



SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Dear Parents/Guardians:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents and guests who joined us last Tuesday morning as we gathered together in prayer and friendship to begin our school year! It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces, and to hear such kind words of support, and affirmation from you. Thank you also for the warm welcome that was extended to all of the new students and parents. The Back-to-School atmosphere was extremely positive, and it is that level of enthusiasm that we will work hard to maintain throughout the year.

Historically, St. Paul the Apostle School has always strived to be a community of faith, knowledge and service. It is our hope that these fundamental priorities are the primary reasons we have an enrollment of 565 students this year. Given the students who have been entrusted to our care, our continued mission as Catholic school educators will be to:

- offer a quality education that combines our Catholic faith and teachings with academic excellence
- set high standards for achievement and help our students succeed to the best of their abilities
- use technology to effectively enhance our educational programs
- instill in our students the value of service to others
- offer a variety of extracurricular programs and activities that will support the development of the whole child
- emphasize moral development, respect and self-discipline
- cultivate a faculty and staff of people who are dedicated, caring and effective
- provide a safe and welcoming environment for all

One of the exceptional strengths of this school community is the vast amount of parent participation that we receive. The future depends on our children, and it is through the caring efforts of our “parent partners” that a strong foundation is being built here at St. Paul the Apostle School. We appreciate your dedication in helping us bring out the potential in each child, for helping us guide our students toward positive choices and behaviors, and for helping them gain the knowledge and skills needed to ultimately achieve their dreams. I am frequently amazed by the countless ways in which you so generously share your time, talents, and treasures with our school community. Without a doubt, you make a real difference in what happens here. May all that you consistently share with us come back to warm your hearts in a special way.

Thank you, parents, for being such a wonderful example of the Lord’s goodness and love, and for being such a special part of what makes St. Paul the Apostle School one family in Christ. How blessed are we!

Peace and blessings,

Crystal A. Pinkofsky
Principal

2	SEP 2019, MON	● All day	Labor Day - No School
7	SEP 2019, SAT	● 9am – 12pm ● 10am – 5pm	Virtus (3.0) - JCPC Fingerprinting - MPR
8	SEP 2019, SUN	● 1 – 3pm ● 3 – 4pm	Altar Server Training (New Servers) - CH Altar Server Training (Refresher) - CH
9	SEP 2019, MON	● 8 – 10am	PWC Meeting - JACC
10	SEP 2019, TUE	● All day	School Picture Day - JCPC
11	SEP 2019, WED	● 8 – 10am ● 3 – 4pm ● 6:30 – 8:30pm	VIRTUS (1.5) - JCPC Altar Server Training (refresher) - CH Altar Server Training (new servers) - CH
12	SEP 2019, THU	● All day ● 3 – 5pm ● 7 – 8pm	STAR Window Closed Altar Server Training (New Servers) - CH Altar Server Training (refresher) - CH
13	SEP 2019, FRI	● 8:15 – 9:15am ● 7 – 8pm	School Mass of the Holy Spirit - 8th Grade Sandwich Builders - JCPC (8th Grade)
15	SEP 2019, SUN	● 9:30 – 10:30am	Mass - Catechetical Sunday "Stay with Us"
16	SEP 2019, MON	● 7 – 9pm	Back to School Night
18	SEP 2019, WED	● 4:30 – 6pm	School Board Meeting - JACC

Important Notice

STAR TESTING BEGINS!

The first round of STAR testing will begin THIS WEEK for all students in grades Kindergarten through 8. The primary reason for administering this standardized assessment is to gain access to pertinent information in reading and math that can be used to assist the administration and faculty in making sound educational decisions about student learning, teacher instruction, and curriculum development. The assessment results allow us to monitor our students' academic progress, and also helps us identify areas of achievement as well as areas of needed meaningful improvement within the curriculum. This is data that is continuously disaggregated and analyzed as learning outcomes are being measured. The teachers at St. Paul the Apostle School clearly understand that learning is a continuum, and not merely a set of discrete steps and achievement levels. Their main focus is student growth along the continuum.

It is my belief that too often many students who struggle are prescribed a modified curriculum when what they really need is modified instruction. Our commitment to our students inspires us

to want to provide the most effective instruction possible. We know from experience that teachers evaluate academic progress by observing students in the classroom, assessing their daily classwork, grading their homework assignments and special projects, and administering pre- and post-unit tests. All of this information also helps a teacher determine how well a student is mastering grade level learning goals. Standardized tests are just another tool that provides us with “snapshot” of the skills and abilities of all our students.

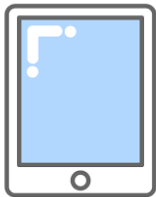
Because the assessments are timed and administered in sequence, it is very important that our students are present every day and arrive at school on time. Students who miss a section of the test may not have the opportunity to take a make-up test at another time. It is equally important that students get plenty of sleep and eat a nutritious breakfast in the morning so they are alert and able to function at their best. We truly appreciate your understanding and cooperation regarding this important matter.



SPA PICTURE DAY!

