

Fr. Sauer Academy

Welcome to Our January Newsletter!

Dear FSA families,

Welcome back to a New Year at the Fr. Sauer Academy and Happy 2021! As with every new beginning, each of us has expectations and hopes for a brighter year and another chance at being together with classmates, family and friends. We have witnessed many events that have been 'firsts' this past year while dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic. The changes in the way we live our day to day lives have left us yearning for a sense of 'normalcy' in a year that is anything but normal. There is no doubt that what we thought would happen in 2020 and the reality of 2020 did not even come close to what was. Expectations for a better year could not be higher!

The Faculty and Staff of the Fr. Sauer Academy are so glad to have all of our students back on campus and back together as a community. We approach this new year with a new schedule and with a renewed sense of purpose- knowing how much we have learned about ourselves and our ability to be flexible and resilient this past year. We will all harness the skills we learned from Distance Learning to further enrich the plans that we make for the year ahead. Welcome back everyone! Stay safe and stay healthy!

Sincerely,



Mark your Calendar:



January 5th

School Resumes on Campus
(Special, Four-day Week
Schedule)

January 12th

FSA Parent Community
Meeting: 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
(Zoom Link Hyperlinked Above)

January 18th

MLK Holiday (No School)

February 2nd

Parent Community Meeting:
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM (Zoom Link
Hyperlinked Above)

February 12th

Faculty Retreat (No School)

February 15th

President's Holiday (No School)

February 17th

Ash Wednesday Prayer Service

Message from Father Sauer, S.J.

New Year Greetings

Dear Scholars,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope you and your families had a wonderful holiday season, welcomed the Baby Jesus into our world, and are now setting out to begin a grand and glorious 2021!

As you make your New Year resolutions to study and to work hard and to share your joys and talents with your friends and neighbors, we pray that the Covid 19 pandemic will end, that no more lives be lost or people sickened by the disease, and that you may resume your regular home and school lives.

Thank God for his great gifts to you all and promise Him to continue to share all your skills and special abilities with those you encounter this year: everyone you meet is Jesus's own Spirit. Love Him in others. We live not for ourselves, but, like Him, for service to make the world better, which you scholars are in unique and wonderful position to do!

I look forward to being with you as soon as I can travel. It has been too long since I greeted you! I hope to see you all at SI's FSA, including the young gentleman with # 32 on his sweatshirt who my nephew met at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. March; he was very impressed by the goodness of # 32 who, I'm very sure, is just typical of all of you young Ignatians of the FSA.

Until then, God bless you all! As you had a Cool Yule, have a Frantic First – and rest of the year – as well!

With great love,

Anthony P. Sauer, S. J.

FSA Student Council Messages

Welcome Back FSA!

As we begin our new semester, we also mark the return of in person learning. To welcome the student body back to campus, our FSA Student Council would like to share this message:

Welcome back to school, hope you had a great Christmas break! We hope you were able to relax and spend time with your family. We also hope you have had a great time, even though this break wasn't as special as other times. It is great to see everyone on campus, and we are glad that we are all able to come back. Even though times have been tough lately, we can get through all of this together. Hopefully things can get back to normal, but until then we have to stay strong. We look forward to seeing you all again.

Thank you so much, FSA Student Council, for your warm message! Let's continue to work together to make this an amazing school year. We can't wait to see all the amazing things our students will do this new semester!

For questions about Student Council, please contact Mr. Geraghty at cgeraghty@siprep.org.

We're Back...On Campus!

The Student Experience

With our students coming back to campus, we will have to readjust ourselves to learning in a classroom again and with social distancing measures in place. This includes in-person PE classes, which means that there will be no more weekly PE Challenges. 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 light jacket?
- Did you bring a fully charged Chromebook?
- Did you bring rain gear for rainy days?

Also, with our students now learning in person, we want to share some pictures of our first week together back on campus:





Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration

Honoring His Legacy

With COVID-19 in place, we will not be able to celebrate in person the legacy and achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr together. However, we can still honor his holiday with a virtual tribute. At 4:00 PM (PST) on Sunday, January 17th, Living Jazz, an Oakland-based, music education nonprofit organization, will be hosting an online tribute titled, “In the Name of Love: The 19th Annual Musical Tribute Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.” This event is free, but donations are welcome. Tickets can be found [here](#) and additional information can be found [here](#).

California Leaders in the Biden Administration

Honoring Kamala Harris and Xavier Becerra



On January 20th, Joseph Biden will be sworn in as the 46th President of the United States. Meanwhile, there are two California officials who are in or who are nominated to join the Biden Administration: Kamala Harris and Xavier Becerra. Prior to becoming the Vice President, Kamala Harris was the District Attorney of the City and County of San Francisco, the California Attorney General, and a United States Senator for California. Now, she will become the first female, first African American, and first South Asian American Vice President in American history. Meanwhile, Xavier Becerra is nominated to be the head of the Department of Health and Human Services. If approved, he will become the first Latinx American Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. Before his nomination, Becerra was a United States Representative for California and became the California Attorney General after Kamala Harris became a United States Senator. We wish Vice President Harris, Attorney General Becerra, and the entire Biden Administration the best of success!

