



*One Spirit,
One Community*

May 3, 2017
Parent Newsletter

Excellence in Education, Body, Mind, & Spirit

Upcoming Events

- **3rd Trimester Progress Reports** go home on Wednesday, May 3rd.
- **Star Wars Day is Thursday, May 4th.** May the Force be with you. Students may wear Star Wars shirts with uniform bottoms.
- **School Liturgy** on Friday, May 5th at 8:10 A.M. Students must be in liturgy dress.
- **Minimum Day** will be Friday, May 5th. Dismissal will be at 11:50 A.M.
- **3rd Grade First Communion** will be held on Saturday, May 6th at 2:00 P.M. in the church.
- **Sacred Heart Redlands Track Meet** will be Sunday, May 7th at the University of Redlands. Meet is scheduled to begin at 8:00 A.M. Go Saints!
- **May Crowning Mass** will be held Monday, May 8th at 8:00 A.M. Students must be in liturgy dress.
- **STAR Testing** will end on Friday, May 12th.

- **St. Margaret Mary Track Meet** will be Saturday, May 13th at Damien High School in La Verne. Meet is scheduled to begin at 8:00 A.M. Go Saints!

Registration

Registration for all interested families is now open. Please make sure that your family account is current so that you can register for the 2017-2018 school year. We are giving tours of our campus to new families and testing new students almost daily. Please don't be left out. Make plans to register as soon as possible.

Progress Reports

3rd Trimester Progress Reports went home today, Wednesday, May 3rd. Two copies went home in the yellow envelope. The report stamped COPY (in red) is yours to keep for your records. The other copy must be signed and returned to school in the yellow envelope. Some reports will also have an Incomplete Assignment Sheet attached. Please make sure your child is caught up on all assignments so that they may participate in all of their school activities.

Just Like Jesus

The following students were caught on campus being *Just Like Jesus*. Thank you for being good examples to others. Go Saints!

Tristan Rojas – 3rd Grade
Edison Balcazar – 4th grade
Christopher Reyna – 4th grade
Catalina McCarron – 4th grade
Dash Swinfard – 5th grade
Aubrey Hernandez – 6th grade
Aalyiah Rodriguez – 6th grade
Zoe Minter – 6th grade
Chelsy Cervantes – 7th grade
Daniel Gamez – 8th grade

Mission Statement

St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish School provides a Christ-centered Catholic environment where all students are challenged to achieve their personal best spiritually, academically, and culturally. We are committed to educating the whole child, promoting excellence, and modeling compassion. We are a community of believers enlightened by knowledge and enriched by faith.

Incomplete Assignments

Incomplete Assignment Sheets went in today's weekly envelope. Please take advantage of Easter Vacation and help your child get caught up on their assignments so that they return to school after break with a fresh start. You can also check their progress by visiting www.gradelink.com. ***Assignments must be completed in order for students to participate in field trips and athletics.***

After School Care

Please remember that After School Care closes at 6:00 P.M. Students picked up after this time will be billed accordingly. Students not picked up within 25 minutes of the end of the school day or after a practice will automatically be signed into After Care. **If you have not signed up for After Care and have to use it, you will be billed accordingly.** Please see page 19 of the Parent Handbook for more details.

Before/After School Conferencing

Please remember teachers have specific duties before and after school and are not available to conference (even just for a quick minute). Student safety is our primary concern, and if we stop to talk this can distract us from our preparations or supervision duties. We welcome parents to use Class Dojo to ask for a conference time so we can give you our full attention.

Wednesday Envelope

A family envelope, which is yellow, goes home every Wednesday. This envelope is filled with various forms and flyers. It goes home with the oldest child in the family. The envelope must be signed by a parent and returned on Thursday. This is another way for our staff and teachers to communicate with our families. **Please check your Yellow Wednesday Envelope. There are flyers and forms that are not contained or discussed in the Weekly Newsletter.**

Monday Morning Assembly

Due to the high number of students who are receiving *Dojo Awards* and *Just Like Jesus Awards*, we would like to invite parents to start the school week off with our students. Please join us for Morning Assembly at 7:50 A.M. on the first day of the school week (usually Monday) as we pray together, sing together, and do the pledge of allegiance together. Come see which class receives Top Class awards for each grade level (TK-2nd, 3rd-5th, and 6th-8th). We will also take time to recognize students who have earned awards from the previous week, and don't forget to join us on Friday mornings as we close the school week with School Liturgy, at 8:10 A.M.

