



SAINT GABRIEL SCHOOL

2550 Forty First Avenue
San Francisco, California 94116
(415) 566-0314
www.stgabrielssf.com

PARENT NEWSLETTER

www.sgsparents.com

October 5, 2016

Hello Parents,

The year is moving--October is here and with it brings more fun, excitement, and learning opportunities for our students! It has been a blessing to watch the students already begin to expand their minds. Keep up the wonderful support you give them and they are truly in debt to you for being able to provide them with a one-of-a-kind education; a Catholic education!

Bring on Autumn and all the beautiful things it has to offer. Also make the time to enjoy it with your family. "The Faith Prayed" is our faithful focus for this year, guided by our Holy Father, Pope Francis. Let's pray together for all who need our prayers, in many different ways, and all of the times we have to reflect for ourselves and others.

God of all seasons, we thank you for Autumn.

We thank you

for the touch of coolness in the air that gives us a new burst of energy,

for the coloring of trees that shows the creativity of the Divine Artist,

for the falling leaves that reveal the strength of the branches,

for the hues of fields that bring peace to our souls,

for the smiles on pumpkins that bring joy to children,

for the fall harvest which that brings us gratitude for the bounty of our land,

for this change of seasons that reveals the circle of life.

God of all seasons, as you transform the earth, transform us by your Spirit.

Amen

- Doug Leonhardt, S.J.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mrs. Beal". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mrs. Gina Beal
Principal

Upcoming Items

OCTOBER

- 3 - 14 Student Council Costume Drive**
- 4 Parish Women's Prayer Group - 12noon to 1pm @ the Parish Center**
- 6 Hearing Testing:** Grades 1-5 & New Students
- 7 St. Francis Blessing of the Animals Prayer Service -**
2:10pm in Library yard. Prepared by 6A & 6B classes.
All are invited to bring their pets for a blessing.
- 10 Columbus Day Observed - SCHOOL HOLIDAY**
- 11 Parish Council Meeting - 7:30 pm - Quinn Center**
- 13 Mini Opera in Bedford Hall for grades 7-8**
- 15 Beautification Committee Volunteers: 9:00am - 12 noon.**
Come join in the fun!
- 16 Jog-A-Thon @ St. Ignatius track from 9:00am - 2:30pm.**
Bring family and friends out to get moving for St. Gabriel!
- 18 1st Grades trip to Lemos Farms**

Parish Women's Prayer Group - 12noon to 1pm @ the Parish Center

1st Communion Parent Meeting - 7:00pm - Church
- 19 High School Information Day - Grades 7&8; Parents of grades 7-8 invited. Call Clinic for schedule.**
- 20 School Informational Tour @ 8:30am**
- 23 1st Communion Acceptance Mass - 10:00am**
- 24 MAKE-UP School Picture Day**
Full Uniform Required Formal Dress Day - Students wear school blue sweaters. No sweatshirts or walking shorts.

MINIMUM DAY - 12:30 pm DISMISSAL
- 25 School Board Meeting - 7:00 pm - Faculty Room**

- 27 Parent Support Group Meeting - TBD**
- 29 7th grades Pine Lake Restoration project from 10:00am to Noon**
- 31 Halloween Parade @ 1:50pm in Parking Lot:** All students in grades K-8 will parade and fall into their dismissal lines and areas by 2:30pm.
Note: As always, costumes with war themes, guns, knives, or any other weapons are not allowed to be worn. For safety reasons, skateboards, wheelies, bikes, or rollerblades are not allowed in the parade or school yard.

- November**
- 1 Feast of All Saints**
 - 4 End of First Quarter of school**
 - 7-10 Book Fair in New Library**
 - 8-10 Parent-Teacher Conferences**

8th Grade’s CYO Environmental Retreat

The 8th grades have already tackled their annual Environmental Retreat at CYO camp in Occidental, California. Their teachers and adult camp naturalists led them through the five-day experience. The program included a parent review night, classroom preparation, the five-day experience, and a classroom follow-up with camp personnel. This exciting and memorable trip provides growth for each student and helps bind them as a class in friendship and in their understanding and acceptance of differences.

