

Fr. Sauer Academy

Welcome to Our October Newsletter!

Dear Students and Families,

As we begin the month of October and continue to learn virtually at home, I wanted to share some thoughts about our planning for the Academy.

At this moment our main preoccupation is preparing our Academy for re-opening as soon as we can, while strictly adhering to the guidelines set up by the San Francisco Department of Health. Our application to re-open has been accepted and we are now in the process of review and approval before we can begin in-person instruction. That being said, the safety of our students, families, faculty and staff is non-negotiable and is our absolute number one priority. More information about this process can be found [here](#).

While all of this work is happening in the background, our Faculty and Staff have been hard at work keeping our students engaged in classwork that benefits the whole child. The connections that are being made among students, and faculty, is truly the most important work of all. It is in this arena that our students feel heard and valued while tackling the challenges of virtual learning at home. Who knew that Zoom classes could be so interactive and creative!

It is a joy and privilege observing our students' confidence and curiosity about our curriculum and their fellow Wildcats. I am so proud of how they have responded to this extraordinary time affecting all of us. They are inspiring!

I look forward to seeing you all at our October Parent meeting on the 6th. Please mark your calendars for this event and all others coming up later this month.

Take care and stay safe,

Theresa Bayze
Director



Mark your Calendar:



October 6th

Virtual Parent Meeting
(Mandatory)
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

October 12-16

Special Week Schedule

October 12th - 13th

Monday/Tuesday Schedule
(No Change)

October 14th

Parent/Teacher Conferences
(No Classes). Please prepare
by reviewing your students'
[PowerSchool](#) account.

October 15th

Teacher Professional Day (No
Classes)

October 16th

Quarter Break (No School)

Message from Father Sauer, S.J.

Hope in the Face of Uncertainty

Dear Scholars,

Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins once happened upon a young girl crying because she saw leaves falling from trees. She didn't understand that this was nature's way of renewal.

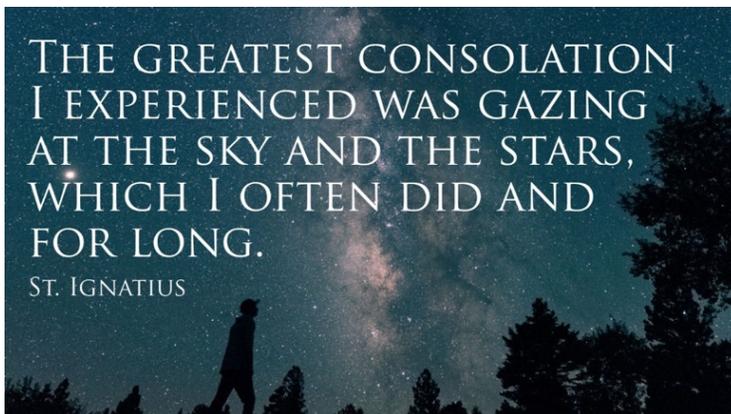
Though it may be still rather warm in the Bay Area, the autumn season is upon us. The leaves are dropping, but they will return. As Shelley said, "*If winter comes, can Spring be far behind?*" In other words, no matter what, good will overcome evil; it's as sure as the sun that follows the rain.

Thus, dear students, we look with hope at the school season in spite of the pandemic, apparent difficulties, or seeming obstacles. We must be optimistic because Jesus Christ, who died on a cross, was optimistic about the future He foresaw, just as your parents and teachers are more than optimistic that you will make a real difference and do good in the world as a result of your efforts in the Academy to excel in all ways.

God bless you in all your studies and activities this year. Keep up the great work – A. M. D. G. – and continue always to be "Scholars for and with Others!"

With love,

Anthony P. Sauer, S. J.



FSA Student Council Messages

Our New 6th Grade Representatives Are Here!

The FSA Student Council is pleased to announce that we now have two new 6th grade representatives: Za'Niya Burley (left) and Wesly Madrid (right). Let's learn a little more about our newest members of the FSA Student Council:



What does it mean to for you to be a representative for your 6th grade class?

Za'niya: "A 6th grade representative means to be a leader and to take responsibility over your actions."

Wesly: "I believe that being the class representative means that you listen to other people and ideas. I have to make sure that they are considered or at least heard."

What are you most looking forward to as a new 6th grade representative?

Za'niya: "One thing that I am looking forward to as a new 6th grade representative is to get to know everyone and make sure I'm listening to everybody."

