



The Howler

News from Pope Francis Global Academy

FEBRUARY 3, 2022

PFGA WEBSITE- Please visit the school website often for the latest news

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- **Friday, February 4 – TEACHER/STAFF/VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DAY**
- **Friday, February 4 – SPIRIT DAY (Any appropriate PFGA spirit wear or Maroon and Gold)**
- **Friday, February 4 – 8TH GRADE VS. TEACHERS VOLLEYBALL GAME**
- Saturday, February 5 – Vaccination Clinic in the EDP/Lunch Room (Sign up below)
- Friday, February 11 – No school – Teacher Professional Development Day
- Thursday, February 17 – Third Thursday Group Tour for prospective families

SCHOOL NEWS

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK TO END WITH THE RETURN OF A FUN TRADITION!

Our 8th graders take on the teachers tomorrow after a 2 year hiatus in this tradition. Here's a little throwback video from the last match to get everyone fired up! Take a minute to watch this as it's too good to pass up! <https://www.facebook.com/pfgacademy/posts/4939755716103393>

GREAT BIG THANKS TO OUR PARENT VOLUNTEERS!

We want to thank everyone who came out to the Open House on Sunday to visit the school, but we especially want to thank our volunteers who came in to help with the Open House! We had parents giving tours (13 school tours were given to prospective families!). We had parents representing clubs, sports, and scouts. We had parents representing EDP and helping with uniform distribution!

Then, on Monday, we had MORE parents in to help with the Scholastic Book Fair – notably, Jessica Repp who just finished running her 6th PFGA

book fair!

Then, today our Parents' Club provided, along with Porretta's, a special lunch for the kids! Tomorrow, Parents' Club is treating the teachers and staff!

We can't run at full tilt without our parents, and we truly appreciate all the work you do to make this such a special community! **THANK YOU!**

Don't forget to use your **Free Large Perkulator Coffee coupons** that went home with the kids in their backpacks. Saturday is the last day to be able to use them! You must have the paper coupon in hand for it to work.

GREAT BIG THANKS TO OUR TEACHERS AND STAFF!

Tomorrow, in addition to celebrating our volunteers, we are celebrating our **OUTSTANDING** teachers and staff members who give so much extra of themselves to help our kids have a great school experience, and to reach their full potential!

Don't forget that you're invited to send in a note or card tomorrow for your teachers made by the kids at home!

ESSENTIAL WINTER ITEMS DRIVE FOR THE HOMELESS WITH THE NIGHT MINISTRY

Tomorrow is the last day to bring in contributions for our **Essential Winter Items Drive for the Homeless**. Donations can be sent into school with students, or dropped off at the front doors. **HERE IS A FLYER** with a suggested donations list.

SCHOOL COVID-19 VACCINATION FOLLOW UP EVENT – SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Our second, and final, PFGA COVID Vaccination Clinic, will be taking place this Saturday, February 5th, from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. At the event, booster shots from all of the FDA-approved vaccines will be available, as will the 2nd dose of the Pfizer vaccine for those who received the first dose on January 15th. 1st doses are also available but you'd have to get your follow up shot elsewhere.

This event will take place in the school cafeteria. If you plan on attending the event, **please enter through the EDP/Cafeteria doors, on Irving Park Road at the east end of the school building.**

Registration Link: <https://www.prism.org/popefrancisacademy>

You and your loved ones are more than welcome to attend. So please feel free to pass the registration link on to them.

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT TEAM INFORMATIONAL ZOOM MEETING MARCH 1

Mrs. Thyen is looking to re-form the **Institutional Advancement Committee** which essentially dissipated during COVID and the lockdown. Institutional Advancement is a group of parents who works with Mrs. Thyen and the school to help with marketing the school, welcoming new families, and with school fundraising.

We are looking for parents with any interest and/or experience in any of those areas to join us on a one hour Zoom call to learn more about the committee and brainstorm some ideas. This is a great way to earn hours and meet other parents. It's a fun group with some important responsibilities. But you can choose how involved you want to get. If you have participated on this committee in the past, we would LOVE for you to reconnect and join us. Complete **THIS FORM** if you are interested.

2022-23 TUITION RATES AND RE-ENROLLMENT

Tuition rates for the next school year, along with enrollment information and enrollment incentives, was sent home last week and re-enrollment for 2022-23 is now open through your FACTS portal.

- Remember that if you **re-enroll by March 1 you will save \$100** on the \$200 enrollment fee!
- **HERE IS A FLYER WITH ALL THE RE-ENROLLMENT INCENTIVES!**
- If you have a new sibling starting in the fall, please complete **THIS SIBLING APPLICATION** in addition to adding them to your FACTS account.

FEBRUARY 17 AND MARCH 1 ADMISSIONS EVENTS FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

Mrs. Thyen has been hosting Third Thursday Group Tours for the past few months (the January event had 4 prospective families attend and, so far 2 kids from that tour have enrolled!) Thursday, February 17 will be our next Third Thursday Group Tour.

