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**PFGA Howler - February 2, 2023**

1 message

Pope Francis Global Academy <schoolmessenger@pfgacademy.org>  
Reply-To: Pope Francis Global Academy <schoolmessenger@pfgacademy.org>  
To: jthyen@pfgacademy.org

Thu, Feb 2, 2023 at 10:54 PM



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**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2023**

[PFGA WEBSITE](#) - Please visit the school website often for the latest news

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**IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES**

- **Friday, February 3 - CSW Student Appreciation Day**
- **Friday, February 3 - Parents' Club/Porretta's Lunch for Students**
- **Friday, February 3 - 8th grade vs. Teachers/Staff Volleyball game**
- Friday, February 17 - NO SCHOOL - Teacher Professional Development Day
- Monday, February 20 - NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day
- Saturday, February 25 - Sweetheart Dance

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**STUDENT APPRECIATION LUNCH FRIDAY**

Parents' Club is once again sponsoring a Student Appreciation Lunch with the generous help of John and Gabby Parvino, of Trattoria Porretta. Lunch will include pasta and marinara, bread, a Kellogg's Rice Crispy Treat and a Capri Sun Juice Box! If your student can't or won't eat this type of food, please provide a lunch from home.

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**RE-ENROLLMENT FOR 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR**

The FACTS portal is now open for 2023-24 re-enrollment. Please see [THIS LETTER AND TUITION RATE SHEET](#) for the upcoming school year. Enrollment for new families will begin in a few weeks.

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**RE-ENROLLMENT INCENTIVES**

There are several early enrollment incentives again this year. The two big financial incentives are a \$100 Enrollment Fee discount for completing your FACTS re-enrollment by March 5, 2023 and also a \$300 Referral Bonus for each new family that you bring in. See all the details [HERE](#).

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**WINTER/SPRING AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES - ROOM STILL AVAILABLE IN SOME CLASSES!**

The first week of the Winter/Spring After School Activities Session is finishing up, **BUT THERE ARE SPACES AVAILABLE** in many of the classes. The various offerings will run for between 8-10 weeks, depending on the day of the week they run. Please see the details here: <https://www.pfgacademy.org/afterschoolwinter23>

Here's the quick list of what is being offered:

**MONDAYS**

- Advanced Beginner Guitar (Possibly switching to Tuesdays) - [ROOM IS STILL AVAILABLE](#)
- Lego Builders (1st & 2nd grades) - [ROOM IS STILL AVAILABLE! SIGN UP HERE.](#)

## TUESDAYS

- Arts & Crafts with Mrs. Widlowski (2nd - 8th grades) - **THIS CLASS IS FULL**
- [ROOM IS STILL AVAILABLE! SIGN UP HERE.](#) Little Ninjas (K-3rd grades) -
- Beginner Guitar (2nd - 8th grades) - **CANCELLED DUE TO LACK OF INTEREST**

## WEDNESDAYS

- Choir (K - 8th grades...limited spots available) - [SPACE STILL AVAILABLE. EMAIL JOHANNA FOR DETAILS](#)
- Martial Arts/Self-Defense (4th - 8th grades) - **CANCELLED DUE TO LACK OF INTEREST**

## THURSDAYS

- Clay Play (K - 3rd grades) - [ROOM IS STILL AVAILABLE. SIGN UP HERE.](#)
- Musical Theatre (1st - 8th grades) - **ENROLLMENT IS CLOSED**

## FRIDAYS

- Ukulele (2nd - 8th grades) - [ROOM IS STILL AVAILABLE! SIGN UP HERE.](#)
- STEM (1st - 4th grades) - **THIS CLASS IS FULL**
- Yearbook (6th - 8th grades) - [ROOM IS STILL AVAILABLE! SIGN UP HERE.](#)

### **PFGA COMES THROUGH FOR MOLLY -- AND, ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO HELP!**

Thank you to all who donated last Friday to allow their kids a **WEAR ORANGE FOR MOLLY** out of uniform day. **WE RAISED \$1,000 FOR MOLLY AND HER FAMILY!** They are so grateful for all the help they are getting at this incredibly difficult time. There is a DINE OUT opportunity on Saturday...100% of the proceeds all day from [LOS AZARES MEXICAN GRILL](#) at [7148 North Harlem](#) will go to the Morris family! Join them if you can!

**PRINCIPAL FOR THE DAY - MS. GALINDO - WAS HARD AT WORK YESTERDAY!** One of the most coveted auction items at our Annual Howl at the Moon is the opportunity for your kiddo to be the Principal for the Day! Yesterday, Principal Galindo was welcomed in and immediately had a meeting with her own "Administrative Staff" to brainstorm some ideas for school improvements! She sat in on an actual staff meeting to pitch her ideas, did a tour and some teacher observations, and made a couple of important declarations throughout the day. She even checked in by phone with her top advisor...her mom! Great job, Principal Galindo!



