

<i>St. Francis Principal's Newsletter</i>	<i>October 2022</i>
<p>St. Francis Parents,</p> <p>As we celebrate our Patron Saint, St. Francis, your children will be learning about him in class as we celebrate him throughout the first week of October. Here is his story for you to read and share what you have learned with your child. We hope you take the time to read more about this great saint in hopes that we will exemplify all that he taught us - We pray that we can become instruments of peace, love for all creation (animals and nature), and helping the poor, sick and hungry. Pray for us St. Francis of Assisi!</p>	<p><u>School Mass</u> Wednesday, October 5 9:00 a.m. 1st Grade</p> <p>Friday, October 14 9:00 a.m. 8th Grade</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">S. FRANCISCUS ASSISIENSIS AQUINASANDMORE.COM</p>	<p>Friday, October 21 9:00 a.m. 7th Grade</p> <p>Wednesday, October 26 9:00 a.m. 6th Grade</p> <p>Tuesday, November 1 9:00 am 3rd Grade</p> <p><u>Sunday All School Mass</u> Sunday, October 2 11:00 a.m. 8th Grade</p> <p>*Free dress on Tuesday, October 4, for those students who attended Sunday's Mass.</p>
<p>Saint Francis of Assisi's Story</p> <p>The patron saint of Italy, Francis of Assisi was a poor little man who astounded and inspired the Church by taking the gospel literally—not in a narrow fundamentalist sense, but by actually</p>	<p><u>Rosary</u> Monday, October 3 8:15 am St. Francis Pilgrimage</p>

following all that Jesus said and did, joyfully, without limit, and without a sense of self-importance.

Serious illness brought the young Francis to see the emptiness of his frolicking life as leader of Assisi's youth. Prayer—lengthy and difficult—led him to a self-emptying like that of Christ, climaxed by embracing a leper he met on the road. It symbolized his complete obedience to what he had heard in prayer: "Francis! Everything you have loved and desired in the flesh it is your duty to despise and hate, if you wish to know my will. And when you have begun this, all that now seems sweet and lovely to you will become intolerable and bitter, but all that you used to avoid will turn itself to great sweetness and exceeding joy."

From the cross in the neglected field-chapel of San Damiano, Christ told him, "Francis, go out and build up my house, for it is nearly falling down." Francis became the totally poor and humble workman.

He must have suspected a deeper meaning to "build up my house." But he would have been content to be for the rest of his life the poor "nothing" man actually putting brick on brick in abandoned chapels. He gave up all his possessions, piling even his clothes before his earthly father—who was demanding restitution for Francis' "gifts" to the poor—so that he would be totally free to say, "Our Father in heaven." He was, for a time, considered to be a religious fanatic, begging from door to door when he could not get money for his work, evoking sadness or disgust to the hearts of his former friends, ridicule from the unthinking.

But genuineness will tell. A few people began to realize that this man was actually trying to be Christian. He really believed what Jesus said: "Announce the kingdom! Possess no gold or silver or copper in your purses, no traveling bag, no sandals, no staff" (Luke 9:1-3).

Francis' first rule for his followers was a collection of texts from the Gospels. He had no intention of founding an order, but once it began he protected it and accepted all the legal structures needed to support it. His devotion and loyalty to the Church were absolute and highly exemplary at a time when various movements of reform tended to break the Church's unity.

Francis was torn between a life devoted entirely to prayer and a life of active preaching of the Good News. He decided in favor of the latter, but always returned to solitude when he could. He wanted to

Reminders

22-23 October School Calendar can be found in the brown envelope located on the SF webpage and will be sent via email.

Water Bottles

It is vital that your child bring in a filled water bottle (please put name on the water bottle) every day in order to stay hydrated throughout the day. Our fountains are operational and students will be able to refill their bottles. The Student Council will be selling water bottles in the office for \$.50.

Lunch Program

There will be **no** lunch program this school year. We are in the process of revisiting and determining the feasibility of having a hot lunch program.

Please plan on sending a sack lunch with your child.

Homework Club

Homework Club will not be available at this time as we are still looking for someone to fill the position. If a person is hired there will be limited seats (15). As

be a missionary in Syria or in Africa, but was prevented by shipwreck and illness in both cases. He did try to convert the sultan of Egypt during the Fifth Crusade.

