

**Volume 5, Issue 15 – January 3, 2018**

**Emergency School Closing**

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**Mon, Jan. 8th**

* Grs. 7&8 MAP Testing (math); 8:15
* Gr. 6 MAP Testing (math); 9:00

**Tue, Jan 9th**

* Gr. 3 MAP Testing (reading); 8:15

**Wed, Jan 10th**

* Grs. 7&8 MAP Testing (reading); 8:15
* Gr. 6 MAP Testing (reading); 9:00
* The Parent Connection Meeting; 7:00; School Hall

**Thur, Jan. 11th**

* Parent-Teacher Conference (grs K-5); Busing & Extended PM Care Services provided;
* 11:30 Early Dismissal for students (Grs. K – 5).
* Gr. 2 MAP Testing (math); 8:15
* Gr. 5 MAP Testing (reading); 8:15

**Fri, Jan 12th**

* Gr. 8 MAP Testing (language); 8:15
* Grs. 6&7 MAP Testing language); 9:00

Now that we are in the midst of this frigid cold weather and the antipation of our first potential snow storm, I have included in this newsletter the Emergency School Closing procedure for SFA.

In the event of inclement weather, please listen to radio stations WBZ – 1030, WHDH – 850, or WJDA – 1300 AM, or television stations 4, 5, or 7, for the announcement of Braintree Public Schools closing; this includes St. Francis of Assisi School. A Connect-Ed will be used at this time, as well as posted on the school’s facebook page. Parents/guardians are encouraged to use their own judgment during adverse weather conditions.

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**January 2018** As we began this New Year, it was our hope that our students returned from a safe, healthy and wonderful Christmas break; ready to once again to be engaged in learning. Also as St. Francis of Assisi School begins 2018, there are three significant events that will soon occur: re-registrations, new registrations, and Catholic Schools Week 2018.

There are 6429 Catholic Schools nationwide, which are noted for their faith-filled education and academic excellence. National testing scores, high school graduation rates, college attendance and other data show that Catholic schools frequently outperform schools in both the public and private sections. We are among those numbers and are truly proud of our school for our: rich faith formation program, high academic standards and expectations, accomplishments of our students, and the opportunities they are afforded. Our current families, students and alumni are our best advertising and school ambassadors. They can and have witnessed the spiritual development as well as the personal and academic growth evident in each of the students entrusted to our care. We thank them for truly unlocking their child’s potential with a Catholic Education.

**RE-REGISTRATION INFORMATION -** It is almost the time of the year that we must begin the process of re-registration, as well as planning for the 2018 – 2019 school year.

Next week, re-registration forms for students enrolling in our Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten programs for the *2018 – 2019 school year*  will be sent home with students. These forms are also posted on our school’s website and will be due back by Friday, January 19, 2018.

Sibling registration forms will be available next Wednesday, January 10, 2018. They may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Daly.

Re-registration forms for grades 1 – 8 will be sent home on Wednesday, January 17, 2018.

**OPEN HOUSE FOR NEW PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES -** *Do you have a friend or relative who might be interested in enrolling their child at SFA for the 2018 – 2019 school year*? If so, please invite them to attend our Open House, which will be held on Sunday, January 28, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Highlights of the day include the following: An information session; guided tours directed by SFA students; meet administration, faculty, and staff; hear from current students, parents, and alumni; and learn about SFA’s curriculum and extracurricular activities. In addition, prospective families may also visit our school throughout Catholic Schools Week (January 29th – February 2nd) from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Applications will be accepted (pending availability) on a first come, first serve basis. Enroll Today!

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2018** - The third important New Year event is Catholic Schools Week 2018 itself. Catholic Schools Week, scheduled for Sunday January 28th – Saturday, February 3rd. It is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. During the week, we focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation. We build community awareness of and involvement in Catholic schools throughout the country. And we honor those who contribute to the success of our schools—students, families, faculty and staff, volunteers, community supporters and local and national leaders.

