

# ST. LAURENCE SAINTS

OCTOBER 25, 2017

OUR MOST IMPORTANT CHARITABLE CAMPAIGN!



ST. LAURENCE  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
ANNUAL FUND

Have you donated to the  
St. Laurence School Annual Fund yet?

Nora Sessions, President

Jackie deGroot, Vice President

Tish Cox, Treasurer

Christina Hinojosa, Secretary

Tunde Cardozo

Silas Girgis

Maria Jorissen

*We just did!*

Shawn St. John

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ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD

Have you donated to our St. Laurence Catholic School Annual Fund yet? This is a yearlong effort that supports our operating expenses, so your generosity touches the lives of all our students at SLCS. The Annual Fund is the single most important **CHARITABLE GIVING PROGRAM** at our school and your gift is a tangible vote of confidence in our school's future. We hope to count you among those who have given this year and ask that you prayerfully consider renewing or increasing your 2017 gift through **RECURRING PAYMENTS**. Contact the Advancement Office with any questions.

## IMPORTANT DATES

10/25	Jean/Spirit Day ECC Carnival Spirit Store Sales Report Cards Go Home SPIRIT NIGHT - Chipotle in Town Center 4:00-8:00 p.m.
10/26	STUCO MS Month of the Young Adolescent MS Mix It Up activity 1:45- 2:30 p.m. (wear mixed up clothing!)
10/27	Fall Conference Day Steps for Students Registration - Computer Lab will be open.
10/28	First Reconciliation Retreat 1:00 -3:00 p.m.

	PTO Hoops and Dogs
10/30	Individual Picture Day 4th grade Field trip
10/31	NEHS Bake Sale
11/1	All Saints Mass Led by 5B SHS Meeting MS Choir Field Trip
11/2	All Souls Day Early Dismissal 1:45/2:00 p.m.
11/3	PTO Movie Night in the Gym 7:00 p.m.
11/5	Daylight Savings Time Ends
11/6-11/8	Classroom Spelling Bees
11/7	Leos Officers Meeting Finance Committee Meeting
11/8	Jean/Spirit Day PreK Field Trip Pancakes with the Padres for Samaritan Awards



Dear Parents,

Last week Mrs. Guedry gave some great examples of routines to promote successful habits. They were not just great tips for Middle School students, but all students. Anxiety in children is increasing every day, and I can't help to wonder why? Do we put too much pressure on students? Is our focus on the wrong thing? Are we over-scheduling them? As you reflect on these questions, I give you the overlying big one: Have we taken the fun out of learning?

This year, you may have heard about some of the wonderful activities happening in our STEM lab, or as Mrs. Quatrini likes to refer to as the Collaboratory. You may also have heard about all of the wonderful small group activities your children do in their classrooms on a daily basis. This type of instruction is what truly enlightens the curiosity in learning. Instead of focusing on making an "A" on a test or making Honor Roll, focus on what your child is actually learning. Studying doesn't always have to be a strenuous activity. First and foremost, creating a plan will help with keeping a healthy balance between studying, homework and leisure. We strive to avoid student burnout at all cost. Here are some tips to make learning fun at home:

- Create a board game to play as a family to review for an upcoming test
- Turn Spelling Words into a song
- Ask your child math questions that pertain to everyday life:
  - Tonight, our dinner requires 4 cups of rice. How many quarts is that?
  - We need to make Halloween bags for your friends. If you want to make 10 bags with 5 pieces of candy each, how many pieces of candy do you need total?
  - We have been working on being on time as a family. Why don't we record the times we leave every morning and graph the amount of days we were on time this week.
    - Were we on time most of the days? What percentage were we on time? Let's celebrate with a family movie night!
    - Come up with a Vocabulary dance to help remember those tough words or come up with an action that correlates with the word.
    - Create an anchor chart or visual as a family when discussing topics. Hang it in their room or in their homework space so they can refer to it at any time.

