

**Volume 5, Issue 6 – October 18, 2017**

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**Oct. 17-19th**

* Scholastic Book Fair

**Wed, Oct. 18th**

* 1st Trimester Mid-Point (grs. PK-5)
* Grade 8 visits AWHS; 8:30 – 1:00

**Sat, Oct. 21st**

* 5 Annual SFA Pumpkin Run; 10:00

**Tue, Oct. 24th**

* Lifetouch Individual Picture Day

**Wed, Oct. 25th**

* 11:30 a.m. Early Dismissal: No Hot Lunch; Extended PM Care and Busing provided.
* Faculty Meeting; 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

**Mon, Oct. 30th**

* Windy City Player’s presents “Robin Hood” at 8:30 a.m. in the Church Hall.

**Tue, Oct. 31st**

* Halloween!

**NEASC** - As most of you are aware, Saint Francis of Assisi School is a member and accredited by New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).

The goals of accreditation are effectiveness, improvement, and public assurance.  Each school that is a member of NEASC is accredited using the same protocols and materials assuring that the school is faithful to its mission, conduct its programs appropriately to meet its goals and fulfills the [Standards of Accreditation](http://cis.neasc.org/standards-policies/standards-indicators) established by the Commission on Independent Schools. Since September 2016, our faculty and staff at SFA began working on our re-accreditation process in preparation of our upcoming visit on April 29 – May 3, 2018.

NEASC is a voluntary, peer review process. As a member of NEASC, it is expected that each school participates in the process of contributing and serving on various visiting committees. Participation on a visiting committee is a worthwhile and rewarding professional experience, while also providing much needed help to member schools as they strive to improve. Two weeks ago, Ms. Julianna Gratta, our Reading and Math specialist served on a visiting committee for St. Augustine School in Providence, Rhode Island.

From Sunday, October 22nd – Wednesday, October 25th, I will be chairing a visiting committee at St. Thomas School in Sanford, Maine. During my absence at SFA, Mr. Leo Egan will serve as acting principal. Please keep both schools in your prayers and thoughts.

http://www.disneyclips.com/imagesnewb6/imageslwrakr01/cliff5s.gif**Scholastic Book Fair**

Our students are enjoying the opportunity to attend our Fall Scholastic Book Fair. Our book Fair will continue to run until tomorrow, Thursday, October 19th. I want to thank all of our volunteers who have assisted us with the setting-up and running of our fair. It is greatly appreciated and this event would not be possible without your help. Finally, I would be remised not to thank all of our parents for their continued support of this event; as we attempt to promote literacy and the love of reading for our students.

**5th SFA ANNUAL PUMPKIN RUN**

Calling all runners and walkers!! Join us at the 5th Annual Saint Francis of Assisi School Pumpkin Run-Walk on Saturday, October 21st at 10:00 a.m. at SFA.

***It’s Not too Late!!! Register today online at sfapumpkinrun.racewire.com***

The cost is $20 for an adult, $10 for a youth (under 18) and $50 family maximum. Day of the Run/Walk entries will also be welcomed! Come support our school!

The event consists of a 5K Run or Walk with a Post-Race Party, Raffles and Awards for the Winners. **Come dressed in your Halloween Costume …** ***there will even be an Award for the Best Halloween Costume (optional)!***

**Individual Picture Day is Coming**

SFA School Portraits will be taken on Tuesday, October 24th at St. Francis of Assisi School by Lifetouch School Portraits! ***Please note: the students will be photographed in uniforms***. Later in the school year, class pictures and seasonal individual portraits will be taken. If your child has physical education on Tuesday, he/she should wear their formal uniform with sneakers on this day.

**11:30 Early Dismissal Day**

As noted on our yearly and monthly calendars - ***please note that next Wednesday, October 25th is an 11:30 a.m. Early Release Day. Please note that there will no hot lunch available; busing and Extended P.M. Day Services will be provided.***

**“Robin Hood Performance”**

On Monday, October 30th, the Windy City Players, a National Touring Theater group will present their version of the classic musical “Robin Hood” to our entire school community. Our students will certainly enjoy and be entertained with this outstanding performance. As we attempt to educate the whole child, it is wonderful that we can offer these types of cultural experiences to our students.

