

PFGA Howler - March 30, 2023
1 message

Thu, Mar 30, 2023 at 8:59 PM

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



THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2023

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

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- Thursday, March 30 - Academic Bowl at St. Mary of the Woods
- Friday, March 31 - Living Stations of the Cross presented by 8th Grade - 2:15 pm at St. Pascal Church
- Friday, March 31 - 3rd Quarter Report Cards being emailed home
- Friday, March 31 - Pirates of Penzance school musical at 7 pm
- Saturday, April 1 - Pirates of Penzance school musical at 3 pm
- Saturday, April 1 - Deadline for the \$100 Enrollment Fee Discount
- Wednesday, April 5 - 11:30 Dismissal - Parent/Teacher Conferences from 12-7 pm
- Wednesday, April 5 - noon - 7 pm - Parent Teacher Conferences - by request only (see below)
- Thursday, April 6 - Sunday, April 16 - Easter Break
- Saturday, April 22 - Earth Day Neighborhood Clean Up - more info to come!
- Tuesday, May 2 - Deadline to Log Your Volunteer Service Hours for the Current School Year!

SCHOOL NEWS

\$100 ENROLLMENT FEE DISCOUNT DEADLINE THIS SATURDAY, APRIL 1!

The FACTS portal is now open for 2023-24 re-enrollment. 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 by **April 1, 2023** and also a \$300 Referral Bonus for each new family that you bring in (CERTAIN PARAMETERS APPLY). See all the details [HERE](#).

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher Conferences are held twice a year. Fall conferences are held for all students and is an opportunity for parents and teachers to discuss the progress of their student(s). Spring conferences are by request of either parent or teacher. Teachers will be reaching out to set up a conference if they believe one would be helpful. Please arrange your conference directly with your teachers if you feel like you need one but haven't heard from them.

HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHTS

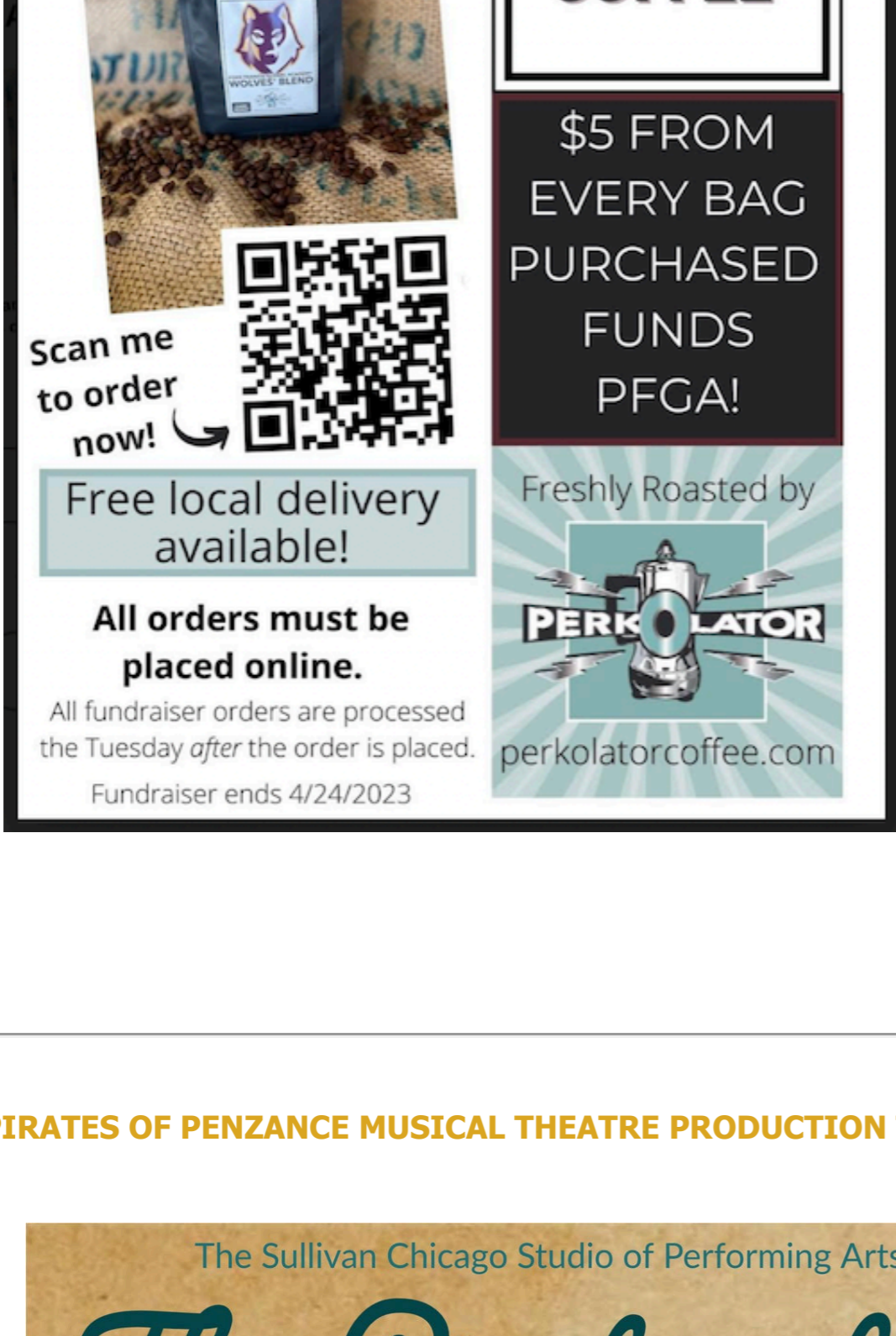
FOOTWEAR

Students are encouraged to wear soft-soled or athletic shoes. No heels above one inch, sandals, flip flops, shoes with wheels ("wheelies"), clogs, slippers, moccasins, Uggs® or boots are acceptable during the school day. The back of the shoes can not be turned down and shoes must be fastened.

PERKOLATOR FUNDRAISER

We are so excited to once again be partnering with our friends at Perkolator to bring you a special Wolves' Blend Coffee for purchase by the bag! They are generously giving us \$5 of each bag sold through this program. It's delicious and helps us raise money for the school! What's not to love?

Details are at the QR code on the flyer here:



PIRATES OF PENZANCE MUSICAL THEATRE PRODUCTION THIS WEEKEND!



The school musical will be presented in two shows this weekend...tomorrow night, Friday, at 7 pm (doors open at 6:30) and Saturday at 3 pm (doors open at 2:30). The show is free for guests and runs about 60 minutes with no intermission. We ask that all students who are there to watch sit with their families and remain quiet and respectful during the show. It will be fabulous!

PARISH FAMILY EASTER EGG HUNT

Our school will host an Easter Egg Hunt for our parish families with small kids on Palm Sunday, April 2, directly after the 10 am Mass. The Easter Bunny will be on hand to help, but we're also looking for volunteers who would like to earn an hour by helping out to run the show, or by bringing in treats to serve as refreshments. [SIGN UP IS HERE.](#)

Please note that our own PFGA Pre-k through 2nd grade students will all get the chance to experience the same type of Easter egg hunt with the Easter Bunny during the school day on the Wednesday before Easter Break. This event is more for parish families and prospective school families, although, if your family is at church for the 10 am Palm Sunday Mass and you want to come and participate afterwards, please feel free!

We can still use more candy/treat-filled plastic eggs for both events. See the Volunteer Opportunities section below for details.

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 plan 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/>

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.

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>

CLUBS, EXTRACURRICULARS, AND SPORTS

VOLLEYBALL IS A WRAP! CONGRATS ON A GREAT SEASON!

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 ASAP! **Spread the word among friends because we do need to submit rosters and to order uniforms, so the deadline is hard.** <https://forms.gle/4xcCyy3ve3JFFW17>

BASEBALL REGISTRATION - DO IT NOW!

There was a lot of interest in baseball but we still need for everyone interested to now actually REGISTER and pay. Coach wants to start conditioning ASAP! Please do so by completing this form and sending in payment to the office asap. <https://forms.gle/jpKpGcLcFV9UwJwVQ>

CAN YOU HELP RUN A BASEBALL/SOFTBALL SKILLS CLINIC?

Anyone interested in helping to run a baseball/softball clinic this spring for 4th-6th grade boys and girls, please reach out to Ms. Cook at athleticdirector@pfgacademy.org.

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.depaulprepcamps.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

TREAT-FILLED EASTER EGGS NEEDED

Each year we have a special guest come visit the school prior to Easter (hint: He has big ears!) and we are in need of treat-filled plastic Easter Eggs for this visit, and another one for Parish families on Palm Sunday. You can earn volunteer hours for your donations. Thank you [FULL INFO IS HERE](#)

APRIL 22 EARTHDAY CLEAN UP

Save the date and make plans to join us, as a school, as we pitch in to help clean up our neighborhood on Earth Day! More information will come home soon. Volunteer hours can be logged for up to 3 ADULTS who are representing your family cleaning.

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, fundraisers, and friends can order products anytime from the Market Day website, 24/7! Just like other popular eCommerce sites, customers pay online. Market Day accepts all major credit cards. MARKETDAY.COM

COCA-COLA GIVE PROGRAM

COCA is a relative 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!

