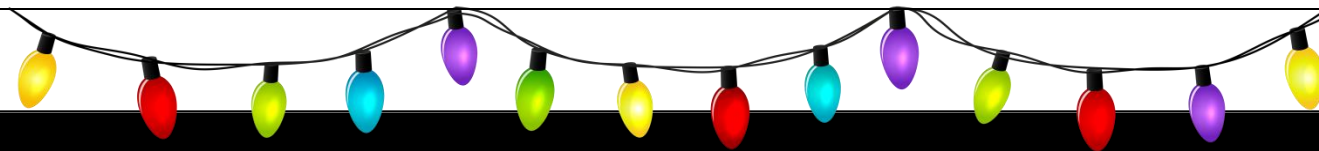


Shamrock Newsletter



IMPORTANT DATES:

Friday, December 21st – Non-Regulation Dress
– Minimum Day 12:40 Dismissal TK-8
– No extended care after school

12/24 – 1/4 Christmas Vacation – No School



1/7/2019 – School Resumes

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Guardians, Alumni, and Friends,

Without doubt, Christmas is a fantastic time! The promise of peace, goodwill and a growing sense of excitement and expectation, makes this time of year very special indeed. It is especially beautiful to watch this through the eyes of our students.

As our Gospel tells us, Jesus Christ, the living message of peace and goodwill, was born in a stable because there was no room for Mary or Joseph. They were about to give birth, and yet at a time of great expectation for them, the only small mercy offered was a stable with the animals. They were lonely and afraid. Was this the best that could be done for the impending birth of the person who promised us so much?

The message this child brings to the world is one of unconditional love and acceptance. He welcomes all in their great variety as ‘Children of God’. He believes in their essential goodness and loves them all.

Christmas is certainly a time for celebration with those that we love and hold most dear and we as Christians are thankful for the birth that took place in the stable on that first Christmas night.

The 2018 school year has been one with many blessings. We are proud of all that our students have achieved and I am truly grateful for the hardworking faculty/staff and parents that do so much to make our school a wonderful place to grow in faith and academics.

Thank you to the many parents and families who brought delicious treats in for our faculty/staff throughout the month. Your kindness and generosity is always appreciated!

Thank you Mrs. Clunies-Ross and our knitting club students who made beautiful scarves that are being donated to St. Anthony’s in San Francisco. The scarves are beautiful and such a beautiful act of service.

Free Christmas Dress tomorrow. Students may wear Free Dress, Christmas colors and accessories for our last day of school before break. Kindergarten is wearing pajamas for their special day.

As we head into our Christmas break, I would like to wish all of our St. Apollinaris parents, students and friends a safe, and holy Christmas and very Happy New Year.

Blessings,

Mrs. Olivia Brazil, Principal

MESSAGE FROM FATHER BALA

GREETINGS

Many greetings of Joy and Peace to our School Family!

My deepest heartfelt thanks to you, Olivia Brazil, the Principal, the Faculty & Staff, and all the Students from TK through 8th Grade for your greetings and prayers on my birthday this year. I am indeed overwhelmed to notice warmth of love and concern for me in your wishes. You have touched my heart and made me feel how much you value and love me. I could experience the showers of blessings from God in and through you and your nicely designed birthday greeting cards, charts, and placards. I am proud of you and I am very happy to be part of our school family.

The Word of God kindles a fire in our heart that shines through in our words and deeds. The inner experience of Christ's presence changes our personality. The God who said, "Out of darkness the light shall shine!" is the same God who made his light shine in our hearts, to bring us to the knowledge of God's radiance shining in the face of Christ (2 Corinthians 4:6).

Jesus' word kindles a light in our hearts. This light makes us aware of his presence, aware also of the activity of his Spirit in us. Jesus' light shines from within us. Gradually it transforms us into his likeness so that Jesus' presence in us becomes visible in what we say and do.

One doesn't need to be a Mother Teresa or a Gladys Staines to make a difference. The simple truth is that all of us can make a little difference wherever we are and in whatever we do. Let us not merely curse the darkness of evil around us. Let's do something positive to cast the darkness out. Believe in yourself; you can make difference!

I wish you all a Happy Christmas & Peaceful New Year!

Father Bala.

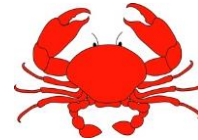
SCHOOL NEWS**Knitting for the Needy**

For the past three months students from the 4th grade have been getting together on Fridays to participate in the Knit for St. Anthony's Program. St. Anthony's Dining Room in San Francisco collects hand-made scarves and hats to give to those in need on Christmas Day and throughout the winter season. Because of the hard work of our students and our super volunteers we were able to make 14 scarves that will keep someone warm on these cold winter days. I am so proud of our students and their dedication to the community. A special thank you to our 8th grade volunteers, Vanessa Solis, Gabrielle George, Mia Andrilla, and Kendall Manasse. These girls helped in the classroom and knitted scarves for us. Our biggest thank you goes to Miss Howell, we could not have done it without you.

