

# ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL THE TIGER'S TALE

September 16, 2019

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Mon, Sept 16: Meet and Greet for 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents at 6:30pm  
Tues, Sept 17: Meet and Greet for 7<sup>th</sup> grade parents at 6:30pm  
Wed, Sept 18: Meet and Greet for 4<sup>th</sup> grade parents at 6:30pm
- Diane Ceja's last day at St. Joseph School
- Thurs, Sept 19: Faith Family Activity  
**Fri, Sept 20: No School - Teacher in Service Day**  
Mon, Sept 23: 8<sup>th</sup> grade class leaves for Caritas and returns Fri, Sept 27<sup>th</sup>
- Meet and Greet for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade parents at 6:30pm
- Tues, Sept 24: Scrip orders due by 1:00pm  
Wed, Sept 25: Pizza Lunch Fundraiser
- Scouts Meeting in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade room at 7:00pm
- Sat, Sept 28: Pasta Dinner Fundraiser in school gym. Doors open at 5:30pm

### Weekly Prayer

God of peace, bring your peace to our world, O God of love, compassion, and healing,  
look on us, people of many different faiths and traditions,  
Comfort and console us, strengthen us in hope, and give us the wisdom and courage  
to work tirelessly for a world where true peace and love reign  
among nations and in the hearts of all.

Adapted from: Pope Benedict XI--Prayer at Ground Zero

### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW and/or TAKE ACTION

#### Changes in Staff:

**Diane Ceja** leaving our St. Joseph School community after working here for 12 years. A few months ago, her husband's company moved from California to the Chicago area. A few weeks ago, Diane told us the news that her husband agreed to move with the company. We are very sad that she is leaving. She has been a pillar that bared the weight of the school. Diane is a dedicated classroom assistant that touched each child's heart. Diane also served as Librarian for several years. She is responsible for keeping books updated and relevant. Ms. Ceja has worked for the Diocese of Oakland for 20 years starting at St. Joseph the Worker in Berkeley in 1999. She is a hard-working, very humble and selfless in her gifts and with her time. She will be missed. Her last day is this Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. We ask God to keep her and her husband during this transition. We thank him for the gift of Diane to St. Joseph School. I know that any sentiments and/or expressions of thanks will be very appreciated.

We are actively interviewing for the position and will let everyone know our next steps.

We also want to thank **Sabine Thompson** for her time and talents. She has worked at St. Joseph School for many years as an art teacher and as part of the administrative team. She will moving on to work full time on her personal

art and as chair for the Benicia Arts Council. We ask God to keep her close during this transition and as she embarks on her new journey. Ms. Thompson's last day will be September 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Parent Meet and Greets:** It is important to me that I get to know the parent community, and them me. Therefore, I am inviting parents from each class to a **Meet and Greet at 6:30pm in your child's prospective room** for discussion on topics including results of the parent survey. See dates below.

Monday, Sept 16<sup>th</sup>: 5<sup>th</sup> grade  
Tuesday, Sept 17<sup>th</sup>: 7<sup>th</sup> grade  
Wednesday, Sept 18<sup>th</sup>: 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
Monday, Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>: 3<sup>th</sup> grade

Tuesday, Sept 24<sup>th</sup>: 2<sup>th</sup> grade  
Wednesday, Sept 25<sup>th</sup>: 1<sup>th</sup> grade  
Monday, Sept 30<sup>th</sup>: TK/Kindergarten  
Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>: 8<sup>th</sup> grade

**New for recording PVH:** Beginning this year, we will ask parents to **sign in on an Attendance Sign in Sheet** for the following activities where PVH is provided:

- All Meetings
- Big Events

**All other PVH we will continue to use the duplicate sheet including:**

- Help in the classroom
- Chaperoning a Field trip
- Hot lunch help
- Lunch duty
- Singular volunteer activities

**After School Tutoring:** After school tutoring for grades K-3 will begin on Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Leamy, the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher, will tutor 3 days a week (MON, WED, FRI) from 3:15 to 4:00 p.m. This opportunity is for students needing additional support to complete their homework have attended tutoring. Please understand that it is group tutoring and not the same thing as 1:1 private tutoring.

