



SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL LOS ANGELES



Dear Parents/Guardians:

Throughout this school year we have been asking our students to focus on the Catholic qualities that help us define who we are as a Christian community, and that we find to be vital in establishing a Christ-centered, values-based learning environment. One of the things we strive to do at St. Paul the Apostle School is “educate the whole child.” Character formation is a major effort at SPA because we firmly believe that it is not enough to simply teach students to be academically intelligent, they must also be taught how to have moral character.

Character, simply defined, is that lasting and distinctive part of the inner person that governs behavior through informed choices and good habits. It is formed and maintained when an active and well-informed conscience becomes a consistent moral guide, and such virtues as patience, generosity, honesty, obedience, reverence, acceptance, compassion, prudence, and perseverance become habits. As I reflect on this list of virtues, I think we can add two more that are sometimes missing from our current society—common sense and civility. If we are serious about forming our young people for the next generation, these virtues cannot be disregarded.

It has come to my attention that we have some students at St. Paul’s who are experiencing a bit of difficulty in expressing these Christian values that are being taught at home and school. I am concerned because this type of misbehavior and blatant disregard of school policies has a negative impact on the entire faith community. It is easy for our students to forget that it is a privilege to be here, and that there are certain parameters established by the school and church that cannot be ignored. Students who choose to willfully disregard school policies must be held responsible for their behavior. Negative experiences for making wrong choices will only serve to help students make better choices in the future. I firmly believe that a child’s first and only “brush with the law” should be parental discipline. If this is effective, chances are there will be no others. When my

children were growing up the words “NO,” “STOP” and “BEHAVE” were complete sentences. There was no justifying, no arguing, no bargaining, and no extensive discussions...the “law” had spoken. As parents and educators, we are all in the business of forming conscience. This formation is one that must be a total and daily practice.

Education is an important partnership between home and school, and your children will ultimately benefit from that team effort. If the teachers call and ask for your assistance regarding your child’s behavior, it’s probably because they have exhausted their classroom discipline options. Please give them your support, and let us continue to work together to help our students become people of strong Christian character. As always, your support and cooperation are very much appreciated.

Peace and blessings,

Crystal A. Pinkofsky
Principal

6	MAY 2019, MON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All day 8 – 9:30am 	STEAM Fair Week--Gym PWC Board Meeting JACC
7	MAY 2019, TUE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All day 	STEAM Fair Week--Gym
8	MAY 2019, WED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All day All day 11am – 2pm 	Spring Sing II - JCPC STEAM Fair Week--Gym Spring Sing 2--JCPC--Grades 1-4 perform JCPC
9	MAY 2019, THU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All day 	STEAM Fair Week--Gym
10	MAY 2019, FRI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 – 8pm 	Sandwich Builders--JCPC
11	MAY 2019, SAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 – 6pm 	First Communion
15	MAY 2019, WED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am – 1pm 	7th Grade and St. Paul's Senior STARS--Marian Mass St. Paul the Apostle Church/JCPC
16	MAY 2019, THU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 – 10am 	Student Council Elections--JCPC
17	MAY 2019, FRI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All day All day 	NO School - 3 day weekend STAR Testing Window 4 opens
22	MAY 2019, WED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All day 	8th Grade Retreat, Liturgy & Dinner
27	MAY 2019, MON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All day 	No School



FIRST COMMUNION at SPA!

When I attended Catholic elementary school I remember a teacher saying that the Eucharist is the heart of Christian life and it should become the heart of a Christian family. Within the Catholic Church, First Communion is not only the introduction of a child into fuller community participation; it is also a reminder to adults of their own faith commitment. This past weekend we had many of St. Paul’s second grade students who received the Eucharist for the very first time. As they celebrate this important milestone with their family and friends, may the peace and love of Christ be with them always, and may they be continuously blessed beyond measure!



WASHINGTON D.C. INFORMATION MEETING!