International Food Faire

Our very first social fundraiser of the school year is already under our belts! The International Food Faire was a great success and delicious food was shared by all! Many thanks to all those who prepared and donated food items and to all the set-up, serving, and clean-up help we received! Well done SG Knights!

Student Council Costume Drive

The 2016-17 SY Student Council is collecting used Halloween costumes for those who might not have the opportunity to get one this year. The collection began Monday, Oct 3rd and goes through Friday, Oct. 14th. Bring in a costume if you can and help those less fortunate during this holiday time.

Make-Up School Picture Day

Make-Up School pictures will be on October 24th. Individual picture make-ups only. Students should be in **full uniform** and **must** wear their blue uniform sweater.

Screen time for our kiddos--an interesting article

Find some time to read this article from Raise Smart Kids about the pros and cons of screen time for our kids:

<http://www.raisesmartkid.com/all-ages/1-articles/smartphone-and-tablet-screen-time-good-or-bad-for-kids>

Beautification Day: September 17th, 2016

We had a successful Beautification Day on Saturday, Sept 17th.

It was wonderful to see many new families come out in the fresh air to care for our school grounds.

We accomplished many things:

- Garbage pickup around interior & exterior perimeter of school
- Rake leaves/debris in garden areas and compost the greens
- Trim trees & bushes in front of the parish center, church, rectory and inner yard near preschool.
- Plant succulents in the garden area to the right of church, adding some new peat moss.

Our next Beautification Day will be October 21st from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon; please join us!

Parent Volunteers:

Jean Ancheta
Seti Conseti
Jenette Francis
John O'Connell
Nicole Piedra
Angelina Mendoza
Michael Mendoza
Dina Visperas-Moffat
Azjah Robertson
London Whitted
Lead: Judy Breitbarth

Student Volunteers:

Carly Breitbarth
Sonia Boughaffour
Ella Francis
Xavier Mendoza
Santiago Mendoza
Noelani Moffat
Maile Moffat
Erika Piedra
Jayden Whitted

Thank you, Judy Breitbarth

First Ever Alumni Ice Cream Social--A Success!

Thank you Alumni Board members and Alumni parents who made the Ice Cream Social possible. It was an extra special event because of you!

Mary Anne Zamarripa, Mary Fogarty, Gloria Keeley, Anjie Chew, Angela Sicord, Brandon Mew, Krystal Flores, Kathy Cazanis, Eileen Barry, and LeeAnn DeLeon Miyamoto

75th Parish Jubilee

Thank you so much for ALL of the support, time, energy, and help that was put into assisting our Parish celebration of turning 75 years young! All the festivities were fantastic and enjoyed by all who attended. It could not have been achieved without each and everyone's help in our parish-school community!

Archbishop Cordileone visits SG

On Sunday, October 2nd and Monday, October 3rd, Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone made his pastoral visit of St. Gabriel Parish and School. On Sunday, he met with parish groups, celebrated the 10:00am Mass and blessed our very own Tiny Knights Preschool. Thank you to the families who donated baked goods for the parishioner reception and to Devil's Teeth and Mazzetti's bakeries for their generous and yummy donations. On Monday, he spent the morning with the school, celebrating the 8:30am Mass with parishioners and grades 1 -8, visiting each and every classroom, and enjoying lunch with the staff. I feel he enjoyed his visit and was impressed with St. Gabriel School! Way to go SG Knights!

Tuition Reminder

Tuition payments are due on the first day of each month. Tuition not received by the 10th of each month is considered delinquent unless specific arrangements have been made with the Principal.

High School Information Day

Thursday, October 19th, is High School Information Day for students in grades 7 & 8 and their parents. Representatives from local Catholic High Schools have been scheduled to address them. This day is always of true value to our students and parents because their specific questions can be addressed, as well as gaining overall information about the schools. The high schools attending are: Sacred Heart Cathedral, Mercy, San Francisco & Burlingame, Archbishop Riordan, St. Ignatius, and Convent of the Sacred Heart and Stuart Hall. Call the school Clinic for a copy of this schedule, if needed.