 Mrs. Clunies-Ross



2019 St. Apollinaris School and Parish Crab Feed
January 26, 2019
5:30 - 10:00 PM



Tickets on sale now in the school office and Parish office.

All you can eat crab, pasta and salad.
 Wine and beer included.

Tickets: \$65 per person (on or before Friday, January 11, 2019)
 \$75 per person (after Friday, January 11, 2019)

Instant Wine Cellar Tickets for sale \$25 each or 5 for \$100
 Need not be present to win.

SCRIP NEWS

Last Day to purchase scrip before Christmas will be Sunday, Dec. 23 from 8am - noon. Shop early for best selection!

You may have last minute scrip delivered to your home computers through shopwithscrip.com when using Presto Pay for payment. Check it out!

School Code: E11FG27C9L85



Santa's Gift Guide



Teachers: Ulta, Target, Amazon & TJ Maxx, Visa Gift Cards



Business: Visa Gift Card, Starbucks, See's Candies



The Home Improvement/Sporting Enthusiast: Home Depot, Lowes, Cabela's, REI and Big 5



Neighbors and Friends: Cinemark, Starbucks, Peets and Panera

**See Attached Scrip Sheet for more ideas

ATHLETICS



Congratulations to the **5th grade boys'** basketball team! The boys took second place overall in league play and 2nd place in the CSL Tournament, losing only in the last second of the game by a buzzer beater from opponent St. Eugene's.

Find the final season highlights from our coaches below. We are so grateful to **Coach Miguel, Ron Rob, Steve and Craig**, for their hard work, expertise and dedication to our student athletes. We also want to thank our **Athletic Director, Mr. Buckner**, who puts in more hours behind the scenes and in the gym than imaginable, making our athletic program one of the best in the league.

What a season for the **5th grade boys**. Coach Miguel wants to give a special thank you to assistant coach Ron and team mom, Brianne. We could not have done it without you. You both have made this experience very special. Coach Miguel also wants to thank Mr. Buckner for putting all this together and all the families who made sure their kids made practices and games. Thank you for all the effort.

The boy's hard work this season landed them in the CSL Championship game and second place in the league. Over the course of the season, Antoine and Collin provided a lot of the scoring. Our 2 defensive stoppers Peter and Charlie came up big on defense. While Nick and AJ's solid defense and great offensive effort every game was a big part of our success. Last but not least Andres, Aiden, Mateo, and Elliot worked very hard in practice and at every game. The boys came together to form a team and everyone is very proud of you your effort in practice and all season long!

The **5th and 6th grade girls' basketball team** finished the regular season with a solid win against St. Eugene's, 25-21. They had 4 wins and 3 losses going into the playoff tournament. Their first playoff game was against St. John's Lutheran and the girls battled hard to win 21-13. Next up was a very good St. Rose team, and while the girls gave it all they had, they could not overcome a strong St. Rose team.

This season the girls have become a very good team. They attacked the hoop on offense and are helped each other nicely on defense. They have improved tremendously since the start of the season, and we look forward to seeing what this great group of girls can do next year!

The **6th grade boys** had a fantastic season this year. They ended with a record of 7 and 3 and lost their playoff game to St. Rose.

This team really came together to play some good basketball. They were a small team, only 7 total boys and often missing one or two players, but no matter what they went out there and played their hearts out. They improved throughout the season in all aspects of the game. Their shooting improved, they were machines at rebounding by the end, and their team defense continued to jell as the season progressed.

Leading scorers for the season include Luke Ficeli, Will Bollinger, and Clint Wilsey but all the boys contributed points at key moments.

Luke led the team in rebounds with great production from Xavier Lopez and Tyson Harder as well. Max Burke and Grant Dion contributed on both ends of the floor and often anchoring our defensive efforts.

Overall these boys should be proud of their accomplishments. Great season 6th grade!!!

CALLING ALL

Shepherds and Angels



St. Apollinaris Church
 Children's Christmas Eve Mass
 Monday - December 24, 2018
 5:00 p.m.

Dear Parents,

Children of St. Apollinaris Parish and their families are invited to be part of the Children's Christmas Eve Mass on Monday, December 24th at 5:00 p.m. There will be a special dramatization of the Christmas Story.

Children in K - 3rd grade are invited to participate in this Christmas Eve Mass as Angels and Shepherds. If your child will be participating in the Christmas Liturgy, as an angel or shepherd, please bring him/her to the following practice:

Angels and Shepherds Grades K - 3rd

Practice: Friday, December 21st - 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - CHURCH

Children's Choir Grades 4-8

ALL CHILDREN in 4th & 5th grades are invited to sing at this Christmas Eve Liturgy. Choir Practice will be held on:

Friday, December 21st 1:00 - 2:00 p.m., in St. A's Parish Hall.

May you have a peaceful and joyful Christmas Season.