Every child is uniquely and vastly different so finding the right balance can be difficult. This is where we can help. Today you should have received your child's report card (2nd-8th Grade) and STAR Reports (1st-8th). Please discuss them with your child. Be open to hearing ideas from your child's teacher on Conference Day. You can help the most by being the primary educator of resilience. This growth mindset will help students long after they have left St. Laurence. Not every grade is going to be an "A." In Math terms:

Lesson Learned > The Grade

I close with this letter from a Singapore Principal that went viral, and I continue to pray that all of our students find happiness in learning.

*J. Landrito*, Assistant Principal PreK-4th Grade

A school principal in Singapore sent this letter to the parents before the exams

Dear Parents,

The exams of your children are to start soon. I know you are all really anxious for your child to do well.

But, please do remember, amongst the students, who will be sitting for the exams, there is an artist, who doesn't need to understand Maths.

There is an entrepreneur, who doesn't care about History or English literature.

There's a musician, whose Chemistry marks won't matter.

There's a sportsperson, whose physical fitness is more important than Physics..like Schooling

If your child does get top marks, that's great! But, if he or she doesn't, please don't take away their self-confidence and dignity from them.

Tell them it's OK, it's just an exam! They are cut out for much bigger things in life.

Tell them, no matter what they score, you love them and will not judge them.

Please do this, and when you do, watch your children conquer the world. One exam or a low mark won't take away their dreams and talent.

And please, do not think that doctors and engineers are the only happy people in the world.

With Warm Regards,

The Principal

***P.S. Here's a tip: Elementary grades are not weighted like middle school. This means tests are graded with the same importance as daily grades.***



## NEWS

### **LAGNIAPPE STARTS NEXT WEEK!**

Our next session is October 30- December 15! See the 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!

### **FALL CONFERENCE DAY NEXT FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27TH!**

#### **ECC AND ELEMENTARY**

ECC and Elementary parents were able to sign up for a conference time on Parent Information Night in August. If you have not done so, we ask that you call the front office at the school to see what appointment times are still available. These conferences are held in the child's classroom and last for 15 minutes. Students in PreK-2nd Grade are not encouraged to attend. Students in 3rd Grade and above should attend with at least one parent. The conference will be teacher led. We look forward to seeing you, and thank you for supporting your child in the trinity of parent, child and educator.

#### **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Middle School conferences will be held in the gym from 7:30- 11:30 a.m. and 12:15 - 3:45 p.m. There is no need to sign up for a conference time. Simply come to the gym at a time that is convenient for you. There will be chairs for sitting while waiting to meet with the teacher/s of your choice.

Parents and students must meet with at least one teacher but may meet with as many teachers as you would like. You are encouraged to specifically meet with teachers of subjects in which the student may be having difficulty. Please leave the white copy of the report card (signed by the parent) with the last teacher with whom you meet. If your child is doing well, there is no need to meet with all the teachers. Some teachers work with 150 students and feel a greater need to meet with the parents of students who are struggling so that suggestions can be made for improvement. If your child is struggling or has specific needs, we recommend that you set an individual appointment with the teacher/s for a later date. We appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Auxiliary and elective course teachers will be meeting in their classrooms, not in the gym (i.e. Health, PE, Art, Choir, Spanish, Band, Enrichment). Ms. Gunter, the only elective course teacher who also teaches a core subject, will be in the gym. Mr. Pacheco, the Band Director, will not be available until 10:45 a.m. after he is done with classes at Strake Jesuit.

Awards such as Honor Roll, Disciple Award, Samaritan Award and/or Good Behavior Award certificates will go home with the students in the Red Folder on Wednesday, October 25th along with the report card. We look forward to seeing you and your child on the 27th!

### **JOIN US FOR FESTIVE FUN AND SUPPORT SLCS AT OUR AUTUMN BOOK FAIR!**

We are so excited about our Book Fair! Buy some great books and help support SLCS! Here is the schedule:

Monday, Oct. 23- Thursday, October 26 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 27 Fall Conference Day 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Get your books, holiday gifts, and more!  
Thank you! We look forward to your support. See you at the book fair!