Marathon Kids @ SG

For the second year, St. Gabriel School has secured a grant to have a Marathon Kids Program (www.marathonkids.org) for the students. This program is for all grade levels. The purpose of the program is to promote running and fitness. This year's program will be for approximately 9 months and will consist of running and walking. The participants will be awarded certificates and prizes for each half and full level marathon (26.2 miles) completed, with the goal being a total of 4 marathon distances (104.8 miles) being completed. This program will include group runs throughout the year, as well as the participant running/walking on their own, with a weekly distance total being submitted to the program's coach. This program is a great cross training

activity for active students, or a great program for those students who want to participate in a sport at their own pace.

There are a limited number of spots available. Parent support and participation is encouraged and expected to help make this program successful for the participants.

If you would like to sign your child up for this program, or if you have questions, please contact the coach. Also, **please sign your child up NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 14th**. There will be no late sign ups for the program due to the ordering of the prizes.

Coach Information:

Michele Gachowski

415-902-2436; michelegachowski@yahoo.com

34th Annual Jog-A-Thon @ St. Ignatius track from 9:00am - 2:30pm.

When: Sunday, October 16, 2016

Where: St. Ignatius College Prep Track (enter on 39th Avenue and Quintara)

For your Jog-A-Thon packet go to sgsparents.com and click on Jog-A-Thon.

Permission slips must be in by Oct. 7th.

We ask that you please arrive 15 minutes early to check in!

K and 1st Grade	9:00 AM - 9:45 AM
Grades 2 and 3	10:00 AM - 10:45 AM
Grades 4 and 5	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Grades 6 and 7	12:15 PM - 1:15 PM
Grade 8	1:30 PM to 2:30 PM

FINAL LAP!

If you have any questions, feel free to email Katherine Alba-Swanson at klas43@sbcglobal.net

Jog-A-thon Coordinators

Chairpersons:	Mary Reidy	415-867-8040	Jimmy (4A)
	Katherine Alba-Swanson	415-609-1499	Liam (7B)

Class Coordinators:

Kindergarten	Katie Debrunner	415-699-0145	Quinn (KAM)
1st Grade	Ty Debrunner	415-439-9329	Jack (1A)
2nd Grade	Alison Yee	415-269-9110	Ruby (2B)
3rd Grade	Judi Dito	415-516-0244	Maddalena (3A)
4th Grade	Dianne Daly	650-993-4473	Liam (4A)
5th Grade	Monica Murphy	415-731-5096	Aisling (5B)
6th Grade	Cathy Thorsen	415-566-5680	Emily (6A)
7th Grade	Paul Daijo	415-640-3321	Jayne (7A)
8th Grade	Karen Byrne	650-588-5774	Jack (8B)

Robotics

The SG Middle School Robotics season has commenced with their challenge this year. You can visit our website at:

<http://fl.stgabrielsf.com>

If you work with animals, we would love to hear from you and possibly interview you, as this is what our research is about this year. Please email Mr. Fair at gfair@stgabrielsf.com if you're interested. We are especially interested in rhinos and aiding dogs without all 4 legs.

Mark your calendar for our competition on Sunday November 20th 9AM - 5 PM at Lowell High School. **Everyone** is invited.

Bouncing Bots #7453

Coaches: Kathy Chaloupka and John Sarmiento

6A Alivia Zhao
7B Anna Vargas
8A Brandon Baumann
7B Danny Panina
7B Declan Poland
6B Fiona Martin
8A Jake Green
7B Jordan Miyamoto
7A Liam Strachan
7A Molly O'Connell

RhiNO Poaching #7052

Coaches: Dora Diaz and Mindy Poland

7A Audrey Bonifacio
8B Brandan Lee
6A Brandon Lee
7B Cameron Chao
6B Cynthia Wang
6B Elle Karanian
7B Kayla Yee
6B Lucas Sarmiento
7A Tom Murphy
7B Tyler Kuwada

HS Student Mentors: Ian Kong, Aurora Hermosura, Audrey Hermosura, Jordyn Kosai, Carina Bagley, Melanie Miyamoto, Gabriel Juarez, and Florenz Blancaflor

Mentors: Jaime Marckwordt and Gordon Fair

Kindergarten Open House/School Tours

Thank you to our parent tour guides who led prospective families through the school at our Kindergarten Open House and school tour. They were:

Kathy Chaloupka
Jennifer Joost
Amber Yeung

Thanks also to our parents/staff who provided refreshments for our guests at the Open House. They were:

Judi Dito
Jane Gibbons
Jennifer Lau
And an anonymous parent!