2021 Class Schedule and FSA Calendar

New Year, New Schedule, and New Community Events!

With the new semester beginning, we will also be starting a new class schedule. Beginning on Tuesday, January 5th; our class schedule will be as follows:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30-9:20	6 th : SS 7 th : ELA 8 th : Math	6 th : SCI 7 th : Math 8 th : SS	6 th : Homeroom 7 th : PE 8 th : Elective	6 th : SS 7 th : ELA 8 th : Math	6 th : SCI 7 th : Math 8 th : SS
20 minute break:					
9:40-10:30	6: Math 7 th : SS 8 th : ELA	6 th : ELA 7 th : SCI 8 th : Wellness	6 th : PE 7 th : Elective 8 th : Homeroom	6: Math 7 th : SS 8: ELA	6 th : ELA 7 th : SCI 8 th : Religion
20 minute break					
10:50-11:40	6 th : Wellness 7 th : Art 8 th : SCI	6 th : Religion 7 th : Wellness 8 th : Art	6 th : Elective 7 th : Homeroom 8 th : PE	6 th : Art 7 th : Religion 8 th : SCI	Field Day Friday
11:45- end of synchronous learning					

MORNING GROUP A

Students should spend 45-60 minutes each day doing independent reading and preparing schoolwork.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
12:10-1:00	6 th : SS 7 th : ELA 8 th : Math	6 th : SCI 7 th : Math 8 th : SS	6 th : Homeroom 7 th : PE 8 th : Elective	6 th : SS 7 th : ELA 8 th : Math	6 th : SCI 7 th : Math 8 th : SS
20 minute break					
1:20-2:10	6: Math 7 th : SS 8 th : ELA	6 th : ELA 7 th : SCI 8 th : Wellness	6 th : PE 7 th : Elective 8 th : Homeroom	6: Math 7 th : SS 8: ELA	6 th : ELA 7 th : SCI 8 th : Religion
20 minute break					
2:30-3:20	6 th : Wellness 7 th : Art 8 th : SCI	6 th : Religion 7 th : Wellness 8 th : Art	6 th : Elective 7 th : Homeroom 8 th : PE	6 th : Art 7 th : Religion 8 th : SCI	Field Day Friday

3:25- end of synchronous learning

Afternoon GROUP B

Students should spend 45-60 minutes each day doing independent reading and preparing schoolwork.

In the event that we have a four-day school week, our schedule will be as follows:

SPECIAL 4 DAY WEEK SCHEDULE- omit the Wednesday class schedule

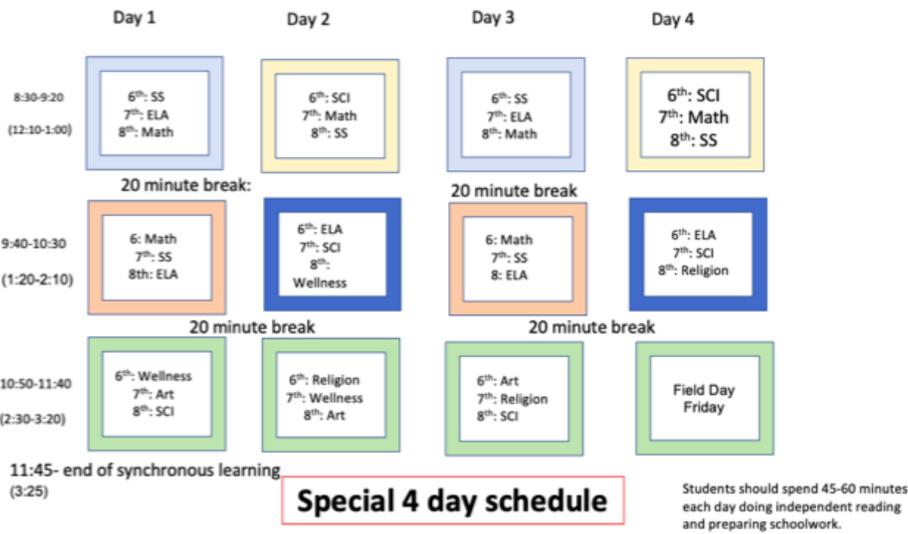
OMIT →

Wednesday

6th: Homeroom
7th: PE
8th: Elective

6th: PE
7th: Elective
8th:
Homeroom

6th: Elective
7th: Homeroom
8th: PE



In addition to our new schedule, all upcoming schoolwide events can be found on the [parent and student portal](#) on the FSA website. Questions? Please email Ms. Robles at drobles@siprep.org.

