

Shamrock Newsletter



IMPORTANT DATES:

Tuesday, Aug. 29th – Minimum Day 12:40 Dismissal for TK-8

Wednesday, Aug. 30th – Back to School for Night for Grades TK-4 at 6:30pm

Sunday, Sept. 3rd – School Mass 10:30am

Monday, Sept. 4th – No School – Labor Day

Thursday, Sept. 7th – Back to School Night for Grades 5-8th at 6:30pm

Wednesday, Sept. 13th – Picture Day!

9/18 – 9/28 ITBS Testing for Grades 2 - 8

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear St. Apollinaris Catholic School Families,

God of wisdom and might,
we praise you for the wonder of our being,
for mind, body and spirit.

Be with our children as they begin
a new school year.

Bless them and their teachers, staff and families,
Give the students strength and grace as their bodies grow;
wisdom and knowledge to their minds
as they search for understanding;
and peace and joy to their hearts.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

With every new season, comes change. As we say goodbye to Father Donahue (celebration at the parish picnic, August 26 following the 4 o'clock Mass), we welcome Father Bala to St. Apollinaris Catholic community. He has asked that I send forth the following message:

“Kindly extend my hearty wishes and blessings to all our faculty and teaching & non-teaching staff of our proud school. My compliments to all the parents and other members and organizations that constantly support our cause of better education and values in the minds and hearts of our children in the school.

Fr. Bala.”

We send our love and support with Father Donahue as he returns to St. Vincent's Parish in Petaluma. In his years here he has made St. Apollinaris Parish and School, a stronger, more faith filled and loving community. He will be missed by the entire parish and school community.

The children are back, the children are back, the children are back!!! This is like Christmas morning for me! It is so wonderful to see all the children. They all seem so much taller! They are full of excitement, as are the faculty and staff! We are looking forward to a new school year at St. Apollinaris Catholic School.

What's new at St. Apollinaris Catholic School?

Over the summer we were busy making St. A's an even better environment for our students. Last summer the air conditioning upgrades were installed (thanks to Mr. Pyrcce's leadership). Now instead of staggering the air conditioning schedule in each classroom, this year we have the capability to run the air conditioning as needed. This huge labor intensive and financial project is now completed.

With our commitment to 21st century learning, another project this summer was upgrading our wireless capabilities, allowing our students, throughout all areas of the campus, to access high speed internet access enriching student learning. The students in grades 5 - 8 each have a Chromebook to use in their classes. (The students will be required to have the specified Chromebook, no other laptops will be allowed. Why? For equity and instructional purposes all students must have the specified Chromebooks). This along with our primary technology classes and our iPad use in the primary grades, require a tremendous upgrade to our wireless infrastructure. This was a two month upgrade process. Thank you to Kristen Stiver for all the time she spent this summer working with our IT department.

For our junior high students we recognize the need for additional space as they travel from class to class. Jessica Martin, school council member, school counselor and activity director, was instrumental in organizing and receiving funding for the locker project. This is a new process for all of us. We will be patient with the student locker learning process.

As mentioned before there are a few shifts in our enrichment classes. Miss Riley will be responsible for enhancing our school's Catholic Identity. She also will be teaching religion to our students in grades 6 - 8. Mrs. Freschi will be teaching PE to grades TK - 7, Mrs. Koen will teach the 8th graders. Mr. Tomsic will continue with music, but will also teach Spanish to grades 6 - 8, which he did so well at his previous school. Señora Funk will continue her creative curriculum with grades TK - 5. We are very blessed to offer the most amazing art program three days a week, led by Ms. Cassayre and Mrs. Lemieux.

As classes begin we have a thriving student support program, which offers small group instruction at all grade levels. Throughout the year, we rotate students by learning styles through our small group instruction taught by our credentialed teachers. These groups are fluid and change as a student's needs might change. This year we have Ms. Campisi, Mrs. Andrews and Mrs. Kempkey adding to student curriculum in small groups.

As an important element to our faith we have developed a more meaning Christian Service program. Please see the outline in our school handbook. The school handbook can be found on our website underneath the "governance" tab.

Everyone is required to complete the new Safe Environment online training.

This is completed through Catholic Mutual Group
Directions for Safe Environment Training:

Training for returning Employees, Educators, and Volunteers

1. GO to CMGconnect.org
2. Choose SANTA ROSA diocese
3. Enter your username and password

--Safe Environment Coordinator (Anna Cardwell) has access to tell you your username if you don't remember

DO NOT RE-REGISTER under a new name

--Forgot Password: Safe Environment Coordinator (Anna Cardwell) can reset your password to 12345, and once you login you can reset the password; keep a copy of USERNAME/PASSWORD for future use.

Complete online course and notify Anna Cardwell once completed.

I am so happy to have everyone back. Please welcome new students and families. Let's have a great new school year!!!!

Blessings,
Connie Howard

SPORTS NEWS



Now taking registrations for basketball! Download the registration via SchoolSpeak or find it attached.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST. A'S PARISH

BBQ

Saturday
August 26th

5:30 — 8:00 pm
Park & Hall



Join us for our
Annual BBQ!

A delicious dinner will
be served with great
music, games for
kids, and lots of fun.

Celebrating Fr. Donahue & Fr. Bala

Menu: Tri-tip, Chicken, hot dogs, beans, salad, rolls, corn on the cob, watermelon, yummy desserts & lemonade.

Fee: \$10 for Adult/\$5 for children under 12 yrs. Drink tickets \$3

Purchase tickets in advance at Parish Office, 3700 Lassen St.

Deadline by: Tuesday, August 22nd