And, thank you to Catherine Cook, Danielle Sly, and all of our parents who referred their friends and family to St. Gabriel School. **You continue to be our best advertisers.** So, keep spreading the word. Our next tour is October 20th! When you do, you help others with their school search and help keep enrollment strong at St. Gabriel.

Application for the 2017-18 School Year Now Available

Applications for the 2017-18 school year **are now available.** Parents of current students who would like to enroll a sibling in kindergarten (or other grades) next school year are strongly encouraged to pick up an application as soon as possible. This helps us estimate how many spaces are needed for incoming siblings.

Note: There is a \$50 application fee (per application) to be paid at the time the application is picked up. Checks and cash are accepted.

Parent Annual Giving/\$15,000 CHALLENGE GRANT

This year's Parent Annual Giving campaign is off to a fantastic start! Thank you to our Lead the Way donors for your early pledges and leading off this year's campaign! This is only the beginning! All we need to reach our goal of 100% participation is YOU! See the attached flyer for more information including the **\$15,000** Challenge Grant.

Online Parent Annual Fund Pledge Payments

Want an easy option to pay your Parent Annual Giving pledge? Just as you can make tuition payments online through your bank, you can set up payments for your pledge. Check to see if your bank offers this service. Indicate **St. Gabriel School** as the payee. In the "Memo" or "Account" section, be sure to note "**Parent Annual Giving.**"

2016-17 SCHOOL PROFILE

Attached is the 2016-17 St. Gabriel School Profile listing information on all aspects of the school. Also included in the profile are the dates of school tours and open houses.

Grandparents' Day

Grandparents' Day is coming! Our annual Grandparents' Day will be held on Wednesday, November 23, 2016 from 10:30am to 12:30pm. We are asking that parents request the number of invitations and/or messages needed. Invitations are for those who can potentially attend and messages are for grandparents/special friends who are unable to come. Invitations/messages will be sent home for families to mail or deliver directly to their grandparents or honorary grandparents. The order form for invitations and messages is attached to this bulletin. **Please return the invitation/message request by Friday, October 14th** and be on the look out for the invitations and messages to come home in November. Also, see the flyer for parent hour opportunities. Looking forward to a great day!

Parents Please Note: The event will begin with the reception in Bedford Hall. Grandparents should enter the front doors of Bedford Hall when arriving at the event. Also, don't forget, due to the limited space at this event, parents can help in the following ways:

- Have grandparents who do not need assistance or are very comfortable coming on their own attend by themselves.
- If grandparents need assistance or are more comfortable coming with parents, limit the number of "extra" family members to one or two parents only.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) started in late September at St. Gabriel Parish. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic; or if you or someone you know has been baptized but has not yet been confirmed or received First Communion, please call Matt Shea at 415-731-6161 and leave the name and phone number of the person so that he may make contact and let them know a little bit more about the process.

Now is a good time to talk to your friends and family about joining our Church community so start looking around for those you think might be interested in participating in the RCIA process. They might be waiting for someone to ask them if they've considered joining the Church...that someone might be you. Or you may be the person who would like to learn more, you may want to be able to understand and share the faith that your children are learning here at school. You might be interested in having your whole family join the Church. Feel free to call Matt Shea with any questions you might have about this program for you or for others.

Community Outreach

On Saturday, September 17, 2016, seven eighth grade students volunteered in the Pine Lake Community Restoration Program sponsored by the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department's--Natural Resource Division. Dylan Hayes, the head gardener at Pine Lake, introduced the students to Pine Lake's flora and fauna diversity and to the multitude of birds that use Pine Lake to migrate on the Pacific Coast Flyway.

Afterwards, Dylan instructed the student in the safe use of loppers and maddocks for removing the invasive ivy that is choking the nutrients out of the lake's trees. In the process, Christine and Michael located the evasive and invasive Cape Ivy (purple stem) and yanked it out. A bit later Vinny and Christine uncovered the main thick root of the ivy plant. Everyone helped to pull out most of the root. However, the rest of the root was deeply embedded in the soil. Dylan promised the students he would return to axe out the remaining ivy root. Many park visitors commended the students for their hard work and dedication in beautifying Pine Lake. What an exciting time!

