

ST. LAURENCE SAINTS

SPOTLIGHT OF THE WEEK

SEPTEMBER 7, 2016

TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION



In this picture our 5th graders are loving Creaza!

5th grade has been using the Chrome books and Creaza.com in Religion to create Evangelization cartoons. Students explored the web-based platform and broadened their 21st century learning toolkits, while developing collaboration and sharing skills. Smiles, giggles, and engaged learners were in great abundance. SLCS is blessed to have the technology to expand learning in fun and creative ways!



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Dear Parents,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Labor Day Weekend and enjoyed some relaxing time with family and good food! Our newsletter is a little longer this week as things are all starting up. We have our first middle school dance this Friday and after-school Lagniappes classes are beginning for enrichment. I hope that many of you will join me, Mrs. Guedry and Miss Landrito after Mass next Friday, the 16th for Pastries With the Principals. We definitely don't want to have to eat all those pastries by ourselves.

This week I was asked by a few parents on our PTO about our new Social Media Policy, since it deals with how to handle photographing students and/or things that are posted on social media. You are welcome to read the entire policy [HERE](#) as it refers to staff, students and parent volunteers. The main point that I would like to illustrate to everyone is that safety comes first. If you are volunteering at any event such as chaperoning a dance, field trip or working in the lunch room, you are there to help supervise students. You also need to keep in mind that you represent St. Laurence Catholic School and that any remarks, photos, etc. should reflect positively on the school, the Archdiocese and even the Catholic Church! We just all need to be careful what we put out there! We also need to be aware that not every parent wants their child's picture posted out on the world wide web. Parents have the option of "opting-out" and the school takes great care not to publish photos of those students if we are in the loop. We ask that you keep this in mind when taking pictures of students (when you're not on duty of course). It is safer to send things through our Communications Coordinator, Adriana Gutierrez, or to get permission from the parents or the teacher first. Adriana does all our posting to Facebook, newsletters, etc. and is always happy to use your

photos! We also hire photographers for all our major events so that you can actually enjoy your child and be present in the moment, not behind a cell phone. If you are just visiting your child for a birthday, etc. we do understand that you may want to take a quick photo of him/her. Just please be careful as the lunchroom and carpool line are no cell phone zones (for safety reasons of course). You will notice that the policy also pertains to employees and students, so this could prompt a good conversation with your child as their first educator. Have a great week and thank you for all you do to make this school amazing.

God Bless,

Mrs. Barto

IMPORTANT DATES

9/8	NEHS Meeting
9/9	All School Mass Led by 4A National Day of Prayer MS Dance
9/11	Deacon Al Bothe Retirement Reception
9/13	Leo Club Induction Ceremony PTO Meeting Finance Committee Meeting
9/14	Jean/Spirit Day
9/15	NJHS Meeting



SCHOOL BOARD CONNECTS



DID YOU KNOW?

The School Board is working on the Strategic Plan and it's based on the input of the staff, parent community (through the survey) and the Archdiocese. We are working very hard to examine our strengths and determine areas for growth to look ahead and strive for excellence. This is why your input each year on our survey is so important, we listen and we act, keep that in mind! Our goal is to build a strong foundation for generations to come!



A NOTE FROM YOUR PTO



PTO BOX TOP FUNDRAISER

Your trash can become our treasure. We began fundraising with BOXTOPS in 2002 and have raised more than \$35,000 so far. If you have BOXTOPS that you are just throwing away, please drop them by the school office and we will put them to good use. We promise! Our first collection day for the new semester is September 15th! You can find more information and prizes [HERE!](#) Print the calendar [HERE!](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

There are many different ways you can make a difference! Please review and select any programs that you would be willing to help make a success [HERE!](#) We are depending on your support! We are in special need of:

VOLUNTEERS FOR ECC LUNCH DUTY

Are you looking for a way to get involved at the ECC Campus? Parent volunteers are needed for ECC Lunch Duty 10:40-12:00 p.m. during Pre-K and Kindergarten Lunch. All volunteers must be VIRTUS trained. To sign up, click [HERE](#) There are spots for 2 volunteers per day. Please only sign up for 2 times per month to allow for more parents to have a chance to volunteer for this fun activity! Feel free to pick the dates that work for you! There are more detailed instructions on the sign up site. If you have any questions, contact LeAnne Lundy at 979.257.8140 or ecclunch@yahoo.com. Please arrive at 10:30 a.m. to check in with Mrs. Chovanetz in the ECC Office.