Wesly: "I am looking forward to my classmates coming forward to me and telling me what they think and what they think can be changed."

What do you hope to accomplish as a 6th grade representative?

Za'niya: "Three things I hope to accomplish as a 6th grade representative is to get to create a bake sale, a carnival, and a carwash."

Wesly: "I hope to accomplish making a difference in our community. I am most looking forward to making sure our school does not contribute to climate change."

2020-2021 FSA Student Council Members

- Ana Diaz, 8th grade (President)
- Kiyoka Valdes, 8th grade (Vice President)
- Sean Milburn, 8th grade (Student Activities President)
- Trenia Dunbar, 7th grade (Secretary)

- Zoe O’Neal, 7th grade (Treasurer)
- Pamela Jones, 7th grade (Social Justice Officer)
- Za’niya Burley, 6th grade (6th Grade Representative)
- Wesly Madrid, 6th grade (6th Grade Representative)

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

FSA Faculty Feature

Meet Ms. Robles!

Because of virtual learning, our 6th grade class has not yet had the opportunity to meet Ms. Robles. In order to get to know Ms. Robles (left), we asked 7th grader, Ryiu Valdes (right), to interview her for the FSA Newsletter. A summary of their interview can be found below:



Now starting her second year at FSA, Ms. Robles loves her job. Her favorite part of FSA is helping out parents and students, and she hopes that FSA continues to grow more and more. Although she hasn’t met the new students in person yet, she helped put together the current 6th grade class and set up the interviews between Ms. Bayze and the parents of current 6th graders. Ms. Robles is excited to meet the new 6th graders in person and wants them to know that she is here for everyone, and that any 6th grader can reach out to her for advice, help, or to be a listening ear. She’s your friend!

Latinx Heritage Month

Celebrating Latinx Identity and Culture at FSA

National Latinx Heritage Month is celebrated from September 15th to October 15th. In celebration of Latinx Heritage Month, 7th grader Camila Limo Fernandez created an amazing presentation about Peru! The presentation can be found [here](#). To gain some more insight about her presentation and her thoughts on Latinx Heritage Month, we decided to ask Camila a few questions:



Camila, why did you make your presentation on Peru?

"I made my presentation on Peru because I grew up learning all sorts of cool facts about Peru since that is where my parents are from. I also want to acknowledge my heritage and to show who I am. My grandparents, great grandparents, great-great grandparents, and great-great-great grandparents, of my parents, are from Peru. My great grandmother from my dad's side and my great-grandmother from my mom's side can speak Quechua, the language of the Incas. I am a Peruvian and a Latina and I am proud of it."

Camila, what should people know about Peru?

"People should know that Peru is a fascinating country with many places that will leave you breathless. Peru is most known for adventure, culture, and food. Peru is also home to one of the 7 wonders of the world - Machu Picchu! Machu Picchu is an Incan city near the tops of the Andes Mountains. Besides adventure, Peru has amazing food. The food is seasoned with organic spices that are grown in Peru. Some dishes include; ceviche, Pollo a la Brasa, Leche de Tigre, and Lucuma Ice Cream."

Camila, what does Latinx Heritage Month mean to you?

“For me, Latinx Heritage Month means celebrating each other's unique cultures, contributions to our community, and influences on the world. Every country has something to share and we appreciate it this month. I think this month Latinos and Latinas get to embrace who they are and share their stories. Everyone should see how important everyone’s cultures are and to learn from others.”

A Day in the Life of Two 6th Graders

Bringing Life to Online Learning

With the school year starting off remotely, we asked 6th graders, Andrienne Kris “AK” Bolano and Jeremy T. Jones, Jr., to share what their school day is like:

Andrienne Kris “AK” Bolano



AK begins her day with a healthy meal and getting cleaned and dressed. Before she goes to class, she makes sure that she has all the supplies and materials she needs for the day and goes over her Canvas and email just in case she missed anything from the previous day. During class, AK most looks forward to seeing her peers, and finds it important for her to get to know her classmates. Her favorite part about attending FSA is the positive environment, and how helpful the FSA staff and the older students are. After a long day of school and studying, AK goes to her basketball workouts and does her daily PE challenge.

Jeremy T. Jones, Jr.



