



# ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

700 W 18TH ST, YUMA, AZ 85364 (928) 782-1539

## St. Francis Principal's Newsletter

September 2021

St. Francis Families,

WELCOME BACK! We have had a great two weeks at school! Our students have been working on learning or revisiting our Gospel Values and our Student Learning Expectations! They are doing a great job living the Values and SLEs in their everyday interactions with their teachers and classmates! It is a blessing to see how our students live their faith every day! Thank you for allowing us to be partners in your child's faith journey! Thank you for your continued prayers for a safe and blessed school year!



### School Mass

**Friday, September 3**

9:00 a.m.

Grades K-2

**Friday, September 10**

9:00 a.m.

Grades 6-8

**Friday, September 17**

9:00 a.m.

Grades 3-5

**Friday, September 24**

9:00 a.m.

Grades K-2

**Friday, October 1**

9:00 a.m.

Grades 3-5

### Sunday All School Mass

Sunday, September 12

11:00 a.m.

**\*Free dress on Tuesday,**

**September 14**

**For those students who attended Sunday's Mass**

Our school masses will be held by grade level bands: K-2, 3-5 and 6-8. Parents are welcome to attend mass and can sit in the last three

pews of the church. Please look at the school calendar to see the mass schedule.

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY REMINDER**

As we move through the year working through COVID-19 I thank you in advance for your support. We ask that you fully understand the importance of NOT sending your child sick to school (siblings will be sent home as well). For this to happen, we are going to set a low threshold for sending students and staff members home if illness is suspected.

If your child presents any of the following COVID-19 symptoms they will be sent home:

Fever of 100.4 degrees or higher  
chills  
cough  
nasal congestion, or runny nose  
sore throat  
shortness of breath or difficulty breathing  
diarrhea  
nausea or vomiting stomach  
fatigue/tiredness  
headache  
muscle of body aches  
new loss of taste and smell

Students and staff members will not physically attend school until clearance from isolation criteria have been met or an alternative documented diagnosis is made.

The impact of sending your child to school with symptoms greatly affects your child/child's class and school community. Following the Safety Protocol guidelines will help prevent quarantining classes or closing St. Francis School and returning to on-line learning.

We are in this together and know that God will continue to guide us through this school year! I thank you in advance for your cooperation!

### **Rosary**

Thursday, September 23  
in individual classrooms

### **Confessions**

Tuesday, September 7  
Grades 3-5  
And  
Thursday, September 9  
Grades 6-8

### **Reminders**

NO SCHOOL

Observing Labor Day

Monday, September 6, 2021

**Water Bottles** - It is vital that your child bring in a filled water bottle every day to school in order to stay hydrated throughout the day. Our fountains will NOT be operational this year for students to fill up their water bottles. Student Council is selling water bottles for \$.50 a bottle in the office.

### **School Pictures-**

School pictures are scheduled for Wednesday, September 8, 2021. Full Dress Uniform must be worn that day!

## ZOOM OPEN HOUSE

We are excited to announce our annual Open House scheduled for Wednesday, September 1, 2021! We will be practicing social distancing so our Open House will be presented like last year via Zoom. There will be three session times for you to choose from. Your classroom teachers will be sending out a Zoom invite on Tuesday, August 31, 2021.

### SESSION TIMES:

**6:00-6:30**

**6:50-7:20**

**7:30-8:00**

## SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Thank you so much for being so patient as we worked through Desy's machine being broken! She let us know that all uniforms are ready for pick up, so we will be expecting that all students are in uniform by Monday, August 30, 2021. If you are still experiencing difficulty with your child's uniform, please email me as soon as possible as we will be having students serve detention if they are not in uniform. Please make sure that our boys are wearing correct dress socks and shoes on Fridays.

## STUDENT OF THE MONTH FOR AUGUST

For the month of August we celebrated students who have exhibited the qualities of showing the gospel value **Diligent Learner Who:** Has a strong academic foundation, utilizes critical thinking skills, uses information resources appropriately, thoughtfully, and ethically, is actively engaged in his/her own learning and demonstrates strong independent study habits.

<b>May</b>	<b>Student of the Month</b>	<b>SLE(s) and Gospel Value</b>
Prekindergarten	Evelyn Urbietta	Evelyn is always doing her best to make great choices in Pre-K. She has been a role model since the first day of school, and is independent. She completes tasks in a timely manner, and transitions smoothly into the next part of her day. She is an active participant in class. We are so proud of her and are excited to see her continue to blossom throughout the year. Amazing Job, Evelyn!
Kindergarten	Alannah Dineen	Alannah is a diligent learner who listens to the teacher and works

		<p>hard to do her best. She is a role model, follows directions and completes all work neatly. She keeps her space and basket organized and packs up in 1 Minute! When lining up after recess, she reminds her classmates where their spot is at. I can always count on her to do the right thing and make good choices. Way to go Alannah, keep shining bright! We are extremely proud of you.</p>
First Grade	Glen Espino	<p>Glen always shows diligence in his learning and always listens and follows the teacher's directions. He respects others and his surroundings. Glen tries to complete his work and gives 100% academically and has excellent behavior. Great job Glen.</p>
Second Grade	Palmer Slater-Tonge	<p>Palmer consistently demonstrates the characteristics of a diligent learner each day. She starts from morning procedures to our end of day prayer! Palmer puts forth her best effort on each assignment, focused during independent work, and asks for help when unsure of a task. I am very proud to have Palmer as our first student of the month and as a role model to her classmates.</p>
Third Grade	Alonso Garibaldi	<p>Alonso has demonstrated the characteristics of a diligent learner each and every day. He is a role model for students across settings, whether transitioning from subject to subject, staying organized, completing homework, or following our procedures outside of the classroom. Great job Alonso! I'm so proud to recognize you as our role model - Diligent Learner!</p>
Fourth Grade	Claire Pilkington	<p>Claire is a diligent learner who is actively engaged in her learning. She is always ready with all her materials and willing to help her</p>

