



NEWSLETTER

ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL, NOVEMBER 9th, 2022 NO.13

NOTES FROM OUR PRINCIPAL, MRS. SHARON ALLEN:

HAPPY VETERAN'S DAY

We salute our veterans and thank them for their service to our country. We are most grateful for all you have done. God Bless you! God Bless America! Veteran's Day is Friday, November 11th. We will observe this holiday on Friday, November 11th.

CANNED FOOD DRIVE

Thanks to our wonderful Student Council who have organized a canned food drive for the organization There With Care. Last year we were able to collect almost four thousand cans and we are hoping to reach the same goal this year. Special thanks to Mrs. Ferry who is working with our Student Council and thanks to our parents who allow our St. Stephen students to empty their cupboards! Many families in need will enjoy a wonderful holiday because of your generosity and kindness. Please bring in those cans of food this week. Thank you!

DROP OFF AND PICK UP PROCEDURES

Just a reminder when dropping off or picking up your child please do not park in the white zone in front of school. The WHITE ZONE is a drive thru zone. You may drop off your child but please stay in the car and then keep moving to allow other parents to drop off. If you would like to walk your child in through the parking lot please park your car on one of our neighborhood streets. We need to keep the WHITE ZONE clear so parents do not have to "double park" which is dangerous. Thank you for your help and understanding!

7:50 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Kindergarten - 7:50 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Main Gate

Grades 1, 2 - 7:50 a.m. - 2:40 p.m. - Main Gate

Grades 3, 4, 5 - 7:53 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. - Main Gate

Grades 6, 7, 8 - 7:55 a.m. - 2:50 p.m. - Lower Gate

Please note: Mondays are 2:30 p.m. dismissal, unless announced as a Minimum Day

MRS. SHARON ALLEN'S NOTES CONT'D:

SCRIP CHALLENGE BENEFITS SCHOOL AUCTION

Please support the Scrip Challenge which directly supports your children through the school auction proceeds. We would love all 9 classes to meet this challenge. Thank you for your generosity and support!

WOMEN'S GUILD MEETING

Please plan on joining us next Wednesday, November 16th for our November Women's Guild Meeting at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

DENNIS UNIFORM NEWS

Mila Schmitt will return as our Dennis Uniform Rep in San Francisco. Mila has been with DENNIS since 1995. She has been managing school partner relationships in the San Francisco Bay Area for over 27 years. We are so fortunate to have Mila and are 100% confident that she will take exceptionally great care of you as our school representative.

OCTOBER THANKS

Thank you to our Pumpkin Patch Crew!

- Linda Char
- Jeannie Kumagai
- Justin Kumagai
- Noelle Biggs
- Sonia Hui
- Jen Garlasco
- Kristin Gleeson
- Delia Siu
- Angela Button
- Lauren Gille
- Luciene Sequeira
- Ahna Azevedo
- Nas Samara
- Robbie O'Keeffe

Haunted House Thanks!

- Marty Murphy
- Jeff Pasquini
- Marcus Lam
- Rodney Lo
- Dan Oman
- Tom Tuohy
- John Brooks
- Tom Carroll
- Thomas Harlan

MRS. SHARON ALLEN'S NOTES CONT'D:

- Bobby Sari
- Connor Grant
- Alex Button
- Eamon Foley

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Just a reminder that FRIDAY, November 18th is a Student Council sponsored Charity Free Dress Fundraiser. This month's funds will be sent to the SF COVID-19 Response & Recovery Fund. Thank you to our Student Council and our Moderators for their hard work.

THANKSGIVING MASSES

Please join us for our Thanksgiving Mass on Tuesday, November 22nd at 11:00 a.m. Thanks to Mrs. Hammel and our Fourth Graders for preparing this liturgy. There will be a Thanksgiving Day Mass at 9:30 a.m. on November 24th at St. Stephen Church.

THANKSGIVING WEEK

Tuesday, November 22nd - There will be a special Liturgy at 11:00 a.m. planned by our Fourth Grade. All parents, relatives and friends of St. Stephen School are invited to attend.

Wednesday, November 23rd - Minimum Day - School will be dismissed at 12:15 p.m. Progress Reports. Just a reminder no E.C. today.

Thursday, November 24th - Thanksgiving Day - School Holiday; Parish Mass 9:30 a.m.

Friday, November 25th - School Holiday

Monday, November 28th - Dismissal 12:15 p.m. Archdiocesan In-Service

WATCHING OUR WORDS

We continually strive to make St. Stephen School "bully free." We believe we can create an environment where all our students can be free from name-calling, threats, taunts, slander and teasing. We truly believe in the rights of each student at St. Stephen School to be treated with dignity and respect. We have just completed year fifteen of our program to make school "bully free." We continue to recite the pledge in class at the start of each school day. Your support is truly appreciated. Thank you for your help in making St. Stephen a "bully free" school.