Tutoring will be available to K-3 grade students. This is a free service, however, they will be under the Extended Care staff, therefore students will need to check in and check out from the Tiger's Den Extended Care. Students will be charged for their time while in Extended Care.

**Chess Wizards is coming to St. Joseph Afterschool:** Chess classes will begin in at St. Joseph School on **September 23<sup>rd</sup> under the direction of the Tiger's Den Extended Care Program.** Why should you consider this activity for your child?

- Improve decision-making, strategic thinking and emotional development
- Develop concentration
- Improve academic performance and behavior

Let your child be part of a successful Chess Academy. Chess Wizards is offering specifically designed classes that cater to all levels of chess ability. Each child is challenged by fun games and lessons from real Wizard teachers. The academy is so successful because our approach is very unique. Classes and lessons are based around our original, fun, and high-energy Chess Wizards curriculum. Regardless of a child's ability, Chess Wizards makes chess fun all! Please see the flier to sign up. You will need to sign in to Extended Care. You will not be charged however, while your child is attending this after school class.

**Beginning afterschool activities** – Activity group leaders/ coaches /teachers must sign students into the activity per your activity/class roster. If the activity is right afterschool, the students need to go directly to the activity to sign in with the instructor. If parents do not pick up their child at the end of the activity, the sponsor will walk them over to Extended Care where they will be signed in for the remainder of the afternoon prior to pick up.

**Join the Boy and Girl Scouts PACK 42:** The Scouts are meeting on Thursdays in St. Joseph Church's Parish Hall from 7 to 8:30pm. We are welcoming grades Kindergarten thru 5<sup>th</sup>. For more information please contact Louanne Kraynik at [pinolecubpack42@gmail.com](mailto:pinolecubpack42@gmail.com)

**The Roaring Twenties Pasta Dinner & Dance:** "Let's all Gussied up & celebrate in Style"

Don't forget to get your tickets for the Pasta Dinner on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. The festivities will begin at 5:30PM. The dinner starts at 6:00pm and the dance begins at 7:00pm Bring your family and your friends. The PRE-SALE TICKET ORDER FORM IS DUE by Monday September 20, 2019 I look forward to see you there. See the flier on the school's website or pick one up in the front office.

**41st Annual Oktoberfest:** The most awaited fundraiser of the year is **Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>**

The committee asks that you take the Sponsor letter to the businesses you frequent requesting that they donate to this event benefiting the school and church communities.

The Oktoberfest Committee needs your help selling T-Shirts, Raffle Tickets, and Pasta Dinner tickets after all the masses over the next 3 weekends (Sep 21/22, and Sep 28/29). You will receive PVH for your time. Please contact Louanne Lee-Kraynik ([scubarn61@gmail.com](mailto:scubarn61@gmail.com)).

**Pig Races....Oh My?:** As in year's past. Teachers will choose a Decorator and Pig Handler to enter the competition. The theme for this year's pig race is - "Holidays". We are asking participants to dress their pig in the spirit of a holiday or holiday character. We want students to get creative! Also feel free to do this as a class art project. Some ideas are: St. Nick, an elf, jack-o-lantern, leprechaun, American flag, fire cracker, or box of chocolates. The decorator or class should also give their pig an original/funny name that carries the holiday theme they've chosen. See Flier for details.

**Purchase your Oktoberfest T-shirt:** You can still purchase your Oktoberfest T-shirt! The order form was sent in your Monday envelope and can also be found on our website. I hope most everyone will consider a shirt.

**Lunch Duty Volunteers:** This year we will be inviting parents and extended family members to help with Yard Duty at lunchtime. Volunteers will be working with staff during lunch time. All volunteers who will be working with and around children must have Virtus and Fingerprinting finished and cleared. All Volunteer opportunities will be advertised on Signup.com. The handbook is on our website. We ask that you read it and sign the handbook agreement prior to volunteering.

