

# Shamrock Newsletter



## IMPORTANT DATES:

Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Parent/Child Meeting 7-8:15pm

Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup> – 2017/18 Registration Deadline  
-Students may wear green accessories in celebration of St. Patrick's Day!

Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> grade Reconciliation Meeting 7pm/ Hall

Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> – Dine & Donate at Villa Corona 9am-9pm

Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> – Annunciation of Jesus Mass 11:00am/ Full Uniform  
3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Ends  
7<sup>th</sup> grade Knitting Club 3:05-4:30pm

Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Begins

Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> – Minimum Day 12:40 Dismissal TK-8

Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> grade Sacrament of Reconciliation 7pm

Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> – Walk-A-Thon

4/14-4/22 Easter Holiday – No School



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear St. Apollinaris Catholic School Families,

This week we are emphasizing the importance of responsibility and accountability, in the student's Lenten journey. We ask you to partner with us and have a discussion about these topics and how they may apply to your child(ren). The discussion will obviously be different from TK through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. It is so important to build these qualities into the foundation of every student's learning.

There are BIG upgrades in the middle school next year! We have heard your suggestions and are making changes and expanding the amount of time middle school students stay with their homeroom teacher. While we are blessed to have so many specialized teachers, we also understand that students should have a "home base". Very similar to local high schools, there will be a designated time for each class to remain with their homeroom teacher. This will allow enough time at the beginning and the

end of the day for students to be organized, write down their homework and check in with their teacher, if needed.

At the State of the School address, I announced that students in grades 5 – 8 will be using a Chromebook for class work. We have compiled research, and believe the Chromebooks are the best option. In June, we will provide the specifics needed for each Chromebook. We will also be expanding our wireless capabilities to ensure the Chromebooks can work efficiently.

I often hear that our small group learning environment is a major reason for attending St. Apollinaris Catholic School. We will be adding to the number of small groups in grades TK – 8. We are dedicated to reach all learners at their level, providing a challenging but not frustrating curriculum.

Tomorrow is the last day for registration for the 2017/2018 school year. We appreciate all the families who have already turned in their intention to return. Monday we will be contacting the new families on the waitlist. We encourage you to welcome new families with the St. A's Spirit!

Tomorrow is the memorial service for Paul McKeever. It will be in the St. Apollinaris Church at 6pm.

Lenten Blessings,  
Connie Howard

### Technology Update

It has been a busy, fast paced year in the computer lab at St. Apollinaris Catholic School. The technology curriculum we implement is designed to be integrated with our classroom studies so our students master the technology skills necessary to excel throughout their education.

We follow state standards for technology skills by demonstrating proficiency in the use of computers and applications. We also develop the capability to use technology for research, critical thinking, decision making, communication and collaboration, as well as learning the responsible use of technology and understanding the ethics and safety issues in using electronic media at home, in school and in society.

We are in our second year of implementing Renaissance Learning, Inc. educational software. This cloud based software provides computer-based assessment for reading and math. The Early Learning Literacy assessment is given to our K-1st grade students. This test assesses phonemic awareness, phonics, and other readiness and literacy skills. STAR reading and STAR math are computer-adaptive tests that assesses students' reading and math levels and are given to 1st-8th grade students. Students are also given time in the computer lab to take Accelerated Reader quizzes that are short, computerized comprehension quizzes on books students have read independently or as a class.

Our curriculum from Trajectory this year includes both Microsoft Office for K-8th grade as well as Google Classroom for our 5th-8th grade students. So far we have expanded word processing skills while applying the writing process to create an essay. We have collected data and entered it into spreadsheets, formatted these spreadsheets and then created charts that displayed their results. We are currently working on PowerPoint Presentations and Google slide presentations and aim to advance multimedia skills. Finally, we aim to develop desktop publishing and visual communication

skills by making brochures in Publisher. Our TK-K students use similar curriculum from Trajectory designed to teach basic technology skills to young students.

In addition to our curriculum our students are exposed to cloud based sites such as Khan Academy. This site provides a personal learning experience in such areas as math, grammar, and science, as well as computer programing, computer science, and coding. Each year our school participates in Computer Science Education Week in December. The event called Hour of Code is an introduction to computer science. During Hour of Code Pre-readers to 8th graders are introduced to basic coding programs where they use problem-solving skills, logic and creativity to broaden their exposure to computer science.

Technology is constantly changing and evolving. With the help and input from our technology committee we replaced our outdated domain controller and backup server, as well as our Exchange Server over Thanksgiving breaks. The next item in our technology plan is to upgrade our Wi-Fi network over the summer. This will enable us the opportunity for 1:1 learning with Chromebooks in our upper grades. This technology will enhance our students' ability to communicate and collaborate in a project-based learning environment, while working on group projects, powerpoints, and essays while in their classroom.

Our goal at St. Apollinaris Catholic School is to provide a 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology program for our students which will provide a solid foundation for them to be successful throughout their educational careers.

## SCHOOL NEWS



**2017-2018 registration is due by tomorrow,  
Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.**



The tuition assistance application is now available. Pick up an application in the school office. The deadline is April 3, 2017.





## THE ST. A'S 'STEP INTO SPRING' WALK-A-THON IS JUST 3 WEEKS AWAY!

### WE NEED CLASS SPONSORS!

A great way to support our school is to sponsor your child's class. You can also encourage family members to do so. Sponsor a Class forms went home in the donation envelopes and more forms are available in the office. Sponsor a class or two if you can!

