



<i>St. Francis Principal's Newsletter</i>	<i>September 2022</i>
<p>St. Francis Families,</p> <p>Welcome Back! We had a great first month of school and our students seem to be getting back into the swing of things. As I stated before this school year, we will be concentrating heavily on our Catholic Identity; the most important aspect of our school and part of our accreditation process. During Orientation Day, August 15, 2022, you were asked to stop at the survey station to complete a survey in regards to our Catholic Identity. If you were unable to complete the survey, we sent you the link to complete. We thank you in advance for completing this. The results are important to us as we will use them to help create a plan that will continue to help build St. Francis' strong Catholic Identity, both at school and at home.</p> <p>Another area of concentration this year will be the importance of our students attending Sunday Mass. This year our teachers began the school year by delivering lessons on the Mass. These are detailed lessons about the importance of each part of the Mass, the responses we say at each part of the Mass, and the different items we use at the Mass. Our fourth through eighth grade students will also be using the missal to help them stay engaged throughout the Mass. As we deliver more detailed lessons, we hope that our students will develop a strong foundation and understanding about the importance of attending Sunday Mass. We will build from this foundation and work with our students about the meaning of the Sacraments, especially our second and eighth grade students.</p> <p>Our mission statement expresses our vision, "We, along with parental support, educate our students to grow in the image and likeness of God, so they may become confident leaders in service to others as well as beacons of hope for all." We look forward to working hand in hand with our school families in ensuring that Sunday Mass is the center of your week. As parents of Baptized Catholics, we promised to raise our children in the Faith and bring them to Mass. "For the grace of Baptism to unfold, the parents' (and godparents') help is important. They must be firm believers, able and ready to help the newly Baptized child on the road of Christian life." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1255). Moreover, the Sacrament of Baptism is not merely related to the child. In the case of "infant Baptism or minor", the role of parents is very important, as they are <b>the persons who are giving their assurance that they will raise the child being Baptized in the Catholic faith and upon Catholic values.</b></p> <p>St. Francis has discerned and recognizes that we need to fully teach the Mass so our students know the Mass and its central importance in their lives, the receiving of the Eucharist... As St. Francis Staff, we are praying that you continue to support your child's faith formation and commit to religiously attend Sunday Mass with your child so they may fully embrace the love God has for them. We</p>	<p><b><u>School Mass</u></b></p> <p><b>Friday, September 2</b>            9:00 a.m.            7th Grade</p> <p><b>Friday, September 9</b>            9:00 a.m.            5th Grade</p> <p><b>Friday, September 16</b>            9:00 a.m.            7th Grade</p> <p><b>Friday, September 23</b>            9:00 a.m.            3rd Grade</p> <p><b>Friday, September 30</b>            9:00 a.m.            2nd</p> <p><b><u>Sunday All School Mass</u></b>            Sunday, September 11            11:00 a.m.</p> <p><b>*Free dress on Tuesday, September 13 for those students who attended Sunday's Mass.</b></p> <p><b><u>Rosary</u></b>            Thursday, September 22 at 2:30 in the Church            1-8 grades</p>

strongly believe this love will help them build a strong foundation for their adult life and to discern and live God's will for them.



## **NO SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 16, 2022**

There will be no school on Friday, September 16, 2022 as our teachers will be receiving a full day of MAP professional development. The day will consist of how to read our MAP reports in order to support our students' learning continuum and setting individualized reading, math, and grammar (science for middle school) goals. We thank you in advance for your understanding.

## **OPEN HOUSE**

We are excited to meet with our parents during our Open House which is scheduled for September 1, 2022. Our teachers are excited to share classroom information with you in order for your children to have a successful year, spiritually, behaviorally and academically. We look forward to meeting with you.

Prekindergarten-Fifth Grade	Middle School in the Library
6:00-6:30	6:00-6:50
6:40-7:10	7:00-7:50
7:10-7:50	

## **MID TERM REPORTS**

Mid-Term Reports will be ready for you to view on FACTS on Monday, September 19, 2022. If you should have any questions or concerns regarding your students mid-term report, please make contact with the teacher to set up a parent/teacher conference to set up a plan for success for your child.