VOLUNTEERS FOR MAIN CAMPUS LUNCH DUTY

Volunteers are needed for Main Campus Lunch Duty. To sign up, click [HERE](#). Please sign up for as many spots as you would like. The shift is 10:40 a.m. - noon. If you have any questions, please contact Crystal Helcel at 713.875.2242 or cfh102198@gmail.com

MAIN CAMPUS AM CARPOOL VOLUNTEERS

We are in special need of carpool volunteers. Please consider being one of our amazing volunteers! We need YOU to get the day started off right!!

ECC AFTERNOON CARPOOL

We need a few volunteers to help out with ECC afternoon carpool this year! If you can help, contact Tania Magnabosco at 513-608-4977 or tmagnaboscordh@yahoo.com.



NEWS



ST. LAURENCE
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
ANNUAL FUND

ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL ANNUAL FUND

Commitment Day is September 23rd!

Each family that participates will receive a pocket size directory later this fall; it is sure to be a hit! This will be our only printed directory this year and it will contain the much wanted emails! Double your impact with Matching Gifts!

Find some great incentives [HERE!](#)



DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT

Did you know that GE was the first company to offer company matching to non-profits in 1954? Today it is the easiest way to generate funds for our school. Hundreds of companies will support our school if you just show proof of your gift. Ask your company's Human Resource department for information on their gift programs, fill out the paperwork and our Advancement Office will take it from there! Click [HERE](#) to view the flyer for a listing of companies that have donated to the Archdiocese in the past; not all companies are listed and some programs may have changed. Commitment Day for our Annual Fund is September 23rd. Thanks for making a difference in our students education

ORDER YOUR ANNIVERSARY T-SHIRT! LAST CHANCE! DEADLINE EXTENDED UNTIL TOMORROW!!

It has been a big 25 years and we have our best **Spirit Shirt** yet ready to celebrate! Join in the celebration and wear you SLCS colors with pride. Please note this shirt is a comfort colors t-shirt that is so popular! These shirts feel like you have owned them for years. It is a classic, comfortable, relaxed style. It is all of the love a cotton tee but a little softer and the navy pictured might not be true replica of the actual color. Orders are due by September 5th and this shirt can be worn any Wednesday as a Spirit Shirt. Find your order form [HERE!](#)

MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE

DANCE, dAnCe, dance.....Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Grade Students

Back to School Dance Friday, September 9th from 6:30-9:00PM

NEON THEME!!

Admission Fee: \$5

Drinks/Treats: 50 cents each

Attire: Follow Free Dress Policy in Family Handbook

Sixth Grade are in Dining Hall

Seventh/Eighth Grade are in Gym

Inviting a Guest? Get form from homeroom teacher

And turn in by Thursday, September 8th

LAGNIAPPE....Something given as a bonus

Our first session for the semester runs from September 19-October 28. See your course flyer [HERE](#) for details & course descriptions. All payments should be made payable to SLCS and returned to the teacher hosting the awesome class. Classes fill quickly...first come, first serve!

PASTRIES WITH THE PRINCIPALS

Please join us after our School Mass on September 16th for our Pastries with the Principals. Come meet new friends, share your insights and experiences, and enjoy some refreshments after Mass as we continue excellence in Catholic education. We will meet in the Corpus Christi room immediately after the 8:15 AM Mass! Please RSVP to advancement@stlaurence.org.

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Do you love to take photos? This could be your call to share your talents with our school! Participate at our school activities and support our school taking pictures for our yearbook! We need a few photographers to be part of the **Saints Yearbook Photographers Team!** If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Gutierrez at agutierrez@stlaurence.org.

RAISE THE ROOF AT RAISING CANE'S!

Calling all Riverstone, Sienna, Lake Olympia, and Quail Valley Saints! Raising Cane's Missouri City will host a Spirit Night for us next Wednesday, September 14th! Give yourself a break from cooking and help the Booster Club. If you dine in or pick up from 4-10 p.m. and mention SLCS, they will generously donate to our Booster Club! Dinner and a donation...DONE!

SAVE THE DATE!

Grandparent's Day is coming up very soon, so don't forget to mark your calendars for Friday, September 23rd. This celebration begins with a beautiful Mass and ends with student performances and a light brunch in the gym. There is an early dismissal that day so that you can enjoy time with your child and special guests. Stay tuned for more information!

STUDENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE ELECTIONS

Do you have great ideas? Do you want to represent your classmates and St. Laurence Catholic School? One great way to be involved is to become a Student Council Class Representative for your 4th thru 8th grade classmates. There will be 4 representatives elected from each grade level. If you are interested in running, you must turn in the nomination form with your parent's signature. The form is [HERE](#). Elections will be held on September 9th. Turn in the form by September 6th. Mrs. Betsy Brown and Mrs. Suzanne Garcia are Student Council sponsors. You can email one of the sponsors if you have any questions.

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Help Us Earn Free Money While You Shop. Every year this helps the St. Laurence PTO raise money for lots of fun things at our school: Family Movie Night, Hoops & Dogs, Father-Daughter Dance, Middle School Dances and much, much more. Please register or re-register your card using the directions [HERE!](#)

COMING SOON TO SLCS....DAN YACCARINO!

We are so excited! We will be hosting Dan Yaccarino, author of the highly anticipated, *I am a Story* at SLCS on Thursday, September 8, 2016. Students in grades 1-3 will explore the evolution of storytelling while pondering the power of stories to bring us together and make us feel happy, sad, excited, and much more. Stories enrich our lives! The author will sign pre-purchased copies of the book after the presentation. Order forms are available on the library webpage and will also be sent home in students' folders closer to the date. If you would like to purchase a signed copy of the book, please complete the order form and return it with payment to your child's homeroom teacher on or before Tuesday, September 6, 2016. For more information about this author and his work, please go to the Classroom Visit video [HERE](#).

SAVE THE DATE! ANNUAL TUITION ASSISTANCE GOLF TOURNAMENT!

The 21st Annual St. Laurence Golf Tournament is set for October 31st at Sweetwater Country Club! Sponsorships are available and registration is now open in for this BIG event. Read more [HERE](#). Contact the Advancement Office at 281.980.0500 for sponsorship opportunities.

SPICE LUNCHEON - NOVEMBER 11th

You are invited to attend our annual Special People in Catholic Education Luncheon and Silent Auction on November 11, 2016 at 11:30 in the Parish Hall. We are honored to welcome Charlene Katra Associate Director from the Archdiocese of Galveston Houston. It is a luncheon you will not want to miss with catering by Pappas BBQ and

auction items featuring Disneyland and our very own Houston Texans. Tickets are \$60 and reservations may be made through the Advancement Office at 281-980-0500.



COUNSELORS' CORNER

Click [HERE](#) to read our Counselors' Section: General Homework Tips for Parents.



SAINTS SPORTS SCOOP

FALL TENNIS TRYOUTS

Tennis tryouts will begin Tuesday and Thursday, September 6th and September 8th, from 4:45 p.m. until 6:15 p.m., at First Colony Middle School, 3225 Austin Parkway. Boys and girls in 5th-8th grade are eligible to try out for the tennis team.

Please go to stlaurenceathletics.org to register your child. All students must have a physical dated after June 1, 2016. If you have not turned in a physical form please send it to the office next week. You may wait until after tryouts to submit the athletic fee.

Once team placement has been decided, all teams will practice at that location and those times, Tuesday and Thursday from 4:45 -6:15 p.m. Matches are held on Saturdays (at various locations) and begin Saturday, September 24th. The season usually lasts about six weeks. Also, once team placement has been decided, athletes will be required to submit the proper paperwork and fees to the Athletics Department. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Marie Brown, Tennis Coach at mbrown@stlaurence.org

GET YOUR BOOSTER SHIRTS TODAY!

Find the Booster Club forms [HERE!](#)



AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

Parish Bazaar

Behold, the Bazaar is BACK! The bazaar will be held October 15-16th at the Ave Maria Center. We will have a lot of the same great items you expect from the bazaar like the different food and activity booths as well as Bingo. We will also have a lot of NEW items like a new obstacle course for kids, a room with games for teenagers (though all are welcome) but most exciting of all, is the new Art Gallery. We are looking for YOU to submit a piece of art to showcase in the Gallery during the bazaar. Please bring your original work to the Parish Office by September 30th. It should be representative of the parish theme, "Behold, I make all things new". It can be 4x6, 5x7, 8x10 or 11x14 in size. There are also MANY opportunities for volunteers. Please check the [BAZAAR WEBSITE](#) or go straight to [SIGNUP GENIUS](#) if you would like to help. We still need many Virtus trained volunteers to help supervise the bounce houses, rides and inflatable games. Be sure to check back often as more opportunities will be added. For further information, please contact Les Fuchs (832-360-3104) or Tom Barry (281-545-4112).

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.

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.

CONNECT WITH US!



St. Laurence Catholic School

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