

# St. Francis de Sales Times

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Saint Francis de Sales School

ISSUE 004

## TEACHING 23 YEARS

St. Francis de Sales is fortunate to have Ms. Terry as a dedicated member of our school community. This month, 7th grader Carlos had the opportunity to sit down with Ms. Terry and discuss her 23 years of service at St. Francis de Sales School.

**What grades does Ms. Terry help or teach?** Ms. Terry kindly mentioned that she supports students across all grades but spends most of her time helping out with the Kindergarten.

**Why does Ms. Terry like working at St. Francis de Sales?** Ms. Terry expressed her love for working with children and the joy she finds in teaching and guiding them. She humbly considers her role at St. Francis de Sales as her life's calling and is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to make a difference in their lives. Ms. Terry also shared she loves when the children teach her something new, and wants to remind students to remember throughout life you never stop learning.

**What is a favorite memory you have at St. Francis de Sales?** Ms. Terry shared that her favorite memory each year is when the Kindergarten have their end of year celebration. Ms. Terry talked about how exciting it is to watch them grow and excel towards their future here at St. Francis de Sales.

**What is one fun fact about you?** We discovered that Ms. Terry has a passion for movie trivia. So, the next time you have a good question, don't hesitate to ask Ms. Terry your movie related questions!



## DE SALES ALL STARS

Three St. Francis de Sales students competed in the JV boys Region 58 CYO All-Star Game: 6th graders Muhammad and Peter, along with 5th grader Josiah. Muhammad DUNKly scored 10 points, Playoff Pete knocked down 8 points, and Jump Shot Josiah made a crucial 3-pointer in the fourth quarter. The All-Star Game signifies the conclusion of the season, and we extend our gratitude to Coach Pop and Coach Zah for their outstanding leadership throughout the season.



# VALENTINES DAY DANCE

On February 9th, we celebrated Valentine's Day with a dance party at our school. The auditorium was decorated in vibrant shades of red and pink, setting the perfect atmosphere for the festivities. Our school DJ, Mr. McDevitt, kept the music playing throughout the event. Everyone had a chance to showcase their dance moves on the lively dance floor. Additionally, students got the opportunity to capture memories with their friends and family in front of the Valentine's backdrop. The highlight of the dance was the opportunity to enjoy quality time with loved ones while having a blast.



# INTERNET SAFETY

Our 5th through 8th-grade students had the privilege of attending an internet safety lesson led by two Pennsylvania State Troopers. During the session, the troopers discussed bullying and highlighted various resources available to students for seeking help. The presentation featured stories and a slideshow showcasing celebrities who had experienced bullying in the past. Witnessing the journeys of these celebrities was not only inspiring but also served as a reminder of the resilience we all possess. Sister Mary concluded the session by reminding everyone of the timeless quote by Eleanor Roosevelt:

***“No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.”***



# PHILLY SPORTS

## EMBIID ...COME BACK SOON

The Sixers have recently added Kyle Lowry, a Villanova alum, and Buddy Hield to their roster. Their arrival is timely as Embiid is currently dealing with a minor knee injury. We're hopeful for his return before the playoffs. Tyrese Maxey has been crucial in keeping the team united. Without Embiid, the team feels his absence, and we hope he can come back soon. The Sixers need to secure wins down this final stretch to avoid the playoff play in game. We're eager to see how the team performs and optimistic that they can overcome their second round playoff curse.



## THE PHILLIES HEAD TO CLEARWATER



Spring training is in full swing for the Phillies, and anticipation is high for the upcoming season. There's a sense of optimism that this could be the year for the Phillies. The team has decided not to resign Rhys Hoskins, which means Bryce Harper will be at first base this year. We're thrilled to see the team back in action on the field. While the lineup remains largely unchanged from last year, the addition of free agent Whit Merrifield brings excitement and potential. Both the players and the fans are eager for a World Series win.

## FLYERS THINKING PLAYOFFS

The Philadelphia Flyers have appointed Sean Couturier as their new team captain, marking the first team captain since Claude Giroux's departure. Despite low preseason expectations, the Flyers have a solid 76.8% chance of making the playoffs. Staying on the winning path will be crucial for the team's playoff hopes. The Flyers recently faced off against the New Jersey Devils at MetLife Stadium in an outdoor game, which was pretty cool to watch. Unfortunately, the Flyers were defeated, proving once again they should probably stick to indoor games.



# CLEANEST SCHOOL IN PHILADELPHIA

If you've ever walked the halls of St. Francis de Sales School, you'll notice how spotless everything is, thanks to our hardworking maintenance team: Coach D, Mr. Bob, and Mr. J'son. They handle everything from sweeping floors to fixing lights and ensuring everyone's safe exit from the building.



Coach D has been a part of St. Francis de Sales School for 23 years. We're grateful for all he does for our school. In an interview, Coach shared, "I love the kids the most. It's amazing watching them grow and achieve so much." He also mentioned that Mr. McDevitt's Room 7 is the



Around 1:30 every day, you can hear Mr. Bob calling out, "Trash! Trash!" as he makes his final rounds in the spotless hallway. He's been with us for 4 years and loves how friendly our students are.

Mr. Bob also mentioned that Mr. Cherry and Ms. Moore keep the cleanest rooms.



Mr. J'son, who's been part of our team for 3 years, not only helps with maintenance but also pitches in during school lunch. Mr. J'son said that Mrs. Tran keeps the cleanest room. When he's not busy with repairs, you'll find him coaching the boys' varsity basketball team. We appreciate all he does for our school community.