Jeremy prepares for class by putting on his FSA sweater, logging onto his computer, and logging into his Zoom class ten minutes early. Once in class, Jeremy looks forward to seeing how his teachers teach with love and seeing how happy his teachers are, because when they're happy, he and his classmates are all happy. Similarly, his favorite part about attending FSA is seeing the enthusiasm his peers and teachers bring to class, and how hard his teachers and friends are working in spite of the coronavirus. After saying goodbye to his teachers and classmates after class, Jeremy takes a thirty-minute break before starting his homework. When he comes back to studying, Jeremy's favorite study habit is sitting in a quiet space, with a drink of water at hand, and finishing his homework on time. Jeremy's goal is to try to submit his homework the first day that it was assigned.

Messages from FSA Teachers

Weekly PE Challenge Updates

For the past three weeks, Coach Mal and Coach Crowley sent weekly challenges to encourage exercise among the FSA scholars and the results are in! Over the past three weeks, the 6th grade class has walked a total of 1,830 minutes! Shout out to Kawai Jenks for walking a total of 740 minutes and Andrienne Kris "AK" Bolano for walking 390 minutes. The 7th grade class has walked a total of 465 minutes. The 7th graders who walked the most were Camila Limo Fernandez with 205 minutes, while Fernando Hernandez Juarez and Zoe O'Neal share the number two spot with 90 minutes each. The 8th grade class has recorded a total of 180 minutes over the past three weeks, with Holly Craig walking all 180 minutes for the entire 8th grade class. What??? 8th Graders- we know that you can do better and make this challenge with the rest of the student body! Thank you to all those who are participating in the Weekly PE Challenge! Keep up the great work!

Coach Mal and Coach Crowley have introduced **Week 4 of the Weekly PE Challenge:**

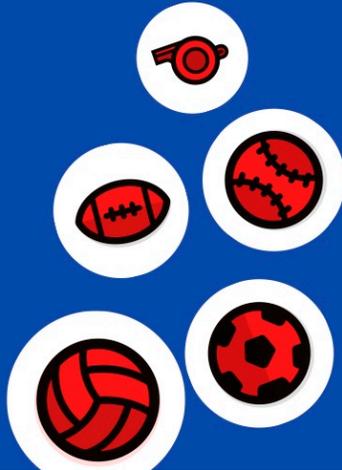
WEEKLY PE CHALLENGE



Get Walking!

- **Goal:** walk for at least 45 minutes a day this week
 - **Submit:** use your own or a family member's smartphone to track your walk/send in photos
- *App suggestions:
Apple Health, Steps App*

Grade with at least 75% participation and the highest scores for all the challenges earns a prize at the end of the semester!



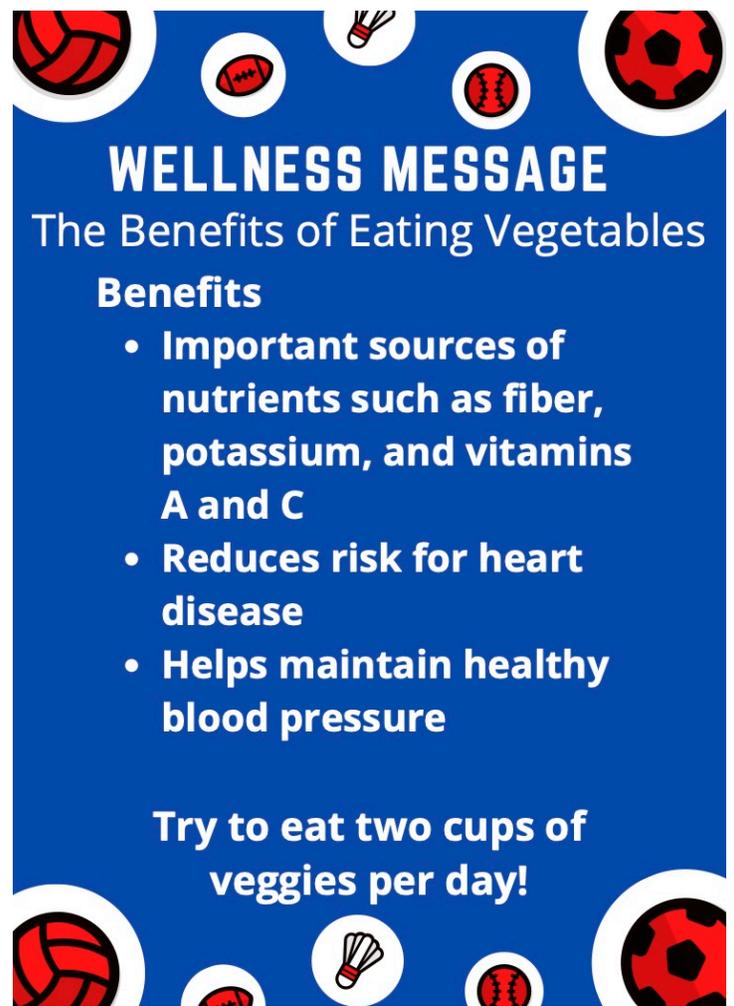
WELLNESS MESSAGE

The Benefits of Eating Vegetables

Benefits

- **Important sources of nutrients such as fiber, potassium, and vitamins A and C**
- **Reduces risk for heart disease**
- **Helps maintain healthy blood pressure**

