

# The Sentinel

February 19, 2020

## **Principal's Message**

At our most recent faculty meeting we spent some time discussing the expectations that we have for our students, specifically as related to the math program. In an effort to “raise the bar” and standardize our process, we are now implementing several procedures that we believe will encourage students to take greater pride in their work and to be even more thoughtful when completing math problems.

For example, the teachers are now providing their students with specific guidelines as to how they should complete the “header” on each of their pages, i.e. name, date, subject, etc. Even more importantly, the teachers are requiring that, when completing math problems, the students copy the example, show the work and place a box around the answer.

Admittedly, these are small adjustments related to the “mechanics” rather than the actual learning that is taking place. Nevertheless, this practice can foster routines of neatness and orderliness which can impact outcomes. In fact, we have seen that such procedures have yielded measurable gains on Scantron scores because the students have been encouraged to work very thoughtfully. In the words of one of our middle school students last week after using this new approach, “I can see my grade in math improving.”

As you observe your children completing their math homework in the days ahead, offer them a few words of encouragement in this regard. Together we will be instilling habits of excellence, the benefits of which extend well beyond math.

*With God All Things Are Possible!*

## **Diocesan Teacher Job Fair**

Each spring the Diocese of Arlington hosts a *Teacher Job Fair* for those interested in learning more about the ministry of Catholic education. This year the event will take place on Saturday, March 7 from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul VI Catholic High School in Fairfax.

Related to this effort, the Office of Catholic Schools has advertised *Five Reasons to Teach in Catholic Schools*.

- Students come to school ready to learn and grow.
- Parents partner with teachers to help students reach high expectations.
- Parish and school communities support and celebrate teachers.
- Colleagues excel as teachers, mentors and co-workers, forming strong faith-based communities that foster learning, growth and prayer.
- It's a vocation. God may be calling you to do this important work. Listen carefully.

If you're interested in further exploring how you might share your gifts within our diocesan school community, plan to attend this upcoming event. For more information about employment in the diocese, please see the following link:

<https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/catholic-schools/careers/>

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS

#### **PTO General Assembly Meeting – “Technology Showcase” (February 27 @ 7:00 p.m.)**

All current and prospective parents are invited to join us for the upcoming PTO Meeting and *Technology Showcase* beginning at 7:00 p.m. on February 27 in the Parish Activity Center. Following a brief PTO presentation, the faculty will demonstrate a number of ways that they are using technology to enliven the curriculum and to engage students in the learning process.

We hope that you will join us for this event and invite you to bring a friend, neighbor or colleague who may be interested in learning more about our program. The “open house” format will be a wonderful opportunity for current and future school families to tour the school and to witness first-hand some of the innovations taking place on a daily basis at All Saints.

#### **Open House – March 5 @ 7:00 p.m.**

All Saints Catholic School will host an *Open House* for prospective parents on Thursday, March 5 beginning at 7:00 p.m. All parishioners and members of the community interested in learning more about our school are cordially invited to attend. Following a presentation by the principal, tours of the facility will be provided. For more information, please contact Mrs. Joyce D'Eugenio, Administrative Assistant, at (703) 393-1490.

#### **Professional Development Day (No School) - Monday, March 16**

On Monday, March 16 our faculty and staff will participate in a diocesan-wide day of professional development. For this reason, there will be no classes or Extended Day Program that day.

### **FACTS Tuition Assistance Application 2020-2021**

The online application for tuition assistance through FACTS Grant & Aid is now available online. For more information about the diocesan tuition assistance program and the application process, please see the links below.

- [2020-2021 Diocesan Tuition Assistance Program Overview](#)
- [2020-2021 Diocesan Tuition Assistance Program Overview Espanol](#)
- [Online Tuition Assistance Application](#)

Elementary School Deadline – March 18, 2020

Should you have any questions about the application process or tuition assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Joyce D'Eugenio, Administrative Assistant, at 703-393-1490 or [jdeugenio@allsaintsva.org](mailto:jdeugenio@allsaintsva.org).

