



NEWSLETTER

ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL, FEBRUARY 8th, 2023 NO.24

NOTES FROM OUR PRINCIPAL, MRS. SHARON ALLEN:

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Thanks to everyone who helped make our Catholic Schools Week at St. Stephen School so special!! It was the best!!

VALENTINE'S DAY

We will be celebrating Valentine's Day at St. Stephen School on Tuesday, February 14th. If your child is bringing valentines to school, please remember to have a valentine for EVERY child in your class to enjoy a happy day. Thanks for your help! Students may wear valentine accessories with their school uniform on Tuesday, February 14th! Thank you and Happy Valentine's Day to each and every one of you!

WALK-A-THON

THANKS to Walk-A-Thon Chairs Layla Rahimi and Carolina O'Daly for chairing a fantastic WALK-A-THON last Friday. Thanks to our terrific students who walked and ran with great energy and enthusiasm! Go Cougars! Please don't forget to get those pledges in!

PRESIDENT'S DAY

On Friday, February 17th and Monday, February 20th we will be celebrating President's Day in honor of President George Washington and President Abraham Lincoln. Enjoy your long weekend.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress Reports will go home on Wednesday, February 15th with each child and will be in sealed envelopes. Please remember that a Progress Report is not a Report Card. Progress Reports are great opportunities to see where change needs to happen before Report Cards. Progress Reports are given halfway through the quarter. If you do not receive a Progress Report next Wednesday, please contact your child's teacher immediately. Thank you!

THANK YOU STUDENT COUNCIL

Thank you Student Council who did a fantastic job organizing and preparing our Pep Rally. It was a terrific afternoon. We appreciate you. Thank you!

NOTES FROM MRS. ALLEN CONTINUED:

FASHION SHOW

Plan a trip to Tropicana Havana on Sunday, April 2nd at our annual school FASHION SHOW!
Mark your calendar now.

MINIMUM DAY

Monday, February 13th is a minimum day. The Faculty will be attending an in-service from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. School will be dismissed at 12:15 p.m.

UNIFORM REMINDERS

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. Please check to make sure all boys have proper haircuts and girls are not wearing make-up or nail polish. Thank you!

EUCALYPTUS DROP-OFF ZONE

Please remember that you may drop off and pick up students ONLY in the white zone on Eucalyptus Drive. If you do not want to use the White Zone, then you may PARK your vehicle in the back/Stonestown parking lot and supervise children as they walk, not run from your vehicle to the schoolyard. Remember neither Stonestown nor the City of San Francisco will allow pick-up/drop-off zone in that parking lot, please drive slowly and carefully. As always, your children's safety is our primary concern. Thank you for your cooperation.

ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL WEBSITE

Please check our school website for news and happenings! Thanks to our fabulous Technology Teacher, Ms. Carol King for keeping our website up to date. Please visit us at ststephenschoolsf.org.

CHARITY FREE DRESS FUNDRAISER

This month's Charity Free Dress Fundraiser will take place on Friday, February 24th . This month's donations will be sent to The Family House. Please support this worthy cause. Thanks to our Student Council and our Student Council Moderators for their leadership this year!

DATES TO REMEMBER

~ Valentine's Day Celebration - Tuesday, February 14th - Please wear Valentine's accessories and bring a Valentine for every child in your class.
~ Presidents' Holiday - Friday, February 17th and Monday, February 20th.

NOTES FROM MRS. ALLEN CONTINUED:

STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Council is working on a lot of fun activities for St. Patrick's Day and Easter. Remember to dress up in pink or red accessories over your uniform on February 14th in celebration of Valentine's Day.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR SIXTH GRADE PARENTS

All students entering Seventh Grade next year 2023-2024 must receive a pertussis booster vaccination prior to school entry in the Fall. The required vaccine is called TDAP. If your child has already had their immunization, please be sure to send a copy to the school office. Thank you!

STAY SAFE!

