



The Howler

News from Pope Francis Global Academy

JANUARY 20, 2022

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

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- Monday - Friday, January 24 - 28 – Science Fair Judging
- Thursday, January 27 – Parents’ Club Meeting
- Saturday, January 29 – First Reconciliation
- Sunday, January 30 – 10 am Family Mass at St. Pascal to kick off 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

2022-23 TUITION RATES AND RE-ENROLLMENT

Tuition rates for the next school year, along with enrollment information and enrollment incentives, will be sent home (and be emailed) and re-enrollment for 2022-23 will go live on FACTS **TOMORROW**. 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.

WINTER AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT CLASSES – DEADLINE IS FRIDAY!

Please take a look at the flyer below and speak with your students about whether they’d like to do an after-school enrichment class for 7 weeks, beginning next week. All enrollments for these classes should be done by tomorrow, Friday, January 21 so the teachers can prepare for the start next week.

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.

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.

ESSENTIAL WINTER ITEMS DRIVE FOR THE HOMELESS WITH THE NIGHT MINISTRY

During Catholic Schools Week we will be holding an **Essential Winter Items Drive for the Homeless**. Donations can be sent into school with students, or dropped off at the front doors between Monday, January 31 and Friday, February 4. [HERE IS A FLYER](#) with a suggested donations list.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK IS NEARLY HERE!

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! Mass will be followed by our Open House. A full listing of Catholic Schools Week activities will be distributed tomorrow.

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 the [Empower Illinois](#) and the [Big Shoulders Fund SGO](#) applications are now open. Hopefully, everyone who qualifies already completed 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.

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

We had 79 shots administered at our Vaccination Event last Saturday morning! IDPH will return to PFGA on Saturday, February 5 to do another round of vaccinations. You will be able to schedule a 1st or 2nd dose, or a Booster once the sign up opens. 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 who received the first dose of the full vaccine last Saturday, it will be safe for you to schedule your second dose for February 5. If you still need your first dose, you can schedule that for the February 5 event, but you'll need to get your second dose elsewhere.

More info to come.

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

BASKETBALL PLAYERS NAMED TO ALL-STAR TEAM

We had two basketball players voted into the all-star game which was played this past Tuesday. According to Coach Sachin Makani, "Daniel L. and Manny R. represented PFGA with pride and did a great job at the game!" Coach Makani added that he was there and it was a proud moment for 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.

- 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
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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.

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.

- 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

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.

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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