

Fr. Sauer Academy

Welcome to Our April Newsletter!

Dear FSA families,

As we begin our Easter Holiday, we remember that this week is the most solemn week during the entire year for most Catholics in the world. We remember Jesus' Last Supper with his closest friends and followers on Holy Thursday, his Crucifixion and death on Good Friday and his ultimate Resurrection on Easter Sunday. This is a time for families to be together to celebrate hope and joy for a future filled with less pain and suffering for the world.

I hope that we can use this Easter Spring Break to rest, reflect and give thanks for our families and friends! Our response to the continued violence against our Asian American and Pacific Islander community needs to remain our focus as we pray for all those who are suffering from hatred, racism and bigotry. We are so blessed to have one another and I pray that you will all stay safe and healthy together.

I know that we are all a bit obsessed with Easter eggs and chocolate bunnies, but don't forget to say a prayer for someone less fortunate than you and be of service to someone in need. We could all use a little bit more of that.

Take care and Happy Easter!

Theresa



P.S.

The Agenda for Mandatory April Parent Meeting will include:

-Eighth grade graduation ceremony details

-Mandatory Summer School for all FSA students and graduates
Dates: June 14th – July 16th

Mark your Calendar:



March 31st – April 11th

FSA Easter Break (No School)

April 12th

Classes Resume

April 13th

FSA Virtual Parent-Community Meeting: 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
(Zoom link included)

May 5th

Field Trip Day to Ocean Beach

May 14th

FSA / SI In-service (No School)

May 21st

8th Grade Graduation and Prayer Service: 5:00 PM – 5:30 PM

May 28th

Last Day of School

June 14th

FSA Summer School Begins

Message from Father Sauer, S.J.

April Easter Message

Hi FSA Scholars,

Lent is winding down, our Christian season of prayer and penance coming to an end. We saw *Laetare*, 'Rejoice' Sunday, informing us that there is light at the end of the tunnel: that Jesus triumphed over suffering and death and rose – triumphant!

Earlier this month, we also had the feast of St. Patrick and St. Joseph reminding that we are all called by Christ to be “kids” (and, not so far from now, ‘men and women’) “for others” as these saints were, as Our Lord was throughout his Life and Passion leading to His Resurrection.

So, **Rejoice** (!!!) in your call to be good human beings, good students, who work hard, work well with others in developing your talents and skills to make this needy world better – and it will be if we do our best. We know from Jesus’s life and death that – no matter how bad things seem to be – we too shall overcome!

God bless you all in your studies and activities. Happy Easter!

Sincerely,

Father Tony Sauer

Student Council Message on Violence Against the Asian American and Pacific Islander Community

In response to the rise in racist violence against the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Community, Student Council President Ana (left) and Student Council President Vice President Kiyoka (right) created a joint statement affirming FSA’s support for the AAPI community:



As we all probably know, there has been a spike in Asian hate crimes. Since the pandemic, there has been so much unnecessary hate towards the Asian American community. As people directly affected by this discrimination and allies, we as a community should educate ourselves more about this matter: there are many reliable sites and resources you can find on many hate crimes

against Asian Americans, and you can also find solutions on how to help more. We can all help resolve these issues together and make our community a safer place for our Asian American neighbors! #StopAsianHate

Thank you so much Ana and Kiyoka for your wonderful message! Let's continue to work together to build safer, more equitable, and more just communities.

FSA Statement on Violence Against the Asian American and Pacific Islander Community



Even before cities went into quarantine, Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities across the country experienced a rising tide of racism and xenophobia based on the COVID-19 pandemic. Businesses saw a sharp decline in patronage and innocent people throughout the United States were blamed for a virus that they did not cause. Phrases such as “kung flu” and “China virus” only further scapegoated the AAPI community for the COVID-19 pandemic. While this community had experienced assaults and harassment based on the coronavirus pandemic throughout 2020, the recent increase of violence targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, including the attacks on senior citizens and the murder of 8 people in Atlanta, 6 of whom were AAPI women, brought this reality to the forefront for many Americans.

