



PRIDE

Obedientia Et Pax

Saint John XXIII Newsletter

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Dear Saint John XXIII Community,

The past week I had the privilege of being in San Diego on our mission trip serving others with our 8th grade. We have all grown so much, but I feel that the students themselves are more fitting to share their feelings on the week. Please enjoy the letter below from one of them who we asked to share their experience.

God Bless,

Preston Colao
Principal

It's really amazing how much can change in the span of just a few days. When I first stepped into the bus, I was completely oblivious to how much could (and would) happen - being granted the opportunity to meet new people, learn amazing things about my Catholic faith, but most importantly being struck with the realization of how loved I really am.

On our way to San Diego, my classmates and I were assigned to write a letter to each other. It didn't seem like much - write a quick note, sign it, and then move on to the next one. Most of us were just going through the motions. However, on the final night of the mission trip, we received our letters from each other and were surprised with a few others. What they all had in common is that they've been looking out for me.

I've been at Saint John for about four years now. I still remember my very first day, when I unconsciously read the unfamiliar names taped on the desks and couldn't recognize any of the faces that went with them. I was never fantastic at meeting new people, and I'm admittedly terrible at striking up a conversation with a stranger. During recess, I didn't expect anyone to easily talk with me - I mean, the other students already had their own friends to hang out with. I was walking along the field, and before I knew it someone had come over to me and said that they wanted to know me better. My heart totally did a backflip. They cared enough about a total stranger to notice that they felt awkward and out of place, and they wanted them to feel welcome and at home within an entirely different environment. Ever since then, many of the people I hold closest to my heart have come from this community.

Other people definitely deserve to feel this kind of love. They, like me, may feel awkward and out of place in the world. They need someone to

help them get back on their feet and help them gain confidence in themselves, and I believe that this 8th grade mission trip was the perfect opportunity.

Homeless people, in general, may not be very accepted by society. It doesn't matter if they live in San Diego, Scottsdale, or in other regions of the world - they're all human, and deserve to be treated with dignity and be given the love that they yearn for. I firmly believe that doing service for the poor lets them know that there are people who care about them, and want them to be treated well by the world.

I could go on and on about the mission trip, but there is so much for me to say in so little words. It has inspired my friends and me to continue to try and make the world a better place, show our peers the same respect that we want to be treated with, and to make everyone - no matter who they are or where they live - feel loved. I believe that our Saint John XXIII Community is filled with fantastic, great-hearted people, and after everything we've done together I'm honored to say that this is my school.

--Frankie Keffer

8th grade student

School Notes

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Important Dates

March 10 and 13

School Closed

March 14-17

Toiletry Drive

Thursday, March 16

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QTR. 3 Report Cards Posted

Saturday, March 25

Lasting Legacies Auction

KINDERGARTEN!!!



Applications for the 2017-2018 school year can be found on the website www.saintjohnxxiii.org or by stopping by the office.

Lasting Legacies Class Projects



Parents, there's still time left to purchase your student's Lasting Legacy class project! Our students worked very hard with many parent volunteers to make these awesome, one-of-a-kind creations. The class with the highest percentage of participation wins a class pizza party!

Attached, please find an order form, a picture and description of each

grade.

Check out the Leaderboard on Schoology.

Currently, 2A is in the lead.

.... It is a race to the finish! **Go PRIDE!!**

**Remember to pick up all purchased Class Projects
in the school office.**

Thank you.

[Calling All Middle School Artists](#)



The St. John XXIII Art Department is extending an invitation for you to share your artistic talent in the upcoming May Art Walk. Every student will have the opportunity to proudly share their favorite, professionally framed art piece on May 5th. Oh, please tell your parents there is no obligation to purchase the framed artwork. Please see Mrs. Bucci or Mrs. Miller for official details!!

[Facebook](#)

facebook

Did you know that Saint John XXIII is on Facebook?

Check us out and be sure to LIKE us!

We share stories, photos, and exciting news!

[CEA Scholarship Applications](#)



Catholic Education Arizona Scholarship Applications for the 2017-18 school year are now open. Deadline for applications is April 18. Parents/legal guardians need to go to www.fairapp.com to apply.

School Code: 700

School Password: cea700

[Faith IN Action](#)



3rd Grade Toiletry Drive

March 14-17

Our 3rd grade will be ministering to the homeless of our Valley through Shoebox Ministries by holding a toiletry drive. Please help them by donating shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap and items as such. Travel sizes are great but all toiletry items are appreciated!