A big Thank You to those who participated:

Vinny Chew	Olivia Louie
Sarah El Qadah	Michael Ma
Brandan Lee	Jadeyn Palaby
Christine Lin	Mrs. B. Tonegato-Jerrell

ST. GABRIEL
SCHOOL'S

PARENT ANNUAL GIVING

The 2016-17 Parent Annual Giving Campaign is off and running!

We are already at
15% Parent Participation, and have
\$11,954* pledged for our campaign!

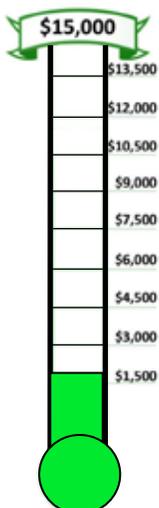
This is only the beginning!

We need **you** to reach our goal of 100% participation!

*(includes company matching funds)

How do you participate?

- Pledge your prayers and/or thoughts for St. Gabriel School throughout the 2016-17 school year. To do so, **mark the Part A box on the pledge form.**
- Consider making a monetary donation (**Part B of pledge form**). If you are able, please be as generous as you can.
- Help us receive an extra **\$15,000** (see below/reverse) for Chromebooks by submitting your pledge by December 31, 2016. No funds need to be included with your pledge.



ROCCA CHALLENGE GRANT

Thank you to the Rocca Family for sponsoring a **\$15,000** Challenge Grant!

So far, \$2,105 will be matched!

Yet, we still have a ways to go!
This offer expires 12/31/16,
so please pledge today!

(See reverse for details.)

HERE IS A LIST, BY CLASS, OF CURRENT PARTICIPATION.

If you have more than one child, credit is given to each class

Kindergarten.....	14%
1st Grade.....	15%
2nd Grade.....	11%
3rd Grade.....	27%
4th Grade.....	10%
5th Grade.....	22%
6th Grade.....	19%
7th Grade.....	11%
8th Grade.....	16%

The Challenge is on!
Help us receive an extra **\$15,000**
toward St. Gabriel School's
Chromebooks Project!

What is the \$15,000 Challenge Grant? It is a pool of funds, sponsored by Tom & Kari Rocca, that will match certain donations to St. Gabriel School and go toward Chromebooks.

How can we receive these funds?

- 1) For every "new" participant to PAG (i.e., those who did not participate last year including new families to SG), monetary donations will be matched dollar for dollar!
- 2) If you participated last year and increase your donation from last year, the increase amount will be matched!

It's that easy!

**The Challenge Grant is available only
until December 31, 2016!**

**Help us receive the full \$15,000
by pledging by the end of 2016!**

*All families benefit from Annual Giving.
That is why all are asked to participate!*

For questions regarding Development, including Annual Giving at St. Gabriel School, contact Alice Lawrie, Development Director, at sgs@stgabrielsf.com or 415-566-0314.



Grandparents' Day Is Coming!



On Wednesday, **November 23, 2016**, St. Gabriel School will hold our annual Grandparents' Day. Grandparents and honorary Grandparents will be our special guests and enjoy a reception in Bedford Hall, visit classrooms, and be our guests of honor at a Thanksgiving Prayer Service prepared by the 7th grade students.

Make plans now to invite your Grandparent or Special Friend. **RSVP's are important!** Name tags made based on RSVP's tell our visitors their grandchild's classroom. **Without name tags, visitors do not know where to go.**

Parents may request **Invitations and/or Messages** as follows:

INVITATIONS: For Grandparents who might be able to attend the event

MESSAGES: For Grandparents who cannot attend but to let them know they will be thought of in a prayerful way on Grandparents' Day

Invitations and messages will be sent to parents approximately 3 weeks before the event. **Instructions for handling them will be included. Please read the instructions carefully!**