Mrs. Allen

TUITION

Your sixth payment is due to FACTS by February 15th. ALL ACCOUNTS MUST BE KEPT CURRENT. There is a late fee of \$25.00, if tuition is not received by the 15th. Thank you!

PARENT PARTICIPATION HOURS

Office Staff will be checking hours listed online (FACTS Family Portal). Please be sure you are following the approved list following this newsletter. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

YARD DUTY IS NEEDED

We need your help! If anyone is interested in helping with Yard Duty please contact Ms. Lim in the school office @ 415-664-8331 or office401@sfststephenschool.org. Yard Duty is from 12:00 p.m. to 1:20 p.m. It's a fun and easy way to earn Parent Volunteer Hours! Thank you for your help!

STUDENT COUNCIL

Hey Cougars! Valentine's Day is very soon, next Tuesday! Please remember when bringing valentines for your class celebrations to have one for every student in your class. Cougars never leave anyone out :) That is all for this week!

HEARING SCREENING

On February 15th and 16th students in grades K, 1, 3, 5, & 7 will have their hearing screened by Dr. Rebekah Will and her team. This test is "pass/no pass." Parents will only be notified if your child does not pass and follow-up is needed. If you do not want your child's hearing screened, please notify the school office to opt out. Thank you!

SCRIP UPDATE

SCRIP STATEMENTS - Scrip Family Profit Statements went out via email on Friday, January 27th. If you have any questions or didn't receive yours, please email the Scrip Team.

FASHION SHOW SCRIP CHALLENGE - Still need to add to your Scrip profits for the year? The Fashion Show Scrip Challenge is a great opportunity! If you order physical gift cards that you want donated to the Fashion Show, purchase them online and email both the Scrip Team (sswgScrip@gmail.com) and the Fashion Show Chairs (fashionshow@sfststephenschool.org) what cards you want donated and which class(es) to be credited. If you prefer to send cash in lieu of scrip, you can give cash or Venmo [@Evangeline-Mendiola](#) with message "in lieu of scrip for fashion show 2023" and we will credit your scrip account on your behalf.

QUESTIONS? - If you have any questions about purchasing Scrip or help with accessing your online account, please email the Scrip Team at sswgScrip@gmail.com.

GRANDPARENTS / V.I.S. DAY

Thank you to everyone who made this year's Grandparents and Very Important Seniors Day such a beautiful event. Close to 300 Grandparents and Senior VIPs enjoyed a magical day visiting their special students at St. Stephen School and Church. We are pleased to share the photos from the photo booth. You can download or purchase prints here: <https://boothbrossf.smugmug.com/GALLERIES/Hearts-of-Gold-2023/>.

WALK-A-THON

What a wonderful day in Cougar Country! It rained community support on our event! BIG THANKS TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO MADE THIS DAY GO SMOOTHLY, We could not have done it without your support. We are grateful for each and every one of you. Special Thanks to our Fearless Leader Mrs. Allen for her cheerful presence and support of the 2023 Walkathon event! The kids proudly ran their hearts out for this fundraising event with smiles and some even holding hands! It was heartwarming to observe. We are all so proud of you! Thus far we have raised over \$18,700!!! WOOHOO!!! The Donation link will remain open until February 17th! There is still time to ask family, friends and businesses for support, so let's keep this going!

<https://saintstephen.schoolauction.net/specialevents20222023/g/cougar-walkathon>

All donations are Tax Deductible!! Federal Tax ID: 94-1156799

For those who wish to donate by Cash or Check, please submit your donation to the office with the following information: Student Name and Grade, Your Name, and 2023 Walkathon. We are grateful for your continued support.

The stats so far:

Top two students with the most pledge

- AJ Tan, 5th Grade - \$815
- Dunya Tuohy, 4th Grade - \$810

Top two classes with the most pledge

- First Grade: \$3975
- Fifth Grade: \$3195

Congratulations! Top three students with the most Laps are (and it's a tie):

3rd Gr.: Nicholas Penny - 48 laps Wow!

