



SAINT GABRIEL SCHOOL

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

PARENT NEWSLETTER

www.sgsparents.com

March 2, 2016

Dear Parents,

My goodness! Time sure flies when you are having fun! And here at St. Gabriel's we are having a BLAST! The teachers and students have been working hard through this 3rd Quarter and are more than ready to finish strong with the 4th Quarter, beginning March 14.

Keep working hard and strive to do your best! This strong finish carries St. Gabriel students above the rest. The support of our family and friends is that extra push we all need to achieve and be successful. We are a unit; we are a family!

May God bless you and your family!

*May God grant you always
A sunbeam to warm you
A moonbeam to charm you
A sheltering angel
So nothing can harm you
Laughter to cheer you
Faithful friends near you
And whenever you pray
Heaven to hear you
Happy Easter Sunday!*

Blessings for a wonderful Easter celebration,

Mrs. Gina Beal
Principal

Upcoming Items

March 2016

- 2** Lent Reconciliation for grades 6, 7, &, 8
- 4** School-wide decade of the Rosary prayer - Church - 2pm
Join us to kick off the 24 Hours for the Lord
- Milk Sale Day
- 5th grade field trip to Symphony
6th grade field trip to visit "Mineral Man"
- 5** San Francisco Archdiocesan Academic Decathlon Day at St. Pius School in Redwood City – St. Gabriel’s Team Participates
Good luck to all!!
- Parish St. Patrick’s Day Dinner, 7:30pm at Bedford Hall
- 8** Parish Council – 7:30PM – Parish Center
- 9** Lent Reconciliation for grades 3, 4, & 5
- 10** Archdiocesan Choral Festival at Riordan High School – Crooners Participate
- End of the Third Quarter of School**
- 11** Student Holiday - Faculty & Staff Retreat
- 13** **Daylight Savings Time Begins – SPRING FORWARD!**
- First Communion Prayer Partner Mass – 10AM
- 14** **MINIMUM DAY – 12:30PM Dismissal**
Teacher Professional Development
- 16** 1st grade field trip to Marine Mammal Center
8th grade field trip to Pine Lake (clean up)
- Alumni Board Meeting - 7pm
- 17** *Happy St. Patrick’s Day!*

- 18** 3rd grade field trip to Exploratorium
Milk Sale Day
- 19** Beautification Committee Volunteers at 9AM
- 21** **Stations of the Cross – Presented by the Fifth Grade Students – 1:30pm – All are Invited!**
- 22** AIM Performance for grades 3, 4, & 5
School Board Meeting – 7PM – Faculty Room
- 24** **Holy Thursday – MINIMUM DAY – 12:30PM Dismissal**

Parish Lenten Soup Supper @ 6:30pm in Bedford Hall
(See flier attached)
- 25** Good Friday - No School
- 26** Holy Saturday
- 27** Happy Easter!
- 28 - April 3** Easter Vacation

April 2016

- 4** Classes resume
- 5** Parent Organization Board Meeting - 7pm - Faculty Room

Tuition Reminder

April is the last tuition billing month. Re-registration forms will be sent home the first week of May. Tuition must be paid in full to receive re-registration forms.

The Department of Catholic Schools asks schools to develop next year's budget early this year. Because of these preparations, and also the testing of new students, we'll need to know as soon as possible if present St. Gabriel students will be moving and not attending St. Gabriel next year. Please send a note to Mrs. Beal as soon as possible.

Car Line Requests

Our new dismissal procedures are going very well--thank you to all who have helped make this transition a smooth and safe one! There are a few driving behaviors we need to avoid for the safety of all around our campus. Please be vigilant and aware of your drive behaviors while participating in car line.

- Do not pass other cars while in car line, unless directed by a staff member.
- Once you have placed your vehicle in car line, please stay in the line until you exit onto Ulloa.
- Do not double park on 40th or 41st Avenue and observe all parking rules.

Prayers Requested

Many of you may remember Becky Kelsey who was our Extended Care Coordinator for many, many years. Becky’s husband passed on March 1st. Please keep Becky and her family in your prayers.

A “Little” Addition to our SG Family

I am very happy to announce that St. Gabriel School will be welcoming “little” members to our school community in the near future. The research and development of adding a preschool to St. Gabriel is in the works! We plan to serve ages 3 to 5 years old in a Preschool and Pre-K program. The preschool rooms will be housed in the school building. More information will be disseminated as progress is made.

If you are specifically interested in your child possibly attending the preschool, please email Alice Lawrie at sgs@stgabrielsf.com to be placed on a prospective parent communications list.

BIG Thank Yous!

The first ever SG Casino Night was a hit last Saturday evening! Fun gaming, delicious food and drinks, plus toe-tapping music was enjoyed by all who attended. A HUGE thank you to the ladies who made it all happen: Deirdre Lewis, Joy Fogerty, and Norma Lynch! Your hard work and great effort made the night a memorable one for all!

