



The Latest Word

St. Perpetua School - Weekly Newsletter

February 1, 2024

Weekly Update from Mrs. Gotchet



Happy Catholic Schools Week! Thank you to all who attended Mass and Open House on Sunday. It was so great to see the pews packed and the hallways and classrooms bursting with proud parents, students, and teachers!

As we continue Catholic Schools Week, I cannot help but reminisce on my time as a Catholic school student. As a Catholic school teacher herself, my mom was unable to afford to send my two brothers and I to Catholic school. With the unconditional support of my Irish-Catholic grandmother, my two older brothers and I were able to attend Catholic school from Kindergarten through High School. Although in the moment I may not have been grateful as I should have been because I had to tuck my shirt in, wear a skirt that was too long, and wear white socks that were visible over my ankles, I now look back and think about the sacrifices that were made for my brothers and I to receive such a special education. What a gift! I can say for certain that I would not be the principal of St. Perpetua if it wasn't for the commitment and dedication my family had to Catholic education.

So, parents - THANK YOU! