



OCTOBER 1, 2021

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

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- Thursday, October 7 - High School Day at PFGA, grades 6-8
- Friday, October 22 - Photos/photocopies due for the Dia de los Muertos Ofrenda
- Wednesday, November 3 - Picture Day

SCHOOL NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ELECTED STUDENT COUNCIL!

We're proud of all of the students who ran for Student Council representative or officer. Our elections were on Tuesday and the new Student Council officers and representatives are:

- President: Olivia Segura
- Vice President: Connor Smith
- Secretary: Rhea Mae Bayan
- Treasurer: Victoria Lopez
- PR Officer: Max Berger
- Athletic and Spirit Officer: Krista Bregu
- 8th grade rep: Lia Vieth
- 7th grade rep: Joshua Escobedo
- 6th grade rep: Luis Negron
- 5th grade rep: Mena Rubeco
- 4th grade rep: Evelyn Cook

8TH GRADE CAR WASH FUNDRAISER - THANKS TO ALL WHO CAME OUT!

Thanks to all of those who came out for a car wash last Saturday! The 8th graders made over \$2,000 to help fund their graduation celebrations and activities! Way to support the pack!

NEW "UNSUPERVISED DISMISSAL" FORM

We have added another form to our array. This one is to give a student parental permission to leave the school premises unsupervised by an adult directly after dismissal. Students must be in 5th grade or above to be allowed to use this form and leave unsupervised. Only if you would like your student to have this permission, please complete and return the form.

[Unsupervised Dismissal Permission Form](#)

EDP USAGE - PLEASE USE THE FRIDAY RSVP GOOGLE FORM

We are now back to allowing for drop-ins for EDP, but if you do know in advance that your students will use aftercare, please use the EDP RSVP form sent out every Friday at noon. It is important that our EDP staff knows how many students to expect so that they are staffed properly. Thank you!

<https://forms.gle/wHjTNfJMc7rVo99>

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS OFRENDA - INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

Our school will once again be creating an ofrenda to honor our our dearly departed family and friends during the lead up to Dia de los Muertos (November 1 and 2). You are all invited to provide a small photo (or better yet, a photo copy of a photo) of your deceased loved ones. We will include them all on the ofrenda and they will all be included in our daily prayer intentions during late October and early November. We will post photos of our completed ofrenda on November 1. ALL are welcome to participate. Send photos in an envelope addressed to Mrs. Thyen through your student's backpack with an indication of whether you want to get the photo/photo copy back. Please do NOT send one of a kind family heirloom photos.

UNIFORM REMINDERS

With cooler weather upon us (perhaps, not for good) please be sure to send your students with a sweater or jacket for when they go outside for recess. PLEASE label outerwear as often kids take them off and they get misplaced. Official school sweaters with the logo, half-zip grey fleece with the logo, or maroon full-zip fleece with the logo may be worn throughout the school day inside or outside. Any other jackets, pullovers, sweatshirts or sweaters must be removed when inside the school.

As well, October 1 is the date when we require students to start wearing uniform pants as opposed to shorts. Black chino style pants are the only acceptable regular uniform pants. Grey school gym pants are the only acceptable gym uniform pants.

Finally, generic white polos or oxford shirts are ok under a jumper, however, all shirts worn with the skirt or pants must have the school logo on front. We have many extra shirts in the uniform exchange closet. Please contact Mrs. Molenda if you need anything specific. jmolenda@pfgacademy.org. Thank you.

JOIN US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

We will be debuting a new promotional PFGA video today! You can help us out by sharing it from our social media channels! Be sure to follow us all all media so you can see the fun

- INSTAGRAM - <https://www.instagram.com/pfgawolves/>
- Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/pfgacademy>
- Facebook Parents' Club private group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PFGAparentsclub> (you'll need to request to join and then answer some questions to be admitted.
- Twitter - <https://twitter.com/AcademyPope>
- YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/user/PFGAWolves>

If you're not on social media, you can always see our latest videos on the school website at <https://www.pfgacademy.org/video-and-photo-archives>

ONLINE VIRTUS TRAINING AVAILABLE NOW!

