



ST. FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL

KNIGHTS & DAYS

Volume 14 Issue 2

October 2011

www.sfhs.net

Calendar

Thurs-Mon Oct. 6-10
Senior Quarter Examinations

Mon Oct. 10-Thurs Oct. 13
KAIROS

Tue, Thurs-Fri Oct. 11,13,14
First Quarter Examinations

Wednesday, October 12
PSAT Exam (juniors)
PLAN Exam (sophs)
Dismissal at 11:40 for juniors and sophomores
Freshman Class Retreat
8:00am-3:00pm

Thursday, October 13
Booster Club Meeting 7pm
Teamroom-Fieldhouse

Friday, October 14
No senior classes
Senior Parents:
Deadline for yearbook ads!
Homecoming Football Game

Sunday, October 16
Mini POSH Gift Gathering 12pm
Mass 12pm Degheri Theater
BBQ 12:30pm Norman Courtyard

Monday, October 17
Second Quarter Begins
Student Fundraiser begins and will conclude November 4

Mon-Fri October 17-21
Homecoming Activities

Tuesday, October 18
Articulation Dinner

Wednesday, October 19
Seniors-Cap and Gown Measurements
Graduation Announcements on Sale

Thursday, October 20
Pilgrimage Meeting for Parents
7 p.m. in the Chapel

Saturday, October 22
Golden Knight Communion Breakfast
Homecoming Dance (SEMI-FORMAL)
8-11 p.m.

Mon-Tue October 24-25
UC Application Workshop (seniors)

Tuesday, October 25
Report Cards Mailed
College Financial Aid 101(all families)
7 p.m. in the Theater

Wednesday, October 26
Friday Schedule

Friday, October 28
Brown and Gold Day

Tuesday, November 1
Student Body Liturgy (MASS DRESS)

Wednesday, November 2
Mothers' Guild Meeting 7pm in Founders Hall
Bake Sale/Newsletter Posted

Thursday, November 3
Academic Awards Assemblies
Fall Production Preview

Fri-Sun November 4-6
Fall Production

From the Desk of Father Tony

At St. Francis High School, each day presents unique experiences and opportunities to our students. The Friars, along with our faculty and staff are here to help students when these experiences become challenging. As you might imagine, my day is filled with different meetings and events I must attend. I firmly believe, the most important part of my day is when I meet the students and you parents, and together, we work for the benefit of your son (s). I would like to share with you some of my experiences a couple of weeks ago.

Tim Murphy, our Fundraising Manager, and I had lunch with four alumni from the class of

2011 and who were on their way to one of the universities in the Bay area. I asked them to share some of their experiences at St. Francis. It was very good for me to sit and listen. I was reminded by their comments, laughter and look in their eyes that the four years at St. Francis High School had enriched their lives. These are bright students who wish to pursue different careers, and who have many common experiences: goodness, joy, integrity, spirituality and a great desire to lead a productive life.

As Mr. Murphy and I were driving back to St. Francis, I made the comment that while I was listening to these young men I noticed once

(Continued on page 3)

Principal Thomas Moran's Message

We appreciate our entire school community for their assistance with a smooth beginning to this school year. From the faculty and staff members to our Mothers' Guild and Booster Club, thank you all for your efforts. Our parents have shown incredible dedication to their sons through their participation in Back to School Day and Parent/Teacher Conferences, as well as many other school events.

On Wednesday, October 12, Juniors will take the PSAT Examination. This is a nationally scheduled exam day dictated by the College Board, and unfortunately falls in the middle of our quarter exam schedule (see next paragraph). Sophomores will take the PLAN exam that day. Freshmen will participate in their class retreat. Seniors will not be on campus. Release time that day for sophomores and juniors will occur at 11:40 am. Freshmen will be released at 3:00 p.m.

We are preparing to conclude our opening term with quarter examinations (October 11, 13 and 14; October 6, 7, and 10 for seniors). In general, students take two examinations each day. A special schedule will be held on these dates; it is posted in the Faculty/Student Handbook. Exams begin at 8 am and release time during quarter exams is 11:45 or when a student has completed his last exam. These

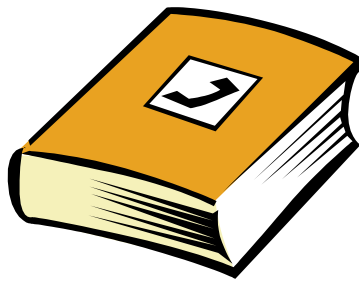
comprehensive tests can comprise up to 33% of a student's first quarter grade, so make sure that he is fully prepared.

