



SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL LOS ANGELES



Dear Parents/Guardians:

I have recently been approached by several parents and a few parishioners about the concerns they have in regards to traffic safety at St. Paul the Apostle. I understand their sense of dismay and frustration since this is a topic that has been addressed in my newsletter on numerous occasions. But since SAFETY remains a primary concern for all of us at SPA, I have agreed to address this topic once again.

Our traffic safety program is very important for the well-being of our school families, the parishioners who are here for special events or daily Mass, and visitors to our school campus for sporting events or special presentations. The policies that have been established involve all staff members, students, parents, and any person responsible for getting your children to and/or from school (i.e. grandparents, older siblings, carpool drivers, babysitters, etc.) We realize that morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up can be extremely busy (depending on timing), that searching for an available parking spot can be frustrating (the Mormon lot is NOT an option), and that having the assistance of parent volunteers is valuable beyond measure (these are people who are here to help—please don't yell at them or treat them disrespectfully.)

At no time before, during, or after school should parents be pulling into the lot to park. One of the concerns regarding traffic during after-school hours is everyone walking up and down the driveway as they are arriving for scheduled events, or parents who are leaving campus after picking up their children from extracurricular activities or after-school care. This raises the issue of safety on so many levels—from personal safety, to car vs. pedestrian accidents. The other concern is the parishioners who come to attend the daily 5:30 p.m. Mass, or to participate in other parish activities, but cannot find parking that will allow them easy access to the church facilities. In some cases, these are elderly parishioners who are not able to park and then walk from several blocks away to get here. They need to be able to park in the lot, and they truly appreciate being allowed to do so.

One of the goals that the faculty has embraced at SPA is to teach our students how to cultivate kindness, compassion, cooperation and good behavior. You can assist us in that endeavor by simply adhering to our traffic policies and the parking protocol. Your efforts will certainly have a positive impact on our community, and will be a great example for your children.

Thank you to those parents who are making every effort to minimize the safety hazards for everyone here on campus. It is our ultimate goal to keep mishaps of any type from occurring. As always, your cooperation and support are very much appreciated.

Peace and blessings,

Crystal A. Pinkofsky
Principal

Mon Oct 29, 2018	● 6:30 – 7:30pm	2nd-grade Sacrament Meeting JCPC
Thu Nov 1, 2018	● All day ● 8:15 – 9:15am	School Picture make-up day 7th-grade School Mass
Mon Nov 5, 2018	● All day	P/T Conferences 1/2 day school
Tue Nov 6, 2018	● All day	P/T Conferences 1/2 day school
Wed Nov 7, 2018	● All day	P/T Conferences 1/2 day school
Thu Nov 8, 2018	● All day	P/T Conferences 1/2 day school
Fri Nov 9, 2018	● All day	P/T Conferences 1/2 day school
Mon Nov 12, 2018	● All day	NO SCHOOL- Veterans' Day
Wed Nov 14, 2018	● 6:30 – 8:30pm	4th-grade Liturgy and Dinner Church and JCPC
Thu Nov 15, 2018	● All day ● 6 – 9pm	Information Night for Prospective Students JCPC, media center, etc Information Night for Prospective Students--SPA School JCPC, media center,
Fri Nov 16, 2018	● 7 – 8pm	Sandwich Builders
Sun Nov 18, 2018	● 9:30 – 10:30am	3rd-grade Family Mass
Mon Nov 19, 2018	● 6:30 – 7:30pm	2nd grade Sacrament Meeting
Wed Nov 21, 2018	● All day ● 11:15am – 12:15pm	1/2 day dismissal for Thanksgiving Holiday 6th-grade School Mass



PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES BEGIN TODAY!

Parent-Teacher conferences will be held this week beginning Monday, November 5, through Friday, November 9th. **Please note that school will dismiss at 12:00 this week so that conferences can begin at 1:00 p.m.** After-school care will be available for families in need of child care. If you did not have the opportunity to sign-up online, please contact the teachers directly for a meeting time.

Parents are reminded that the front doors of the school will be

closed and locked at 3:15 p.m. each day. If you have a conference time scheduled for the late afternoon, please enter the school campus through the gates located near the church. Also remember that parking is not allowed in the lot during conference times. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation regarding these important matters.



SAFETY DRILL AT SPA SCHOOL

As previously mentioned during our Back-to-School Night gathering, we have been moving forward with all of the components needed for our SPA School Safety Plan. I want to thank all of the parents in law enforcement and security detail who have assisted us along the way, as well as the parents who have been able to help us obtain all necessary equipment ranging from water and nutrition bars, to detailed blueprint plans and aerial photos of the campus property, to AEDs and shelter-in-place kits. With your help and cooperation, it's all coming together.

The next step will be our very first Run-Hide-Fight drill with all of our students. On Monday, November 19, we will practice this important drill with each classroom, one grade level at a time. PE classes will not be held that day as Coach Keith and Coach Anthony will be working with me and the classroom teachers in conducting the drill and guiding the students to either the Emerson School parking lot, or the Mormon field. Please note that in order for your child to participate, we must have a signed **Student Activity Permission Form** on file from you. These forms will be given to you during your conference meetings with the teachers. Please remember to sign and return the permission form to us no later than Monday, November 12th. Students who do not have signed permission forms on file will not be allowed to leave campus and participate in the drill.