MRS. SHARON ALLEN'S NOTES CONT'D:

THE PLEDGE

I pledge to think more about the words I use.

I will try to see how gossip hurts people, including myself,
and work to eliminate it from my life.

I will try to replace words that hurt with words that encourage, engage and enrich.

I will not become discouraged when I am unable to choose words perfectly,
because making the world better is hard work.

I am pledging to do that, one word at a time.

NOVEMBER IS COURTESY MONTH

Please read and review the Courtesy Points sent home in last week's newsletter. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE

Our Christmas Concert will be held Tuesday, December 13th. All students in Grades 1-8 will be participating. This is a DRESS-UP occasion. The Kindergarten Play for Kindergarten Families will also be held December 13th. More details to follow regarding this in-person event.

YARD DUTY

We are always in need of Yard Duty help. If you are able to lend a hand for about an hour and a half each week, please call Mrs. Setiadi @ 415-664-8331. Thanks for your help.

FIVE WAYS TO BE A MORE POSITIVE PERSON

Forbes Magazine had an interesting article on becoming a positive person. Having a positive outlook and overcoming negative thoughts and emotions does not come naturally to every person. But becoming a positive, optimistic person can improve your quality of life and increase your lifespan. Try these 5 easy things to become a more positive person:

1. Surround Yourself With Positive People
2. Practice Gratitude
3. Do Something Nice For Someone
4. Stop Negative Talk
5. Celebrate Everything

Enjoy a happy life!

Mrs. Allen

STUDENT COUNCIL

Hello Cougars! I hope everyone has started collecting canned food and dry goods for our food drive. A quick reminder that when you bring in donations, they cannot be in glass jars or have an expired date. That is all for this week!

CAKEWALK

The first Cake Walk of the year is this Thursday, November 10th! Please turn in \$2 cash to your child's teacher to participate. All proceeds from the Cake Walk benefit 8th Grade graduation activities. Thank you for your support!

NEW ALTAR SERVERS

If you would like your child to become an Altar Server for St. Stephen Parish, please contact Giovanna Hrvatin at hrvatin@att.net to sign up or for more information. All students in **grades 5, 6, 7 and 8** are welcome to join the altar servers.

TEACHER HOLIDAY FUND

Need help with your holiday shopping list? Contribute to the **Teacher Holiday Fund** and take the stress out of shopping for our wonderful teachers and staff at St. Stephen. **Thank you** to all that have contributed already. Any amount is appreciated! You will be acknowledged in a list of contributors that the teachers and staff will receive. Contribute before **Monday, December 5th** and click on the **CONTRIBUTE NOW!** button to proceed. Thank you for your generous support! Please contact **Courtney Cassinelli** ccassinelli@gmail.com or **Shawna Stecher** sfshawna@yahoo.com, **Parliamentarians**, with any questions.

OFFICE NEWS

- **REMINDER: Tomorrow** 11/10 is the deadline to submit hearing forms necessary for your child to be screened in grades K, 1, 2, 5 & 8. Thank you!
- **CHESS** - Chess classes will begin again on 12/01 in the school LIBRARY. Please see the flier in today's email to sign up!
- **ADVENT WREATH MAKING** - Monday, November 21st in Donworth Hall 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. R.S.V.P. using the form following this newsletter.

MEN'S CLUB

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday December 11th, 2022, following 9:30 Mass in Donworth Hall

It will include a Santa Visit, Pancake Breakfast, and Fizz and Mimosa Bar.

WINTER AUCTION UPDATE

Who shall rise as the Diamond of the Season?!

We are ALMOST SOLD OUT for the auction and have very few tickets left! Purchase your tickets on the Auction website www.thequeensballauction.com by clicking on the Buy Tickets tab on the top of the page. We are still collecting donations and underwriting. Please email Auction Chairs Natalie Ocampo, Charlene Avila, Mandy Fesko, Tina Garza and Vanessa Usi at auction@sfststephenschool.org to contribute or visit the Auction website to donate or underwrite.

RAFFLE TICKETS

Submit your Raffle Ticket Stubs you received in the mail with payment and send to the St Stephen School Office Attn: Auction Raffle.

1 st Prize is \$1,000!

2 nd Prize is \$500!

3 rd Prize is \$250!

If you need additional raffle tickets, please reach out to auction@sfststephenschool.org. Pass along the tickets to your friends and family! Tickets cost \$10 each or \$50 for a book of 6. You do not need to be present to win.