### WE NEED RAFFLE DONATIONS

Have an unused toy lying around? We need Gifts cards!!! Donate it to our walk-a-thon raffle! For every \$30 you donate you can receive 2 'B' hour. There is a raffle basket in the office so please drop the item there. We need items ASAP as raffle sales begin in 2 weeks.

### VOLUNTEERS!

Do you need Parent Participation hours, please sign up to volunteer for the walk-a-thon to earn your A hours!

### KEEP BRINGING IN THOSE DONATIONS! *This year's prize for the student who generates the most money is an AMAZON ECHO!*

To keep our amazing school programs going we need to bring in \$40k for the walk-a-thon this year! Please do your part and have your student(s) ask friends, family and neighbors to support them. Gather cash or checks and place into the envelopes or use our online donation site. Online donations can be made at: <https://stapolls.ejoinme.org/walkathon>

**Jump for Cash is TOMORROW!** For every online donation your child receives, their name will be entered into a raffle and we will draw one name on each Jump for Cash day, during morning prayer. The student then jumps over our "cash line" and earns the amount of cash they are able to jump over.  
*\*Please note: The deadline for online donations is 5pm the day before the Jump for Cash days*

### QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions about anything about this year's walk-a-thon, please email us! Amanda [amanda.lowenstein@sbcglobal.net](mailto:amanda.lowenstein@sbcglobal.net) or Heather [hqclauss@gmail.com](mailto:hqclauss@gmail.com)

# Y is for Yearbook!

It's that time of year! Order today to treasure those wonderful memories!

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MARCH 31<sup>st</sup>**  
**PAYABLE TO: ST. APOLLINARIS SCHOOL**

**\$26**

## St. A's Has Talent!

(and we can't wait to see it!)

The St. A's Leadership Team Proudly Presents the St. A's Variety Show 2017



**When and Where:** Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm in the gym  
 (Dress rehearsal on May 11<sup>th</sup> after school)

**Who:** All St. A's students are welcome to participate

**What:** Show us your gifts and talents! Dancing, singing, magic acts, musical performances, comedy, etc.

**How:** Individual acts will have 60 seconds to perform. Group acts will be allowed 90 seconds. This is not a judged event, just an opportunity for our students to show their gifts and talents. Please complete the registration form attached and turn into the office no later than Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>.

More information to follow. Please contact Jessica Martin at [jmartin@stapollinaris.com](mailto:jmartin@stapollinaris.com) for questions.


SCRIP NEWS

45 Days remaining to meet your 2016/2017 Scrip Obligation. Please check your School Speak account for updates on your scrip totals.



The Wait is Over.....Beauty and the Beast Arrives in theaters this Friday! Don't forget to pick up scrip for Cinemark Theaters! \$25 cards at 4%, which can be used for admission or snack bar and \$9.50 admission tickets @ 15%.

New!

*Need a ride!* Sign up with [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com), download the app on your phone, and set up Presto Pay. The next time you need a lift, go to the app on your phone and download UBER scrip. Don't get stranded...use UBER and get 3% back on your next ride 

Our School ID is E11F627C9L85



Traveling this spring break? Don't forget to pack your scrip!

Airlines: American Airlines (6%), Delta (4%), Southwest Airlines (4%)

Cruising: Royal Caribbean, Carnival and Celebrity Cruises

Amusement Parks: Disneyland or Disney World

Hotels: Hilton, Hyatt, Fairmont Hotels, Embassy Suites, Hotels.com and many more!

Rental Cars: Budget and Avis

Road trip: Arco, Chevron, Shell, 76 and BP Gas Cards are available.

Check out the attached sheet or go to [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com) to see a complete list of hotels and travel ideas!



Upgrade your home and support our school: Renovating your home or just painting one room? We offer Home Depot, Lowes, Central Valley and Custom House. Custom House is a Napa favorite and offers a wide selection of flooring, window treatments and home furnishings. Please let them know you are from St. A's prior to your purchase for 3% back. (cash or check orders only)

SPORTS NEWS

In Athletic News....

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade basketball tournament teams once again battled to the end this past weekend at the Dan Clark Invitational Tournament. Both teams made St. A's proud as they not only displayed great athleticism, but sportsmanship and spirit as well. The girls brought home the 2<sup>nd</sup> place trophy, losing by only 1 point! The boy's team did it once again, bringing the Championship trophy back home, winning by 2 points. Both games were exciting right to the very end. Congratulations players and coaches. It was an amazing year!

Track/Field and Golf registration is coming to a close. Please "sprint" on over to the office to fill out your forms today!

**Save the Date!**

St. A's Cheer Camp 2017 - August 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> from 9am-12pm. Open to St. A's students 2<sup>nd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade. More information to come!

CHURCH NEWS

MIRACLE ON MAIN STREET  
CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS STORE  
Stockton, California

Miracle on Main Street, a religious store from Stockton will be selling First Communion and Confirmation gifts and other religious articles.

**Date: Sunday, March 26, 2017.**

**Time: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, and noon masses.**

If you have seen something elsewhere or have something in mind, call us and let us know. We can bring the item on that day. We can do special order remembrances with the child's name, picture, prayer, and information on the occasion.

For more information, you may call Gloria at (209) 401-7811 or fax us at (209) 462-4084.

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