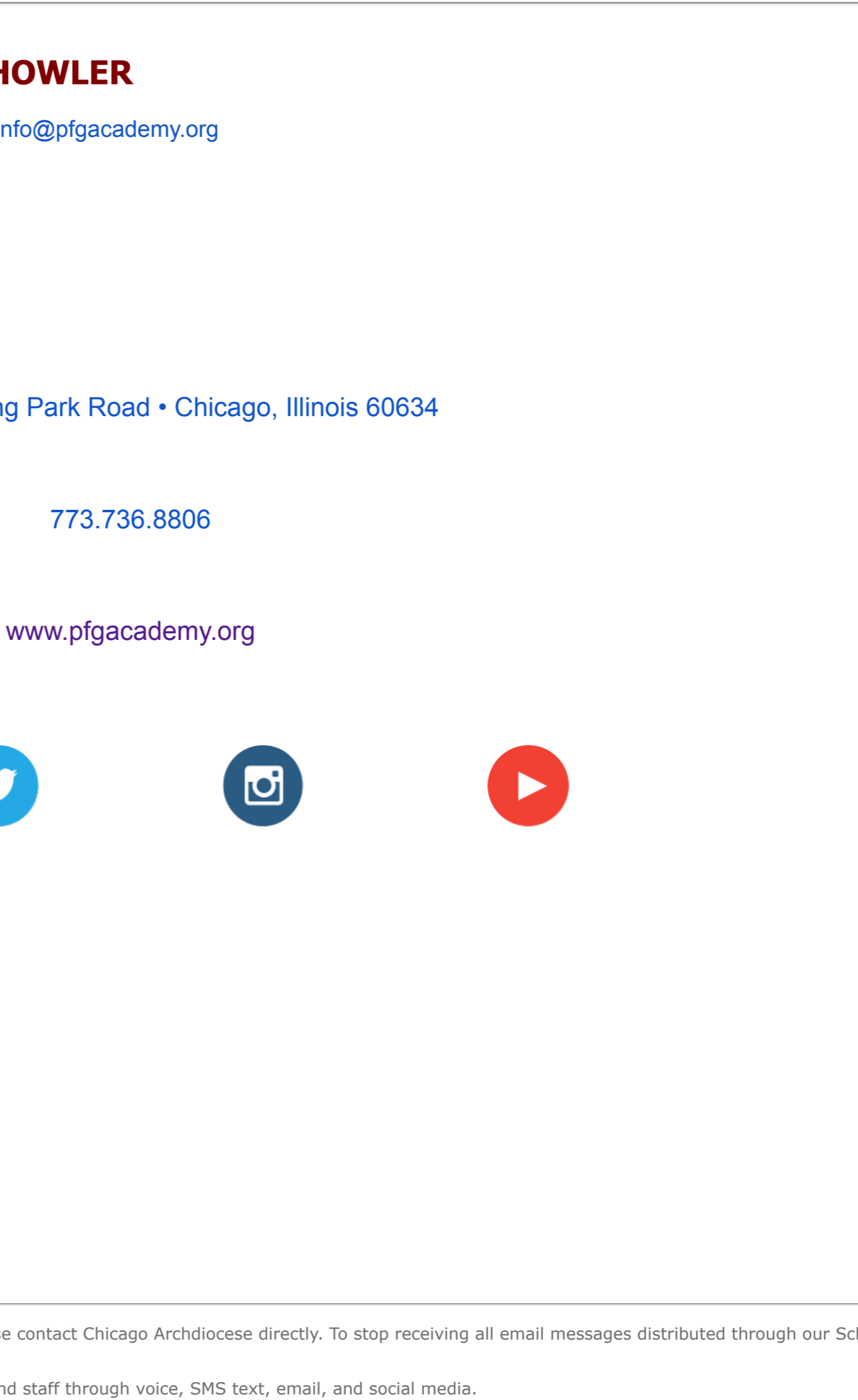
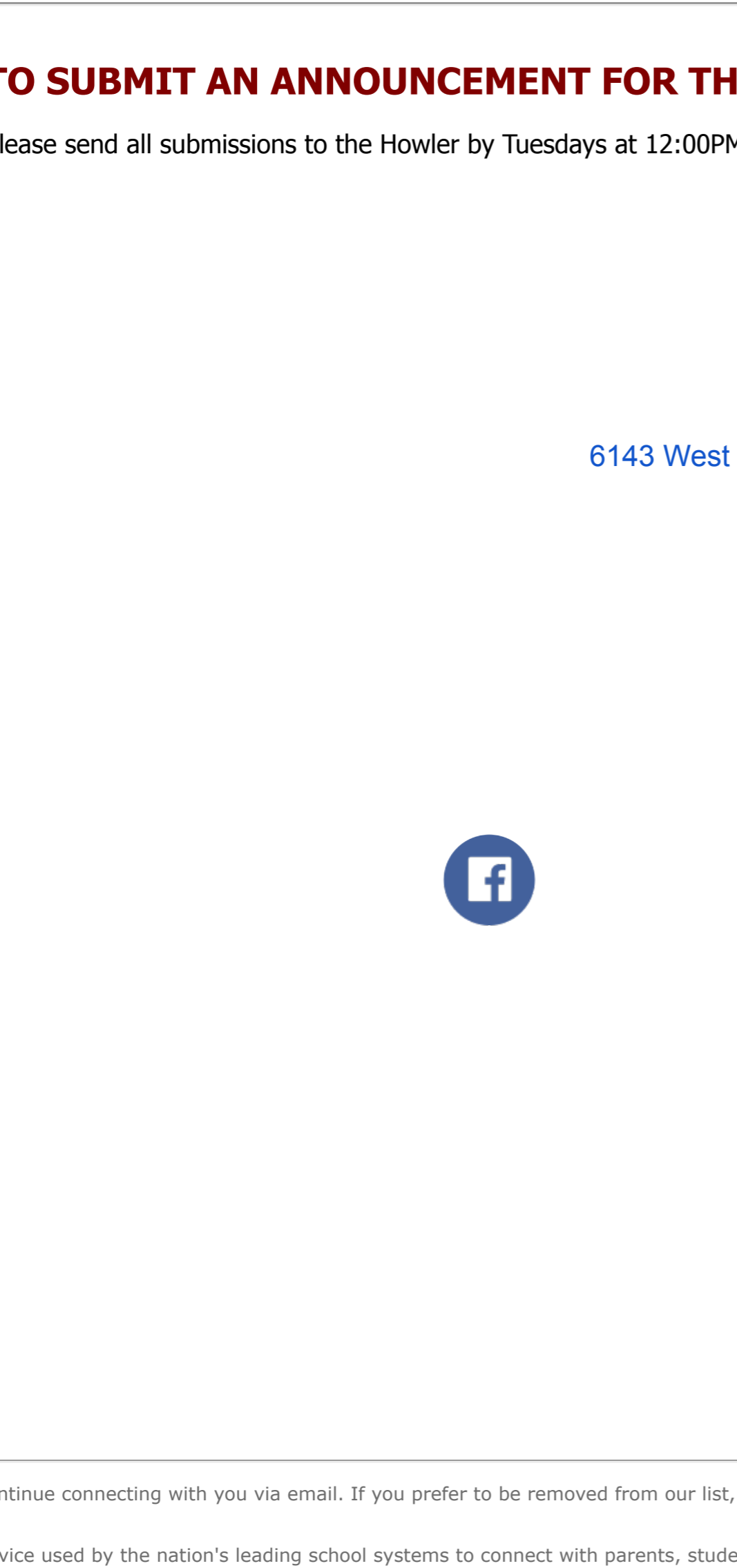
HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