Questions re: Invitations/
Messages, email Alice Lawrie,
sgs@stgabrielsf.com

**GRANDPARENTS' DAY INVITATION &
MESSAGE ORDER FORM
Due by Friday, October 14, 2016**

**Detach here &
RETURN ENTIRE
BOTTOM to school**

Name of Oldest Child _____ Class _____
(please print)

of Invitations Requested: _____ **# of Messages Requested:** _____

----- DO NOT DETACH. Rétúrni éntíre bóttóm to schóól. -----

Parent Hour Opportunities:

I would like to help with the Grandparents' Day Reception. I can:

- _____ Donate a baked item
- _____ Donate a diabetic-friendly baked item
- _____ Donate a healthy appetizer (e.g., fruit, vegetable, meat or shrimp tray)
- _____ Help at the event (approx. 8:00am to 12:30pm)

Name: _____ Phone # _____

Email: _____

To: Development Office

Questions re: Reception,
email Jacqui Saxon,
jacqandbrian@gmail.com

St. Gabriel School 2016-17 Profile

2550 41st Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94116 • (415) 566-0314

Description	Catholic parish elementary school; co-educational; grades Pre-K-8; founded 1948.
Enrollment	468 students from 309 families: kindergarten-42, first grade-53, second grade-36, third grade-56, fourth grade-51, fifth grade-50, sixth grade-59, seventh grade-65, eighth grade-56. Each grade is divided into two classes.
Faculty/Staff	18 classroom teachers. 47% of faculty has advanced degrees or additional credentials. 1 science specialist teacher, 2 part-time computer teachers. Support staff includes the religion coordinator, 2 part-time music teachers, 1 part-time counselor, 1 part-time learning specialist, 1 full-time and part-time resource teacher, development director, librarian, and 6 classroom aides.
Students	51% of our students live in the Sunset or Parkside Districts, 28% come from other parts of San Francisco, 20% from northern San Mateo county and 1% other Bay Area. Our student body is reflective of the ethnic diversity of the Bay Area: 13% Chinese; 7% Filipino; 3% Hispanic, 46% other white; 2% other (e.g., Japanese, Hispanic, other Asian); and 31% multiracial. 71% of our students are Catholic.
Accreditation	Western Catholic Educational Association (WCEA), and Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).
Tuition and Fees	\$8,867 with discounts for parent hours, scrip purchase, and/or parish support. A non-refundable registration fee is \$675 for families new to St. Gabriel (\$300 is applied to tuition), \$375 for families in school.
Financial Aid	Granted on basis of need according to Archdiocesan guidelines to families enrolled in the school in the spring of each year.
Extended Care	7:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. school days. Registration fee: \$25 per family. Cost: \$4.50/hr. per child w/plan, \$5.50/hr. per child w/o plan.
Curriculum	Develops age-appropriate mastery of skills in elementary subjects with emphasis on Christian values and action, meeting the requirements of the State of California and the Archdiocese of San Francisco Department of Catholic Schools. All students participate in the religious education program. Optional before/ afterschool Spanish classes.
Support Services	Learning Specialist, 2 Resource Teachers, student and family counseling, Bridges (a program for children who have experienced a loss), "In A Pinch" (a program of families helping families in a crisis), professional tutoring.
Facilities	Well maintained buildings and classrooms; fully networked with WiFi access; interactive DLP projectors and document cameras in all classrooms, iPads, iMAC Lab: mini Kindergarten Mac Lab; classroom computers; fully equipped Science Discovery Center; 2 Learning Resource Rooms; library; preschool; gymnasium/ auditorium; multipurpose room; extended care facility.
Activities	Academic competitions, Parish sports, Student Service Program, Student Council, Choral group, dramatic musical production, outreach groups, science fair, speech opportunities, robotics club, art classes, piano lessons, chess classes, garden committee, peer tutoring.
Parent Involvement	40 volunteer hours (20 hours for single parents). Scrip purchase required for discounted tuition.

Tour Information There will be a Kindergarten Open House on October 4, 2016 with tours at 8:30 & 10:00. No reservations required. Other school tours will be held at 8:30 on: Oct. 20, Nov. 3, 14 & 29, and Dec. 13, 2016. Please register for school tours by emailing sgs@stgabrielsf.com or calling 415-566-0314.

Visit our web site: www.stgabrielsf.com for more information