**Halloween**

****On Halloween (Tuesday, October 31st), the students may dress up and wear their Halloween costumes to school. ***Please note that the costumes must be school appropriate and no weapons, accessories, masks or open shoes are allowed***.

**All Saints’ Liturgy**

On Wednesay, November 1st, our school will be gathering for an all-school liturgy in honor of All Saints’ Day. The litugy will be at 8:45 a.m. and is being planned and coordinated by our fourth grade teachers and students. All are welcome.

**SFA Parent Connection**

The SFA Parent Connection is an association that includes all current parents of St. Francis of Assisi School students. The Parent Connection is responsible for organizing a number of events through the year, as well as assisting the administration and faculty with a variety of school activities. Every parent at St. Francis of Assisi School is a member of the Parent Connection, and is encouraged to support their child’s education by volunteering for one or more events.

Some of the event that the Parent Connection sponsors include: Pumpkin Run/Walk, Breakfast with Santa, Catholic Schools Week, Student and Teacher Appreciation Days, and Spring Social.

The Parent Connection also provides volunteers to assist with school activities such as Morning Coffees, the Scholastic Book Fairs, Drama Productions, Open House, First Communion, Enrichment programs, and Field Day.

Room Parents, another arm of the Parent Connection, are primarily involved with activities specific to the class room, such as field trips, special class projects, and enhancing school-home communications.

The Parent Connection also fulfills an important role in providing financial support for our school. By being an active member of the Parent Connection, you can help support the mission and goals of St. Francis of Assisi School!

**Please join us at our 1st SFA Parent Connection meeting scheduled for Wednesday evening, November 1st at 7:00 p.m. in the School Hall!**

If you have a new idea or wish to get involved, please contact our Parent Connection Co-Chairs:

Serenity Belo

Kate Herbst

[parentconnection@sfab.org](mailto:parentconnection@sfab.org)

**Upcoming Dates/Events**

* **1st Trimester Mid-Point – Wednesday, October 18th**
* **Progress Reports –** will be distributed in grades PK-5 on Friday, October 20th.
* **Middle School Dance**

On Friday evening, October 27th, our middle school students are invited to join other students from Sacred Heart, St. Francis Xavier, Quincy Catholic Academy, St Paul, and St. Jerome School for a Halloween Costume Middle School Dance. The dance will be held at St. Paul School in Hingham from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. **Please note that the permission slip and the $8 payment is due by this Friday, October 20th.**

* **The Yogurt Bar Fundraiser**

On Wednesday, November 1st from 12:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., SFA presents a special fundraising event at The Yogurt Bar. A percentage of all sales will be donated to our school! Tell your friends and stop in!

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**SFA Basketball 2017 – 2018 -** Once again, it is time to offer to our middle school students (grades five through eight) the opportunity to play on our SFA Basketball Teams. It is our hope to possibly have four SFA teams consisting of: grades 5/6 girls; grades 5/6 boys; grades 7/8 girls; and grades 7/8 boys; depending upon the interest and participation. Today you have received Basketball Registration Forms and please note that all Registration Forms must be returned with the $150. All registration forms and fees must be returned by October 28th. ***Please note that we are in need of additional players in the various grade levels in order to have enough players for our teams this year***. Please consider being a part of our Basketball Teams.

**Upcoming Enrichment Programs**

**Archery –** On The Mark Archery will once again be held at SFA. Learn to shoot a bow this fall and discover your inner archer! Archery is an exciting focus oriented sport that helps students improve muscle memory, coordination and mental discipline. All equipment is provided. This afterschool program for grades 4 and up will take place on Tuesday afternoon from October 31st – November 21st from 2:15 – 3:15 p.m. The cost of the program is $96 and registration deadline is Friday, Octber 27th. Sign up Now at www.on themarkarchery.com/SFA.

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

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