		classmates if needed. We are proud of you Claire!
Fifth Grade	Lexy Sandoval	Lexy Sandoval has quietly and consistently demonstrated characteristics of a diligent learner, careful in completing her work on time, attentive to classroom instructions, respectful in asking questions, and kind to her classmates. Keep up the good work, Lexy! We are all happy for you!
Sixth Grade	Natalie Chavez	Natalie is a diligent learner. She has been actively engaged in her learning throughout the day. Natalie follows procedures and expectations without reminders and does it with a great attitude. Thank you for being a role model.
Seventh Grade	Kelsie Harrison	Kelsie has demonstrated the qualities of a diligent learner. From walking in class to the end of a lesson, she is practicing diligence. Following the classroom procedures and expectations is clearly one of her priorities and the middle school teachers are proud of her efforts!
Eighth Grade	Isabella Alvarez	Isabella Alvarez has exemplified what it's like to be a practicing diligent learner. Her hard work is seen through her actions- prepared for class, developing thoughtful work, and following expectations and procedures in her classes. Thank you for being a role model for others.
Library	Christian Castro	Christian read books all summer and was the first to come to the library to take his AR quizzes! He demonstrated that he is a diligent learner by not letting his reading skills go to sleep during our summer break. God bless you Christian and keep up the good work. I'm looking forward to having you join

		the "Million Word Club" this year!
PE	Max Freeman	Max worked hard at learning skills. He stayed focused and tried his very best at all times. Some of the skills were difficult to perform but Max continued to try his best and got to the point where he was helping others with the exercise.
Computers	Sam Palacios	Sam volunteered and helped me build 2 computer carts so I would be able to finish my tasks on time. He did a great job on both of the carts. We had a conversation in class about using social media and technology correctly. He showed diligence by staying on topic and bringing up topics about technology that were important.
Music	Carla Isabella Arvizu Palma	Carla sang and learned the hand motions to the song I have decided to follow Jesus. She was inspiring to watch as she sang with emotional content motivating others in her class to sing in a similar fashion.

## HOME AND SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome back Wildcats! We have hit the ground running and we're off to a great start! Thank you to all the room parents who signed up to help us kick off this fall season of fun.

Our first event will be the Patriot Day Flag Raising, Thursday September 9, at 8:30 a.m. We would like to invite all Saint Francis first responders, military, and veterans to attend our Flag Raising Ceremony. Room parents will be working with your student in the classroom this week to make decorations for the event to help us commemorate this year's day of Remembrance.

In addition, we have many volunteer opportunities coming up quickly with our Saint Francis Feast Week and the BBQ & Carnival. This year we will be utilizing Signup.com for all volunteer opportunities. Please look for an email with more information regarding volunteer sign-ups.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 7th for our annual BBQ & Carnival! The theme this year will be Candyland. We are excited to welcome Amanda Wallace back as this year's BBQ Chair. We will

be announcing BBQ Committee meeting dates soon. The BBQ T-shirt design competition has also kicked off and we will need to receive your student's entry by September 17th. The details regarding the competition will be sent home in a separate email. Let's get creative Wildcats!

Please contact us at [hsa@stfrancisuyuma.com](mailto:hsa@stfrancisuyuma.com) if you have any questions!

## BOOSTER CLUB NEWS

We have officially started boys' volleyball and girls' softball practice. Practice is after school on days specified by the coaches, generally on Monday-Thursday at 3:30-4:45. Practice and game schedules will be distributed by the coaches or via RenWeb/FACTS. **Students must be picked up within 10 minutes of practice completion. Siblings of those participating in sports may not stay after school unless their parents are present.**

Games are played after school. Parents are responsible for their child's transportation to and from away games. Refer to the Drivers' (page 19) and Volunteer (page 7-8) Requirements in the Parent and Student Handbook when transporting children other than your own.

Fees for sports is \$25 for every sport your child will be participating in.

All students in grades 5-8 are eligible and will need to have a current sports physical in order to begin practice. They will NOT be able to stay after school for practice until a current physical is submitted to Mr. Oscar Chavez, Athletic Director.

Thank you to the following parents who have volunteered to coach! We are still in need of a coach for girls volleyball and refs for all of the sports. The volunteer time does count toward your 20 volunteer hours. Please contact the school office or email [ochavez@stfrancisuyuma.com](mailto:ochavez@stfrancisuyuma.com) if you are interested. **PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU NEED TO BE CLEARED BY THE DIOCESE TO VOLUNTEER.**

SPORT	MONTHS	COACHES
Boys Volleyball	August - October	Adam Pilkington
Girls' Softball	September-November	Coach Madsen
Fall Flag Football	March-May	Billy Higuera Israel Trevino
Boys' Soccer	November-January	Coach Gallardo
Girls' Basketball	November-January	Coach Flowers

Boys' Basketball	January - March	Coach Joe Lopez
Girls' Soccer	January - March	Coach Madsen Coach Flowers
Girls Volleyball	April - May	

### **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. Your attendance can be counted toward your volunteer hours!

Home and School	September 17	10:30 a.m.	Teachers' Lounge
Booster Club	September 3	1:00 p.m.	School TBD
Advisory Council	September 16	5:30 p.m.	Teachers' Lounge
Dads' Club	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.

## **DIOCESESAN 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. An email will be going out to all families regarding the new compliance process the Diocese of Tucson has implemented. **Please make contact with Eve Villegas, St. Francis compliance officer with any compliance questions, 928-782-1875.**