### **PTO Family Bingo Night**

The PTO is hosting Family Bingo night on Saturday, February 22 at 6pm in the PAC. \$5 per person for multiple bingo games, prizes, cookies and lemonade. Use the flyer below to pre-order your dinner and/or Bingo cards. Pre-Orders are due by Wednesday February 19<sup>th</sup>. See the flyer and order form linked below.

### **Volunteers Needed for the Race for Education Helping Hands on March 6th**

We are in need of volunteers on March 6th from 8am-noon in the PAC to help prepare the Race for Education mailers. Parents don't need to be VIRTUS compliant in order to help and young children are welcome. Opportunities can be found by using the HelpCounter link: <https://www.helpcounterweb.com/ci/signup/140ea4771ed>

## **Upcoming Events**

*Friday, February 21*

- School Mass (8:30 a.m.)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to National Geographic Museum

*Saturday, February 22*

- PTO Bingo Night (PAC/6:00 – 8:00 p.m.)

*Tuesday, February 25*

- “Farewell to the Alleluia” Prayer Service (PAC/2:30 p.m.)

*Wednesday, February 26*

- Ash Wednesday Mass (10:00 a.m.)

*Thursday, February 27*

- Reading Celebration – 1B (2:15 p.m.)
- PTO General Assembly Meeting - "Technology Showcase" (PAC/7:00 p.m.)

*Monday, March 2*

- Lenten Penance Service – Grades 3-5 (10:00 a.m.)

*Tuesday, March 3*

- Little Pediatrician School (K) & Little Medical School (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade) (3:05-4:05 p.m.)
- PTO Executive Committee Meeting (7:00 p.m.)

*Thursday, March 5*

- Stations of the Cross – K-2 (2:15 p.m.)
- Faculty Meeting (3:30 p.m.)
- Open House (7:00 p.m.)

*Friday, March 6*

- *Race for Education* Helping Hands (8:00 a.m. – Noon)
- School Mass (8:30 a.m.)
- PTO Sponsored Parents Night Out – AR Event (7:00 p.m.)

*Saturday, March 7*

- Diocesan Teacher Job Fair (St. Paul VI High School/9:00-11:00 a.m.)
- Diocesan Honor Choir Concert

*Monday, March 9*

- **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Vocations Mass – Cafeteria Closed**

*Wednesday, March 11*

- Little Pediatrician School (K) & Little Medical School (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade) (3:05-4:05 p.m.)

*Thursday, March 12*

- Stations of the Cross – Grades 3-5 (2:15 p.m.)
- Enrollment Management Team Meeting (7:00 p.m.)

*Friday, March 13*

- School Mass (8:30 a.m.)
- End of Trimester II
- Noon Dismissal – Report Card Prep Day

*Monday, March 16*

- **Professional Development Day – No Classes or Extended Day**

*Tuesday, March 17*

- Spirit Event: Skate N' Fun Zone (6:00-8:00 p.m.)

*Wednesday, March 18*

- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Virginia Presentation (PAC/1:30 p.m.)
- Stations of the Cross – Grades 6-8 (2:15 p.m.)
- **FACTS Tuition Assistance Application Deadline for Elementary Schools**

*Thursday, March 19*

- Spirit Wear Day
- *Accelerated Reader* – “Rise & Read Celebration” (1:30 p.m.)
- Soccer Program Begins (Grades 1-2/3:30-4:30 p.m.)

*Friday, March 20*

- School Mass (8:30 a.m.)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Wax Museum (PAC/1:30 – 2:30 p.m.)
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Retreat

*Saturday, March 21*

- Running with the Saints 5K (8:15 a.m.)
- Catholic Cup Robotics Tournament (Bishop McNamara High School)

### **Newsletter Links**

- [Family Bingo Night Feb 22, 2020](#)
- [2020 Running with Saints 5K - Registration/Sponsor Forms](#)
- [Online Tuition Assistance Application](#) (Elementary School Deadline: March 18, 2020)
- [Pilgrim Virgin Statue Sign-Up](#)
- [Help Counter](#)
- [Online Application for Diocesan Background Check Application](#)

- [VIRTUS](#) – use this link to sign up for VIRTUS training sessions