



SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL LOS ANGELES



Dear Parents/Guardians:

Happy Monday morning! As I was noting the date of this week's newsletter it occurred to me that in two weeks we will be ending the second trimester and beginning the last part of our journey for this school year. Wasn't it just yesterday that we were all gathered in church for Back-to-School Night? And now we are reflecting on any progress we have made, discussing what still needs to be accomplished, and already in the midst of planning for "next year." As they say: never a dull moment!

We began the school year with a keen focus on SAFETY, and all that it requires for our students to be safe here at St. Paul the Apostle School. This topic has been repeatedly thrust into the national spotlight, and is certainly a necessary element for a nurturing and learning-conducive environment. As disheartening as this present-day reality might be, we all know that today's schools are no longer the safe havens they once were for our children. An abundance of time, energy and resources have been given to this issue, and we will continue to do everything within our means as situations present themselves, and/or we receive new directives from the LAPD and the ADLA. It is a given that the dedicated focus on student safety and school security continues.

As with many things we do at SPA, student safety is yet another area where we truly rely a great deal on parental support and cooperation of our efforts in order to be successful. Rightfully so, concern for the safety of our students does not stop when the dismissal bell rings. Anytime there are students on our campus, the issue of their wellbeing is present as well. I am bringing this to your attention because we have become aware of many instances when children are being left unattended after school. Our policy states that students who remain unattended on campus after 3:20 p.m. (that's 30 minutes after dismissal) will be sent to our after-school care program. There have been times when we have received some resistance when this policy has been enforced. Please understand that it undermines the safety of our students if they are told to just "hide" from school staff,

or try to “blend in” at a sporting or after-school activity until they are picked up. There have also been a few instances when other parents have reported seeing students as young as the primary grades waiting to be picked up a block away from campus with no adult supervision anywhere. It’s also been reported that students have been told by their parents to go sit in church and wait for their ride. Anything can happen (accidents, abductions, etc.) when no one is watching closely what is going on, and/or who might be lurking around. While many situations may always seem to end well, we all know that it only takes one time for something bad to occur, and then we are all dealing with regret and a possible tragedy.

At St. Paul the Apostle School, our efforts to improve school safety range from targeted security measures, to broad initiatives designed to improve school climate and foster very safe learning environments for your children. As we continue to implement comprehensive safety plans that extend to after-school hours as well, it is reassuring to know that we will be able to rely on your consistent cooperation and support. Thank you, once again, for all that you do!

Peace and blessings,

Crystal A. Pinkofsky
Principal

25	FEB 2019, MON	6:30 – 7:30pm	2nd Grade Sacrament meeting--JCPC
27	FEB 2019, WED	6:30 – 8:30pm	5th Grade Liturgy and Dinner St. Paul the Apostle Church
28	FEB 2019, THU	7 – 8:30pm	Jr. High Night - SSM Media Center
1	MAR 2019, FRI	All day	NO School (3 day weekend)
6	MAR 2019, WED	8:15 – 9:15am	Ash Wednesday School Mass--3rd Grade St. Paul the Apostle Church
8	MAR 2019, FRI	All day	Trimester 2 ends
10	MAR 2019, SUN	9:30 – 10:30am	4th Grade Family Mass St. Paul the Apostle Church
11	MAR 2019, MON	8 – 9:30am	PWC Board Meeting--JACC
12	MAR 2019, TUE	6:30 – 8:30pm	Kindergarten Prayer Service and Dinner St. Paul the Apostle Church
13	MAR 2019, WED	6:30 – 8:30pm	1st Grade Prayer Service and dinner St. Paul the Apostle Church
15	MAR 2019, FRI	7 – 8pm	Sandwich Builders--JCPC JCPC
18	MAR 2019, MON	6:30 – 7:30pm	2nd Grade Sacrament meeting JCPC JCPC



NO SCHOOL!

This is just a reminder that school will not be in session this Friday, March 1st. Classes will resume Monday morning with our prayer assembly.

AUTHOR VISIT TO SPA!



Newbery Honor Award winning author and illustrator, Eugene Yelchin, will be doing an author talk at St. Paul's on Thursday, March 7, for grades 3 - 6. He has an exciting new middle-grade novel, *Spy Runner*, in which a boy stumbles upon a secret that jeopardizes American national security. This historical look at Russian-American relations is timely, with dark, grainy, layered photographs that add to the sense of time and place, perfect for this enthralling mystery.

Several of his books will be available for purchase and autographing, and order forms will be distributed to the students. If you would like to make a purchase, please return the order form with payment (checks made out to Children's Book World) to your child's teacher no later than this Thursday, February 28th.



P.E. CLASSES ON THE MORMON FIELD

As we move towards the season of spring and sunnier days, the P.E. teachers would like to have some of their classes take place on the grassy areas of the Mormon field beginning March 1st. Because students will be leaving the SPA campus with their P.E. teachers, a signed permission slip from parents will be required. We ask that you read, sign and return the form to your child's homeroom teacher once you receive it. Unfortunately, students who do not have a signed permission slip on file will not be allowed to leave campus and participate in the class activities.

PWC NEWS CORNER!



PWC COMMUNITY COFFEE

Many thanks to all who attended last Friday's Community Coffee, and a special thanks to Zelin'n, Jenni and Devon for putting everything together for us. Please mark your calendar for next month's coffee where we will have an informal book club about **Fr. Greg Boyle's "Barking to the Choir: The Power of Radical Kinship."** Fr. Boyle founded Homeboy Industries, the largest gang-intervention program in the world. The Amazon description regarding his book says, "In a moving example of unconditional love in difficult times, Gregory Boyle, the Jesuit priest and *New York Times* bestselling author of *Tattoos on the Heart*, shares what working with gang members in Los Angeles has taught him about faith, compassion, and the enduring power of kinship." The 224-page book is available at the library, as well as in many formats for about \$11. At our gathering, you can also be reunited with long lost lunch boxes, water bottles and more...lost and found items will be on display that morning. So get reading and please make plans to join us!

2019-2020 PWC BOARD NOMINATIONS



If you are interested in sharing your talents in support of the St. Paul Community, please consider serving on the PWC Board. You may nominate yourself or someone you think would be great for the board. If you would like to know more about a particular board position, you may review summaries about the positions [here](#) or consult the PWC By-Laws (see handy downloads). Please submit your nominations for the 2019–2020 PWC Board no later than Thursday, February 28, by 12:00 noon. To nominate click here: [SPA 2019-2020 PWC Board Nominations](#).



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](#)