



SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Happy New Year! I would like to begin this week's newsletter with an expression of deep gratitude to all of you who helped to make the spirit of Christmas a special and joyful experience for all of the SPA faculty and staff members. We were blessed beyond measure by all of your heartfelt messages of gratitude, inspirational wishes for the holidays, and the generous gifts. Thank you also to the many families who donated gift cards during this year's holiday outreach to help disadvantaged families experience a joyful Christmas. Your kind generosity undoubtedly helped to put a smile on many faces Christmas morning. And so now we begin 2022 with hope in our hearts and a few slight changes to our original return-to-campus plan.

As stated in the email you received from me last Thursday, due to the recent sharp increase in COVID-19 cases that has also impacted our SPA community, a determination was made that additional health and safety measures would be necessary in order to keep our community safe. We have been receiving notifications that several students and faculty members have tested positive for COVID very recently, and cannot be on campus in any capacity. This is definitely not what we expected to happen, but it is also not something that we will take lightly. We will begin our first round of PCR COVID testing today, and will look forward to receiving those results at some point on Tuesday. This information will assist us with determining the next steps for the rapid SAFE reopening of our campus. **Additional sign-up slots have been added to both links, so if you were not able to reserve an appointment time you should be able to do so now.** Thank you to all of the parents who have reached out with messages of gratitude for what we are doing, and for your understanding and patience.

The ADLA Dept. of Catholic Schools has also expressed concerns about students returning to campus, and the Superintendent has shared their guidance with us. But ultimately, each school has to do what is in the best interest of their community. In Mr. Escala's most recent email to school principals, the following protocols from the L.A. County Dept. of Public Health were strongly emphasized when students return to campus:

- Within two weeks of school re-opening, require masks outdoors in crowded spaces where physical distancing is not feasible except when actively eating or drinking.
- Within two weeks of school re-opening, provide and require all staff to wear upgraded (surgical/respirator) masks.
- Require a 7-day suspension and DPH approval before resuming activity of any youth sports team in which there has been an outbreak of four or more epidemiologically linked cases over a 14-day period. Individual conditioning and skill building may continue during the suspension period as long as everyone on the team complies fully with any individual isolation or quarantine orders that apply.
- Recommend that all students wear a well-fitting, non-cloth mask of multiple layers of non-woven material with a nose wire.
- Recommend that all eligible staff and students receive a booster vaccine.

As disheartening as some of this may be, we will continue to do whatever we can to comply with the directives we receive. And like everything else we do for the sake of our SPA community, it will require a TEAM effort, and we appreciate you being a vital part of that team.

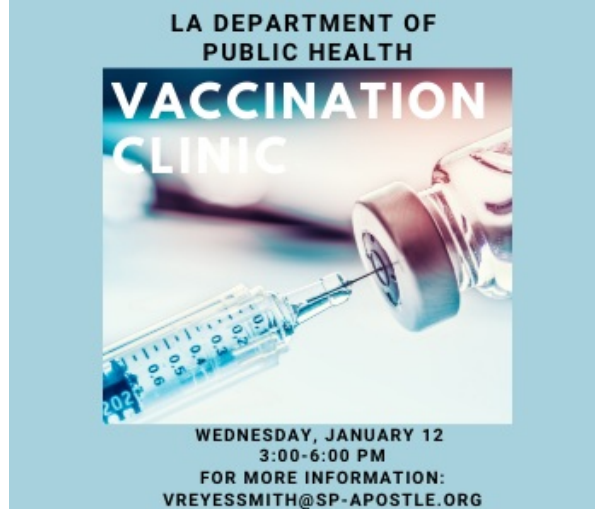
May the spirit of 2022 bring you an abundance of light, love and joy, and may your every moment this coming year be filled with God's light within, even during our most challenging times.

Peace and Blessings,

Crystal Pinkofsky
Principal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREE VACCINATION CLINIC at SPA



St. Paul the Apostle Parish will once again be holding a free vaccination clinic in the Parish Center on Wednesday, January 12, from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Vaccinations and boosters from all pharmaceutical companies will be available. Please use the link below to sign-up for an appointment.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805054DAAAF2AA6F85-saint1>

1ST TRIMESTER REPORT CARDS

Report cards for the first trimester were sent home with the students on **Friday, December 17th**. Please take a minute to search your child's backpack for this important information in case they forget to give it to you. As always, we ask that you sign and return the envelope, and if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's academic progress or conduct grade, please reach out to the teachers.



2022 YEARBOOK ORDERS



It's time to order your 2021-2022 St. Paul the Apostle School yearbook! Don't miss out! It is a wonderful way to remember the school year! You can just click [HERE](#) to order.

\$45- if ordered between December 18th – January 18th

\$55- if paid for in June during yearbook distribution, but there is no guarantee there will be any yearbooks left.

SPA COVID TESTING

Our next round of COVID testing for all faculty, staff and students will be held **Monday and Friday of this week beginning at 8:15 a.m. Families must use the Sign-Up Genius link that was provided in Thursday's email to reserve a time for testing. More than 100 additional slots**



have been created so that every family can sign-up.

The **ONLY** document your children will need to have for each testing is a dated and signed copy of the **COVID-19 Patient Test Request Form**.

Please note that students in grades 4 – 8 may receive the NOSTRIL swab or NASAL swab. If this is the type of COVID test you want for your child, just check either one of those boxes on the form, otherwise he/she will receive the MOUTH swab.

When completing the Patient Request Form, please remember to **include your email address** so that the results of the lab test can be sent directly to you, as well as Nurse Anderson. **We strongly suggest that you TYPE the requested information onto the form so that everything—including your email address—is legible.** Keep in mind that we are not using a “rapid” test, so we should expect to receive the results in approximately 24 hours. If you have not received the results by then, please contact the lab or Nurse Anderson. Any measures that we can take to help keep our community safe is well worth the effort. Thank you for your cooperation regarding this very important matter!

[COVID-19 Patient Test Request Form Link](#)

(This document is now Form Fillable)

U.C.L.A.S.A.F.E. COLLECTION CENTER



As we begin to rearrange closets, cabinets and desk space to make room for our new Christmas gifts, please know that UCLA could possibly accept some of the items you may be wanting to discard. Please note the lists and information below:

THEY ACCEPT: paint and solvents; used motor oil and filters, anti-freeze, and other automotive fluids; cleaning products; pool and garden chemicals; aerosol cans; all medicine; auto batteries; household (alkaline) batteries; fluorescent tubes and bulbs, thermostats, and other mercury-containing lamps.

THEY ALSO ACCEPT: computers, monitors, printers, network equipment, cables, telephones, televisions, microwaves, video games, cell phones, radios, stereos, VCRs, and electronic toys. ***Residents are limited to a total of six pieces of electronic waste per visit to a SAFE Center and items will be accepted on Saturdays only.**

THEY DO NOT ACCEPT: business waste, ammunition, explosives, radioactive material, biological waste or tires. *Bulky Items:* furniture, refrigerators, washing machines/dryers, conventional ovens, paper, or computer software

The Center is located at **550 Charles E. Young Dr. West, Los Angeles, 90095. Their hours of operation are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday* from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** Follow the drop-off signs. *** They will accept electronic waste on Saturdays only. For more Information, please call 1-800-98-TOXIC (1-800-988-6942).

[Click here for more Information](#)