Before a student will be allowed to take the examinations, his first quarter tuition and fees must be current. **Payments should be made directly to the school beginning October 4 (not to the Credit Union) because we can post them immediately.** At that point, we will only take cash/cashiers checks! We are planning to mail report cards on Tuesday, October 25.

Kairos leaves after school on Monday, October 10 and seniors do not return to campus until Monday, October 17. Seniors not attending this retreat are encouraged to do their college visits and/or Christian Service Hours during this week!

You may have noticed that our Homecoming Game is on Friday, October 14 and our dance is scheduled for Saturday, October 22. This is not a mistake. Our Activities Office will be hosting homecoming events during lunch the week of October 17-21 so as not to conflict with quarter exams.

Please note that Christian Service Opportunities are posted and updated regularly on the school website.



NOTE: STUDENT DIRECTORIES WERE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL STUDENTS ON SEPTEMBER 26TH.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY, PLEASE INQUIRE AT THE RECEPTIONIST'S DESK.

Mothers' Guild Moment by Co-Presidents Teresa Aubert and Lisa Singelyn

How quickly September came and went! With all the great events kicking off the school year, summer vacation is a distant memory and the holidays are just around the corner!

We have an all-new weekly e-mail newsletter that reminds you of all upcoming school events. To sign up, go to <http://bit.ly/pTGeJo> or see the Mothers' Guild News page on the SFHS website.

Thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers who have already helped with numerous events - organizing, baking, making phone calls, greeting, and providing warm hospitality. They are an amazing group of women who make things happen with style and grace! Many thanks to Lisa Lakatos, Linda Gomez, Monique Francis and Terri Kawamura for their beautiful spread of refreshments at the New Parents' Meeting and Back to School Day.

We have already had our first bake sale, which was a huge hit with the boys thanks to Carmen Ortega, Ginger Brody and Joy Matsumoto.

Much appreciation also goes to Patty Szot, Miryam Finkelberg and their team of volunteers for all their hard work selling Knightwear at Back to School Sunday, Mothers' Guild meetings, home football games and other events. As the weather gets cooler, check out the great selection of outerwear for cool fall evenings at outdoor sporting events! Please note that Knightwear can be purchased with cash or check, no credit cards.

This is also a busy season for our Dance Chaperones and preparations for the Homecoming Dance on October 22nd are now underway. If you can assist with chaperoning or baking, please call Stephanie Bailey (323) 697-6986.

Our Homecoming Committee is also hard at work preparing for the big game on Friday, October 14th. If you'd like to help out, please call Nancy Reardon at (626) 792-6961. It is guaranteed to bring back fond memories of your own high school days.

We are pleased to announce that Christina Tinglof has agreed to chair the Yard Sale Committee again. She is actively looking for committee members, so if you'd like to assist, please

contact her at (818) 249-4622. She has secured storage for items, and the first donation drop off date is set for Saturday, October 8th. Please see the SFHS website for more information.

Coming up in October is the first Kairos Retreat. If you can help with cookies, please contact Lynne Carmody at (626) 355-7446. Also, do not forget to sign up for the annual Golden Knight Communion Breakfast on Saturday, October 22th at 8:30 am. This event, with Mass followed by breakfast, is a great way for fathers and/or male mentors to spend time and connect with their sons. If you haven't reserved your spot yet, call Cris Finney at (818) 952-6171. Also, the Articulation Dinner is October 18th; please contact Denise Bacall at (626) 309-0748 if you would like to provide appetizers for this gathering. The Faculty Lunch Committee works hard to make their events special each month. They are always in need of salads, baked goods, and specialty dishes to serve to our wonderful faculty and staff, so please contact Ginger Brody (626-447-7914) to get involved.

Our first Mothers' Guild "Dinner Knight Out" fundraiser will be held at New Moon in Montrose on Wednesday, October 5th, from 5-9:30 pm and will include both dine-in and take-out options. Flyers are available on the school website. All proceeds go directly to the MG Hope Fund. We hope to see you all there.

Finally, we would like to extend special thanks to our St. Francis staff for their steadfast advice, guidance, and support of our many programs and activities throughout the year.

More information on each of the upcoming events is available at SFHS.net! Be sure to check the website regularly for all the latest Mothers' Guild activities.

If you have not been to a Mothers' Guild meeting yet, please plan to attend in October and November. The turnout at our first meeting was fantastic and we would love to keep the momentum going. Get involved in whatever way your time allows; make new friends, and be a part of this great community. You will be glad you did! Our next meeting will be Wednesday, October 5 at 8:30am in beautiful Founders Hall.

From the Desk of Father Tony *(Continued from page 1)*

again their individual personalities and talents. We have a diversified student body. As a whole and individually, our students contribute to making our school one of the best. It was a joy for me to spend time with these recent graduates. I have already thought to myself, "I miss these "kids".

The following day, another member of the class of 2011 came over to say good-bye before moving a few miles from La Canada to begin his university studies. This is a very gentle, happy, and sincere young man. He took the time to come to see me, waited outside my office while I took care of another appointment, and spent almost thirty minutes speaking with me. I cannot tell you how good I felt talking to this young man. I said to him that if he ever wants to talk with me, I would be happy to drive across town to meet him. He looked at me, smiled and shook his head as if asking, would you really do that? I would answer him as I would answer all members of the St. Francis family, "Yes, I would! I would be happy to help you."

Later on that afternoon, I watched the freshman football team play again and support one another. After dinner, I walked to the music room and sat there for thirty minutes listening to the cast of Lord of the Flies. Then on the way to my office I

noticed that the Mock Trial group was holding a meeting, so I stopped there to listen. As I resumed walking to my office, I could not help but think what an incredible group of students we have. I am so proud of them. What a wonderful place St. Francis is for them and how privileged I am to work here.

I speak almost daily with students who wish to discuss with me personal issues or academic matters. Very often I call them to my office to encourage them if I find out they are not doing well, or to ask them if they wish to talk about things that impact their families and their academic performance. We are here for your son(s) and want to play an integral role in their high school experience.

As parents, you entrust us with the task of providing a strong college preparatory education for your son(s), and we are grateful for this. The sacrifices you make for them are an investment that you will not regret and that they will thank you for the rest of their lives. Please continue to encourage them and show them your love. Please pray for them. I promise, I am doing the same for these excellent young men and for you.

Finally, I hope you will join us for our MiniPOSH Gift Gathering Mass and BBQ, Sunday October 16 at noon. This will be a wonderful afternoon for our St. Francis family – I look forward to seeing you then!



The Sports Authority *by Booster Club President Burt Garavaglia*



Do you remember the last time you were in a store and your attention was immediately drawn to that book or magazine on the kiosk? Was it the colors, the pictures or simply the title? Whatever it was, you felt the urge to pick it up and browse.

That's the same feeling I get when I am handed the SFHS Football Program. I know before I even flip open the cover that I am going to be treated to something special. It is top quality; I am enticed to read every page - it is a genuine keepsake for every athlete.

The Booster Club oversees the Football Program contents assembly. Our current Booster program coordinator will hand this off when this season concludes because her son will graduate this spring. As a result, we are looking for someone to take on the responsibility of the Program for our 2012 football season.

What all does this involve? We have an established relationship with designer/printer Linda May-Snyder and photographer Jeffery Jackson. Together, they detail the layout, photos and printing. The Booster program coordinator solicits the advertising and selects the pictures.

Advertising solicitations begin in July. At the same time, the program coordinator gathers published messages from the President, Principal, Athletic Director and the Booster President. As the program coordinator, you do not need to write articles, only work with others to collect the articles in a timely manner. You will gather schedules and rosters for all teams. By

the first game, the primary printing of the programs will be completed for all remaining home games, with the exception of playoff games. Program pages are updated with each home game to include the visiting team's roster, previous game highlights, Booster page, stats and the Players of the Week.

If there is a current parent that has professional experience in this area or has worked as an editor for another school's publication, yearbook, or a community group's newsletter you are perfect for this role! We ask for your support so that we can carry on this top notch publication.

The Booster Club needs the expertise of many to continue the programs we have and to develop new programs for the future. Your son does not need to be an athlete for you to get involved. Coordinating the production of the Football Program is one way to get involved. Please call or email me if you are interested or if you would like more information about the program or other volunteer opportunities with the Booster Club.

One last note – please join us Thursday, October 13 for our Booster Club meeting at 7:00 pm in the Field House Team Room. We will receive a special report from Cross Country Coach Pat Donovan in addition to committee reports. Come see exactly what the Booster Club is doing for SFHS athletes. Get involved – you will be happy you did!

GO KNIGHTS!

St. Francis High School College Fair

The 35th Annual St. Francis High School College Fair was a success! Approximately 100 colleges participated in providing an opportunity to collect valuable information to over 1,000 students and families. A big thank you goes to our counseling assistant, Josie Zepeda, as well as to the National Honor Society students and other students who helped out, our parent volunteers, and the St. Francis administrators and the facilities staff for their hard work and commitment to making the fair a success.

Seniors – UC Application Workshops

We are holding two UC Application Workshops to assist with UC applications. The workshops will be held at 1:45 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 24, and Tuesday, Oct. 25. If you are applying to the UC, please plan on attending either day. The location for the UC workshops will be in Room 405 or the Library Computer Lab. (The exact location will be announced prior to the workshops.) Before attending the workshop, go online and fill out the application as best you can. By attempting to complete your UC application as much as possible prior to the workshop, you will make the best use of your time during the workshop.