7th Gr.: Dashiell Dulany - 48 laps

8th Gr.: Aristotle Gullotta - 48 laps

The Walk-A-Thon Team

Layla Rahimi & Carolina O'Daly

sswalkathon2023@gmail.com

MEN'S CLUB

The Men's Club is excited to be organizing the annual 50/50 pool for Super Bowl Squares; \$100 per square. Squares will be sold through Friday, February 10th. Please contact Christian Fernandez at (415) 806-6364 or you can email the Men's Club at StStephenMen@gmail.com if you would like to purchase a square.

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 13th - Archdiocese Technology In-Service Minimum Day

February 14th - Valentine's Day!

February 15th - Progress Reports

February 17th - No School - Presidents Day Holiday

February 20th - No School - Presidents Day Holiday

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.

Parent Participation Hours Guideline

Activities that qualify as Volunteer Hours

NON-FUND Generating Activities: *(DOES NOT GENERATE money for our school)*

Attendance at :

- Back-to-School Orientation Night
- Men's Club Meetings
- Welcome Coffee
- Women's Guild Meetings

Chairs & Committees working on:

- Celebration Dinner
- Installation Mass & Luncheon
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Grandparent's Day
- Halloween Haunted House
- Host Families
- Open House
- Outreach
- Teacher Lunches
- Welcome Coffee
- Yearbook

Other Events/Programs:

- Classroom Volunteers
- Art-In-Action Volunteers
- Field Trip Chaperones/Drivers *
- Room Parents
- School Play
- Yard Duty Volunteers

*parking expense may be reimbursed

Coach/Assistant Coach:

- 3rd - 8th grade * practices & games for CYO/SFPBL
- K to 2nd grade * practices & games for YMCA, First Fundamentals, etc. that are related to **St. Stephen organized sports.**

* **does not apply** to individual/club sports played through YMCA, PAL, VIKING, etc. for grades K- 8

FUND Generating Activities: *(GENERATES money for our school)*

Chairs & Committees working on:

- Auction Dinner
- Dance
- Auction Art
- Bake Sale
- Book Fair
- Box Tops
- Family Bingo
- Fashion Show
- Father Daughter Dance
- Golf Tournament
- Hot Lunch
- Mother Son Dance
- Pancake Breakfast
- Second Chance Uniforms
- SCRIP Sales
- Snack Shack
- Spirit Wear
- St. Patrick's Day Dinner
- Super Bowl
- Walk-A-Thon

Donations \$25.00 = 1 hour for the following fundraisers:

- Family Bingo (Cash/Scrip/gift certificate/new toys/ wine)
- Auction (Cash/Scrip/gift certificate/gift basket/wine; the value of goods, services, or promotional items)
- Fashion Show (Cash/Scrip/gift certificate/gift basket/wine; the value of goods, services, or promotional items)
- Bake Sale (Baked Goods)
- Super Bowl Squares (Cash)
- Walk-A-Thon (Cash)

Parent Participation Hours Guideline

Activities that DO NOT qualify as Volunteers Hours

Attendance at :

- Auction Dinner Dance
- Family Bingo
- Father Daughter Dance
- Fashion Show
- Golf Tournament
- Halloween Parade
- Open House
- Mother Son Dance
- Pancake Breakfast
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- St. Patrick's Day Dinner

8th Grade Fundraising Activities: Cake Walks (baking/donating cakes), Car Wash, Ice Cream Sales, etc.

Classroom Parties: Donations to classroom parties cannot be used as volunteer hours. The cost of classroom parties is covered by the classroom fees

Other Events/Programs: Donations to 2nd Chance Uniform Exchange, Donations to Christmas Toy Program

Sports: Scorekeepers, Linesman, carpools to games or practices, etc.

Student Council Events: Ocean Beach Clean-Up, Donations for Canned Food Drive

HEARTS of GOLD

Thank You

From the Chairs of Grandparents & Very Important Seniors Celebration

Thank you to the extraordinary St. Stephens community! Your generosity is seemingly endless. We feel so blessed to have had your support to help make this year's Grandparents and Very Important Seniors Day such a beautiful event.