Thank you and God Bless

Spirit of Service



Please check out our Spirit of Service webpage for new opportunities to help in our community. We have recently added a new organization called Harvest Compassion. They are located on Tatum and Thunderbird and are a food pantry and food box resource locally. All ages are welcome to participate in this service with adult supervision. We also have links set up for Andre House and Phoenix Rescue Mission!

Ways of Worship



8th Grade Mission Trip

San Diego, California

"Serving God Is Our Greatest Adventure!"

Please keep our 8th graders in your prayers as they prepare to embark on their Mission Trip and Retreat. Our students will BE the Hands and Feet of Christ as they serve the homeless, the hungry and the needy at various organization throughout downtown San Diego. Their evenings will be spent in spiritual retreat which will be led by local youth ministers of the San Diego diocese. We are looking forward to an amazing week of spirit and service with this great group of students!

Lenten Reconciliation

We will be providing our students in grades 3-8 the opportunity for Reconciliation through their classrooms during school hours March 20, 21 and 23. What a gift!!!

[CEA](#)

Catholic Education
| A R I Z O N A

CEA TAX CREDIT.

Deadline is April 15, 2017!

Before you sign off or push submit on those taxes...take a moment and be certain you are taking advantage of this incredible tax credit that benefits our school ...and you!

Visit <http://saintjohnxxiii.org/cea-tax-credit/> or WWW.CEAZ.ORG

Designate SJXXIII 201

- Please know, that your Tax Credit contribution will make a difference in the lives of students in our SJXXIII Community.
- All funding raised through the tuition tax credit provides assistance to St. John XXIII families who qualify based on financial need.
- If funds are left over after need is met, it is shared with those who apply.
- So, please take part in the CEA Tax Credit Program and redirect your taxes to Saint John XXIII 201 and apply too!

Lost and Found

Please stop by the Lost and Found cart to find your missing clothes, water bottles, lunchboxes, etc. Any items not claimed will be discarded or donated to

the Spirit Store.

Please remember to *write your child's name* on all personal items.

(Clothing and all other items)

Run With Pride



Awards will be on March 17th.

Thank you!

Michele Richardson and Joan Sirven

Nurse Notes



Wellness Policy Reminder Regarding Birthday Snacks - -

Thank you for all of your efforts following the Diocesan Wellness policy in regards to birthday snacks for your children by bringing in low sugar/low fat birthday snacks and choosing snacks safe for students with food allergies in the classroom to prevent a severe food allergy reaction.

We ask of you to please do the same for surprise birthday parties for your beloved teachers - - - when snacks are being served to all the students in the class we have to follow the same guidelines. (This does not apply if you are bringing in a cupcake or cookie just for the teacher.)

Our entire staff works together to follow the Wellness Policy guidelines as well as provide a safe classroom for all our students. We depend on your cooperation in buying store-bought items with ingredient labels to make this process easier.

If you have any questions, please let me know and you can view our school wellness policy in our student handbook: <http://saintjohnxxiii.org/student-handbook/>

Once again, ALL your efforts are very much appreciated!

Thank you.

Joan Sirven, RN, BSN, NCSN

School Nurse

[SCRIP](#)



For all you on line shoppers we have \$100 and \$25 Amazon gift cards! So stop by the SCRIP cart, pick some up and shop from the comfort of your own home.

Remember you can use your FACTS account to purchase SCRIP!

For questions Stop by the SCRIP cart before or after school or email Pegge Gentry, at pgentry@saintjohnxxiii.org with any questions.

Scrip Sales Hours:

Tuesday-Thursday

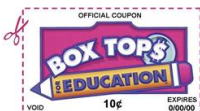
7:30 – 8:15

2:30 – 3:15

Friday

7:30 – 8:15

12:15 – 1:00



It's Box Top clipping time!

Help our school reach our goal of collecting 15,000 Box Tops. Just by clipping Box Tops and sending them into school, we earn cash. Clip Box Tops from hundreds of your favorite products. Turn in your Box Tops to your homeroom teacher by February 27th.

[Parish Corner](#)



Parish Lenten Fish Fry

Last Friday, March 3rd was the kick-off for our Lenten Fish Fry Dinners, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. The first night was a huge success with over 150 people in attendance. Many people enjoyed the dinner and stayed to participate in the Healing Rosary and Stations of the Cross.

We have price points for small and large appetites. Dinners include fish, soup, sides, desserts and drinks. This week, the soups and desserts will be provided by Parish Office Staff. Bring your family and join us this Friday for dinner and stay for more.



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