During the last years of his relatively short life, he died at 44, Francis was half blind and seriously ill. Two years before his death he received the stigmata, the real and painful wounds of Christ in his hands, feet and side.

On his deathbed, Francis said over and over again the last addition to his *Canticle of the Sun*, "Be praised, O Lord, for our Sister Death." He sang Psalm 141, and at the end asked his superior's permission to have his clothes removed when the last hour came in order that he could expire lying naked on the earth, in imitation of his Lord.

Reflection

Francis of Assisi was poor only that he might be Christ-like. He recognized creation as another manifestation of the beauty of God. In 1979, he was named patron of ecology. He did great penance—apologizing to "Brother Body" later in life—that he might be totally disciplined for the will of God. Francis' poverty had a sister, Humility, by which he meant total dependence on the good God. But all this was, as it were, preliminary to the heart of his spirituality: living the gospel life, summed up in the charity of Jesus and perfectly expressed in the Eucharist.

Saint Francis of Assisi is the Patron Saint of: Animals, Archaeologists, Ecology, Italy, Merchants, Messengers, Metal Workers

of now, all students need to be picked up at dismissal.

FACTS

Please log into your [FACTS](#) account and update your account for the new school year. Contact the school office if you have any questions or need assistance.

Here is a schedule of the upcoming events we have planned in celebrating our patron saint, St. Francis of Assisi!

Saturday 10/1	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Blessing of the Animals Movie Under the Stars- Encanto Bring chairs and join us under the ramada. Concessions will be sold.
Sunday 10/2	9:00 am- 3:00 pm	Parish Fiesta All School Mass at 11:00 Food and game booths!
Monday 10/3	8:30 am	St. Francis School Pilgrimage Join us in walking around the school praying the Glorious Mysteries and singing the Prayer of St. Francis
Tuesday 10/4	2:15 pm- 3:10 pm	St. Francis Craft Day Room parents will be working with teachers on a SF craft, while enjoying a small snack.
Wednesday 10/5	9:00 am	St. Francis Feast Day Mass Full Dress Uniform Blessing of the Pet Photo Please send your child a photo of their pets.
Thursday 10/6	11:30 am -12:15 pm	Feast Day Family Lunch Come join us for a pizza and sub lunch sponsored by Dads' Club. Bring chairs and join us on the school grounds. Please note that on this day you will need to check in at the office to sign out your child. Once your child(ren) are signed out your family will go out and line up at one of the serving tables to pick up their lunch.
Friday 10/7	10:00 am 11:30 am	Humane Society Donation This class with 100% participation will earn popsicles. Pep Assembly Join on the ramada for a final celebration.

SEPTEMBER, 2022 STUDENT OF THE MONTH

AN ACTIVE COMMUNITY MEMBER

- Participates in community, parish, school, and family activities through service
- Takes responsibility for their actions and accepts consequences
- Resolves conflict peacefully and equitably applying Gospel values
- Responds to the needs of those less fortunate

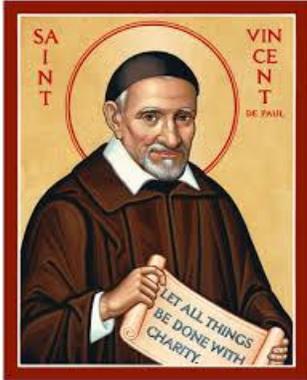
<u>Grade</u>	<u>Student</u>	<u>Example(s)</u>
Prekindergarten	Emily Dammeyer	Emily is a responsible and considerate student. She is very good at communicating her wants and needs with her peers and teachers. She speaks politely and can problem solve in social situations. She is always willing to lend a helping hand to her fellow classmates, or just simply be a good friend. You are doing great Emily! Good job!
Kindergarten	Sebastian Cordova	Sebastian is an outstanding Active Community Member. He is always willing to help the teachers and his classmates. He makes good independent choices and stays on task. He participates in class activities and is the first to raise his hand even with challenging questions! Great job Sebastian! We are proud of you!
First Grade	Brooklyn Morrissey	Brooklyn is a wonderful student who is always eager to help out and does her best as an active community member. She pleases others before herself. She has a wonderful attitude every day. It is a pleasure to have her in class. Great job, Brooklyn!
Second Grade	Clarissa Navarrete	Clarissa displays the actions of an active community member every day. She helps her group members

