Please DO NOT drop off your child without showing your card to a staff member or allow them to walk around the parking lot. This serves two purposes, first and foremost the safety of your child and second that you are reporting to us that your child is healthy enough to attend school. We are asking that your child get off on the right handside of the car and if at all possible have their backpack with them and avoid putting the backpacks in the trunk or back of your car, again to avoid an accident to your child. ALSO,</p>	<p>Rosary</p> <p>Thursday, October 8 AM/PM Teacher Schedule</p> <p>Reminders</p> <p>October calendar is now located in Parents Web and in the Brown Envelope and under Calendars tab on our new website.</p> <p>Student of the Month</p> <p>Will be awarded on Friday, October 30 at 10:00 via Zoom.</p> <p>Report Cards</p> <p>Report Cards will be going home on Tuesday, October 20. Please return the signed envelopes by Wednesday, October 28th.</p> <p>Student Council</p> <p>Will be hosting a black, orange, and purple day on Tuesday, October 27, 2020. Envelopes will go home on Tuesday, October 13, and are due on Monday,</p>

please stay in line until your car reaches the front of the line to exit the parking lot to avoid an accident to a child or car, and do not pull your car out of the line. Thank you in advance for your cooperation for the safety of our students and families.

[SCRIP and SERVICE HOURS](#)

The St. Francis Advisory Council has been in discussion regarding Scrip purchases and Service Hours. We will continue to expect our families to complete their Scrip commitment of \$2000 for the year. You can purchase the cards at school or use the mobile app. Secondly, because we have not been able to host any of our events, we will not be expecting our families to complete 10 service hours for the first semester August 17-December 16 and we will decide at the December meeting if we will be able to host SF events, if so, we will ask each family to complete the remaining 10 service hours, with four hours dedicated to the school BBQ.



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Feast Day

We are excited to announce that we will be celebrating St. Francis Feast Day throughout the week, October 5-8. Teachers will be providing your child lessons on St. Francis! Each classroom will have their official Flat St. Francis who will join them in all of their activities throughout the day. We will be posting his adventures on our Home and School Facebook page! If you have not already printed a Flat St. Francis for your family, some of the teachers are sending one home with your child. Please feel free to share your pictures on our Facebook page!

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace;

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

October 26. It is \$2 per person or \$5 per family. Please make sure you read what attire is acceptable on spirit days, and have fun with it!

*Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
And where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master,
Grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console;
To be understood, as to understand;
To be loved, as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive,
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
And it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life.*

Parent Teacher Conferences Via Zoom

Parent-teacher conferences are an important component of ongoing school-home communication and family involvement at Saint Francis. Parent-teacher conferences are an opportunity for parents to learn about their children's progress in school and for teachers to gain insights into their students' home and community lives. Parent perspectives on their child's strengths and needs, learning styles, and non-school learning opportunities can help teachers shape their instructional methods. The parent-teacher conference is the opportunity to strengthen the partnership between parents and teachers so that all parties are working together in the best interests of the child.



Conferences will be held on October 21-23, 2020 from 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. for grade **Prekindergarten through third grade**. Your classroom teacher will be sending out Zoom invitations for your conferences. Please be prompt as there are only five minutes between each conference and have your child be present in the Zoom conference.

Fourth and fifth grade teachers will be holding conferences on October 16, 21-23, 2020 from 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. You will be receiving a Zoom

invitation from Ms. Yesica Lopez. Please be prompt as there are only five minutes between each conference and have your child be present in the Zoom conference.

Sixth through eighth grade teachers will be holding conferences on October 16, 21-23, and the 30th from 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. You will be receiving a Zoom invitation from Mrs. Jennifer Casanova. Please be prompt as there are only five minutes between each conference and have your child be present in the Zoom conference.

Please call Alma Lopez in order to set up a conference date and time for your child(ren) by **October 8, 2020** in order for the teachers to have the time and date to set up your Zoom conference.

[ALL SAINTS' DAY](#)

All Saints' Day is a solemn holy day of the Catholic Church celebrated annually on November 1. The day is dedicated to the saints of the Church, that is, all those who have attained heaven. It should not be confused with All Souls' Day, which is observed on November 2, and is dedicated to those who have died and not yet reached heaven.



We will be celebrating All Saints' Day on Thursday, October 29, 2020. Students will be able to dress up in their favorite Saint costume. We are looking at 100% participation. Please take this time to learn about your child's saint and send them with tidbits of information to share with their class regarding their saint!

STUDENT OF THE MONTH FOR AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

For the month of August and September we are celebrating students who have exhibited the Gospel Values of patience and perseverance. As we worked through distance virtual learning this first quarter, we all had to depend on placing our lives in God's hands and work on practicing the Gospel Values of patience and perseverance. The following students showed patience and perseverance during distance learning and we are very proud of them! Congratulations.

For the month of October we will be looking for students who are modeling the Gospel Value of Humility and Understanding.