### **IMPORTANT ANNUAL FUND INFORMATION**

Commitment day is next Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, for this yearlong effort that supports our operating expenses and touches the lives of every student at SLCS. Letters [HERE](#) were mailed for this important charitable giving program. If you have not received your letter please contact the Advancement office or use the response card [HERE](#). Please prayerfully consider how your family will support this campaign as it bridges the gap between tuition and the actual cost of educating children in our Catholic faith.

### **POCKET DIRECTORIES, EXTRA RECESS...Oh MY!**

We are in the process of preparing the SLCS pocket directories. [HERE](#) are the incentives for participating in our annual fund and the only way to get your hands on one is to be counted among those have given to the future of our school. Directories will be distributed at the end of November. Classes with 85% participation will also get an additional recess session prior to the Thanksgiving Break. Every gift matters and every dollar counts!

### **GOLF TOURNEY! DEADLINE TO ENSURE GIFT!**

WE NEED YOU! Register by Friday to ensure your SLCS windbreaker! Gather your friends and family and join us for our Tuition Assistance Golf Tournament on Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at Sweetwater Country Club. Due to Harvey we have had more needs than in years past. Come relax, enjoy your community and know that you are making a difference for our students right here at SLCS. Click here for [SPONSORSHIP AND REGISTRATION](#) forms or here to pay [HERE](#) or sign up on Conference Day in the Front Office!

### **ADD YOUR COMPANY NAME TO THIS LIST**

We are so grateful for our community that continues to support our efforts to develop future saints. Our golf tournament would not be a success without the support of:



Solvay  
Tykes to Teens and Allergy and Asthma Care of Houston  
Merc Medical Supplies  
Hettig Construction Corp.  
Knights of Columbus  
Sun Air Conditioning  
The Barry Family  
The Clowney Family  
The Jakubik Family  
The Reyes Family  
Ochoa Roofing and More  
Newmark Homes  
Southwest Surgical Associates

Add your name here next week! We have sponsorships for every budget...sponsor a hole, a beverage cart, door prizes, a putting contest and more. Check out the opportunities on the school website.

### **CALLING ALL SLCS MOMS!**

Are you ready "fore" some golf? Grab a friend and come join us on the greens for our Annual Tuition Assistance Golf Tournament. Kendra Scott has graciously donated jewelry for a ladies only drawing! You do not want to miss this chance to help your community, have some fun and possible walk away with a new accessory [HERE!](#)

### **CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Have you thought about your Christmas Cards yet? We have been given an awesome opportunity by Minted [HERE](#). Use the promo code **FUNDRAISESTLAURENCE** that is worth 15% off your order the entire month of November. They will donate 15% back to our school as well. This is your nudge to get started on this yearly tradition. They sell great gift items as well. Watch your red folders next week for more info!

### **TIRED OF BEING TARDY ON THE MAIN CAMPUS?**

We are getting reports that parents turning left out of the parking lot on the main campus in morning carpool are really holding up the line. There have even been some close calls and concerns about walkers crossing that driveway; therefore, we are going to have to revert back to our "right turn only" rule in order to expedite carpool and avoid accidents. The policeman last year was hired by the city due to the construction any paying for this service is not in our budget. Please help us out by not turning left out of our parking lot in the morning.





## A NOTE FROM YOUR PTO



### **HALLOWEEN SHIRTS TO SCHOOL?**

Register for our Steps for Students fundraiser by Conference Day, October 27th [HERE](#), and your child will get to wear a Halloween-themed t-shirt to school on Tuesday, October 31st. No costumes or inappropriate (scary) themes, please! We will have the computer lab open all day on Conference Day for you to register online.

### **HOOPS & DOGS**

Join our Annual Father and Son event, Hoops & Dogs, catered by James Coney Island, October 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Please RSVP to PTOprograms@gmail.com. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Crystal Helcel [HERE](#) or Melanie Bilodeau at [HERE](#).

### **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!](#)



## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Our Wednesday theme for Red Ribbon Week is “We are called to serve one another.” Today, during morning announcements, we encouraged students to find opportunities to thank those who serve us in our school and communities. In your role as your child’s primary educator and in the spirit of the Domestic Church, parents are called to lead by example. We have compiled a list of opportunities for you to consider when teaching your child about the importance of putting their faith into action. Please read [HERE!](#)



## SAINTS SPORTS SCOOP

### **SPORTS UPDATE**

The Saints have had an awesome fall season with all of our teams competing for GHCAA Championships. Soccer, volleyball, and football all qualified for the GHCAA playoffs. Cross Country continued great performances in the GHCAA Championship. Congratulations to all the teams for a very successful fall season!