Great Alumni

As they do every year, our school alumni treats the students and staff to a Catholic Schools Week lunch. They donate funds, prepare and serve the meal. Thank you for your continued support!

This year’s donors and helpers were:

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Antonio Alves | John & Joanna Laffey |
| Eileen Barry | Gary Lee |
| Philip & Janet Barry | Jessica Perez Livsey |
| Robert Byrne | Ray Mason |
| Kathy Cazanis | Cecilia McDonagh |
| Anjie Chew | LeeAnn DeLeon Miyamoto |
| Erin Chin | John O'Connell |
| Wilaila Dacquis | Brenda Peralta |
| Ty Debrunner | Reidy Family |
| Bill Flaherty | Tom Rocca |
| Lisa Mendiola-Flores | Mike Rouan |
| John Fogarty | Saed Salfiti |
| Jane Gibbons | Angela Sicord |
| Judy DeGuzman Green | George Totah |
| Dianne Hession | Tom Vocker |
| Sandra Hession | Eddie Wan |
| | Georgia Wasley |
| | Cathy Costello Wells |
| | Mary Anne Zamarripa |

Shield The Vulnerable Reminder

With the Carnival approaching, there will be many parent volunteers. This is a reminder that ALL VOLUNTEERS must have completed the Shield the Vulnerable online training and background check – THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS. If you are not sure if you are in compliance with STV, please call Mrs. Demartini in the school office.

To complete the online training and background check, please visit the website www.shieldthevulnerable.org. When it asks for your affiliation, please list yourself as an elementary school volunteer NOT parent. If you are unable to file the background check electronically, download the form, complete it, and bring it to the office with your ID for verification. Mrs. Demartini will then take care of the processing. Online training and background checks are both renewable every three (3) years.

Calling All Irish Dancers!

All Irish dancers are invited to participate in this year's St. Patrick's Day Dinner show. If you would like to participate in this year's dinner show please come to our practice on March 4th, 2016 at 3:00pm in Bedford Hall. Questions? Contact [Rose Murphy](#) or at 415-602-0468.

Summer Planning Help

Are you looking to plan for summer activities for your child?

Summer program information has been updated on the SG Parent website:

(<http://new.sgsparents.com/summer-school--camps.html>) Just click on this weblink to check it out!

Parent Annual Giving – WE NEED YOU!

Haven't pledged yet? There is still time for you to participate in Parent Annual Giving for the benefit of St. Gabriel School! Families who have not yet participated will be contacted in March. Don't forget, success depends on you! You and your family are benefitting from Annual Giving. That is why we ask you to participate!

And the winners are...

The 34th Annual San Francisco Science Fair was held at the California Academy of Sciences on Saturday, February 27th, 2016. CONGRATULATIONS to the following 6th graders who represented St. Gabriel School:

Liam Strachan - *Honorable Mention*

Ella Sterling - *Fourth Place*

Cameron Chao - *Second Place*

In addition, Cameron also received a special invitation to visit the Tide Pools in Half Moon Bay on April 15th, with the other First and Second Place winners. Way to go!!

Another visit to Pine Lake

On a very chilly Saturday morning, January 31, 2016, seventeen 6A and 6B students and some of their family members joined Dylan Hayes, the chief gardener from S.F. Recreation and Parks Department (Natural Areas), at Pine Lake. Before the students began their restoration work,

Dylan described the fauna and flora presence at Pine Lake. He also gave the students a thorough insight into the location of possible “coyote” habitats at this site.

Afterwards, Dylan divided the students into two work parties. One group used loppers to cut down the invasive ivy that is choking the life out of the willow trees that surround the lake. The other group, used hand mattocks to shovel and chisel out the deep embedded roots of the invasive ivy protruding from the soil. The students worked very hard and many park visitors asked them for the name of their school and highly commended them for their great proactive efforts in beautifying Pine Lake. Everyone enjoyed the morning!

A special Thank You to:

Mr. and Mrs. Cawthon and Family

Mr. Chao

Mr. Louie

Thank you to the following 6th graders who worked:

Mariel Cawthon Jordan Miyamoto

Cameron Chao Tom Murphy

Ella Francis Danny Panina

Gino Gibbs Declan Poland

Rizlin Jew Amanda Tam

Tyler Kuwada Trevor Tam

Audrey Louie Ann Vargas

Clara Lucey Kayla Yee

Paddy Martin

Beautification Update

Our last Beautification Day was on Saturday, February 20th.

Accomplishments:

1. Trash pickup around school & church grounds
2. Trimmed branches on bottom of trees along 40th, 41st and Ulloa for easier walk along sidewalk
3. Trimmed and shaped trees in front of rectory
4. Weed pull in front of church, rectory and parish center
5. 41st Avenue multi purpose door fix and paint done by John O' Connell

Special thanks to Richard Murphy for bringing us a step ladder from his home at a last minute request.