*"Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show his works by a good life in the humility that comes from wisdom."
(James 3:13)*

As most of our families know by now, we have been focusing on one each month. The Gospel Values help build a community of faith and culture of excellence among our teachers, students, and parents. This month, we are promoting the Gospel Values of Humility and Understanding. Perhaps by design these values fall during the most challenging times of our lives, and I am sure by divine providence these values are coming to us at a time when our world needs more of both of these.

The Gospel Value of Humility calls us to think beyond ourselves and to put others first. As always, Christ is the perfect example for us. Though fully God, Christ did not come to us with wealth and riches and fanfare. Rather, he came as a humble baby in swaddling clothing and in a manger.

The Gospel Value of Understanding is one of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. Understanding allows us to perceive the truth of an idea, even if we do not fully comprehend it. For instance, we can understand and believe in the truth of the Trinity or the Incarnation without completely comprehending the mystery behind them.

We are called to practice both of these Gospel Values. We are called to understand the truth behind the mystery of the Incarnation – that God became flesh and lived among us. We are also called to humbly recognize that though we are not worthy, through his love for us, the Lord calls us to be one with him in the Eucharist.

August/September

**Student of the Month
Patience/Perseverance**

Prekindergarten Penelope Sierra	Penelope was more than ready for school this year! She is kind, courteous, and patient during our school day. Penelope stays on task during lessons, and does a great job following the teacher's directions. She focuses her attention on what she needs to be focused on at the right time, and is very respectful to herself, her teachers, and her classmates. She is a great role model for our class. Great job Penelope!
Kindergarten Payton Rundle	Payton works hard to do her best, always has a smile on her face, is patient, kind, and never gives up! Thank you Payton for always modeling the gospel value of Patience and Perseverance and for being a diligent learner. You are amazing!
First Grade Isaiah Campos	Isaiah has been a role model. He has shown patience and perseverance during our zoom meetings. He demonstrates character traits by being responsible and patient. Isaiah understands the value of hard work and takes responsibility for his academic progress. Congratulations Isaiah.
Second Grade Chloe Lozano	Chloe Lozano has shown incredible patience and perseverance as she has adapted to learning on-line. She has consistently tried her best to learn as much as she can. She did not let any internet or computer challenge get her down or distract her from trying to learn. Great Job Chloe!
Third Grade Max Espino	Max spent the first month of distance learning navigating and troubleshooting technical difficulties. He attended every class, was active in the classroom chat to answer questions when his microphone was not working, never letting computer difficulties stop his willingness for participation. Great Job, Max!
Fourth Grade Colton Greene	Colton being a new student to St. Francis has shown patience and perseverance during our Zoom meetings. He is patient when the teacher has to share screens. He is dedicated to his studies and has persevered. He has adjusted well to our class. I am very proud of you Colton!
Fifth Grade Analiese Hoffman	Analiese has demonstrated patience and perseverance from Day 1. Starting the new school year with distance learning and being the new kid on the block were two hurdles Analiese had to tackle, but everyday she has a beautiful smile on her face and a willingness to succeed. I am so happy you are a part of our class, Analiese!
Sixth Grade Samuel Palacios	Sammy has over the past few weeks shown tremendous patience in adapting to our current virtual learning platform. He has shown dedication in his studies and has persevered. He always joins the Zoom meetings with a smiling face and sets a positive example for all of the other students.
Seventh Grade McKenzie Avelar-Pilkington	McKenzie has been working hard and showing effort during every Zoom class. She's always early and ready to learn, participates in class, asks questions and completes her work. I am very proud of McKenzie for all the effort she has shown to succeed. Thank you, McKenzie.
Eighth Grade Alex Valencia	Alex Valencia has been a role model for patience and perseverance during the month

of August. As we began this school year with distance learning, Alex has shown courage to work with determination and persevere through all of his classes. He displays the ability to push through and be patient when needed. We are proud of you, Alex. Keep up the good work!

HOME AND SCHOOL NEWS

Thank you to everyone that participated in the BBQ T-shirt Design Contest. We have such talented students! Due to the many entries, we divided the entries into categories by grade and these are the finalists. They will be receiving a gift card of their choosing. The final t-shirt design is still being collaborated upon using these 3 entries:

- ★ Pre-k → 2nd: Penelope Sierra
- ★ 3rd → 5th: George Muller
- ★ 6th → 8th: Maria Renee

Special thanks to Mrs. Amanda Wallace (past art teacher and alumnus) for assisting with the judging. Although she moved away, she still sends her love and support to our Wildcat artists!

In other BBQ news, we will be sending out new information in the next few weeks with tentative deadlines and sponsorship information. Please stay tuned!

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 meeting.

Home and School	October 16	3:00	Zoom
Advisory Council	October 8	3:00	Zoom
Dads' Club	October 22	6:30	TBD

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.

DIOCESEAN 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, 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.

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