Picture Day at SPA will be held on Tuesday, September 10th. Photographers from *Pictures with Class* will be on campus to photograph all students in DK through 8th grade. We will begin the photo sessions with our DK and kindergarten students, and proceed up the grade levels. Please make every effort to have your students here on time, and to not have any off-campus appointments that day. **Students MUST be in their regular school uniforms for pictures; PE uniforms and Festival attire may NOT be worn to school on Picture Day.**

Order forms will be sent home with the students soon. If you would like to order a picture package, please complete the form and indicate your method of payment. Students will give the order form directly to the photographer when their pictures are taken. Students who are not ordering a picture package will still be photographed for school records and the SPA yearbook. If you have any questions please call the school office at 310-474-1588.



TECHNOLOGY AT SPA

This year, we have a new addition to our student technology device inventory...Chromebooks! There is going to be a bit of a change in procedure this year to ensure every student assigned a Chromebook or iPad understands their responsibility and has the right tools to carry them around school and back and forth from home. Read this **carefully** as all students will be expected to comply with all of the school policies!

Every student will receive their device *after* the Handbook Form is signed and returned. The teachers will inform the Technology

Department when the class is ready to receive devices. Accordingly, the forms should be returned ASAP!

- Grades 5 & 6 will be receiving Chromebooks
- Grades 7 & 8 will be receiving iPads

Every student assigned a Chromebook is expected to have a carrying case at the time of pick-up! Here are a few options to consider for purchase before pick-up.

- Options: <https://amzn.to/2Zj4J7E>
- Please purchase one that will safely carry the device every single day.
- Shoulder strap is required!
- Any school-appropriate design is OK!
- Grades 5 & 6 are **required** to have a carrying case

Grades 7 & 8 **do not** need carrying cases for the iPads

After Labor Day, students in grades 5-8 can begin picking up their devices once all forms have been returned to the homeroom teacher.

Pick-up Location and Times:

- HLC Conference Room
- Before school
- During lunch
- After school

NO OTHER TIMES WILL BE ACCEPTED TO PICK UP DEVICES

Thank you for your continued cooperation in adhering to all SPA policies and protocols regarding school technology.



TRAFFIC SAFETY REMINDERS

In an effort to help traffic flow quickly and smoothly during morning drop-off, please note the following reminders that require your attention: There is no jaywalking in front of the school; please use the crosswalks. There is no parking on Selby Ave. during morning drop-off. Please allow yourself time to park if you are walking your child to class. As always, there is NEVER any PARKING in the RED ZONES. They are for emergency vehicles only. PARKING is NOT ALLOWED in front of any driveways (please respect our neighbors), or in the Mormon Church lot as that is reserved for FACULTY/STAFF ONLY. As always, we appreciate your complete compliance regarding these traffic policies.



STUDENT SAFETY

All parents who volunteer to assist us with SPA student activities (i.e. coaching, chaperoning field trips, helping in the classrooms or library, etc.) MUST first attend the Virtus training and be fingerprinted as part of our safe environment directive from the

ArchDiocese of Los Angeles. Please note the following two opportunities:

Virtus Training at SPA: The following session will be held at SPA. Please note that you must register online using this [link](#). In the drop down menu to select your organization, look for the sessions listed as one of the "Los Angeles - Our Lady of the Angels..." organization. Please note that there will be **NO LATE ENTRY to the session once it has begun**. The session will be held in the JCPC.

Virtus 3.0: Protecting God's Children (Initial)
September 7, 9:00 a.m.

Fingerprinting at SPA: You can sign-up through the church office by calling 310-474-1527 to make an appointment for Saturday, September 7, from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Please report to the Parish MPR approximately 10 minutes before your appointment time. Thank you for your compliance regarding this important policy.



SPA PARISH NEWS

In September, our parish will be transitioning our online giving from Authorize.net to PushPay. We chose this system because it also offers us an opportunity to connect with parishioners through an app. The Saint Paul the Apostle app will feature payment options, as well as event reminders, etc. Once this system is totally implemented, we believe it will be a great resource to connect the parish (church and school) community. Please take a minute to register your family with PushPay using the link Saint Paul Push Pay: <https://pushpay.com/pay/spapostle>. If you have any questions, please contact Vanessa Reyes Smith at vreyessmith@sp-apostle.org.



SPA CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION

Registration for Year One and Year Two Confirmation students is now open. Please go the Saint Paul the Apostle [website](#) to register. The forms can be found by going to the *Teach + Worship* tab, then to *Teen Confirmation*. If you have any questions please contact Fr. Ryan Casey at 525-832-5154 or via email at rcasey@sp-apostle.org.

PWC NEWS CORNER!

TOGETHER WE ROCK!

The 2019 Festival is getting ready to rock the weekend of October



11th – 13th. We have many exciting things planned in September while you await the Festival! Look out for a brand new fall Patronage Contest, the softest, most luxurious Festival Wear EVER, and a 3-day Apostle's Attic customized crafting and high-end re-sale experience being held September 20th – September 23rd. You will NOT want to miss this one! Please be sure to check your inbox every Tuesday morning for the “Festival Newsletter” that will be packed with information about plenty of opportunities to contribute, participate, and enjoy the spirit of SPA!

[Festival Link](#)



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](#)