### **LOOKING TO OPTIMIZE YOUR ILLINOIS STATE TAXES AND HELP OUT OTHER PFGA FAMILIES? DONATE THROUGH EMPOWER ILLINOIS!**

If you OR someone you know (like a Grandparent, boss, co-worker, or neighbors) has an annual tax bill from the State of Illinois, and you would like to REDIRECT some of the money you owe to PFGA instead of to the state, Mrs. Thyen can help you understand how you (or your friends) can do that. Please understand that you don't need to plan to donate 10s of thousands of dollars in order to make a difference for another PFGA family. Here is an example of what a \$1,000 donation through this program could do:

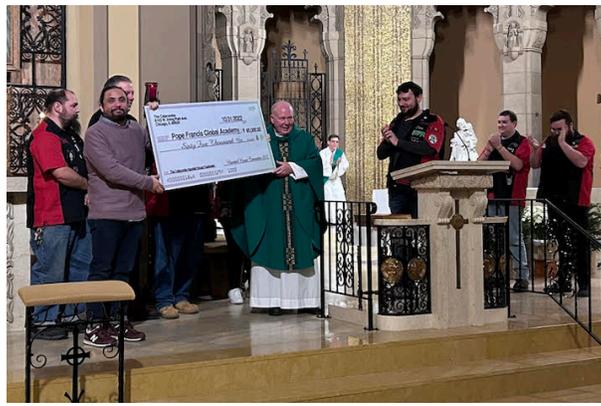
Let's say you owe \$1,000 to the state come April 15, 2024 (Many people have a pretty good idea of what their tax burden is year to year, so you may be able to predict what you will end up owing). IF you made a \$1,000 donation to PFGA through the Empower Illinois SGO right NOW (dated January of 2023), paying that by check up front, you would earn a "tax credit" for \$750 (the tax credit is for 75% of your donation to the program) which could then be used when preparing your 2023 taxes in place of \$750 dollars of the \$1,000 that you owe the state. That means that you would only have to pay Illinois the \$250 difference and, in the end, the only EXTRA money you will have paid to give \$1,000 toward a PFGA student tuition scholarship will be the \$250 of your donation that wasn't counted as a tax credit.

**AND, RIGHT NOW YOUR DONATION WOULD BE DOUBLED BY A GENEROUS ARCHDIOCESAN BENEFACTOR!** The Matching Grant will run out before February, so if you want to maximize your impact, please call Mrs. Thyen ASAP to learn more! Or, email at [jthyen@pfgacademy.org](mailto:jthyen@pfgacademy.org). You can first learn more by going here: <https://empowerillinois.org/donate/>

### **CATACOMBS CREW PRESENTS A RECORD BREAKING CHECK TO PRINCIPAL ELI ARGAMASO!**

On Sunday at our Catholic Schools Week Mass, several of the key members of the Catacombs Haunted House crew were on hand to proudly present a giant (in more ways than one!) check to Mr. Argamaso and Father Mike for Pope Francis Global Academy! After a two year hiatus, the Catacombs netted a whopping \$65,000 for

the school! This is by far the highest total the crew has raised in it's 40+ year history, and they did it in honor of Jason Ciszewski and Danny Keene, two key crew members lost over the last couple of years! We could not be more grateful for ALL of their efforts, as well as every volunteer! Your dedication to the event and to our school never ceases to amaze! Thank you!



### 8th GRADE FUNDRAISER

Support our 8th graders as they raise money to help offset the cost of some of their celebratory end-of-year activities. Trattoria Porretta will be offering 15% of their Carry Out, Delivery and Gift Card Purchases on Tuesday, February 21 back to the 8th grade cause. [MORE INFORMATION IS HERE.](#)

### ANNUAL PARENTS' CLUB SWEETHEART DANCE FEBRUARY 25

Get your dancing shoes on and bring your sweetest girl or guy (kids and parents) to the Annual Sweetheart Dance! [FULL INFORMATION IS HERE.](#) Tickets are available at <https://e.givesmart.com/events/uNO/>. Mark your calendar NOW!



## CLUBS, EXTRACURRICULARS, AND SPORTS

### VOLLEYBALL HAS BEGUN! COME OUT TO CHEER ON OUR TEAMS!

#### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

- Sunday, February 5 at 3 pm. PFGA Wolves vs. St. John Brebeuf @ SJB St. John Brebeuf School - [8301 N Harlem Niles, IL 60714](#)
- Friday, February 10 at 6 pm. PFGA Wolves vs. St. Elizabeth of the Trinity @ SEOTT - North Moody Avenue, Chicago, IL, USA
- Saturday, February 11 at 11 am . PFGA Wolves vs. St. Celestine @ PFGA (Enter through Dakin Street gym entrance)
- Monday, February 13 at 5 pm - PFGA Wolves vs. SMA @ St. Monica Catholic Academy, North Mont Clare Avenue, Chicago, IL, USA