## **Reminders**

22-23 September 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 of now, all students

# HOME AND SCHOOL NEWS

Happy first month back! It has been a very exciting month of welcoming and meeting all of our new families. We have lots of events coming up including many opportunities for service hours. Thank you to all who joined us in our Home and School, room parent and BBQ committee meetings. We are looking forward to working with everyone and seeing the success of our upcoming events.

## Upcoming events & Volunteer opportunities:

- **Craft day - THIS FRIDAY, September 2, 11:15-11:55** (see room parents for additional info) Room Parent Liaison J. Amon
- **Decorate School - Wednesday, September 7, 3:15** (see room parents)
- **Flag Raising Ceremony - Thursday, September 8, 8:15 am** (in honor of our First Responders)

## Upcoming Deadlines:

- **BBQ Shirt orders due by this Friday, September 2**
- **BBQ Platinum sponsorships due by this Friday, September 2nd!!**  
Other sponsorship levels due October 1st. Your help is appreciated in finding sponsors!

## Future Events/ Save the dates:

- **Feast Week/Activities Week of October 3-7**
- **BBQ is Sunday, November 6, 2021 - "Faith~Family~Friends~Future"**

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.

## Keep in mind:

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@stfrancisyuma.com](mailto:evillegas@stfrancisyuma.com)).

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.

# BOOSTER CLUB NEWS

Practice for girls' softball and boys' volleyball will begin Wednesday, August 24, 2022. Practice is after school on days specified by the coaches, generally on Monday-Thursday at 3:30-4:50. Practice and game schedules will be distributed by Coach Chavez 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 Driver (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 invited to participate 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.

<b>SPORT</b>	<b>MONTHS</b>	<b>COACHES</b>
Boys' Volleyball	August - October	Venice Saco Adam Pilkington
Girls' Softball	August - October	Coach Chavez

## 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	September 1	5:30 p.m.	Teachers' Lounge
Advisory Council	September 15	5:30 p.m.	School Library
Dads' Club	September 22	6:30 p.m.	TBD
Home and School Meeting	September 21	6:00 p.m.	Zoom
BBQ Committee Meeting	September 27	6:00 p.m.	Library and ZOOM

### **Going Gold Challenge 2022 Yuma County**

KCFY is excited to challenge us again this year to GO GOLD for the month of September in honor of all of Yuma County's Little Warriors who have or are currently battling childhood cancer!

By accepting the Challenge to "GO GOLD" for the month of September your business, school, organization, church, or family commits to help raise awareness about childhood cancer, pray for a cure, and honor those amazing warriors who have or are currently fighting to beat childhood cancer!

On **September 30, 2022** the County will wrap up the month with "**Pajama Day Yuma County**" again! All participants are asked to wear PJ's to school, work, and all around Yuma to help raise awareness of childhood cancer and honor children from Yuma County and around the world who have or are battling childhood cancer and spent countless days in their PJ's while undergoing treatment.

St Francis School will be joining the challenge and wearing our pajamas on Thursday, September 29, 2022. Students and staff will be asked to pay \$5 per person to wear their pajamas that day in honor of Kate Campa, a St. Francis graduate and all those who battle cancer. Envelopes will go home on Wednesday, September 21, 2022 and will be due on Wednesday, September 28, 2022.

**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**

Thank you to all the parents on Orientation Day that committed to completing the Diocese of Tucson Compliance process! A GREAT BIG thank you to Adrian Rodriguez (SF Parent) in helping us get our fingerprints completed! We appreciate the availability of the process to our parents!

Please make contact with Eve Villegas, St. Francis Compliance Officer, to determine if you are cleared to volunteer, 928-782-1875.

Here are a few reasons she has listed as to why our families are not cleared:

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.