Close to 300 Grandparents and Senior VIPs enjoyed a magical day visiting their special students at St. Stephen School and Church. The day would not have been the success it was without the following people – we are grateful for each and every one of you:

- Mrs. Allen for her unwavering support, trust and leadership
- Father Michael for his beautiful prayers and presence through the day
- Toast Eatery, Eddie Naser and his staff for providing a stunning feast
- Mr. Francis and the students who delivered fantastic musical performances
- Past chairs Jen Garzee, Sandy Naser and Leah Fernandez for their time, experience and guidance
- Chelsea Jurado (Rae + Rose Floral Co.) for the exquisite floral arrangements
- All the wonderful teachers and aides for their help and kindness

And – the INCREDIBLE parent volunteers who truly helped make this event a success. We could not have done it without you!

Elias Hishmeh, Angie Martinez, Erin Gartland, Annie McGurk, Jennifer Okeeffe, Cristina Dyer, Leah Luistro-Fernandez, Samantha Cierra-Cruz, Veronica Brooks, John Brooks, Marianna Madden, Christie Marquez, Mizuki McElroy, Vanessa Usi, Kristin Gleeson, Phuong Nguyen, Norilene Kuroki Ng, Rodney Lo, Elaine Wong, Margie Pedder, Suzanne Yamaguchi, Yina Chung, Jen Garzee, Joy Chu, Mark Gottas, Rose O'Driscoll, Liz Teshara, Jeannie Kumagai and Adam Sweet



Lastly, thank you to all of YOU for encouraging your parents and Senior VIPs to attend this event. And, to your children, whose joy and spirit was contagious throughout the day. –Theresa Houghton, Clarina Kennedy, Luciene Sequeira

The St. Stephen School Band



Dear Parents,

Your child is eligible to join the band. In the band, students learn to play an instrument, read music, and perform in an ensemble. No experience is needed. To enroll, complete the form below and return it to the school office. Please email me at owlmusicssf@hotmail.com if you have questions about the program. More information is available online at www.owlmusicssf.org.

Bill McClanahan, band director

Tuition

Band tuition is \$250 per student per semester (\$500 per year). Band tuition for the second semester is due in January.

Make your check **payable to the school** and write your child's name and "band tuition" on the memo line. Band tuition is not refundable.

Choosing an Instrument

Students start on one of the following instruments:

- Flute
- Clarinet
- Alto saxophone
- Trumpet
- Baritone
- Trombone
- Percussion (snare drum and bells)

Band Schedule

Band meets on Wednesday:

- Beginning: tbd
- Intermediate: tbd
- Advanced: tbd

Instrument Rentals

- Bronstein Music in South SF (650) 588-2502
- Union Music in SF (415) 775-6403
- Heriz Music in Burlingame (650) 344-9414



St. Stephen School Band Enrollment Form

Parents' names _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Child's name _____

Grade _____

Instrument (list top three choices) 1. _____

2. _____ 3. _____



Academic Chess at St. Stephen's

SIGN UP TODAY!

\$144.00

- 8 weeks of chess instruction
- Tournament for all participants
- Exclusive Academic Chess Books
- Prizes awarded to all students

To sign up:

Pay by credit card ONLINE!

www.academicchess.com

or

**Turn in completed registration form and
payment to the school office.**

**Please make check payable to
'Academic Chess'**

**Registration is due by the
first day of class.**

When: Thursday

Time: 2:50 to 3:50

**Dates: 02/16, 02/23, 03/02, 03/09
03/16, 03/23, 03/30, 04/20**

Skip Dates: 04/06, 04/13



Meeting Place: 5th grade classroom

We are devoted to promoting the merits of chess among children by using stories, dances, and catchy songs to make the game of chess exciting and easy to understand.

This wonderful learning experience not only teaches children to play chess, but also prepares them for life by enhancing their thought process.

