



The Howler

News from Pope Francis Global Academy

JANUARY 13, 2022

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

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- Friday, January 12 – Comfy Cozy Day - \$1 to Student Council for charity
- Saturday, January 15 – School Vaccination drive
- Monday, January 17 – No school – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Thursday, January 20 – Group Prospective Family Tour – 6 – 7 pm
- Monday - Friday, January 24 - 28 – Science Fair Judging
- Thursday, January 27 – Parents’ Club Meeting
- Sunday, January 30 – 10 am Family Mass at St. Pascal to kick of Catholic Schools Week
- Sunday, January 30 – Open House from 11 am – 1 pm – more info to come
- Sunday, January 30 - Saturday, February 5 – Catholic Schools Week
- Saturday, January 31 – 2nd Annual Virtual Family Game and Trivia Night
- Friday, February 11 – No school – Teacher Professional Development Day

SCHOOL NEWS

COVID REMINDERS

It is more important than ever to make sure that your student/s have masks that fit their faces and stay up above their noses. **PLEASE** work on this while at home. **If you see that your student’s mask falls easily, please work to find a mask style that works better.**

REMEMBER, if your family has a positive COVID case at home, or if your student has had a “close contact” for more than 15 minutes with someone who has since tested positive, you are required to reach out to Mr. Argamaso at eargamaso@pfgacademy.org.

SCHOOL COVID-19 VACCINATION EVENT – THIS SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 15

PFGA will be hosting a private Vaccination Event THIS SATURDAY, January 15, from 9 am – 1 pm. If you, your children, or any of your extended family or loved ones still needs either a first or second shot, or a booster, please plan to attend! For those receiving the first dose of the full vaccine on that day, the IDPH will return to our school on Saturday, February 5th, to administer the second dose.

The IDPH will also have booster shots for each of the vaccines that are currently available in the US (Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson). However, you can also choose to receive a different booster. So, if initially you received the Pfizer vaccine, but would like the Moderna booster (or vice versa), that is an option as well. Children from 12-16 can only receive the Pfizer booster.

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

When you click on the link, you will see two dates: 1/15/22 & 2/5/22, please select 1/15/22 (2/5/22 is the date when the 2nd dose of the vaccine will be administered to those who will be receiving the first dose of the vaccine on Saturday). After that, simply follow the directions to reserve your spot, and to select the version of the vaccine that you would like to receive.

Please note that you will have to choose the date and the brand before you are offered the choice of 1st, 2nd, or Booster, on the next screen. But, rest assured, all will be available.

Also, just a reminder that although this is a closed event for our school and parish community, your loved ones are more than welcome to attend. For your own convenience, please pre-register for a time slot, but, if you don't get signed up, we do believe they will be accepting walk ins.

THE MARKET DAY FUNDRAISER IS BACK!

Some folks may remember **Market Day**...the food ordering fundraiser...from the past. Well, it's back and it's easier than ever! Many of the fan-favorites are available: Chicken Steaks, French Toast sticks, pies, etc.

Market Day is a company founded originally by a Mom wanting to offer her daughter's school fundraising products beyond the typical bake sale offerings of the time. Over the last three decades, Market Day became a fund-raising favorite for schools, offering exclusive, top-quality food products that families could use every day, all while supporting their school. Since 1979, Market Day has helped raise over \$500 million for local schools and other non-profits.

- Parents, friends, parishioners, and friends 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.
- 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

SCIENCE FAIR VIRTUAL JUDGES STILL NEEDED – EARN 2 VOLUNTEER HOURS

Parents of Pre-K through 6th grade students are invited to help Mr. Conley with judging of the Science Fair Projects this year. Judging will be done virtually during the week of January 24-28. Your schedule would be based on your availability. Please read through [THIS INFORMATION](#) and then email Mr. Conley (dconley@pfgacademy.org) to offer your help on the day/days you are available. Remember, this is all done virtually, but the presentations you watch will be live and you will be interacting with students to ask questions and get clarifications.

2022-23 TUITION RATES AND RE-ENROLLMENT

Tuition rates for the next school year, along with enrollment information and enrollment incentives, will be sent out next week to current parents, and re-enrollment for 2022-23 will go live on FACTS by the end of next week. Once again, it is in everyone's best interest to get enrolled as soon as possible. You'll save money by re-enrolling early and the school will have the critical enrollment information needed to best set a budget, plan for staffing, and allocate financial aid. Be on the lookout for an email early next week.

WINTER AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT CLASSES – TIME TO REGISTER!

With COVID continuing to plague the world (quite literally) we are rolling out just a limited number of classes, with limited space in each, that we can run safely. We do hope to offer more great opportunities in the Spring session.