As a Catholic, Jesuit middle school, we feel that we must do our part to speak out against this senseless, racist, and xenophobic violence against the AAPI community. We not

only condemn the violence and hatred towards the AAPI community, but also urge our own FSA community to come together to support our AAPI friends and companions in combatting the twin viruses of COVID-19 and racism. We know that we cannot be consumers of AAPI culture without speaking out against the hatred towards the AAPI community. We also acknowledge that the fight against racism, xenophobia, and bigotry continues after the pandemic ends and that our commitment to fighting these injustices necessitates that we work towards dismantling the systems of police brutality, anti-Blackness, and family separation and detention at the American border. Our communities and society are stronger when we work together to remove institutional racism and oppression.

Racist and xenophobic violence against the AAPI community is nothing new. From the lynching of Chinese immigrants in Los Angeles to the anti-Filipino riot in Watsonville, the AAPI community has received, and continues to receive, the brunt of white supremacy and institutional racism. In order to educate ourselves about AAPI history and find actions that we can take to stop the hatred and violence towards the AAPI Community, we encourage our FSA students, families, and faculty to check out the following resources:

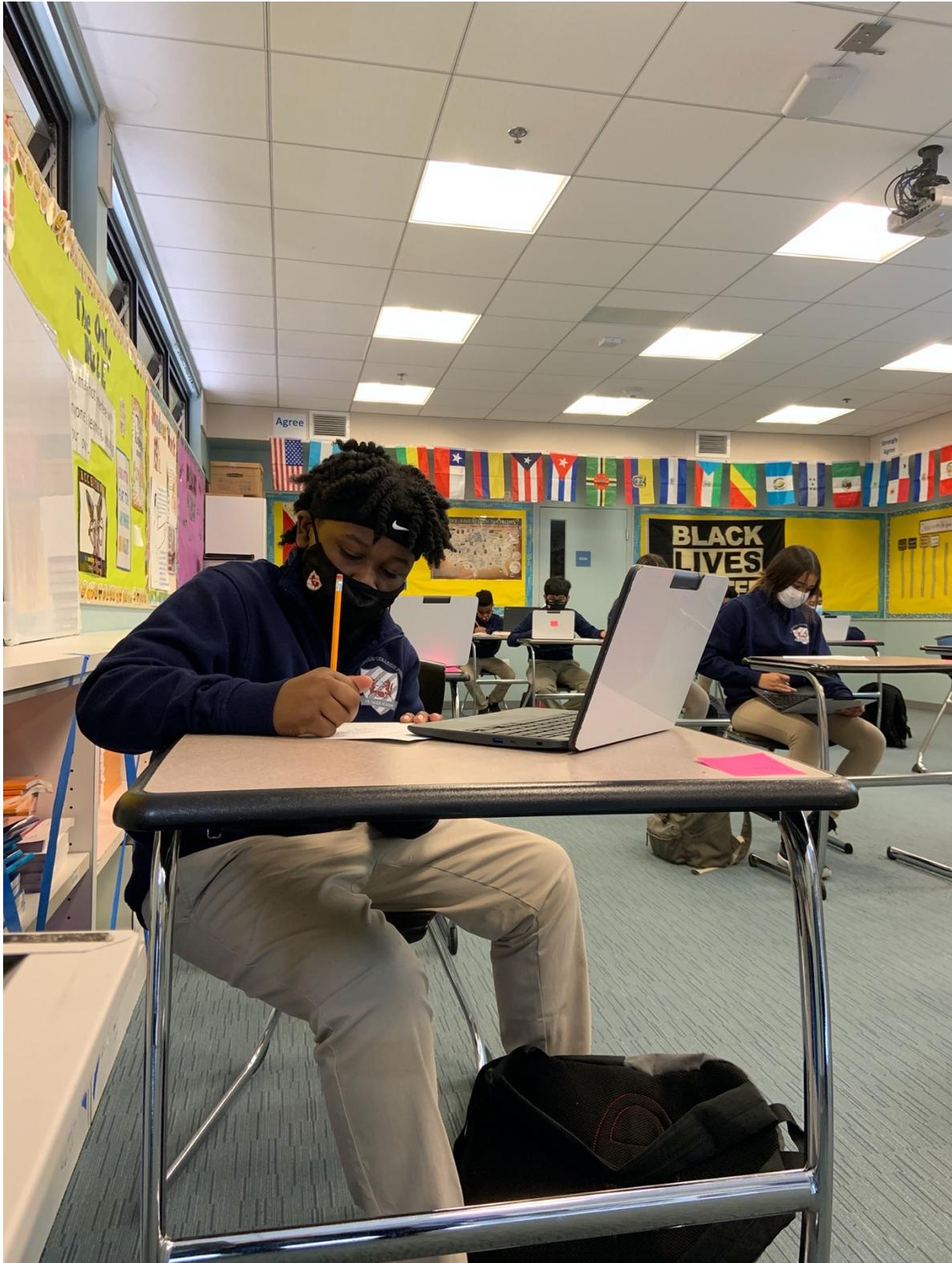
- [Asian Americans](#): In 2020, PBS released a 5-part documentary chronicling the history of the AAPI community. In light of the recent increase in racist violence and hatred towards the AAPI community, PBS has made this series free for the public.
- [Time](#): *Time* Magazine has offered ways and initiatives for people to take to fight against the rising tide of racist violence and hatred against the AAPI community.
- [Stop AAPI Hate](#): A collaboration among the Asian Pacific Planning and Policy Council (A3PCON), Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA), and the Asian American Studies Department of San Francisco State University, Stop AAPI Hate allows people to report hate incidents, provides multilingual resources for the AAPI community, and tracks and responds to incidents of hate, violence, harassment, and discrimination. Stop AAPI Hate acknowledges that “in order to effectively address anti-Asian racism we must work to end all forms of structural racism leveled at Black, Indigenous, and other communities of color.”
- [Hate Is A Virus](#): Hate Is A Virus is a nonprofit organization that started in response to the hate and violence towards the AAPI community as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to providing educational resources, information for reporting hate crimes, and fundraising for BIPOC community organizations, Hate Is A Virus “continues to amplify, educate and activate AAPI to stand for justice and equality in solidarity with other communities.”