STELLA SORSCH

Come to catch **Stella Schorsch, PFGA Class of 22 graduate**, in the Fenwick High School musical production of **Bright Star** this weekend! Stella is in her freshman year at Fenwick where she has been enjoying studying Mandarin, singing with the choir, competing with the math team, and performing with the Blackfriars Guild (theater group). This summer she is looking forward to traveling to Minnesota for summer league camp..

The show runs this Friday and Saturday nights at 7, plus Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2. **YOU CAN GET A PFGA DISCOUNT ON TICKETS WITH OUR SPECIAL CODE: "PFGA" WHEN YOU PURCHASE TICKETS HERE.**



* If you have a PFGA Alumni you'd like to be spotlighted, please submit their information to Jodi Thyen at jthyen@pfgacademy.org

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 Antiphonal 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

FUN AT THE AUSTIN-INTERVING LIBRARY!

There are some fun activities coming up at the library right across the street from our school!

- **Tweens and Teens Beginner Crochet - Tuesday, March 28, 2023 3:30 - 5 pm**
<https://chipublib.bibliocommons.com/events/6402157a0717af1608f45003>
- **Family Night of Play - Monday, March 20, 2023 from 6:30PM - 7:30PM**
<https://chipublib.bibliocommons.com/events/640211500717af1608f4461>

HOMEWORK HELP AT THE LIBRARY!

M & W 3:30-6:30pm; Tu 3:30-6pm. Please let your students know that if they need help with homework after school the teacher, Dawn, is available to assist with grades K-High School. **DETAILS ARE HERE:** <https://www.chipublib.org/news/free-homework-help/>

ST. FERDINAND PARISH FISH FRY

St. Ferdinand Fish Fry, 3115 N. Mason Ave., has been serving dinners 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) 622-3022, Ext. 361 for carry out or convenient DRIVE THRU service between 4:00 – 7:30 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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