FSA Fall Semester Honor Roll Celebrating Our Scholars' Success

As we celebrate our scholars returning to campus, we also want to give a shoutout to each of our students who made the FSA Honor Roll last semester. To be considered for the Honor Roll, scholars must have a 3.5 GPA or above. Below are each of the students on the FSA Honor Roll by grade:

Name	Grade
Audrina A.S.	6th
Andrienne B.	6th
Harvey C. III	6th
Zylah C.	6th
Lesley G-N.	6th
Kawai J.	6th
Stevie K.	6th
Lauro L.	6th
Wesly M.	6th
Trenia D.	7th
Fernando H.J.	7th
Maliah H.	7th
Camila L. F.	7th
Andrew M.	7th
Zoe O.	7th
Mark P. III	7th
Yaslin R.	7th

Judge S.	7th
Jesus A. R.	8th
Ana C. D.	8th
Suitulaga G-H.	8th
Yvonne H.	8th
Sean M.	8th
Diego R.	8th
Loren S.	8th
Alex S.Y.	8th
Charlise S.A.	8th
Angelina U.	8th
Kiyoka V.	8th
Donovan W.	8th

Congratulations to all of our Honor Roll students! Please keep up the great work!

8th Graders Impart High School Application Wisdom

Sharing Experiences with the 6th and 7th Grades

This past semester, our 8th graders worked hard to complete their high school applications and to study for the HSPT exam. To help our 6th and 7th grade students with this process, we reached out to Jesus and Charlise to share their high school application experiences with the FSA community:

Jesus – 8th Grader



Jesus, how did you prepare for the HSPT Exam?

“Some things I did to prepare for the HSPT exam was taking prep exams for each of the topics on the test. My classmates and I practiced this inside and outside of class.”

Jesus, what study strategies do you recommend using for the HSPT?

“Some strategies that I would recommend doing before taking the exam is trying to study for each part of the test separately. When studying for the verbal section, try using flashcards to practice the words you need to memorize. Also, practice reading quickly so the reading section doesn’t slow you down. I also recommend not to get stressed about if you will finish on time. All of that will be determined when taking the exam.”

Jesus, how did it feel taking the actual HSPT exam? What strategies did you use to stay focused and calm during the exam?

“On the day of the exam, I didn’t really feel nervous. I felt pumped up because I had been waiting for that moment and I just wanted to get the test over with because it was really stressing me out. Some strategies that I used to stay focused on the exam was moving away from things or people that made too much noise and putting away all types of distractions like my phone and iPad.”

Jesus, what is something that students SHOULD NOT do when studying for the HSPT?

“I think that students should not try to cheat or use calculators while studying for the test because it will not help at all when taking the test because you will have a difficult time trying to solve your question because you wouldn’t know how to solve it yourself. I would also like to say to the 6th and 7th graders that when the exam comes in your way, don’t give up because that is just the place and time where the tide will turn.”

Charlise – 8th Grader



Charlise, what strategies do you suggest using to write the high school application essays?

“Some strategies that I recommend using to write your application essays is to really think hard about what you’re writing about because this is about how you feel. This will affect how SI sees

you (not in a bad way). You should also write about something that's really true to you and to go out of your comfort zone, and to write about what those questions really mean to you."

Charlise, if students need help writing their high school application essays, who can they turn to for help and advice?

"If students need help writing their application essays, they could turn to their ELA teachers for advice. I asked my ELA teachers, and they helped with spelling mistakes, run on sentences, and word count issues. I really felt that helped because sticking to the word count was hard for me. Another person you could turn to is your parents."

Charlise, what is something that students SHOULD NOT do when writing their high school application essays?

"Something that students SHOULD NOT do when it comes to writing their application essay is to not try to copy off of someone else and what they're writing about. St. Ignatius will know and it doesn't help them know more about you personally and who you want to be or look up to."

Charlise, is there any other high school application advice that you'd like to share?

"Just that to not start it at the last minute and to try your best."

Information for Parents About Upcoming Events in January

Parent Groups

Ignatian Guild

1. Ignatian Guild Monthly Zoom Meeting: Tuesday, January 12th 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.
2. Ignatian Guild Retreat (Virtual): Sunday, January 31st from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
 - a. All women in the SI community are welcome to attend. For additional information and to sign up, please use this [link](#).

Fathers' Club

1. New events from the Fathers' Club coming soon!

SIPAC

1. SIPAC Meeting (Virtual): Wednesday, February 24th 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, January 13th from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
 - a. The Zoom link will be sent out. Please email AALPA@siprep.org if you have any questions.

8th Grade Corner

SI Admissions Information

Dates to Remember

1. **Week 1 of Interviews:** January 25th-28th, 2021 from 3:00 PM – 7:00 PM via Zoom
2. **Week 2 of Interviews:** February 1st-4th, 2021 from 3:00 PM – 7:00 PM via Zoom

Additional information about the interviews can be found on the [SI Admissions website](#).

Preparing for Your SI Interview?

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>
Follow us on Instagram @lifeatfsa