ANY adult family member, who hopes to volunteer with our students either at school or during a school sanctioned event must take special Virtus training and then complete several forms and steps to become compliant each year with the Archdiocese Office for the Protection of Children and Youth.

[GO HERE FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS](#)

VIRTUS TRAINING ALREADY COMPLETED? YOU'RE NOT QUITE DONE!

Thank you for your support of Pope Francis Global Academy through volunteer service. Though you only need to take the initial VIRTUS class one time, you DO need to stay up-to-date on your Virtus account and training in order to continue volunteering for our school each year, and to keep your account "active."

When you log into VIRTUS, if you find that your account has been inactivated, please contact Tina Menendez at tmendez@pfgacademy.org to have it reactivated.

Each month you are sent a VIRTUS Monthly Training Bulletin. Normally, it's simply a one page newsletter to read and answer one question. Occasionally, there is an additional training module they will ask everyone to do.

The quickest and easiest way to stay up-to-date and keep an active account is to click through the link in that monthly email right away when you receive it, and complete everything immediately before you forget! It will normally take no more than 5 minutes.

The link takes you to the VIRTUS page, where you will sign in. Under the HOME tab you will see:

- Monthly bulletins - complete these every month to remain in good standing
- Current Training - complete any new training that may have been posted here
- Background Checks - this will tell you if you need a new background check...complete this if it is not current
- Required Documents - this will tell you if you required updated documents...complete these if not current

Please submit training certificates and required documents **to the school office** right away once you're done. There is no need to send them anywhere else. There is nothing to turn in after you complete the monthly bulletins.

WIN BIG IN OUR QUEEN OF HEARTS RAFFLE!

Our Queen of Hearts raffle pot is up over \$55,500! You could win half of that!

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.

CLUBS AND SPORTS

FALL SPORTS PICTURE DAY

Fall/Winter Sports Photo Day is Saturday, October 16 at the school. Student athletes should come in their athletic uniform.

- 11:30 Basketball Team
- 12:00 Soccer team
- 12:30 Cross Country Team

Information on ordering photos will be provided. It will be done via a link that will be active after the photos are taken.

NEW MULTI-MEDIA CLUB FORMING FOR JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS

If your 6th, 7th or 8th grader is interested in graphic design, photography, writing, or digital art, please talk with them about joining the newly forming MULTI-MEDIA Club! The club will meet on the **1st and 3rd Wednesdays** of each month from 2-3:15 pm in one of the classrooms. They will learn about digital and traditional media and communications, and they will also be responsible for putting out a monthly student newsletter, a couple of school videos, and the all-important yearbook!

[DETAILS ARE HERE](#)

ANIME CLUB

Mrs. Kells is starting a new Anime Club for junior high students. They will meet on **MONDAYS from 3-4 pm** in Mrs. Kells room to discuss books and videos, and to practice creating and drawing characters, scripts, storyboards and graphic novels. Basic drawing materials are the only thing required. The cost is \$25 per student and the 6 week session will go from October 4 through November 15. A flyer will go home with junior high students tomorrow.

RUNNING CLUB

If your student has been doing cross country, or just likes to run, and they want to keep it going throughout the fall, Mrs. Thyen is sponsoring a RUNNING CLUB! She will offer it on **TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS from 3-4:15**. Students/parents should indicate which group the student will attend when signing up. We will learn about stretching, warming up and cooling down, and we will run to and around Merrimac Park in decent weather. When the weather is wet or icy, we will run laps in the gym and learn about different running drills for speed and agility. We will begin on October 4 for our Tuesday runners and October 6 for our Thursday runners, and the 6 week session will go through November 17.

