

ST. LAURENCE SAINTS

JANUARY 17, 2018

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 7TH GRADE SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS!



OUR WINNERS ARE...

1st Place - Lynley Pace

2nd Place - Andrew Dye

3rd Place - Ethan Tran

HONORABLE MENTIONS

**Nicole Bouchez, Maggie Nelson,
Sonny Perez, and Joy Stephan**

WAY TO GO!

IMPORTANT DATES

| | |
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| 1/18 | PTO Prayer Group 8:15 a.m. Ave Maria Center |
| 1/19 | All School Mass Led by 3C Meet and Greet in Guardian Angel Hall for Prospective Parents 10:00 a.m. School-wide Geography Bee 1:45 in the gym |
| 1/22 | NJHS Officers Meeting |
| 1/23 | School Board meeting |
| 1/24 | Jean/Spirit Day UST Essay Award Mass at the Co-Cathedral Current Student Registration Begins |
| 1/25 | STUCO |
| 1/26 | All School Mass Led by 4B |
| 1/27 | Open House 3:00-4:30 p.m. PTO Family Mass at 5:00 - students wear official uniforms |
| 1/28 | School Hosts Coffee and Donuts after Masses |
| 1/29 | CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK BEGINS Pep Rally with the Mayor of Sugar Land |
| 1/30 | Free Dress for students! |
| 1/31 | Jean/Spirit Day SHS Meeting Spirit Store Sales Current Student Registration Ends |



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Dear Parents,

This is probably a good time to remind our community of a few things pertaining to weather and communication in order to keep everyone up to date and safe! We try our very best to keep our families informed but are sometimes surprised at the number of people that say they do not read the newsletter or emails. I cannot express enough that those are your first line of communication. Step one is to make sure your RenWeb contact information is current. If you are not receiving alerts or regular communication on your phone or email, please go to your account and check what you have entered. You have the power to make changes as to where and how you receive our alerts. Please do not rely on second-hand information or social media, since we know not everyone is on those sites. Here are a few tips and reminders during the second half of the year (especially this year with all the crazy weather!).

1. SLCS will do our best to notify families as soon as possible to the school closing, dismissing early or starting late. The decision to close school is not taken lightly and involves checking with the Parish, Pastor, Weekday Program, local school districts and Catholic Schools Office. We do not automatically close if FBISD closes and appreciate your patience as we attempt to make the best decision possible for our families. Since many of you come from different parts of the city, we totally understand if it is not safe for you to drive in. Please use your best judgement. Keep in mind that we will always try to have school if the majority of our staff and students can make it in order to avoid having to make up school days during the holidays.
2. If you do rely mainly on social media, please check the school Facebook page and Website first before the grade level pages or other resources. Our amazing Communications Coordinator, Mrs. Adriana Gutierrez has her hands full sending out alerts, posting information and contacting the local TV Stations once I make the call. It is usually done in a matter of minutes, but we understand that it can seem like an eternity when you are waiting.
3. On cold days, our rule is to take the student outdoors unless it is raining. Children need time to run around and release their energy, so we will make all attempts to have outside recess when possible. Please send your child with the appropriate outerwear daily. Recently I have noticed many students coming in with short sleeves and not even a sweater or sweatshirt. Don't forget that on ECC, students travel outside in the courtyard several times a day in order to go to lunch and outclass.
4. Only official SLCS sweatshirts, sweaters and jackets are allowed to be worn inside the school building. Students are asked to take off any non-St. Laurence outerwear while in the hall and in the classrooms. These can be put on again when going outside.
5. PLEASE put your child's name in all outerwear, especially now when we are without a uniform supplier! So many brand new jackets and sweatshirts are missing and are not labeled!
6. Lastly, the Google calendar is the official school calendar and we keep it updated regularly, so please check there on a regular basis.

Well, I hope that there will be no more major weather events this year! This has to be one for the history books and we will certainly never forget 2017-2018. Thank you for all the support so far this year and please stay warm!

Have a wonderful week,

Mrs. Barto



ASK YOUR PRINCIPALS



HERE is an update of our progress in meeting the School-Wide Yearly Goals presented at the beginning of the year! Check out our Strategic Plan on the website for more in-depth information as to where we are headed in the next few years.

SUBMIT YOUR QUESTIONS FOR OUR PRINCIPALS HERE!

We know you have some!



NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ELEMENTARY ART FINALISTS!



Sarah Manuel(1A), Juliana Andrejak (2A), Julia Chang (2C), David Mikel (3A), Anna Rollert(4A), Rebecca Winzerling (4C), Mark Vann(5B), and Kiersten Reed (5C). WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!

****MORE ELEMENTARY ART FINALIST WILL BE ANNOUNCED NEXT WEEK...STAY TUNED!**

DID YOU HEAR OUR GREAT SPEAKERS THIS PAST SUNDAY?