You can turn in your raffle tickets along with payment in one of these ways:

1. The Office: You can drop off the raffle stubs and your payment at the office. Be sure to put the stubs and payment in an envelope with "Auction Raffle Tickets" written on it.
2. The night of the auction: You can turn them in when you check-in and pay on-site
3. Turn in the stubs and payment to one of the chairs
4. Go to the November Women's Guild Meeting on November 16th

SCRIP CHALLENGE

Thank you to those families who have donated already! If you have not had the chance to participate in the Scrip Challenge, you will be able to do so through this Friday, November 11 th . Donate scrip to the auction and help your child's class win cash prizes of \$150, \$100, and \$50, respectively, to their classroom funds! Purchase eGift Cards and email them to the Auction team at auction@sfststephenschool.org. Purchase physical gift cards online at www.RaiseRight.com, email both auction@sfststephenschool.org and sswgScrip@gmail.com which cards are for donation, and the cards will be given directly to the Auction Team when they arrive. See flier for the current status.

AUCTION PROGRAM ADS

If you would like to advertise your business or recognize your children in the Auction Program, please submit copy and artwork no later than November 11 th . A full-page ad costs \$250, while a half-page ad costs \$150. Purchase your ad online by visiting the auction site under the Underwrite tab <http://www.thequeensballauction.com/>. If you need help with the artwork, just let us know.

SIGN-UP GENIUS

Auction Volunteers are needed! Volunteering is a great opportunity to meet new people, earn service hours, and help your school raise funds! Many volunteer opportunities are still available. Visit our Sign-Up Genius link today!



SUPPORT THE QUEEN'S BALL BY HOSTING A SIGN-UP PARTY

We are looking for Sign-Up Party Hosts! Grab a friend and throw a party! We are in need of sign-up parties. Here are some ideas:

- Cooking or Baking Party
- Bingo
- Trivia
- Mixology Party
- Wine Tasting Party
- Arts and Crafts Party
- Paint and Sip Party
- Yoga Class
- Mimosa and a Hike
- Taco Party
- A Mother- Daughter Tea
- Pickleball or Cornhole Competition
- A Pub Crawl in West Portal
- Book Discussion and Treats

As the party host, your donation is the cost to host the event. Each attendee pays a fixed price for their spot which is donated to the school. If you are interested in hosting a sign-up party and learning all about the details, please email Development at development@sfststephenschool.org

SEE'S CANDY!

It's that time of year again...Make your holidays sweeter by purchasing See's candy during our ordering window November 1st to November 11th while helping the 8th grade class with their graduation activities! Order Holiday Chocolate and Gifts and have it shipped to your home! See's Candy also makes a great Thanksgiving Hostess Gift! Please feel free to share the link with family and friends also! Find [See's Candy Flier](#) & [See's Order Form](#) with this newsletter. Thank you for your support!

St. Stephen Portable Power Bank

The St. Stephen School portable power banks are still for sale, these will make a great gift for the Holidays. Place your order. ****Bonus**** iPhone Charging Cable included. Cost: \$25 pay with Venmo (Mil-Pasquini) or Paypal (millomaup@gmail.com)
Pick-Up: Order by Thursday at 4:00pm and pick-up on Friday at 7:35-7:50am or after school. Please see *Charger Flyer* following this newsletter.

Shopping Totes

We also have a limited supply of St. Stephen Shopping Totes! Available in red or black, please use the [form above](#) to order. All proceeds go to the 8th Grade Graduation activities. Thank you for your support!

IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP...

11/9 - **TONIGHT: CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE SPONSOR NIGHT @ 6 P.M.**

11/11 - **SCHOOL HOLIDAY**

11/14 - **2:30 p.m. Dismissal**

11/16 - **SSWG Meeting @ 7 p.m.**

11/18 - **Charity Free Dress**

SCHOOLWIDE LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

Prayerful Christians
Effective Communicators
Accountable Citizens
Confident Learners and Problem Solvers
Empathetic Individuals



SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of St. Stephen School community to educate children in a nurturing faith-filled environment that addresses the whole child, spiritually and intellectually. Parents are recognized as the primary educators of their children and we collaborate with them in our role as their children's teachers. It is our mission to provide students with an opportunity to grow in their relationship with God as they pursue academic excellence. Students in this community are encouraged to be mindful of the dignity of all people and to actively work for peace and justice in the world and reflect justice in the world. Instructional programs designed to reflect the Gospel teaching of Jesus Christ to prepare students to become empathetic, responsible members of society who are committed to working within their diverse community and the global society.