



NEWSLETTER

ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL, NOVEMBER 30th, 2022 NO.16

NOTES FROM OUR PRINCIPAL, MRS. SHARON ALLEN:

PRINCIPAL APPRECIATION DAY

Thank you! On Tuesday, St. Stephen Teachers, Students and Staff planned a Happy Principal's Day celebration for me. I am overwhelmed by everyone's kindness and want you to know how much I APPRECIATE ALL OF YOU! Thanks to the Faculty and Staff for the beautiful luncheon and generous gift. Thanks to the Faculty and Staff for the beautiful luncheon and generous gift. Thanks to the Women's Guild and Student Council for the generous floral arrangements and treats. Thanks to the students for your beautiful cards and notes. I especially enjoyed the morning assembly where I received wonderful gifts of cards, song and flowers. I loved every minute. Thank you! It was a perfect day from start to finish.

FAMILY MASS

Please join us on Sunday, December 11th at the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Thanks to Mrs. Schindler, Fr. Michael and our Third Graders who are planning this Liturgy. We look forward to seeing you at the Family Mass at 9:30 a.m. The Men's Club Pancake Breakfast will follow the Family Mass.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Get your reservations in for the Men's Club Pancake Breakfast. Don't miss out on the fun. The Pancake Breakfast is Sunday, December 11th after 9:30 a.m. Mass. Please email ststephenmen@gmail.com with any questions. Please remember to bring an unwrapped toy for the Toys for Tots program. Thank you!

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

Miss Harty and Mrs. Weinman invite Kindergarten Families to join them on December 13th at 7 p.m. for a special play presented by our kindergarten students in Donworth Hall. Students in Grades 1-8 will be participating in a fabulous Advent/Christmas Music program on December 13th at 7:30 p.m. in church. Thanks to Mr. Francis who is preparing our students for this special celebration! The Advent/Christmas Program is a wonderful tradition at St. Stephen School.

MINIMUM DAY - CHRISTMAS VACATION

Christmas vacation begins with a minimum day Thursday, December 15th. School will be dismissed at 12:15 p.m. School will resume on Tuesday, January 3rd. Please mark your calendars so no child is left in the office with a sad face. Thank you!

MRS. SHARON ALLEN'S NOTES CONT'D:

THANK YOU YARD DUTY VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to our wonderful parents who have volunteered to help Wednesday, December 15th from 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. so our teachers and staff can celebrate together.

Grade 1 - Christie Marquez

Grade 5

Grade 2

Grade 6

Grade 3 - Liz Teshara

Grade 7 - Vicki Hatch

Grade 4

Grade 8

YARD DUTY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR DECEMBER 15th

Extra Yard Duty help is needed on Thursday, December 15th, from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

I would like to have a Yard Duty Volunteer for each grade so the teachers and staff can celebrate together. We still need help. Please call Mrs. Mullen @ 415-664-8331 if you can help. Thanks so much!

FREE DRESS REMINDER

Just a reminder that Friday, December 9th is our Charity Free Dress...proceeds will go to Make-A-Wish Foundation.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Please drive slowly and carefully in the back parking lot. Your safety and your child's safety is our primary concern.

TOYS FOR TOTS

Please bring a toy for a child in need. Our goal is to have every child at St. Stephen bring an unwrapped toy or game for a child in need. Toys may be delivered to school and put in the red bin outside the office or you can bring toys to the Pancake Breakfast. Thank you for your support.

UNIFORM REMINDER

Just a reminder that all students at St. Stephen School need to be in COMPLETE uniform EVERY day. Please be sure your child has a haircut which meets the school guidelines. Thank you for your cooperation!

STAY SAFE

Mrs. Allen

TEACHER HOLIDAY FUND

If you would like to, there is still time to 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.

<https://saintstephen.schoolauction.net/teacher2022> Please contact Courtney Cassinelli ccassinelli@gmail.com or Shawna Stecher sfshawna@yahoo.com, Parliamentarians, with any questions. Thank you for your generous support!

SCRIP UPDATE

- Scrip Program Family Profit statements went out by email November 11-13. If you didn't receive yours, please check your Spam/Junk mail folder. If you don't find it there, please email the Scrip Team at sswgScrip@gmail.com.

-The ordering deadline is Tuesday, December 6th for physical gift cards to receive them before Christmas Break. Get your shopping list ready!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The annual pancake breakfast is Sunday, December 11, 2022, following the Sunday Mass. Following this newsletter is the flier with all the information. The Pancake Breakfast is a super fun event for all the kids. We hope to see everyone there!

MEN'S CLUB MONTHLY MEETING

All members of the Men's Club are welcome to the next monthly meeting at Donworth Hall on Thursday, December 8th at 7:00 p.m. We will be decorating the Donworth Hall Christmas tree while discussing the Pancake Breakfast and Crab Feed. Please contact the Men's Club at ststephenmen@gmail.com with any questions. Please note the change of date THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8TH!