Seniors – Upcoming Standardized Test Dates and Registration Deadlines

In order to secure a test site close to home or at a familiar location, we advise you to register for the SAT and ACT as early as possible.

SAT Reasoning and Subject Tests

(Register online at www.collegeboard.org):

- Test date: Nov. 5. Registration deadline: Oct. 7. Late registration deadline: Oct. 21.
- Test date: Dec. 3. Registration deadline: Nov. 8. Late registration deadline: Nov. 20.

ACT (Register online at www.actstudent.org)

- Test date: Dec. 10. Registration deadline: Nov. 4. Late registration deadline: Nov. 18.

(If you wish to take the ACT on Oct. 22, but have not registered, you must take it on standby—see the ACT website or your counselor for further instructions.)

Juniors – PSAT

The PSAT will be administered to all juniors, on campus, on Wednesday, Oct. 12. The test is mandatory and no make-up exam will be given. The PSAT is similar to the SAT in its structure and method of scoring. However, it is not as long, and students will not need to register in advance. While test results are not reported to colleges as part of the applicant's school record, the scores are a valuable counseling tool. Also, juniors who achieve high scores will be identified and invited to compete in the National Merit Scholarship Program or other merit programs for African American and Latino students. We have distributed the PSAT student guides and practice tests in your religion class. Please go to <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/about.html> for more information.

Sophomores – PLAN

The PLAN standardized test will be administered to sophomores on Wednesday, Oct. 12. No make-up exams will be given. The PLAN is a standardized test designed specifically for high school sophomores to prepare them for the ACT in their junior and senior years. (The ACT is a college entrance exam that is fully accepted by colleges and universities in addition to or in place of the SAT.) The PLAN builds upon the EXPLORE exam, which you took in the spring of your freshman year at St. Francis. Mr. Terrazone, our sophomore counselor, recently distributed

information about the PLAN to you. For more information about the PLAN, go to <http://www.actstudent.org/plan/>.

All Families – Financial Aid 101

Join us on Tuesday evening, Oct. 25, for Financial Aid 101. Nancy Medina, Financial Aid Counselor from Occidental College, will give an overview of the college financial aid process, covering topics such as applying for financial aid, types of aid available, common mistakes and misconceptions, deadlines, how to obtain outside scholarships, and how to review a financial aid award. The event is free and open to all St. Francis students and their parents. Space is limited, however, so please RSVP to Ms. Zepeda in the Counseling Office (jzepeda@sfnhs.net) by Thursday, Oct. 20, with the name of the student and the total number of family members attending. Financial Aid 101 will start at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in the gymnasium.

All Families – More Financial Aid Advice at the GUSD College Fair

College Planning Experts is a for-profit company that helps families better understand the financial aid process. The founder and president of the company, Brian Safdari, will be presenting a one-hour workshop at the Glendale Unified School District College Fair on Wednesday, Oct. 26, at 6:00 p.m. at the Glendale Civic Auditorium (1401 N. Verdugo Road). Among the topics covered will be how to avoid the seven most common mistakes that parents make in preparing financially for their children's education, understanding what assets are taken by the federal government considers when it determines how much a family can afford to pay for college, five questions to ask college financial aid officials upfront, learning how to balance the cost of education versus the value of the degree that will be earned, and knowing how to best position a family's financial portfolio (using ethical and legal guidelines) with regard to financial aid eligibility. The workshop and the GUSD College Fair are free and open to the public.

All Families – Performing and Visual Arts College Fair at UCLA

If you are interested in majoring in music, dance, theater, visual arts, graphic design, creative writing, or another artistic discipline, consider attending the Performing and Visual Arts College Fair at UCLA on Saturday, October 22, from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. At the fair, you will have the opportunity to meet with representatives from arts colleges and conservatories as well as representatives from specialized visual and performing arts schools within large universities. You can ask about admission requirements, portfolio preparation, auditions, financial aid, student activities, and residential life. The PVA Fair will be held in the Grand Ballroom of the Ackerman Union of UCLA at 308 Westwood Plaza in Los Angeles. Admission is free. A free optional workshop, "College Choices in the Visual and Performing Arts," precedes the fair (from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.). For further information, including a list of schools that will participate in the PVA Fair, go to <http://www.nacacnet.org/EventsTraining/CollegeFairs/pva/Pages/11PLA.aspx>.

All Students – Tip of the Month!

Carolyn Z. Lawrence, a college counselor from San Diego, maintains an informative and helpful blog. Her free college planning guide is a great reference for students who are beginning the college selection process. Check out the blog at <http://www.admissionsadvice.com/>.