Isaac Newton once said, “If I have been able to see further, it was only because I stood on the shoulders of giants.” Here at FSA, we stand on the shoulders of activists such as Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Patsy Takemoto Mink, Larry Itliong, and Cesar Chavez. We hope to look to these figures for inspiration and use these resources to learn how we can stop AAPI hate and make the United States a better place for everyone.

Joy at the Academy

Students Being the Light for Each Other

Since the beginning of the spring semester, we have enjoyed having students return to learning and playing on campus. Here are some pictures to highlight moments of fun, joy, and levity at FSA the past few months:









Information for Parents about Upcoming Events in April

Parent Groups

Ignatian Guild

1. Ignatian Guild Monthly Zoom Meeting: Tuesday, April 13th from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
 - a. The Zoom Link will be sent to all moms/guardians by Stace Felder, SI's Digital Content Manager.

Fathers' Club

1. Fathers' Club: More events from the Fathers' Club coming soon!

SIPAC

1. SIPAC Meeting (Virtual): Wednesday, March 31st from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
 - a. Please email sipac@siprep.org for a link to the meeting and for additional details.

AALPA

1. AALPA Meeting (Virtual): Wednesday, April 21st from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
 - a. Please email AALPA@siprep.org for a link to the meeting and if you have any questions.

Daily FSA Checklist and San Francisco Department of Public Health Guidelines Making Sure We're Ready to Go!

With our students back on campus, we continue to readjust ourselves to learning in a classroom again and with social distancing measures in place. Before coming to class today, ask yourself the following questions:

- Did you fill out the online [Student Daily Screening](#) form? This form can be found on our [parent and student portal](#) on the FSA website.
- Did you bring your water bottle?
- Did you bring your own personal bottle of hand sanitizer?
- Did you bring a jacket?
- Did you bring a fully charged Chromebook?
- Did you bring rain gear for rainy days?

Also, for additional information about current COVID-19 safety guidelines, such as what activities are or are not allowed currently, please visit the San Francisco Department of Public Health's [website](#), and the San Francisco government's [website](#). More information about where to get a COVID-19 test can be found [here](#). Information about vaccine eligibility can be found [here](#).

We would like to thank our parents and volunteers for all of your support.
Thank you so much for all that you have done and continue to do.



**AS ALWAYS, PLEASE CONTACT US WITH ANY
QUESTIONS OR GO TO OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE
INFORMATION.**

Website: <https://www.siprep.org/academy>

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