Parent volunteers:

Angeline Barrozo

Anjie Chew

Jenette Francis

Walter Karanian

Seti Kioa
John O'Connell
Romer Tamayo
Lead: Judy Breitbarth

Student volunteers

Izzy Chew
Natalie Chew
James Chew
Ella Francis
Amadea Manalili

Next Beautification Day is Saturday, March 19th, 2016.
Please join us for future Beautification Days the 3rd Saturday of the month.
Remember students are welcome to join in and earn community service hours.
Dan Chew will be the lead for March, April and May.

Spell-A-Thon News

Congratulations to all the participants of the 40th Annual Oral Spell-a-thon.
Sartaj Rajpal (7A) was the overall winner and will represent St. Gabriel in the final oral round of the CBS Bay Area Local Spelling Bee. The winning word that Sartaj spelled was "arpeggio". The first runner up was Nico Petrilli (8B) and the second runner up was Chloe Brooks(4B).

Winners from the individual classrooms were:

Haley Fiske	2A	Chiara Marino	3A
Lauren Manalo	2B	Katherine Salfiti	3B
Gianna Gazulla	4A	Maya Mason	5A
Chloe Brooks	4B	Sela Richardon	5B
Declan Poland	6A	Sartaj Rajpal	7A
Ella Sterling	6B	Christine Lin	7B
	Amadea Manalili	8A	
	Nico Petrilli	8B	

They were treated to a Pizza Luncheon with Mrs. Beal on February 18th.
Sartaj received \$50 as prize money and Nico and Chloe received \$25 each at the luncheon.

Students who brought in the most money for the school were also awarded prizes. The top three students were:

Genevieve McKenna (4B) raised \$288
Mariel Rocca (5B) raised \$190

Kailee Rustia (4B) raised \$168

Genevieve received \$30 for her efforts and Mariel and Kailee \$15 each.

100% class participation was awarded to 8B and they will be eligible for a day of FREE DRESS (date to be determined by Mrs. Beal). **Great job 8B !!!!**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the teachers and staff for their efforts in making this a successful fundraiser.

Thank you to Mr. Fair for handling all our A-V needs.

To all the parents who donated baked goods, your yummy treats were truly enjoyed by all the participants. Thank you so much for your contributions.

A special thanks to Cathy Costello, Wilme Ng, Grace Malig and Jennifer Blot. Our amazing moms spent the entire day chaperoning kids to and from their classrooms, handing out cookies, an occasional Kleenex and making sure the day ran smoothly.

And finally to Mrs. Beal, Mrs. O'Donnell, Mrs. Campos, and Mrs. Barry, a big heartfelt thank you for taking the time to create word lists, revamp the rules, be the judges and my sounding board throughout this entire process.

As a school we raised approximately \$7,300. Thank you to all the students and families for all the \$ you helped raise.

KEEP SPELLING!

Mala Gurbuxani

Chair Spell-a-thon

And now.... a Spelling Bee Update

St. Gabriel School's representative, Sartaj Rajpal, is one of 49 students who has advanced to the oral final bee on March 19 at CBS studios! The CBS Oral Spelling Bee starts at 12 noon and will be live-streamed on the CBS website (www.CBSSF.com) and broadcast on their cable station KBCW-TV (Channel 44 or cable channel 12) for all to watch. Congratulations to Sartaj and good luck!!

SG Marathon Kids @ NIKE

Marathon Kids is a National Program to get kids out and running, 104.8 cumulative miles, 4 marathons, in a 6 month period. St. Gabriel School's Cross Country Coach, Michele Gachowski, was able to get a grant from Nike to fund this program. Twenty-eight students signed for the program, which is called Gabriel's Knights. Gabriel's Knights had their program kick off on January 15th. Several Gabriel's Knights have already started their 3rd marathon!

Being sponsored by Nike had a special advantage in February. During the week of the Super Bowl, Nike had 2 events that the kids were invited to partake in. (At that time, Gabriel's Knights was the only Marathon Kids program in San Francisco.) The first event was a run at Kezar Stadium with Nike coaches and star running back Chris Ivory, of the NY Jets. The other event was Swoosh Saturdays, where the kids were led through various football-type drills, followed by a Q&A with NFL players Adrian Clayborn and Adam Robinson.

Currently there are 6 Marathon Kids Groups in San Francisco. St. Gabriel School is the only private school to have this program. Great Job SG Knights!