Background Check

If you have not yet been background cleared, that must be completed before you can volunteer. Coaches must be TB tested too. Also remember that you need to be background cleared in order to attend field trips. **Please note that in order to stay within diocesan regulations all volunteers fourteen years of age or older must undergo the Safe Environment Teen Training. In addition, these students must be under direct adult supervision at all times while volunteering.**

Gradelink

Our school uses a web-based grade and assignment reporting system – Gradelink. Parents or students can access the Gradelink site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There is a link on our school's web page or you can use www.gradelink.com. The Gradelink site provides information on your child's grades, conduct and current assignment status. We strongly urge parents to visit the website at least weekly or set up instructions for automatic email contact if student's grades drop in a subject area. **Families with delinquent accounts will automatically be locked out of Gradelink.**

Front Entrance

In order to maintain our campus safe, the front entrance to the school will remain locked at all times. Please wait to be buzzed in by school personnel. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience this may cause but student safety is our first priority. **In addition, we have added a yellow Caution – Do Not Enter tape for the office. This tape will be removed at 3:00 P.M. We ask that parents/guardians please not come onto campus prior to dismissal. These new added measures will continue to ensure student safety.**

Student Pick-Up

We will be modifying the way student pick-up takes place in order to alleviate crowding in the Parish/School Parking Lot. We will be opening the gates at 2:45 P.M. and allowing cars to pull in to the pick-up line. Drivers will still be directed toward one of three lanes. Cars will then be permitted to pull forward toward the neon yellow cones with chains. Students will not be dismissed to board vehicles until 3:00 P.M. This is done for the safety of our students.

SCA Business Directory

Our SCA Business Directory is finally live and on our school website. To input your information into our directory please go to our website. Click on the LINKS tab on the front page. Then scroll towards the bottom and click on SCA Business Directory. It only takes 3 minutes to fill out and this will help our school create a community database of talents our school can use in the future. This information will not be made public and is for school use only. Thank you in advance.

Non-Discrimination Policy

St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish School admits students of any sex, race, color, religion, creed, national and ethnic origin to all rights and privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to all students of the school. St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish School does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs, and athletic or administered programs.

Parking Lot & Pick-Up Safety

We ask that parents be mindful when picking up students after school. **You may only park in designated visitor spaces. All other spaces are designated to parish and school staff members. If a parking spot is marked off with a cone, please do not remove the cone and take the spot as it has already been designated to a staff member.**

Please make every effort to arrive for dismissal in a timely manner. Arriving ahead of time or too early congests the parking lot. This makes it difficult for parish office staff, school staff, high school staff, and parishioners to conduct business at our sites. At times individuals must leave for meetings or are coming back from meetings and find themselves trapped in the parking lot. In addition, the traffic backs up on Brockton and Arlington. These cars could receive citations. Lining up in front of the school gate is also against safety policies, as that gate must remain clear for police and fire trucks in the event of an emergency. We also ask that parents driving through the pick-up line refrain from using their cell phones. This added distraction is very dangerous as cars are navigating through lanes and students and staff are walking between cars. Let's put safety first. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Class Dojo

As our year advances we are excited about the continued use of our school-wide discipline program: Class Dojo. Class Dojo is the preferred communication tool between you and your child's teacher. Not only does Class Dojo provide you with current and specific information regarding your child's behavior at school, it also provides an easy to use messaging system. Parents are encouraged to access their child's Dojo account anytime and view a report outlining exactly why their child is receiving warnings, positive, and negative points as well as which class/ situation the points come from. These reports can be viewed on a daily basis, weekly basis, or monthly basis. Teachers also post pictures of class activities and events to help you feel connected and give you something to talk about over dinner. The messaging system is as easy as a "text" message and many teachers reply promptly (most faster than if you email!) Now that you are connected, please check Class Dojo weekly (daily is best!) for announcements, to check behaviors, and to message teachers.

School Info

St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish School
7025 Brockton Ave.
Riverside, CA 92506
Office: 951-684-1091
Fax: 951-684-4936
Email: elandin@stcatherine-riverside.org
www.stcofa1.org

Parents, by word and example, are the first heralds of the faith with regards to their children. Lumen Gentium 11, 2nd Vatican Council