### **CROSS COUNTRY**

The Saints hosted the GHCAA Cross Country Championship last Thursday. The boys’ team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> overall and the girls’ team won the GHCAA Championship for the 5<sup>th</sup> straight year! Way to go, Saints!

A special Congratulations to our individual GHCAA race and league champions: Gabbi Hettig 5<sup>th</sup>& 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls who ran 10:37.22 for 1.5 miles, Reese Vannerson 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys 8:19.97, Margaret Riebe 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls 10:10.53, and Kody Smith 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys 8:37.96, who captured his **4<sup>th</sup> consecutive individual League Championship Title!**

The Saints Team also earned top 5 medal performances by Lynley Pace 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Morgan Leaman, 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Sydney Messersmith 5<sup>th</sup> place, 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls, and Ricky Zubizarreta, 4<sup>th</sup> place in 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys. The competition was close in all 6 races.

The top 5 scores for the girls’ team included Gabbi Hettig, Margaret Riebe, Lynley Pace, Morgan Leaman, and Sydney Messersmith for the low score of 12 points. The boys’ team top 5 scorers were Reese Vannerson, Kody Smith, Ricky Zubizarreta, Will Thorburn, and Christopher DeMoor for a team score of 20pts.

### **FOOTBALL**

The football team played in the GHCAA Championship game on Saturday at St. Thomas High School. The Saints lost the game 34-12 to St. Anthony of Padua to finish the season 3-3 and second place in the GHCAA. This was the third year in a row the football team reached the Championship game.

### **SOCCER**

The Saints soccer team qualified for the GHCAA playoffs after a few years off. Soccer played at St. Anne Tomball on Tuesday. The Saints lost a heartbreaker in penalty kicks after playing a strong St. Anne's team to a 2-2 tie in regulation time! This was a great season for the soccer team and the future looks bright!

### **VOLLEYBALL**

The volleyball team played well against tough competition this season. The team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the South Division of the GHCAA. The Saints travelled to The Woodlands on Monday for the first round of the playoffs. The girls lost a close game to St. Anthony of Padua to finish off an excellent season!

### **TENNIS**

Tennis was rained out last Saturday but both JV and Varsity will play on Saturday, October 28th at 1:30 p.m. at Sweetwater Country Club.

### **BASKETBALL**

Basketball tryouts begin this week. Both the boys and girls teams will begin games the week of November 6<sup>th</sup>.

**GOOD LUCK TO ALL THE SAINTS TEAMS!**



**SAVE THE DATE FOR UPCOMING SPIRIT NIGHTS!**

October 25 in - **Chipotle** Town Center - 6:00 -8:00 p.m.

November 9th - **Chick-Fil- A** - All Day

November 15 - **El Pollo Loco** - 4:00-8:00 p.m.

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



**READ OUR CHURCH BULLETIN [HERE!](#)**

**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.



**ATTENTION 8TH GRADERS! MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES!**

- **ST. AGNES:** Application deadline is December 15! [APPLY NOW!](#) Join us for a parent led tour [HERE!](#)
- **ST. JOHN XXIII:** Sunday, November 5th, 2017, 1-3:00 p.m. We are so excited to announce that we will be offering **FOUR FULL RIDE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ALL FOUR YEARS** this year for incoming 9th graders in addition to 10 other academic scholarships based on the HSPT exam! We will have additional information about the scholarships at Open House.
- **FORT BEND CHRISTIAN ACADEMY:** November 14th, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- **INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY:** Sunday, November 5th from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Visit [www.incarnateword.org](http://www.incarnateword.org) to register!!
- **ST. THOMAS HIGH SCHOOL:** Sunday, January 7, 1:00 p.m.

#### **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.*

**Follow SLCS**

**STAY CONNECTED**