*...As you can see the fight for the cleanest room continues!*

## TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

This month's teacher spotlight shines on Ms. Purdy, the dedicated 6th grade teacher at Saint Francis de Sales. Ms. Purdy's journey at SFDS began through the POP after school musical program, where she initially taught double bass. She then transitioned to teaching music classes before taking on her current full time role as an SFDS teacher. Ms. Purdy's inspiration for teaching stemmed from her childhood, where she often played school with her sisters, always taking on the role of the teacher. Her dedication to teaching solidified during high school, influenced by both her positive experiences with good teachers and the lessons learned from those she didn't connect with. Ms. Purdy's passion for education makes her an amazing teacher, and Saint Francis de Sales is fortunate to have her as part of our team.

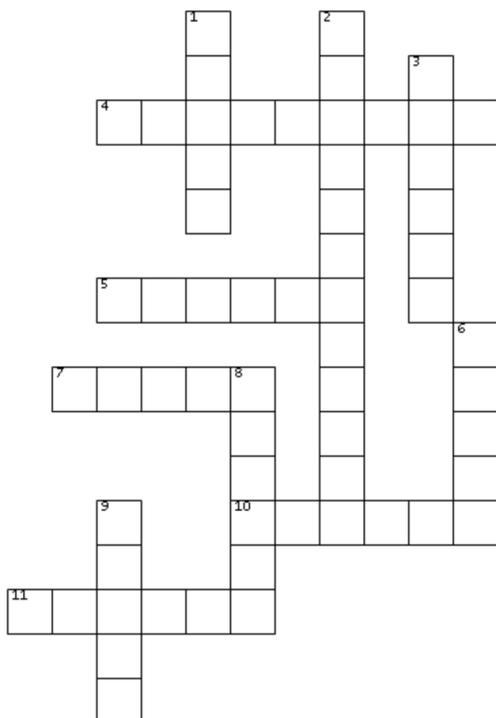


# ASH WEDNESDAY

On February 14th, we celebrated Ash Wednesday at St. Francis De Sales School. Ash Wednesday is a day of worship dedicated to honoring God. On this day, the entire school gathers at the church to receive ashes in the shape of a cross on our foreheads. Along with the ashes, we receive a blessing.



# LENTEN CROSSWORD PUZZLE



## ACROSS

4. Ash \_\_\_\_\_.
5. What is the traditional color is associated with Lent?
7. Jesus died upon a \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Jesus entered Jerusalem on this animal?
11. "I was going to give up lunch meat for lent, but I couldn't quit Cold \_\_\_\_\_."

## DOWN

1. Who betrayed Jesus on Holy Thursday?
2. We spend Lent preparing for Jesus death and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Which holiday do we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus?
6. How many days are in Lent?
8. Palm \_\_\_\_\_.
9. How many times did Jesus fall while carrying the cross?



# CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Catholic schools week took place from January 28 to February 3, 2024. Our school embraced the spirit of unity and gratitude with various activities and events. From a dress down day, to the simple joy of soft pretzels for all, we recognized and celebrated the successes and growth of our students, teachers, and faculty throughout the week. On the final day we wrapped everything up with a Mass on Friday, where prayers of thanksgiving were offered. The students of 5th through 8th grade were also able to participate in a religion bee. Additionally, different classrooms participated in activities honoring St. Francis de Sales, further emphasizing the values of our Catholic education.

## GENERATION LIFE

This month our school welcomed the Generation Life program, which engaged our 7th and 8th graders in discussions about pro life values and making healthy decisions. The session provided valuable insights into the importance of respecting human life and the significance of informed decision making.

In addition to exploring pro-life values, the program highlighted various resources available to support students in making healthy decisions. Generation Life shared different stories and led discussions with the students.



## THE RELIGION BEE

The Religion Bee took place on February 8th, with students from grades 5 through 8 selected by their homeroom teachers to participate. In the bee, held in the auditorium, students answered questions in front of their peers from 5th through 8th grade. Questions covered topics from both the New and Old Testaments.

Saron, a 5th grader, emerged as the winner, with Zahmir, a 7th grader, as the runner-up. Saron's exceptional performance earned her a spot in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia finals, where she stood out as one of the youngest contestants. Congratulations, Saron! We're confident in your future successes.

# 8TH GRADE SCHOLARS

*We would like to congratulate the following scholars for earning scholarships to their desired schools.*

## **JOSEPHINE CONNELLY SCHOLARS-**

Alexander Luna-Lopez

Brian Smith

Noah Watson

## **HOWLEY SCHOLARS-**

Yoleny Duran

Clayton Cho

Yoshua Mukama

Aniyah Graham

Phanta Dukuly

Jade Bussey

## **MCGUIRE SCHOLARS-**

Christine Weng

AaliyahmWells

## **ST. JOE'S PREP SCHOLARS**

Allan Trejos-Elizondo

## **NEUMAN SCHOLARS-**

Vera Chen

Kevin Lu

## **ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARS-**

Christopher Binns

Allan Trejos-Elizondo

# COMICS AND MORE

## TRACK AND FIELD STAR - SISTER MARY



## JOKES AND RIDDLES

What did the ground say to the earthquake?  
-You crack me up!

Why did the kid study in the airplane?  
-Because he wanted a higher education!

Why didn't the sun go to college?  
-Because it already had a million degrees!

Which month has 28 days?  
-Every month