

PFGA Howler - February, 17, 2023
1 message

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

Fri, Feb 17, 2023 at 10:13 AM



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2023

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

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- Friday, February 17 - NO SCHOOL - Teacher Professional Development Day
- Monday, February 20 - NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day
- Tuesday, February 21 - Student Council Dress Down Day - Valentines or freestyle (It's a GYM day, so wear gym shoes)
- Tuesday, February 21 - Parents' Club Treat for Fat Tuesday (Culver's custard - see below)
- Tuesday, February 21 - Burning of the Palms from last year for Ashes for Ash Wednesday - 2 pm in the Dakin parking lot
- Tuesday, February 21 - 8th Grade Trattoria Porretta Fundraiser (see info below)
- Wednesday, February 22 - 8:30 am Ash Wednesday Mass - K - 8th Grade
- Wednesday, February 22 - After Mass - Presentation of donation from the Ron Piech Family
- Friday, February 24 - Student Council Out of Uniform Day to Raise Money for Ukraine - wear blue and yellow
- Friday, February 24 - Stations of the Cross - 2 pm
- Saturday, February 25 - Sweetheart Dance

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 soon.

RE-ENROLLMENT INCENTIVES

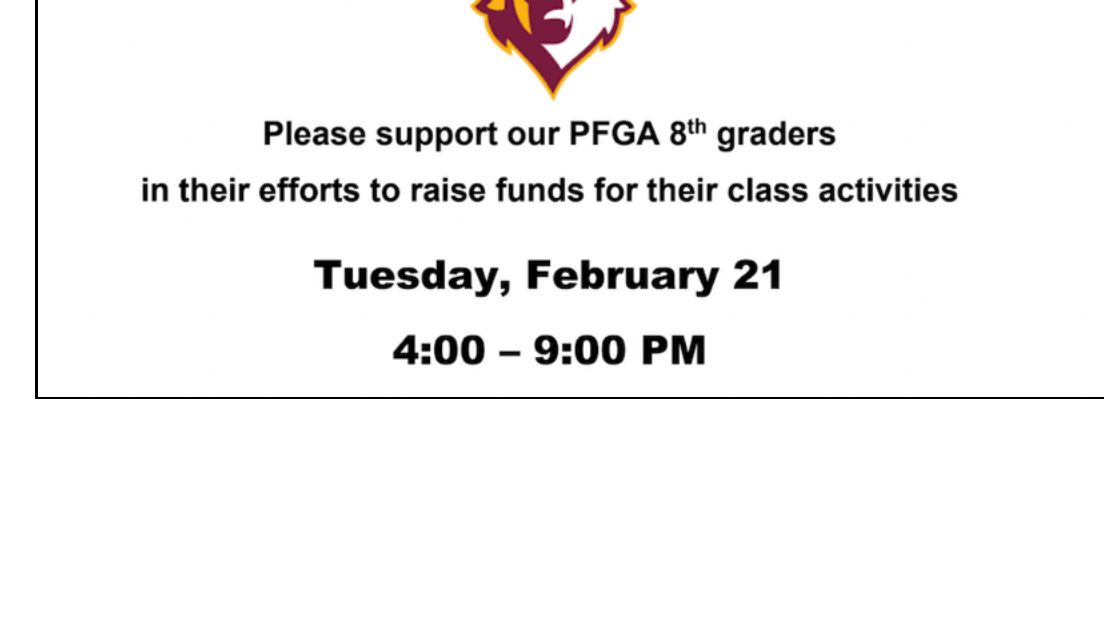
There are several early enrollment incentives again this year. The two big financial incentives are a \$100 Enrollment Fee discount for completing your FACTS re-enrollment early (the deadline has been extended to April 1, 2023) and also a \$300 Referral Bonus for each new family that you bring in. See all the details [HERE](#).

FAMILY HANDBOOK UPDATES

A paper copy of the **HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND AGREEMENT FORM** went home today in the Thursday Folders. Please carefully read through this **HANDBOOK DOCUMENT** and then sign and return the form to the office by February 21. If you have any questions, please contact the office at info@pfgacademy.org. Thank you.

8th GRADE FUNDRAISER TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21!