An information meeting will be held this **Thursday, May 9, at 5:30 p.m.** in the Conference Room of the HLC for this year's 7th grade parents who are interested in having their children participate in a field trip to Washington, D.C. next year as part of their 8th grade learning experience. SPA parent, Dean Catalano, who organized and participated in this year's trip, will be present to speak about the experience and answer any questions you might have. A packet containing pertinent information was sent home with the students last week. Please bring this with you to the meeting. We hope to see you there!



A-B-C COUNTDOWN AT SPA

This year we begin what we hope will become an annual tradition at St. Paul's—the year-end A-B-C Countdown! This will be a creative way for faculty, staff and students to join together and celebrate the last 26 days of school. (See the attached list of fun activities.) Please note that student participation in any of the free dress activities is optional—school uniforms may always be worn instead. Students who wish to participate in the free dress days must adhere to the guidelines provided to them by their teachers. **Let the fun begin today, Monday, May 6, with “A” Day!**

[Link to printable ABC List](#)



SPA STEAM FAIR

St. Paul's annual STEAM Fair will be held on Tuesday, May 7, and Wednesday, May 8, from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. The students in grades 6 through 8 have been preparing their science and engineering projects since February. Parents are most welcome to stop by and view their wonderful creations. Judges will award prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each category, and the winning class will be announced at the end of May.



OUR GRATITUDE!

Thank you to all of our SPA families for your gracious spirit of generosity and support! **We are most grateful for the donations we received for our “Read to Feed” campaign which has totaled \$17,562 to date. Wow, that was truly a lot of dedicated reading!** We are also very appreciative of the support we received for the Student Council bake sale and the Textile Drive. We are very blessed to be part of such a giving community!

SPRING CHESS TOURNAMENT

“Every chess master was once a beginner.” On Sunday, April 28,



students from several schools gathered in the HLC gym to compete in the annual Spring Chess Tournament. Often known as a game for the intellectually gifted, chess is the best sport to exercise the most important organ in our bodies: the brain. Many chess players, both young and old, have a passion for this game. While teaching lessons on both how to win and lose, this is one game that has the power to bring people of all ages together. Our SPA students have shown tremendous “chess” growth this year, both in their confidence and their creativity. We commend the following students for their achievements during the tournament, and encourage them to keep enjoying this wonderful game of concentrated skill and fun!

Kindergarten:

Nick Farley	3	tied for 1 st place
Peter Maldonado	2.5	2nd place
Walter Merchan	2	tied for 1 st place
Mia Yousefi	2	tied for 1 st place
Grant Brown	1.5	2nd place
Bennett de Groot	1.5	3rd place
Amelie Vassilev	0.5	3rd place

1st Grade:

Henry Thomason	3	3rd place
Giuseppe Franchina	2	5th place
Holden Beede	2	4th place
Bardin	0	6th place

1st & 2nd Grade Girls:

Eera Palaskas	2	2nd place
Miette Spillane	0	4th place

2nd Grade:

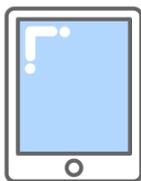
Declan Molinar	1	5th place
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3rd Grade:

Marcus Vassilev	3	3rd place
Cole Landry	3	4th place

Championship:

Jude Spillane	3	2nd place
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SPA TECHNOLOGY SURVEY

As we begin planning for the 2019-2020 school year, we would like to conduct a technology survey with our parent community! We kindly ask that you take a few minutes and logon to this link: <https://forms.gle/oiSiti61S5zYAeGb9> to respond to a few questions regarding devices and everyday usage at home. We are trying our best to bridge the gap between classroom usage, home usage, and the right digital citizenship approach that can make our community digitally better. We will be using this data to have more specific information for our IT team and guest speakers to focus on next year. Thank you!



SPA SUN SAFETY

Now that spring has sprung, so has the sun! Please be sure to slather on the sun screen before your child heads for school and pack an extra tube in your child's backpack for re-application during recess and lunch. Don't forget sun hats too! We will be starting a new Sun-Hat wearing competition that will continue through Camp-out week. Winning classes will be announced during Camp-out. The SPA Sun Safety Committee is committed to promoting sun safety awareness and health. While melanoma and other sun illnesses may be on the rise, SPA is committed to promoting sun safety and keeping our kids sun safe.