Please sign up to do "Lunch Duty" at - Click here now: <https://signup.com/go/GZtUaiU>

**Please send your student to school in the correct Uniform Attire:** It is important that all students follow the uniform expectations listed in the handbook on page 75. Several students are wearing incorrect skorts, leggings, sweatshirts and socks. Girls from TK- Fourth Grade need to wear the uniform jumper. Girls Fifth Grade and up should wear the uniform skirt. Several students are also wearing bright colored shoes which are not allowed. On free dress days, students who are wearing leggings must have a long tunic top or tee shirt 4" past the bottoms. Do not wear sweat pants to school. No graphics should be shaved as a hair style. We also want our students to wear natural hair colors. If a student comes out of uniform to school, they will be asked to pick an article of clothing from the uniform table and ask them to put on a piece of uniform. They will receive a uniform infraction. If a student receives 3 infractions, they lose next free dress day. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

**Got Pictures?:** We are asking parents and family members to send pictures to help us create the best book of memories ever.....we can't do it without you... [stjosephpinoleyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephpinoleyearbook@gmail.com)

**GOOD TO KNOW!**

**Pizza Lunch Fundraising Remaining Days:** September 18 & 25

**Walk-A-thon Update:** What an unbelievable day on Friday...Words cannot describe by gratitude and awe for the parent, student, teacher and staff participation in earning money for the school, bringing all stakeholders together

with incredible energy and fun. Thank you to each and every chair person, the DJ, photographers, drone driver, the parents who cheered the students on, made sure there was food, water and other pops to eat. If you still have not participated, you still can. **Our goal is to raise \$40,000 from our 9th annual Walk-a-thon. You can still give with the form and envelope or with Paypal through NEXT MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup>.** Help us reach our goal. We will announce the students eligible for the reward party later that week. With the utmost gratitude and support.

**PTG Information:** Need to know what is going on and/or you need Parent Volunteer Hours? See the September PTG Informational flier on the PTG page.

### **If you have not done so already...**

- **Everyone needs to sign up for Class DoJo.** We have all agreed to use a new communication system called Class Dojo. It is a quick and easy way for your child's teacher to send you information, a photo or quick video of what your child is doing in class. Likewise, it is a great tool for you to send a quick text about how your child is feeling or an issue they may be having at home or in class....a great conversation starter! Your child's teacher has been sending you a text requesting that you accept the invitation this week. Our goal is that every parent at every grade will do so!
- **Powerschool Portal login** for parents were distributed to the students last week.
- **Please read the handbook and sign the Parent Handbook Agreement form**
- **SJS Emergency System:** We about approx. 35 parents short of having at least one parent per family signed up in order to receive emergency messages via text - parents and staff will need to opt-in to receiving automated calls and texts from School Messenger by texting "Y" or "yes" to 68453. To opt-out, text STOP to 68453. We will be using this Free system this year as our Emergency contact and some communication. There will be no class phone tree this year. Thank you for responding to this important request.

**Scrip:** One of the ways we fundraise is to sell Scrip gift cards. It does take some forethought, but for each card you purchase a percentage go to the school. You can purchase cards from a wide variety of retail establishments online and/or in the office. So as you spend at Target, Safeway, get coffee on your way to school, or gas up your car....you can help your child's school. Find the link to purchase on the left hand side of our home page at [www.stjosephpinole.com](http://www.stjosephpinole.com)

### **Donate to the school while you shop:**

**AmazonSmile:** It is less than 4 months until Christmas! If you use Amazon, then you can turn your purchases into donations for St. Joseph School. AmazonSmile is a program run by Amazon that will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

If you are ready to start, then follow these directions!

- 1) Go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)
- 2) Sign in to your Amazon account or create a new Amazon account.
- 3) On the next screen choose "St. Joseph School" from the drop down menu. Be sure to choose the school in Pinole!
- 4) Do your Amazon shopping from your browser using [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). This will not work with the Amazon app. You can create a shortcut on your phone by clicking in the upper right-hand corner of your browser and selecting the command to create a shortcut (this will be different for different phones).
- 5) Send the link to your friends and family members and encourage them to support your child's school as well.

**Hot and Cold Nutritious Lunches:** Choice Lunch has a variety of hot and cold lunches that include a snack, fruit and drink. Log in and create an account. They have launched an easy lunch-ordering app, along with exciting new entrées on the menu. Check 'em out at [www.choicelunch.com](http://www.choicelunch.com). Their new Unlimited Subscription option lets you set up an entire year of lunches in less than 5 minutes. You can also get their app available on the Apple Store and Android Store. **Smoothies are offered Tuesdays and Thursdays.**