Try to eat two cups of veggies per day!



The FSA faculty and staff have also been busy exercising too! Instead of measuring how many minutes they walked, Coach Mal and Coach Crowley challenged FSA faculty and staff to see who could walk the most steps during the month of September. Here are the top three rankings among faculty and staff:

Total Steps Walked During September:

1. Mr. Matthews (234,303 Steps)
2. Coach Mal (220,095 Steps)
3. Mr. Geraghty (159,646 Steps)

For questions about the Weekly PE Challenge, please contact either Coach Mal at ibaugh@siprep.org or Coach Crowley at mcrowley@siprep.org.

FSA Teachers' Office Hours

Do you have questions? Need help on some homework? Come on over to office hours! Office hours are times set by our FSA teachers for when they are available to meet with you! They are the perfect time to ask your teachers any questions or to receive guidance on a project or an assignment. The office hours for each FSA teacher can be found below:

- **Mr. Geraghty:** Tuesdays from 9:40 AM – 10:30 AM and 1:20 PM – 2:10 PM, or by appointment.
- **Mr. Nickelson:** Wednesdays from 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM.
- **Mr. Eby:** Wednesdays from 11:40 AM – 1:00 PM, or by appointment.
- **Ms. Rojas-Martinez:** By appointment.
- **Ms. Gomez:** Wednesdays from 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM and Fridays from 2:20 PM – 3:20 PM.
- **Mr. Matthews:** By appointment.
- **Ms. Gomes:** Wednesdays from 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM, or by appointment.
- **Mr. Ayob:** By appointment or after class.

If you have questions about a teacher's office hours, then please email that teacher directly.

Yearbook Moderator Mr. Geraghty



Calling all students! We will still make a yearbook this year. Please send Mr. Geraghty pictures of your school set up at home or any artwork, which we can include in the yearbook. Questions? Email Mr. Geraghty at cgeraghty@siprep.org.



FSA Newsletter Moderator Mr. Stranahan



Students! Want to interview your classmates or teachers? Want to contribute art and photographs to FSA? Then come help with FSA's monthly newsletter! Questions? Email Mr. Stranahan at astranahan@siprep.org

Information for Parents About Upcoming Events in October

Parent Groups

Ignatian Guild

1. [Cornhole Tourney](#) (hosted by the SI Fathers' Club): Saturday, October 3rd from 3:30 PM – 10:00 PM (All openings for this event are filled)
2. Ignatian Guild Monthly Zoom Meeting: Tuesday, October 13th from 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
 - a. The Zoom Link will be sent to all moms by Stace Felder, SI's Digital Content Manager

SI Fathers' Club

1. [Cornhole Tourney](#): Saturday, October 3rd from 3:30 PM – 10:00 PM (All openings for this event are filled)

SIPAC

1. SIPAC Meeting: Wednesday, October 28th from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
 - a. Please email sipac@siprep.org for a link to the meeting.

AALPA

1. AALPA Meeting: Wednesday, October 28th from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
 - a. Please email AALPA@siprep.org if you have any questions.

8th Grade Corner

SI Admissions Information

Dates to Remember

1. **Open House:** Sunday, November 1st from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
2. **SI Applications Close:** Friday, November 13th at 12:00 AM
3. **HSPT Exam Day:** Saturday, December 5th from 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

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

8th Grade Checklist:

8th Graders! Have you done the following:

- Have You Signed up for a Student Experience Day? (Only 2 dates remaining!)
- Have Your Parents Signed up for a Parent Experience Meeting? (Reservations begin at 12:00 PM on Friday, October 9th)
- Are You Working on Your SI Application?
- Have You Signed up to Attend the SI Open House? (Reservations begin at 12:00 PM on Wednesday, October 14th)
- Are You Studying for the HSPT Exam?
- Have You Taken Practice HSPT Exams?

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