SPA CUB SCOUT NEWS!

Last Wednesday, Scout leaders had the honor of presenting the **Arrow of Light** rank to 13 members of Den 7, Pack 55, at their annual Blue and Gold Banquet. The Arrow of Light is the highest rank that a Cub Scout can reach. Of the 13 Scouts, the following fifth grade students from St. Paul the Apostle School received this honor. Our congratulations are being extended to:

Michael Abbott
William Bernald
Dominic Caruso
Ryan Davis
Albert Hill
Daniel Horn
Grayson Kilroy
John Molinar
Jack Musitano
Matt Segars
Liam Skillings
Rishad Vaghaiwalla

Other SPA students participating in the Tiger, Wolf, Bear and Webelo 1 Dens also received awards and advanced to the next rank. The Scout Troop Leaders look forward to recruiting more boys and girls to Scouting next year!



PWC NEWS CORNER!



SPA SPRING SING II

Please join us for Spring Sing II this Wednesday, May 8, where students in grades 1-4 will perform. The social hour will begin at noon. At 12:50 p.m., the program will begin with the announcement of our new PWC board, Room Parents and Graduation Committee. The concert will begin at 1:30 p.m., but please plan to come a little early — if announcements are finished early we will jump right into the show. As with Spring Sing I, we are switching to a new format — rather than a sit-down lunch, all are invited for complimentary refreshments. Reserved seating has sold out but there will be limited complimentary seating in the back of the JCPC. Please note that relaxed parking will be in effect from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. from Wilshire to Santa Monica Blvds. and Westholme to Westwood Blvds



FACULTY AND STAFF APPRECIATION GIFTS

You will once again have the opportunity to contribute to a year-end faculty and staff appreciation collection beginning next week. This is strictly voluntary and a great way to thank all the wonderful people who make our parish and school so special. Please see the **PWC website** if you would like to contribute.

TOGETHER WE ROCK!



Hey, Saints! Are you ready to rock!?! Grab your VIP pass and get ready for an unforgettably epic rock & roll festival! Introducing...“Together We Rock” 2019! While the SPA 2019 Festival Committee is hard at work preparing for another awesome weekend for our community, you can start looking like a rock star by purchasing some super cool and comfy festival wear, and help get the party started by donating to Patronage! **Mark your calendars to purchase festival wear at these events:**

Pep Rally: May 1
Spring Sing II: May 8
New Parent Mixer: May 14
Camp-out: May 18
Online (orders open): June 3

Donate to Patronage on-line (starting April 30th) or at these events:

Spring Sing II: May 8
New Parent Mixer: May 14

Look for all the ways you can rock with the SPA Festival by visiting our [Festival 101](#) (hot link) page. Be sure to follow us now on Social Media for more exciting news! [#togetherwerock](#) (hot link).



SPA SCHOOL WEBSITE NEWS!

After months and months of endless meetings, planning, hard work and dedication, we are pleased to announce that our new St. Paul the Apostle School website is now available to everyone! Please visit <https://school.sp-apostle.org> and browse around the site noting all that St. Paul's has to offer, who we are as a Catholic school community, and what we have to offer our families. We have added quite a bit of pertinent information regarding our enrollment process, our faith community, the academic programs, and the numerous extracurricular activities. Keep an eye on our Calendar of Events and the most important news on the front page of the website. You can also access our social media pages at the bottom of the site whenever you like! If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions regarding the school website please don't hesitate to email Daniel Chung at dchung@sp-apostle.org. Thanks, and enjoy!



SPA'S SOCIAL MEDIA

Please join St. Paul's this year as we ramp up our social media game on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube! We will be posting regular updates along with the parish to share the news about everything that's happening around campus and in the community. Check it out and share your “likes” to show your support! You can subscribe below by clicking on the links!

[Facebook](#)

Instagram
YouTube