Then, on Tuesday, March 1, we will host a MARCH INTO KINDERGARTEN event. More information is forthcoming.

If you have any friends, neighbors or family members looking at schools for next year, please direct them to our website where they can RSVP for one of our tours or set up a private 1 on 1 visit! If you refer a family and they enroll and stay through Christmas, you will earn a \$300 FACTS credit

SERVICE HOURS DUE DATE CHANGE

We are making a change to the date range for completing and logging in parent service hours. Parents will now have until April 30, 2022, to complete their hours for this school year. Then, for subsequent years, the range will go from May 1 of one calendar year through April 30 of the following calendar year. Billing for any hours not completed will happen in May.

2nd ANNUAL VIRTUAL FAMILY GAME AND TRIVIA NIGHT

We are postponing the Virtual Family Game and Trivia Night in the hope that we may be able to do this as an IN-PERSON event in a couple of months. Hang tight for more info on this one!

CLUBS AND SPORTS

VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

- Saturday, February 5, 11 am – 4th/5th Grade vs. St. Monica @PFGA
- Sunday, February 6 at 1 pm – Varsity vs. St. Robert Bellarmine @SRB
- Sunday, February 6 at 2 pm – 4th/5th vs. St. Robert Bellarmine @SRB
- Sunday, February 6 at 3 pm – JV vs. St. Robert Bellarmine @SRB
- Thursday, February 10 at 8 pm – 4th/5th vs. SMOW Blue Team @SMOW
- Saturday, February 12 at 9 am – Varsity vs. SMOW @PFGA
- Saturday, February 12 at 10 am – JV vs. SMOW Blue Team @PFGA

SPRING SPORTS

It's not too soon to start thinking about Spring Sports!!!! We plan on having Varsity level Baseball (7th and 8th grade boys) and Track 4-8th grade Co-Ed.

For Varsity Baseball, please contact Coach Eliud @ coacheliud@gmail.com. The baseball season runs from approximately April 1 through May 21.

For Track, please contact Patty @ pattymcgr1@gmail.com. The track season runs from April 4 through May 15. There are only 3 meets.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are always in need of help. Please visit the **VOLUNTEERING FOR THE SCHOOL** page of our website for details and current needs. Contact the office to do any of these volunteer jobs.

- Spring Fundraiser Committee Call Out – Please contact Mrs. Thyen if you are interested in being on a committee to head up a spring event (hopefully, in person) (jthyen@pfgacademy.org)
- Poster and flyer distribution in the neighborhoods
- Recess monitors

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL

There are many ways you, and your extended family and friends, can support PFGA...some, with very little effort! Help us spread the word!

WIN BIG IN OUR QUEEN OF HEARTS RAFFLE!

The pot is over \$70,000 now!! Be sure to get over there and buy your tickets NOW at [Trattoria Porretta's](#) anytime their dining room or pick up window are open! The raffle takes place EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT at [Trattoria Porretta](#) at 3656 North Central.

STATE TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIPS

If you normally have a tax bill for the State of Illinois, as most of us do, you can earn a 75% tax CREDIT on any donations you make toward the **Empower Illinois** State Tax Credit Scholarships program. That means that if you owe Illinois \$1,000 in taxes on your annual returns, if you donate \$1,000 into our PFGA Empower Illinois account, you can use \$750 of your donation (that's 75%) as a credit to pay that amount of your tax burden when it comes to doing your tax returns! Please contact Mrs. Thyen for help setting up a donation. jthyen@pfgacademy.org

THE MARKET DAY FUNDRAISER IS BACK!

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.

- Check out the February **“Cluck Buck Special!”**
- Orders ship in a cooler packed with dry ice via FedEx directly to the customer’s front door.
- **HERE** are the instructions to get started!
- **MARKETDAY.COM** link

AMAZON SMILES

you shop on Amazon, if you set us up as your “charity of choice” and then shop at **“smile.amazon.com”** will find the same Amazon that you already know and love, with the added bonus that AmazonSmile will donate a portion of the eligible purchase price to our school! It’s so easy to do!

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! <https://us.coca-cola.com/give/schools/>

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION – DON’T FORGET TO SCAN YOUR THANKSGIVING RECEIPTS!

Did you know you can help our school by simply scanning your grocery store receipts? If you prefer to clip the “Box Tops for Education” coupons from packaging, you can still do it that way also! **CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT HOW TO START!**

PARENT CLUB NEWS

NEXT PARENTS’ CLUB MEETING JANUARY 27 (social time at 6:30; meeting at 7)

PARENTS’ CLUB MEETING MINUTES

Stay in the loop with Parents’ Club meetings by going to the Parent Info section of the school website and dropping down to **Parents’ Club**.

SPIRITWEAR SHOP IS OPEN

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

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH NEWS

PARISH 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!

Please send all submissions to the Howler by Tuesdays at 12:00PM to info@pfgacademy.org

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