CARNIVAL!!!!
SAVE THE DATE!
April 29th & 30th

Rides, Games, Wine Tasting, Silent Auction, Food, Entertainment

Upcoming Meetings:

Game Booth / Class Rep Meeting

Thursday, March 10th at 7:00 pm in St. Gabriel Library

Steering Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 15th at 7:00 pm in St. Gabriel Library

Open Call

Our community's got talent and we want you to show it off. Please see attached flyer for details and to sign up.

Going to the Highest Bidder

Silent Auction is looking for some big ticket items like:

- Professional Sports tickets
- Hotel or timeshare stays
- Frequent flyer miles for airfare

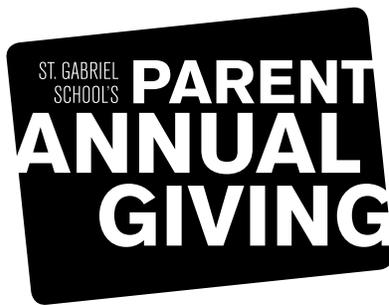
- Music or theatre event tickets
- Gift cards to Nordstrom, Amazon, Sephora, MK/Coach/Burberry, or Nike Store
- Cash donations

Please send donations to the Clinic Attn: Silent Auction. Thank you!

Calling all Carpenters!!!!

We need some help building our first ever OUTDOOR STAGE. We would love your input, assistance, and know how. Please email or call Amy Messinger (415) 595-0914

Email us with any questions, suggestions, or offers of help. We are so excited to make this year bigger and better than ever!



2015-16 PARENT ANNUAL GIVING SUCCESS DEPENDS ON YOU

Thank you to the **49%** of parents who have participated in Parent Annual Giving.

You have pledged \$64,559* in support of
St. Gabriel School!

*Includes company matching funds paid & pending

We are doing great, but we're not done!

Haven't pledged yet? We need ***you*** to make our goal of 100% participation!

**You and your family benefit from annual giving.
That is why we ask you to participate.**

Questions: Alice Lawrie, sgs@stgabrielstf.com

HAVEN'T PARTICIPATED?

We encourage you to join in this community effort and participate in Parent Annual Giving. Participation is as easy as pledging your prayers and thoughts for St. Gabriel School.

Beginning in March, **families who have not yet participated this year will be contacted by phone.**

So, please pledge today!

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

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

Kindergarten	44%
1st Grade	36%
2nd Grade.....	64%
3rd Grade.....	43%
4th Grade.....	57%
5th Grade.....	51%
6th Grade.....	42%
7th Grade.....	53%
8th Grade.....	43%



ST. GABRIEL SCHOOL

Parent Annual Giving Program
Supporting Education at St. Gabriel

Yes! I/We pledge support of St. Gabriel School through a pledge of Prayers and/or Thoughts for St. Gabriel School, a monetary pledge or both.

Part A: Pledge of Prayers and/or Thoughts

I/We pledge to keep St. Gabriel in Prayer/Thought throughout the school year.

St. Gabriel is far more than a building. It is a community of people. Your pledge of prayers/thoughts is a show of care for St. Gabriel and our community. It is support when times are tough, and in thanks for our blessings. As a Catholic School, this benefit is greatly valued. *We, therefore, ask all families to make this pledge.*

Part B: Monetary Pledge

I/We pledge to St. Gabriel School (if you are able to make a monetary pledge, please be as generous as you can):

- \$5,000 \$1,200 (apprx 1 mo. tuition 2 children) \$600 (apprx 1 mo. tuition 1 child)
 \$350 (avg. gift) \$150 Other \$ _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Enclosed is my/our full/initial payment of \$ _____ and/or
 I/We will make payments: Monthly Quarterly Other _____

My employer has a Matching Gifts Program:
 ___ I will provide forms or ___ match has been submitted

Please use this gift for (optional): the greatest school need staff development
 curriculum enhancement Scholarship/Endowment Fund
 Art program Other _____

Your Name:

Name: _____

Address *OR* Email Address(s): _____

HELP US SAVE PAPER: To receive an acknowledgement by email, please *clearly* print your email address(es) above.

Child(ren)'s Grade(s): ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

Your gift is TAX DEDUCTIBLE. Please make check payable to St. Gabriel School. THANK YOU!

St. Gabriel Carnival

OPEN CALL

**Currently seeking
performers for our
outdoor main stage**

Friday April 29 & Saturday April 30th

Dance troops

Bands

Individual dancers

Live performers

Chorus

Demonstrations

Group Name/Performer: _____

Type of performance: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Return to Amy Messinger/Carnival c/o Clinic

Questions?? - carnival@sgsparents.com

Lenten Soup Supper

Please join our Parish Community on Holy Thursday, March 24th at 6:30 PM in Bedford Hall for a simple soup supper which includes salad, bread and dessert, that will be prepared by our Confirmation Candidates.

Schedule

6:30 PM – Parish Soup Supper, Bedford Hall

8:00 PM – Mass of the Lord's Supper, Church
Father Schunk