Cost is \$25 per student for doing one day, \$40 per student doing both days. Parents who have VIRTUS training and are up-to-date on all compliance may join us! Limit of 20 students from 4th through 8th grade.

A paper flyer went home yesterday. **PLEASE NOTE, WE JUST ADDED THE TUESDAY OPTION.** Please contact Mrs. Thyen if you need any clarification or to change your plans. Please submit payment by Monday if your student is interested.

[INTEREST FORM IS HERE](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

SCHOOL AMBASSADORS FOR PORTAGE PARK FARMERS MARKET

If you have a few hours on Sunday morning, October 3, please consider helping Mrs. Thyen out at the PFGA tent at the Portage Park Farmers Market. Sign up here: [Sunday, October 3](#)

RECESS MONITORS

The school is in need of several parents each day to monitor outdoor recess between 11:30 and 12:30. This is an easy and fun way to earn your hours if you have a flexible schedule! This volunteer position DOES require you to be in compliance with all VIRTUS and Protecting God's Children annual requirements. See the Virtus training section above for information.

Contact Tina Menendez at tmendez@pfgacademy.org to volunteer.

QUEEN OF HEARTS HELPERS

We are in need of someone to help sell tickets at Trattoria Porretta on Thursday nights from about 6 - 8 pm. For more information on this one, please contact Mrs. Thyen at jthyen@pfgacademy.org or contact John Parvino directly at jnp1429@sbcglobal.net.

QUEEN OF HEARTS TICKET SALES AT SCHOOL DURING PICK UP

We are hoping to have a parent or two set up a table out by the Dakin fence during pickup and drop on either Tuesday or Thursday (2:45-3:15) to sell QOH tickets for that evening's raffle. You would also be responsible for recording the sales and dropping off tickets and money at Trattoria Porretta. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Thyen at jthyen@pfgacademy.org. Mrs. Thyen will be helping with this and training the person to explain how it all works.

PARENT CLUB NEWS

JOIN PARENTS' CLUB AND EARN 2 VOLUNTEER HOURS!

This year, when you join as a dues paying member of the Parents' Club by [September 30](#), you will earn two Volunteer Hours. What does joining mean? Send in the form found at the link below to the office with the \$20 annual dues. With your payment you will also receive a cool PFGA wine tumbler and complimentary drinks/apps at our meetings. (Typically the last Thursday of the month at 6:30pm)

SPIRITWEAR SHOP IS OPEN

The link on the website for our Spirit Shop (the Wolves Squad Locker) had been down, but it is now back open! Parents' Club is working to order more of the always-popular pajama pants. There is evidently a shortage on the supply due, probably, to COVID.

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

PARISH NEWS

ST. BART'S GUADALUPANO TAMALE SALE

The Guadalupano committee at St. Bartholomew Church will host their 2nd Tamale Food Sale on October 10 in the St. Bartholomew church hospitality room after the 10 am Mass and after the 1 pm Mass. Tamales (pork, chicken & cheese) will be sold by the dozen for \$16.00 (1/2 doz for \$8.00). Proceeds from this sale will be used for "Our Lady of Guadalupe" mass on December 12th and also benefits Our Lady of the Rosary parish. St. Bartholomew Church is located at [4956 W. Addison St](#) (corner of Addison & Lavergne).

Thank you for your support.

HISTORY AND LEGACY OF OLV VIDEO SCREENING

Our Lady of Victory Church parishioners have created a documentary style video to commemorate the past 115 years of parish life on the Northwest side.

As you most likely know, Our Lady of Victory Church is part of the Renew My Church grouping that is now called Our Lady of the Rosary Parish. They would like to invite all parishioners and Parents on the Northwest Side of Chicago to come to our premier video at the Copernicus Center on Sunday October 10, 2021 at 6PM.

Linked in pink below is the press release with all the information for this complimentary event.

They would appreciate our help in getting the message out about The OLV documentary video.

[VADE MECUM, GUIDE FOR THE JOURNEY](#)

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

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