Please thank our wonderful school representatives that spoke at all the St. Laurence Parish Masses this past weekend. They were kind enough to share their stories about how SLCS has made a difference in their lives. We are very grateful to school parent and School Board Treasurer, Tish Cox and our amazing graduates, Alex Garcia (class of 2015) and John Knowles, (class of 2010). Thank you in advance to Larry Kaiser and Mick Klein (former School Board members), who are speaking at St. Angela Merici this coming weekend. Please help us get the word out about our amazing school and Catholic education in general. If you have something about your experience(s) you would like to share, we would love to hear it. Send your testimonial to aquiterrez@stlaurence.org.

INVITE PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES TO LEARN ABOUT OUR SCHOOL AND JOIN OUR SAINTS FAMILY!

Invite Prospective Families to our Open House! It is a great opportunity to tour the campus and classrooms, meet the teachers and students, and see what makes SLCS such an exemplary school!

MEET AND GREET COFFEE FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

Parents interested in their child attending St. Laurence Catholic School in the fall are also welcome to join us in the Guardian Angel Hall of the Ave Maria Center on Friday, January 19th at 10:00 a.m. This is an informal gathering to learn more about our school and the application/screening process for Pk-4th grade.

NEXT LAGNIAPPE SESSION STARTS SOON! REGISTER NOW!

Our next Lagniappe session runs from January 29 – March 9. See your course flyer [HERE](#) for details & course descriptions. All payments should be made payable to SLCS and returned to the front office. Classes fill quickly...first come, first served!

UNIFORMS

We appreciate your patience in dealing with any missing uniform items as we discern a new company after the abrupt closing of Parker Uniforms. Please visit our Used Uniform Closet if you need items for now, and if you have any clothing at home that no longer fits your child (especially jackets & sweaters) please consider donating them back to help other families. This not only benefits your fellow SLCS families, it raises funds for our PTO! We will keep you updated on any progress with a new company as soon as possible.

A NOTE FROM THE CLINIC

Please read the article The Flu: A Guide For Parents [HERE](#)!

FAMILY FUN WHILE SUPPORTING CATHOLIC EDUCATION!

TCCB ED is joining with Families Empowered to host a school choice rally here in Houston on Saturday, January 27th from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Minute Maid Park. This will be the largest rally of the week in our state, and there will be a lot of energy and entertainment at this event. There will be a keynote address by Dr. Steve Perry, a national speaker on school choice and many fun activities for families. Click [HERE](#) for more information!

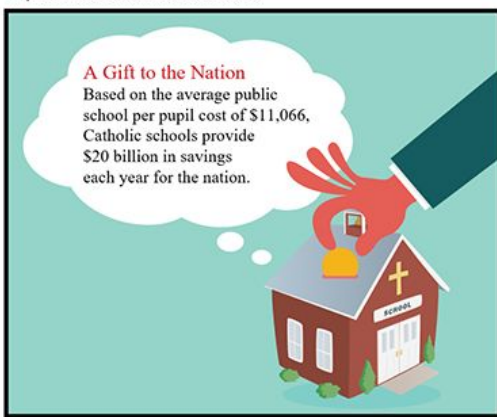
RENWEB TIPS AND HELP

Ongoing RenWeb tips and help can be found on the school's website under the RenWeb menu. Please continue to check this page for more help tips and updates [HERE](#)!



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SNAPS

A quick take on issues and statistics



Source: U.S. Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools 2016-2017: The Annual Statistical Report on Schools, Enrollment and Staffing (NCEA).



Celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2018

January 28 -
February 3
#CSW18

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK KICK-OFF

We are so pleased to be able to come together in worship on January 27th for our PTO Family Mass with our school community at the 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass.

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR DAY OF GIVING!



Many Gifts, One Nation

A Day of Giving to Catholic Schools

WHEN: Scheduled for 24 hours starting January 30, 2018, 9:00 a.m. to January 31, 2018, 9:00 a.m.

WHERE: Online! SLCS will have a giving page that will go live at the start of the day of giving.

WHY: Because Catholic schools change lives and now is the time to give back!

AUCTION SAVE THE DATES

Mark your calendars and line up your babysitters for our Auction Dinner and Gala! It will be a night for the memory books, and you do not want to miss it! Plan to join us Saturday, April 28, 2018 at the Marriott Sugar Land. We have lots to do to make this night a success, and we want you to join in on the fun. Meet us after Mass on Friday, January 26th, in the Corpus Christi Room in the ECC courtyard. All are welcome and needed. Come share what you've seen other places and meet new people; you'll be glad you did!



REGISTER NOW FOR STEPS FOR STUDENTS!

Steps For Students is a month away, Saturday, February 17th. As of right now we have the most registered people with 586 people. Last year we had 701 people registered. We want to beat last year's record and stay #1. We are in 4th place for money raised with \$2,090 so far. [Prices go up \\$30/person February 1st](#). Register NOW!!! \$20/person or \$70/family of 4. Click [HERE](#) to look at the incentives for this year (They are cheaper than last year)

MARCH IS HERITAGE MONTH AT SLCS

During the month of March, we will be celebrating the many different cultures represented at SLCS! Read more [HERE](#)!