		<p>stay on task and respectfully reminds them to stay engaged. She is willing to be helpful to adults and students whenever there is a need. She is happy to share and helps classmates with good choices when playing out at recess. Clarissa is a great asset to our class and we appreciate her!</p>
Third Grade	Giuliana Gonzales-Chapman	<p>Giuliana is a great example of An Active Community Member. Giuliana represents her Girl Scout Troop and her school as she respectfully and responsibly raises the flag on our campus each week. She is always willing to lend a hand to anyone that needs help. Great Job, Giuliana!</p>
Fourth Grade	Sadie Thompson	<p>Sadie Thompson routinely supports our school and her Girl Scout Troop with raising the flag in the morning. She leaves class as we unpack and prepare for the day. Leaving for a few minutes in the morning could cause her to fall behind, but Sadie takes responsibility for the class time she misses. When she returns, she quickly and efficiently prepares for the day and is ready to learn right on time. Sadie is a great example of an Active Community Member, she is willing to provide support even when it means she has to work harder. Fire Up Sadie!</p>
Fifth Grade	Emily Freeman	<p>Emily Freeman is very responsible and an outstanding Active Community Member. She is always ready to lend a helping hand to her teachers and her classmates. Emily is very active in School, Parish & the community. Emily demonstrates grace and respect by volunteering whenever she can. Continue to show God's works of love Emily! Keep up the great work! - Mrs. Flores</p>
Sixth Grade	Natalia Martinez	<p>Natalia is very active in our school community. She is involved in many extracurricular activities as well as</p>

		<p>her learning in the classroom. It is evident that Natalia works to apply the Gospel Values in what she does and when necessary, she is ready to take responsibility for her actions. Thank you, Natalia, for being a great example of an Active Community Member!</p>
Seventh Grade	Isaiah Trevino	<p>Isaiah has been working really hard on being an active community member. Isaiah likes to help his classmates and teachers, volunteers for rosary and accepts consequences for his actions. Thank you, Isaiah, for striving to be the best version of yourself.</p>
Eighth Grade	Adrian Castillo	<p>Adrian Castillo is a great example of an active community member. He understands what it's like to work together in class as a community. Adrian is able to accept responsibility for his actions and takes feedback constructively. Keep up the good work, Adrian!</p>
Library	Srdar Sadik	<p>Srdar desires to be part of a holy and healthy community and it shows in almost everything he does. He helps out at his family's car wash and is seen at Mass on Sundays participating wholeheartedly with his responses and songs. He is very supportive of others and never misses an opportunity to make his classmates feel good about themselves. Srdar has a wide range of friendships and includes everyone when playing at recess. God bless you, Srdar.</p>
Computer	Vera Paredes	<p>It is a blessing to have Vera in class. Vera participates in class by answering questions about computers and understanding what is expected in the classroom. Without asking Vera helps out her neighbor in class. This makes her an Active Community Member because she understands that her classmate needs help and that it</p>

		<p>makes the class go smoother. Thank you for your help Vera keep it up! Mr. McKinney</p>
<p>Music</p>	<p>Mario Sanchez Martinez</p>	<p>Mario is always ready to sing in class. He encourages others to sing along and have fun. His enthusiasm is contagious and soon others are following his lead. Keep singing your praise to our Lord Jesus Christ.</p>
<p>Physical Education</p>	<p>Elyse Amon</p>	<p>Elyse leads by her example in all activities and more importantly her sportsmanship. Elyse identifies the value of integrity and practices the qualities of an Active Community Member at all times. Continue to be courageous in your faith during all of your everyday activities. God Bless you.</p>

STUDENT COUNCIL



The Student Council will be hosting a St. Vincent De Paul Food Drive. It will run from Monday, October 10-14, 2022. We appreciate your participation as this will fill the St. Francis of Assisi Parish St. Vincent de Paul food pantry, which helps local families. Thank you in advance for your support and we ask that you please make sure that items you send in are not expired. St. Francis Student Council is confident that we will have 100% participation and show gratitude for all the gifts God has given them and their families. May God bless you for your generosity. Below are the items by grade level!