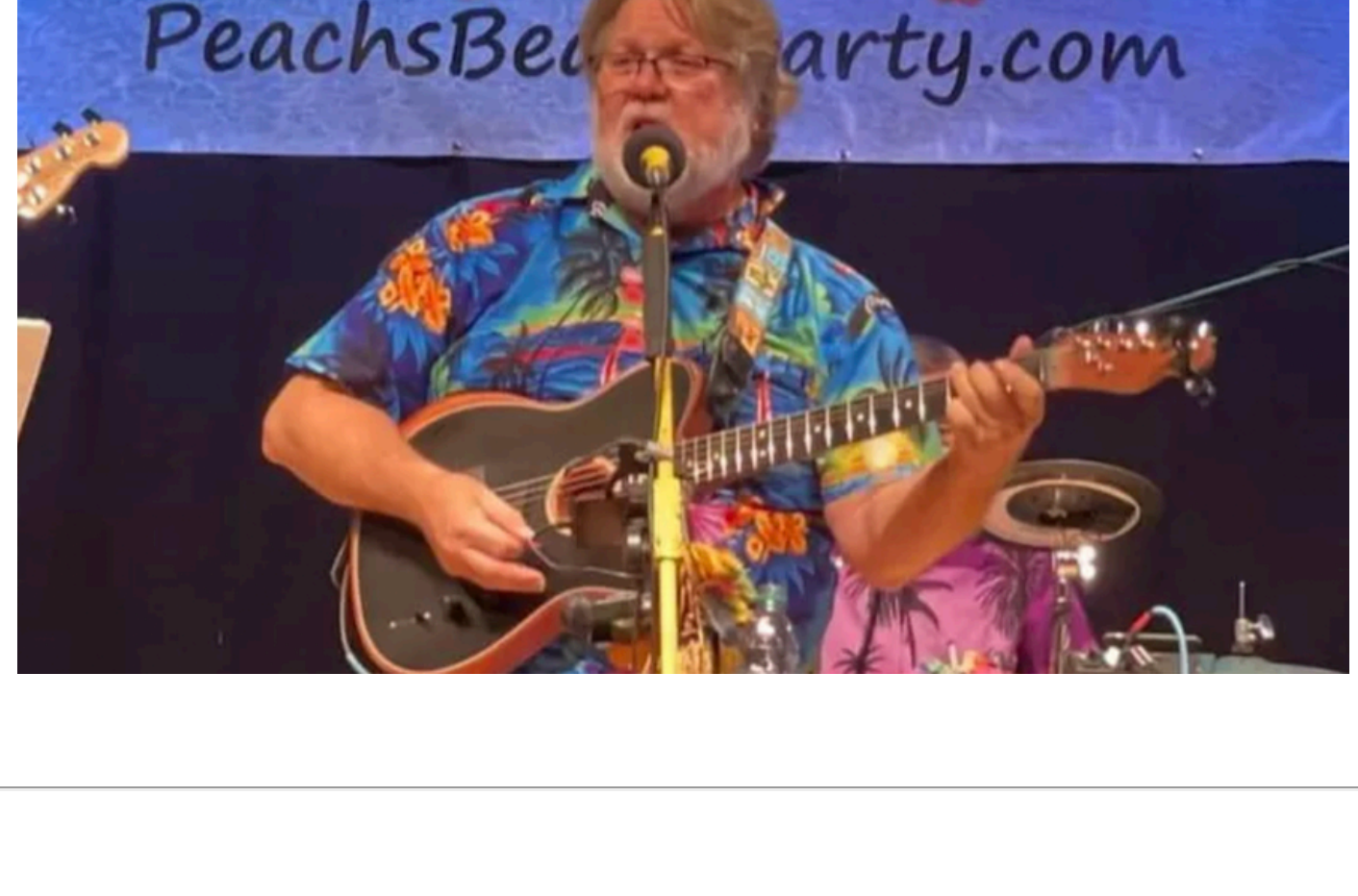
Support our 8th graders as they raise money to help offset the cost of some of their celebratory end-of-year activities. **Trattoria Porretta will be offering 15% of their Carry Out, Delivery and Gift Card Purchases on Tuesday, February 21 back to the 8th grade cause. MORE INFORMATION IS HERE.**



\$3,700 DONATION IN HONOR OF FORMER TEACHER RON PIECH

Last week we were informed of the sudden passing of **Ron Piech**, the band and music teacher at St. Pascal School back in the late 70s. Ron's love of the St. Pascal community never faded and, though he left teaching several years after he moved to the suburbs with his wife and young kids, he never stopped playing music.