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

- Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8pm CST. PFGA Wolves vs St. Robert Bellarmine @ PFGA (Enter through Dakin Street gym entrance)
- Saturday, February 11 at 12 pm . PFGA Wolves vs. St. Celestine @ PFGA (Enter through Dakin Street gym entrance)
- Monday, February 13 at 6 pm - PFGA Wolves vs. SMA @ St. Monica Catholic Academy, North Mont Clare Avenue, Chicago, IL, USA

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

- Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm CST. PFGA Wolves vs Eugene Blue @ PFGA (Enter through Dakin Street gym entrance)
- Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm CST. PFGA Wolves vs Eugene Gold @ PFGA (Enter through Dakin Street gym entrance)
- Friday, February 10 at 7 pm. PFGA Wolves vs. St. Elizabeth of the Trinity @ SEOTT - North Moody Avenue, Chicago, IL, USA
- Saturday, February 11 at 9 am . PFGA Wolves vs. St. Stans @ PFGA (Enter through Dakin Street gym entrance)
- Saturday, February 11 at 10 am . PFGA Wolves vs. St. Celestine @ PFGA (Enter through Dakin Street gym entrance)
- Monday, February 13 at 7 pm - PFGA Wolves vs. SMA @ St. Monica Catholic Academy, North Mont Clare Avenue, Chicago, IL, USA

### **SPRING SOCCER LEAGUE AVAILABLE FOR PFGA STUDENTS**

The JSL Soccer League, voted the #1 Grade School League, has opportunities for Pre-K 4 through 8th grade players to play in a Co-ed league from Mid-April to Early-June. [MORE INFO IS HERE.](#)

### **PICK-UP BASKETBALL LEAGUE (PARENTS AND ADULTS 18+)**

When: Monday evenings, 7:30pm - 9:30pm

Where: PFGA Gym

Parents and adult family members of students are invited to join in pick-up basketball games on Monday evenings starting at 7:30pm in the PFGA gymnasium. We will meet each Monday throughout the school year. For more information and to add yourself to email comms regarding basketball, please email Ian Barbo ([ian.barbo@gmail.com](mailto:ian.barbo@gmail.com)).

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## **PARENTS' CLUB NEWS**

- **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

For all of these positions YOU MUST BE VIRTUS TRAINED

- [Student Appreciation Lunch on Friday, February 3](#)

- **PARENTS' CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE**

For the benefit of our new families, just a reminder that our Parents' Club hosts a private Facebook Group for our PFGA Families! If you're on Facebook, stop by and send a request to join the group! The group name is **PFGA Parents' Club**

- **SPIRITWEAR SHOP IS STILL OPEN**

<https://teamlocker.squadlocker.com/#/lockers/pfga-spirit-wear-store>

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## **SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL**

There are many ways you and your extended family and friends can support PFGA, especially during the Holidays!

- **WIN BIG IN OUR QUEEN OF HEARTS RAFFLE!**

Be sure to get over there and buy your tickets NOW at [Trattoria Porretta](#) anytime their dining room or pick up window are open! The raffle takes place EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT at [Trattoria Porretta](#) at 3656 North Central.

- **THE MARKET DAY FUNDRAISER**

Parents, friends, parishioners, and friends can order products anytime from the Market Day website, 24/7! Just like other popular eCommerce sites, customers pay on-line. Market Day accepts all major credit cards. [MARKETDAY.COM](http://MARKETDAY.COM)

- **AMAZON SMILES (PROGRAM DISCONTINUING SOON!)**

If you shop on Amazon, AND if you have been kind enough to set up an [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and set Pope Francis Global Academy up as your "charity of choice," please know that they are discontinuing the program on February 20 of this year. This won't impact you, but that means you only have until then to shop through AmazonSmile where they donate a portion of your eligible purchase price to our school! THANK YOU!

- **COCA-COLA GIVE PROGRAM**

This is a relatively new program...if you purchase any Coke/Dasani products, you can quickly and easily set up an account to log the numbers found under the caps of qualified products!

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## **HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION**

## HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

- HighSight (Due March 25): <https://www.highsight.org/apply/>

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## PARISH NEWS

### BULLETIN

Check out the most [recent bulletin for Our Lady of the Rosary Parish](#) for all sorts of good information, upcoming events, and Mass times!

### ST. PASCAL WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Anticipated Mass  
4:00 PM - Saint Pascal

#### **Sunday Masses**

8:00 AM - Saint Pascal  
10:00 AM - Saint Pascal  
6:00 PM - Saint Pascal (Spanish)

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## TO SUBMIT AN ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE HOWLER

Please send all submissions to the Howler by Tuesdays at 12:00PM to [info@pfgacademy.org](mailto:info@pfgacademy.org)

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[www.pfgacademy.org](http://www.pfgacademy.org)



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