AUCTION ART PREVIEW

We would like to invite you to join us for a sneak peak of this year's Auction Art: **ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL LIBRARY ~ Thursday, December 1, 2022 ~ 2:30pm-3:30pm** We look forward to seeing you and your child/children as they proudly show off the masterpiece they helped create! The art pieces for this year's showcase are truly magnificent! Please find "Here is what to expect..." flier following this newsletter. Thank you, Henry & Patricia Tan

STUDENT COUNCIL

I hope everyone is feeling the Christmas Spirit! We have a fun December planned. Friday, December 9th is Charity Free Dress. Please bring a dollar to support this month's charity, Make-A-Wish Foundation. From December 12th - 15th, the last week of school before Christmas/Winter Break, is Christmas Spirit Week. Below are the daily spirit-wear options planned:

- Monday is Christmas Accessory Day with uniform
- Tuesday is Christmas Hat and Headband Day with uniform
- Wednesday is Ugly (or not ugly) Christmas Sweater Day with uniform
- Thursday is Red and Green Free Dress Day

OFFICE NEWS

- Reporting an absence, early pick-up or dismissal please email your child's teacher AND attendance@sfststephenschool.org.
- **CHESS** - Chess classes will begin again on 12/01 in the school LIBRARY. Please note time adjustment (2:50 p.m. - 3:50 p.m)
- **Lost 'n Found** - if your child is missing a school sweater, water bottle, lunch bag, food container, please have him/her check the Lost 'n Found located outside the 2nd Grade Classroom. All unclaimed items will be donated before Christmas Break. Remember to please clearly label all items brought to school with your child's first and last name, so it is possible to return to the rightful owner. Thank you!

IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP...

12/3 - SSWG Auction

12/5 - 2:30 p.m. Dismissal

12/7 - 1st Reconciliation Gr. 2 @ 6 p.m.

12/9 - Charity Free Dress

12/11 - 9:30 a.m. Family Mass / Men's Club Pancake Breakfast

12/13 - Christmas Play (K) 7 p.m., Advent/Christmas Program 7:30 p.m.

12/15 - Minimum Day 12:15 p.m. Dismissal / No E.C. Today

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.

ORDINARY HEROES

Ordinary heroes walk among us with uncommon bravery and profound care. Some wear uniforms and carry badges, some do not, but all wear the armor of integrity, compassion, courage, and honor. Our greatest heroes know that great things come from a series of small actions. They know how to protect and defend so that others may live. Their love, compassion, and bravery are God's touch upon humanity."

Let's take time to thank the Ordinary Heroes in our lives and pray for their safety.

Mrs. Allen

Here is what to expect...

- **KINDERGARTEN** - Kindergarten is a unique time. Our children's aspirations will change over time, but it is during these special times when they give answers to questions, they seem to be the most honest and candid that it is so much fun to hear. so we asked them to use art and answer the question, "What do you want to be when you grow up and why?"
- **1st GRADE** - Much like a game of chess, our kids are making choices, taking calculated risks and learning from mistakes. Our 1st grade project will answer the question "What makes you special?". The art project will be a mosaic of self portraits laid out onto a custom chess board. Each tile representing a self inspired portrait of themselves.
- **2nd GRADE** - This year, the second grade class has a garden and botanical theme. We played on that motif by working with the class to create a painted sunflower by applying their hand and thumbprints on canvas. They enjoyed having their hands painted and the tactile aspect of the project was a fun experience for all of them.
- **3rd GRADE** - The students will each design and decorate two large Jenga blocks in a pattern of shapes and colors. All the Jenga blocks will be clear coated to preserve their artistic creations and brought together to make a one of kind interactive art piece that can be shared with family and friends for years to come. The really cool part of this Jenga is that the artistic creation doesn't stop with the kids. The owners of this game can create a new art piece every time they stack the blocks up.
- **4th GRADE** - Water Color Hearts in a frame. The students will be using watercolor to create a vibrant art piece which will be a collaborative art work of 4th grade. They will be instructed to mix various colors on a paper and the hearts and paws will be cut out using a template for uniformity.
- **5th GRADE** - Using recycled materials, they will create Upcycled/Recycled Art. The students will create the flowers from recycled toilet paper rolls and turn these otherwise waste items into a beautiful installation. The flowers that each student creates will all be used to create a collaborative masterpiece. The finish product will provide anywhere from one to four different bidders.
- **6th GRADE** - Students are given a San Francisco text block section of a mural to individually decorate with any media they choose (marker, pencil, dot art, stickers, etc.). Students are encouraged to add elements that remind them of our beautiful city. Finished pieces are mounted together and framed in a 24 x 36 frame
- **7th GRADE** - In a dual project, the seventh graders used watercolor to capture the detail of their homes. These will be featured in a diptych. Additionally, the students painted small canvases with their take on a heart, which will be featured in a frame.
- **8th GRADE** - The 8th Grade Class art project is an agamograph. When you face the artwork from one side, you see each student. When you look from the other side, you see a class photo with our cherished cougar mascot. Two art pieces in one!

St. Stephen Men's Club
Proudly Presents

2022 ANNUAL HOLIDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, December 11th
at Donworth Hall
following the 9:30 Mass

Guests are treated to:

Photo Booth

Arts & Crafts

Gin Fizz & Mimosa Bar

Delicious breakfast provided by

Toast Eatery



Bring your appetites! Bring your friends and family! **Bring an unwrapped toy to support the SFFD's Toys-for-Tots program.** This event sells out quickly. You can pay via Zelle, Venmo(QR Codes on 2nd page) or return the bottom of this form with your payment to the school office by **Thursday, December 8th.** Please make checks payable to the **St. Stephen Men's Club.** Thank You!

Family Name: _____

Number of Adults: _____ x \$30/ea. = \$ _____

_____ x \$5/ea. = \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Doug Kilroy

@DougKilroy



venmo

Send money with Zelle®

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DOUGLAS KILROY

at dougkilroy@gmail.com



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