These classes will all run for 7 weeks, beginning the week of January 24. Please take a look at the full list [IN THIS FLYER](#). The flyer has a link to register for each class. The first 10 students registered will be locked into the classes and the rest will remain on a wait list in case anyone drops. Payments should be made through an envelope with the class

and instructor name, and cash or checks are acceptable.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK APPROACHES!

We will be kicking off Catholic Schools Week with a Family Mass at St. Pascal on Sunday, January 30 at 10 am. We hope you can join us! A full listing of Catholic Schools Week activities will be distributed soon.

2nd ANNUAL VIRTUAL FAMILY GAME AND TRIVIA NIGHT

Mrs. Thyen will be hosting another fun evening for families to work together to solve puzzles and clues, answer trivia questions, run around the house finding random scavenger hunt items, and having a blast with other families, all via Zoom!

Save the date of Saturday, February 5...Catholic Schools Week "Celebrating the Family" Day! More info and registration to come.

STATE TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

BOTH **Empower Illinois** and **Big Shoulders Fund SGO** applications are now open. Hopefully, everyone who qualifies did both applications. (**Check here to see if you would qualify**) If you plan to apply for financial aid through the normal FACTS Grant and Aid application, in the case that you either didn't qualify for or you don't get either the Empower Illinois or BSF scholarships, you do still need to complete these two applications as soon as possible. (The FACTS Grant and Aid Application is separate and will not be open until February 1.)

Please contact Mrs. Thyen if you have any questions at all. jthyen@pfgacademy.org.

CLUBS AND SPORTS

VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

At this point, practices have been put on hold for the moment, but we do hope that, as things improve with COVID that our Girls Volleyball teams will begin to compete over the next few weeks! Here is the early part of their game schedule:

- January 22 – Varsity vs. St. Celestine Green @ PFGA at 11 am
- January 25 – Varsity vs. St. Celestine White @ St. Celestine at 8 pm
- January 26 – 4th/5th vs. Mary Seat of Wisdom @ MSW at 6 pm
- January 26 – JV vs. Mary Seat of Wisdom @ MSW at 7 pm
- January 26 – Varsity vs. Mary Seat of Wisdom @ MSW Blue at 8 pm
- January 28 – 4th/5th vs. St. Paul of the Cross Gold @ PFGA at 6 pm
- January 28 – JV vs. St. Paul of the Cross Blue @ PFGA at 7 pm
- January 29 – JV vs. Mary Seat of Wisdom Blue @ PFGA at 10 am
- January 29 – Varsity vs. Mary Seat of Wisdom White @ PFGA at 11 am

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.

- Parents will be needed to help deliver Thank You posters to some of our Community Partners during Catholic Schools Week. You would ideally take it over and grab a photo of your student with the Community Helper as they accept the sign.
- Family Game and Trivia Night – Help needed on the committee. Contact Mrs. Thyen (jthyen@pfgacademy.org)

- 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
 - Queen of hearts ticket sales at school during pick up and/or at Porretta's for a couple of hours from about 6-8 pm on Thursday nights...what a great way to help out, earn hours, and maybe even enjoy a drink or some delicious food at Porretta's! **YOU DON'T HAVE TO COMMIT TO EVERY THURSDAY. YOU CAN SIGN UP TO DO JUST ONE OR TWO THURSDAY!**
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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!

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 – DONATIONS BEING MATCHED 2:1 NOW!

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!

AND, RIGHT NOW, your donation will be TRIPLED by a 2:1 match set up through Archdiocese donors! By donating that same \$1,000, it becomes \$3,000 in scholarship money, and it still only costs you a net amount of \$250!!

Of the \$212 million donated into the program statewide, most contributions came from individuals and averaged somewhere between \$1,000-\$2,000 (remember, the net amount actually spent to make those donations would be only \$250-\$500). Every donation helps support our PFGA students in an exponential way!! Your donations go a lot further right now with this match, so please consider whether this would work for your family.

Please contact Mrs. Thyen to learn more about the process of donating. **It's a 3-step process that takes some time, and the matching grant is limited, so PLEASE ACT NOW** if you'd like to learn more! jthyen@pfgacademy.org.

AMAZON SMILES

Like it or not, Christmas shopping has begun for many people...especially this year with longer lead times on delivery of items. If 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 learn how to get the app and scan your receipts.
 - [CLICK HERE](#) for the most recent list of qualified products and instructions.
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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](#).

- [September 30 meeting minutes](#)
- [October 28 meeting minutes](#)

SPIRITWEAR SHOP IS OPEN

The PFGA Spirit Shop (**the Wolves Squad Locker**) is open! Christmas is coming quickly...order early!<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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