- **Save the Date for our Culture Dress Up Day on March 22nd!** Students and teachers are welcomed to wear something traditional from their culture if they wish!
- **Share About Your Culture** (by parents or students) on Thursday, March 22rd!
 - * Students are welcome to decorate a multicultural paper doll at home and bring it to school to share or create a Culture Box for Show-and-Tell! (Optional, NOT required).
 - * If interested in visiting your child's class as a guest speaker to share about your heritage, please contact your child's teacher for time availability!
- School-wide cultural presentation
- Special culture lessons in our different Auxiliary Classes!
- Learn interesting facts about the different cultures represented in our school on our Social Media pages!
- Answer our Heritage Survey! We would love to learn about the different countries represented in our school and invite you to be part of future Home-School Connection opportunities!



JOIN THE PTO PRAYER GROUP

Please join the PTO Prayer Group for the first prayer meeting of 2018! What a wonderful way to kick off this new year, praying for our faculty, staff, children, and families! Thursday, January 18th at 8:15 a.m. at the Ave Maria Center. Drop your children at school and join us for fellowship and prayer time!

10TH ANNUAL FATHER/DAUGHTER DANCE MASQUERADE BALL

Calling all dads and daughters to the 10th annual Father/Daughter Dance hosted by the SLCS PTO. There will be sweet treats, dancing, and tons of fun! Limited to current students. Bring dad or a special friend! All the girls will receive a special mask at the door. Please RSVP to ptoprograms@gmail.com.

EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!

- **DO YOU SHOP AT KROGER?**

Help Us Earn Free Money While You Shop! Read more [HERE](#)!

- **SAVE YOUR BOX TOP AND TYSON PROJECT LABELS!**

If you have BOX TOPS or Tyson labels, please drop them by the school office and we will put them to good use. You can find more information and prizes [HERE](#)! Print the calendar [HERE](#)!



SPRING SPORTS

Please register for Baseball, Softball and Track on the athletic registration website at stlaurenceathletics.org

- Baseball 5-8 grade boys
- Softball 5-8 grade girls
- Track 6-8 grade boys and girls

Watch your email and next week's newsletter for information on pre-season clinics, tryouts, and parent meetings. Please contact Betsy Brown or Glen Fucik if you have any questions.



BOOSTER CLUB



BOOSTER CLUB SPIRIT STORE!
Find the Booster Club forms [HERE!](#)



ALUMNI NEWS

Once a Saint, Always a Saint

SAINTS' SCOOP

Alumni: be in the lookout for our next edition of the Saints' Scoop. Stay connected and share your news! We always love to hear from you! Don't forget to include your name and graduation year in your description. You are welcome to share pictures too! Contact Adriana Gutierrez at agutierrez@stlaurence.org.



PARISH NEWS

READ OUR CHURCH BULLETIN [HERE!](#)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CONTEST

Be sure to register your young basketball hot shot for the annual [FREE THROW COMPETITION](#) sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. It will be held on Saturday, January 20, at 1:00pm in the school gym, open to boys and girls age 9-14. Please contact Anthony at 832-270-6390 for more info.

FAMILY MINISTRY VENTURE RETREAT

Venture down the road of learning how to T.H.R.I.V.E. and not just survive family life! Join other St. Laurence families at our first annual Family Ministry Retreat. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

WANT TO CONTINUE LEARNING ABOUT YOUR FAITH WITH OTHER ADULTS?

Click [HERE](#) for the upcoming speakers in Adult Faith Formation. There is truly something for everyone.



AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

ATTENTION 8TH GRADERS!

ST. JOHN XXIII COLLEGE PREPARATORY BASKETBALL NIGHT!

St. John XXIII College Preparatory will host a Middle School Basketball Night on Friday, January 19th! The Boys Basketball Teams will be playing The Village School at 4:30 pm (JV) AND 6:00 PM (Varsity) at St. John XXIII College Preparatory. We will have FREE Admissions as well as FREE Concessions for all middle school students and their families AND we will have door prizes! Our Cheer and Dance Teams will also be there for performances during halftime. If you are interested in attending, please rsvp to admissions@sj23lions.org

REGISTER FOR THE IWA ENTRANCE TEST ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 20TH

The entrance test for IWA's Class of 2022 will take place on Saturday, January 20th at 8:30 a.m. For more information,

please visit www.incarnateword.org/apply. While students are testing, parents are invited to join the IWA President, members of the IWA faculty, and the IWA Parent Ambassadors to for coffee and conversation to learn more about what it means to be a part of the IWA family.

IWA PARENT MEETING

One of our parents, Mrs. Bratton, is a Parent Ambassador for Incarnate Word Academy. She is hosting a casual social at Cafe Express on January 23rd at 6:30 p.m. for 8th-grade parents who are interested or considering IWA for their daughters. For more information, please RSVP to Kryshon@brattonpools.com.

MISSION STATEMENT

*As a pastoral instrument of the Church,
St. Laurence Catholic School educates and develops the
whole Christian person in body, mind, and spirit through the
trinity of parent, child, and educator.*

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