This year’s theme is “Catholic Schools – Learn~Serve~Lead~Succeed.

C:\Documents and Settings\Owner\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\3IVL1NON\MC900088966[1].wmf**PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Optional parent-teacher conferences for the grades kindergarten through five will be held on Thursday, January 11th from 12:30 – 8:00 p.m. ***Students in these grades only, will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 11th.*** Buses will comply with our schedule and Extended Day Program will also be available.

Following your child’s progress on TeacherEase should assist you in determining whether or not to schedule a conference. We will be using the on-line system to make appointments for these conferences again this year. If you would like to schedule a conference, log onto https://pickatime.com/client?ven=11604701&event=284318. The site will be open on Monday, January 8th at 8:00 a.m. and close on Wednesday, January 10th at 8:00 p.m. You will be brought to a home page and need to use your email address and create a password to enter the site

Optional parent-teacher conferences for the students in pre-kindergarten will take place on Thursday, January 18th.

**MAP TESTING (WINTER SESSION)**

SFA along with other schools in the Archdiocese of Boston will continue to use and implement the *NWEA MAP* on-line assessment tool for all students in grades one through eight. This testing is not done to measure one school against another or solely to identify a student’s strengths or weaknesses. Test results are evaluated by teachers to assure that individual academic growth occurs and that the flow of curriculum avoids repetition and allows for our curriculum to fully benefit each child. Over the next few weeks, we will be administering the Winter Session assessments.

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| **8**  Grs. 7&8 (math) 8:15  Gr. 6 (math) 9:00 | **9**  Gr. 3 (reading) 8:15 | **10**  Grs. 7&8 (reading) 8:15  Gr. 6 (reading) 9:00 | **11**  Gr. 2 (math) 8:15  Gr. 5 (reading) 8:15 | **12**  Gr. 8 (language) 8:15  Grs. 6&7 (language) 9:00 |
| **15**  *Martin Luther King Jr. Day* | **16**  Gr. 3 (language) 8:15 | **17**  Gr. 4 (reading) 8:15 | **18**  Gr. 2 (reading) 8:15  Gr. 5 (language) 8:15 | **19** |
| **21** | **22**  Gr. 1 (math) 8:15 | **23**  Gr. 3 (math) 8:15 | **24**  Gr. 4 (language) 8:15 | **25**  Gr. 2 (language) 8:15  Gr. 5 (math) 8:15 |
| **29**  Gr. 1 (reading) 8:15 | **30** | **31**  Gr. 4 (math) 8:15 | **1** | **2** |

**SAVE THE DATES …**

Our next SFA Parent Connection meeting is scheduled for Wednesday evening, January 10th at 7:00. Please join us as we will be discussing amd planning some of our upcoming events.

**SFA’s GROUP OUTING AT THE PROVIDENCE BRUINS**

St. Francis of Assisi is planning a group outing with the Providence Bruins. This promises to be a wonderful event with great seats for our school to watch the Bruins play against the SPR. The game will take place on Sunday, January 21st at 3:05 at the Dunkin Donut Center. All of our students will receive a free P-Bruins hat, popcorn and a drink. Attached to this email is a flyer with addition details and ticket purchasing information. Please note that the Ticket Form must be returned, along with payment to SFA on or before January 9th.

**SFA FUNDRAISER AT JAKE n JOES**

SAVE THE DATE!!! On Thursday, January 25th, enjoy lunch/dinner or take-out at Jake n Joes in Braintree from 11:30 – close and SFA will receive 20% of the total bill of all food and beverages. **More information to follow!**

**SAFETY CONCERN**

When crossing Washington Street at arrival and dismissal, Shannon, our traffic guard has asked for your cooperation in making sure that all parents and students cross at the crosswalk under the direction of the crossing guard. This is to ensure the safety of all!

**FACEBOOK** – Make sure you check and like us on our school’s Facebook page

[**https://www.facebook.com/sfabraintree**](https://www.facebook.com/sfabraintree)