Fans of Ron's band, **Peach's Beach Party**, along with his other friends and family, have contributed \$3,700 to a GoFundMe to benefit the Pope Francis Global Academy music program and Ron's wife and sister will join us for our Wednesday morning 8:30 school Ash Wednesday Mass, which will be said for Ron. They will present the check to our current Music teacher, Ms. Bieschke, after Mass. If you were a student at St. Pascal School during the time Ron was a teacher, please join us at Mass. And, if you know anyone who was here during that time, please invite them as well.



PRIVATE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS

Johana Ortegon, the Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Director of Music, is coordinating individual and group lessons for all levels and ages in guitar, piano, violin, voice and choir during after school hours. **PLEASE SEE THESE DETAILS** and contact [Johana](#) with questions.

PARENTS' CLUB NEWS

FAT TUESDAY CELEBRATION

All students and staff will be treated to a cup of vanilla custard from Culver's courtesy of the PFGA Parents' Club on Tuesday, February 21. Allergy info can be found here <https://www.culvers.com/menu-and-nutrition/allergen-grid>

We need a few parent volunteers to assist. To serve you must be Virtus trained. If you can pick up the custard you do not. Sign up below: [Fat Tuesday Celebration Volunteer signup.com](#)

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/>.

We are in need of some volunteers to make the event an amazing evening. Please consider volunteering <https://signup.com/go/qshObzk>



PARENTS' CLUB HAPPY HOUR - MARCH 10 AT 7:30 PM!

Join PFGA parents at their next social event! This is a no cost and low key event...just show up and buy your own drinks/food. It's a great way to get to know other parents! You can also invite prospective parents that you might know are looking for a school, including any St. Bart's parents!



INFORMATION FOR PREPARING YOUR 2022 TAX RETURNS

To complete your tax returns you may need a Tuition Payment Summary. You can find this information right within your FACTS portal. [HERE ARE THE INSTRUCTIONS TO FIND WHAT YOU NEED.](#) As in the past, we will not be sending individual summaries home.

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 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 at "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. You can first learn more by going here: <https://empowerillinois.org/donate/>

CLUBS, EXTRACURRICULARS, AND SPORTS

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

No games this week.

TRACK TEAM CALL OUTS!

If you have a 4th - 8th grader who is interested in running track this spring for PFGA, please complete this registration form and send the \$50 team registration fee into the office in a labeled envelope by March 17. **Spread the word among friends because we do need to submit rosters and to order uniforms, so the deadline is hard.** <https://forms.gle/4xcCry3ve3JFFWt7>

BASEBALL OR SOFTBALL INTEREST FORM

If you have a student who is interested in playing either baseball or softball for PFGA this spring, please complete this Interest Form ASAP: <https://forms.gle/DLs5hBV16CigPMr8>. **Again, please spread the word among friends so that the results are an actual reflection of who would want to play. Thank you!**

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.](#)

CHEERLEADER CAMP AT DEPAUL PREP

DePaul Prep is running Cheer Camp for grades 4-6 and 7-8. Camp will be held June 20th-22nd at the Gordon Tech campus of DePaul Prep. You can register at www.depauprepccamps.org

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).

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

SWEETHEART DANCE VOLUNTEERS

Parents' Club is in need of some volunteers to help with the Sweetheart Dance. Please consider volunteering. <https://signup.com/go/qshObzk>

FAT TUESDAY VOLUNTEERS

[Fat Tuesday Celebration Volunteer signup.com](#)

PARENTS' CLUB NEWS

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>

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL

There are many ways you and your extended family and friends can support PFGA!

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](#)

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!

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

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

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)

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

ST. FERDINAND PARISH FISH FRY

St. Ferdinand Fish Fry, 3115 N. Mason Ave., has been serving diners every Friday during Lent for over 30 years. Join them Fridays, Feb. 24 – March 31, 4:30 – 7:30 pm in all school halls. Menu includes fried & baked fish plus shrimp dinners, clam chowder & vegetable soup, nachos & cheese pizza. Phone ahead at (773) 622-2022, Ext. 361 for carry out or convenient DRIVE THRU service between 4:00 – 7:00 pm. Wheelchair accessibility through our Drive Thru area behind the school. Volunteer opportunities available. Follow us on Facebook at "St. Ferdinand Fish Fry" for the latest information! Email: St.FerdinandFishFry@gmail.com. Follow them on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SFFishFry>

TO SUBMIT AN ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE HOWLER

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

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