Here is a short list of the many benefits of chess.



1. Creativity
2. Concentration
3. Logical Reasoning
4. Critical Thinking
5. Memory
6. Problem Solving
7. Planning Ahead
8. Complex Decision Making
9. Pattern Recognition
10. Intellectual Maturity



For more information call us at **415-412-4040**

Email us at sanfrancisco@academicchess.com

or check out our website at www.academicchess.com

I give permission for my child to attend the after-school chess classes with Academic Chess.

I understand it is my responsibility to arrange adult supervision immediately after chess class.

School: St. Stephen's Day: Thursday Time: 2:50 to 3:50 Session: 02/16 - 04/20 Cost: \$144.00

Student Name: _____ **Grade:** _____ **Room #:** _____

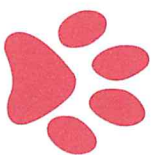
Parent Name: _____ **Parent Signature:** _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Emergency Phone:** _____

Email: _____ **Allergies:** _____

After Chess Class: ☐ Pick Up ☐ Day Care ☐ Yard Dismissal ☐ _____



THANK YOU!

**THE 2023 COUGAR'S
WALK-A-THON**

What a fun day!



THE 2023 COUGAR'S WALK-A-THON



The 2023 Cougars WALK-A-THON
February 3, 2023 • Cougar's Gym • 8:30am



Ask family and friends to sponsor you for this fun event!

Sponsors can pledge a fixed amount:

<https://saintstephen.schoolauction.net/specialevents20222023>

*Sponsorship will continue through Feb 17, 2023

Prizes will be awarded to:

Top 2 Classes & Top 2 Students with the highest fundraising

Top 2 Students with the most laps

** Each student who raises a minimum of \$100.00 will be automatically entered into a raffle for a Fun Venture in SF**

For Volunteering at this event please click here, Signup Genius Link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b044eada62ba2fe3-2023#/>

If you have any questions, please contact the co-chairs:

Layla Dahimi and Carolina O'Daly at: sswalkathon2023@gmail.com

DONATION REQUEST

St. Stephen students will have fun walking, running, skipping or hopping to raise money for our school!

Date: Friday, February 3rd, 2023

Place: Cougar Gym, St. Stephen School

Time: 8:30am to 1:00pm

Purpose: The purpose of this event is to raise school spirit and money for our kindergarten through eighth grade enrichment programing. All students in K-8th grade will have the opportunity to help support their school by participating. This is not an athletic event or contest – it is a FUN way for the children of St. Stephen School to raise money and school spirit while enjoying a healthy exercise activity.

Our St. Stephen School Federal Tax ID Number is: 94-1156799

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your support!

Layla Rahimi and Carolina O'Daly sswalkathon2023@gmail.com
Walk-A-Thon Chairs

It's time for the Annual St. Stephen's Walkathon!
THE 2023 COUGAR'S WALK-A-THON
Friday, February 3rd • St. Stephen's gym • 8:30am

Student Name _____ **Grade** _____

Dear Potential Sponsor,
I am a student at St. Stephen School. We are holding our annual Walkathon on Friday, Feb. 3rd, 2023. All proceeds support our school enrichment programs, such as, field trips and our science programs. I will walk and/or run lap after lap for 20 minutes. My goal is to get at least 10 sponsors and run _____ laps.

Please sponsor me with a pledge per lap or with a set amount. All donations are online this year, and you can directly make a donation through this link:

<https://saintstephen.schoolauction.net/specialevents20222023>

All contributions are tax deductible.

Thank you for your support!

	Name of Sponsor	Pledge amount
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

Notes

1. Students may start collecting donations as soon as they receive their pledge forms.
Reminder: all donations are due by Feb. 17, 2023.
2. Donations may be made by anyone. **Please ask everyone who donates if his or her company has a matching gift fund policy.**
3. We look forward to all our participants having a great time! For any questions please contact the co chairs: Layla Rahimi and Carolina O'Daly at
sswgwalkathon2023@gmail.com