DID YOU SAY, "PUMPKIN ARTISTS"?

The annual SPA Pumpkin Decorating contest this year was totally amazing! All students in third and fourth grades are invited to display their artistic abilities and help create a fun Halloween atmosphere for all of us to enjoy. This year's "pumpkin" entries included an ice cream sundae, the witch's brew, a hamburger with fries, a giant pumpkin eating a smaller pumpkin, an ice cream sundae, and quite a few pumpkin sculptures. If you missed seeing the display I'm sure that photos of these delightful productions will be placed on our school's Facebook page!

Everyone who participated did a fabulous job! We all truly enjoyed seeing all of the pumpkins. Congratulations to the following students whose pumpkins were selected as this year's winners of the decorating contest:

Grade 3A

First Place

Delilah Ahmadi

Second Place **Lucy Sonneborn**

Third Place **Logan Johnson**

Grade 3B

Gigi Bini

Quinlyn Daniels

Caroline Lane

Grade 4A

First Place **Adria Bini**

Second Place **Khloe Wiggins**

Grade 4B

Fiona Menton



HALLOWEEN CHESS TOURNAMENT RESULTS!

On Sunday, October 28, St. Paul the Apostle School hosted a Halloween Chess Tournament! More than 40 students from 12 different schools showed up in costume to participate in this fun event. If they had turned off all the lights in the tournament hall, you could have seen 40 plus lit-up brains making decisions, stretching to visualize future possibilities, weighing options, pondering consequences, solving dilemmas on whether or not to charge forward or stay back, and deliberating which piece to exchange and which one to keep. Overall, SPA tied for third place in the tournament! Congratulations to all of our students, and to our school's top three achievers:

- 1. Nick Farley – Kindergarten**
- 2. Amelie Vassilev – Kindergarten**
- 3. Jack Nassiri – Grade 3**

During the tournaments there is much more than just tactics and strategy; the students' passion for the game is being cultivated, their ability to focus is being developed, and their sense of accomplishment increases. For all of the observers, it was a pleasure to see the students rise to the challenge, grow and glow with joy. What more could we ask for?



SPA SPANISH COUNCIL

Under the guidance of Sra. Lanus, a SPA Student Spanish Council has been formed. The goal of the Council is to have selected council members offer students assistance in whatever area they may need help in with Spanish. It will be a personalized assistance with things such as practice, vocabulary development, further explanation of the concepts. etc.

The Council will be available to help on Wednesdays during lunch for 5th and 6th grade, and on Thursdays during lunch for 7th and 8th grade. Members of the Spanish Council will be working under the supervision of Sra. Lanus during those days. The information regarding this new program can also be found on her Haiku site.



WELLNESS DRIVE 2018- Benefitting Westside Thanksgiving

On Thanksgiving Day, Westside Thanksgiving hosts 3,000 guests for Thanksgiving Day dinner. Guests come from all walks of life, from homeless individuals and working poor families, to college students unable to get home for the holiday. In addition to a traditional Thanksgiving meal, they provide guests with access to free blankets, haircuts, medical consultations, clothing, and personal care items...**which is where we come in!**

What defines “personal care” you might ask? It’s simple—bars of soap, combs, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo and conditioner; any size is fine! See the list below for your child’s grade and suggested item(s). Each grade will receive a FREE DRESS day should they reach 100% participation by Monday, November 12th!

Please turn in your donations to each homeroom. We thank you for your generous support! You can learn more about this organization [here](#). Any questions? Please reach out to Jessica Studholme by email at jessicajstudholme@gmail.com

Grade suggestions:

DK and K: Bars of Soap and/or Comb/Brush

Grades 1 and 2: Toothbrush

Grades 3 and 4: Toothpaste

Grades 5 and 6: Deodorant

Grades 7 and 8: Shampoo and/or Conditioner

Feel free to donate other various hotel/travel toiletries; these items are welcome as well! Just leave the items in the box near the school office. THANK YOU!



SPA 2018-2019 YEARBOOKS

It’s time to order your SPA yearbook! Ordering early allows you to get the lowest price possible:

- Order by November 22; the price is only \$25
- Order between November 23 – December 20; the price is \$35
- Order between December 20 – February 1; the price is \$45

Please note that yearbooks will not be sold after February 1st. You can logon to the SPAPWC website to place your order. Yearbooks will be labeled exactly as you have entered your child’s name so please make certain that the name, grade level and homeroom information are all correctly entered. Thank you!



ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE PARISH NEWS

Unfortunately, the homeless population in our society seems to be ever increasing. It takes nothing but a drive down Santa Monica Blvd. during the early morning hours to witness the number of people who are literally sleeping on the sidewalks and bus benches. What is happening on the Westside? What do we need to do?

Our parish will be hosting a presentation entitled *Digging into Homelessness in West LA: a conversation with Tommy Newman of the United Way*. It will be held in the multi-purpose room on Wednesday, November 14, at 10:30 a.m. There will also be an optional buffet sandwich lunch (\$12) to follow the presentation. For more information, or to RSVP by November 12, please send an email to Claire Gerard at cgerard110@aol.com. We hope you can join us!



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**](#)