Pre-Kinder - Hamburger Helper

Kinder- 2 cans of chicken or tuna

1st – 1 jar of peanut butter

2nd – 1 regular plastic jar of jelly

3rd - 1 box of pancake mix

4th- 1 bottle of pancake syrup

5th- Powder milk

6th- 1 box of Cereal

7th- 1 bag of beans

8th – 1 box of spaghetti pasta

Office- bag of rice and box Hamburger Helper

Student Council Halloween Dance



Who 5th, 6th 7th and 8th graders can attend the dance

When: Friday, October 21, 2022

Time: 6:00 -9:00 p.m.

Where: Parish Hall

Entrance Fee:

\$3 with appropriate costume attire or colors

\$5 with no costume appropriate dress

**Please avoid bringing plastic guns or swords. If brought, they will be kept in a safe place until the end of the dance.

The Student Council will be selling drinks and snacks during the dance.

Hope to see you there!!!!

HOME AND SCHOOL NEWS

We hope everyone can visit our booth at the Parish Fiesta on Sunday, October 2 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. One of our Wildcat families has very graciously offered delicious food from their business, Eduardo's Mexican Restaurant . Please stop by and join us for breakfast (burritos) or lunch (taquitos).

Don't forget to check out our volunteer link: We need volunteers for various activities.

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/686997070282870028/false?popup=true#/invitation>

The Saint Francis School BBQ committee has been busy planning our annual BBQ and carnival. Please mark your calendars for November 6, 2022 . We appreciate everyone who is working and supporting our 2022 BBQ. In the next few weeks you will be receiving more information regarding the BBQ.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Kianna Alvarez** (8th grade) for being the finalist in the Saint Francis BBQ T-shirt Design contest. Awesome job Kianna!

Thank you for our Platinum Sponsors! Their support is greatly appreciated in supporting the success of our school. Please consider showing your appreciation by utilizing their services!

- ❖ Dr Parra Implant Center
 - ❖ JT Prime
 - ❖ SonAriz
- ❖ Pediatric Dentistry of Yuma
 - ❖ Loansuite Mortgage
 - ❖ Legacy Cooling, LLC
 - ❖ Snap On
 - ❖ A. Oseguera Co., Inc.
 - ❖ D & H Electric
- ❖ Imperial Date Gardens Inc.
 - ❖ Pilkington Construction
 - ❖ Yuma Cardiology
 - ❖ 1st Bank Yuma

Future Events/ Save the dates:

- **St Francis Feast Week: October 1-7, 2022**
- **BBQ: Sunday, November 6, 2022**
"Faith~Family~Friends~Future"
- **Christmas Program: Thursday, December 15, 2022**

Pay close attention to your email, our school's monthly newsletter, school website and FaceBook page for additional information. If you are not part of our school's social media Facebook page please reach out to Mrs Alma Lopez.

Reminder:

In order to volunteer in any school capacity or activity in person at our school we all need to complete a volunteer clearance.

- **Information on how to get cleared through our Dioceses.** Contact our parish office at 928-782-1875 or speak to Evelia Villegas. (evillegas@stfrancisyum.com).

BOOSTER CLUB NEWS

We have officially started concessions on Tuesday and Thursdays! If you are wanting to purchase a \$10 snack card, please stop by the office. Students can purchase Gatorade, chips, popcorn, ice cream and other goodies! If you are interested in volunteering to sell concessions on Tuesday and Thursday to work toward your 20 service hours, please contact the office.

Second season of fall sports is just around the corner. Boys' soccer and girls' basketball start practice October 10th.

All students in grades 5-8 are eligible to participate. Students 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 refs for all of the sports. The volunteer time does count toward your 20 volunteer hours. Please contact the school office or email ochavez@stfrancisyum.com if you are interested. **PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU NEED TO BE CLEARED BY THE DIOCESE TO VOLUNTEER.**

SPORT	MONTHS	COACHES
Boys' Soccer	October - December	Jesus Ibarra Billy Higuera
Girls' Basketball	August - October	Amy Garcia Mike Flowers Leo Gonzales

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!

Booster Club	October 3	6:00 pm	Airport Brewers
Advisory Council	October 19	5:00 p.m.	School Library
Dads' Club	October 27	6:30 p.m.	Wild River
Home and School Meeting	October 17	6:00 p.m.	In Person Library
BBQ Committee Meeting	October 12	6:00 p.m.	Library and ZOOM

Going Gold Challenge 2022 Yuma County

St. Francis Students had a great day supporting the Pajama Day, AdvoKate! In total we raised \$ that will be donated to the AdvoKate Foundation which helps Yuma County children battling cancer.

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.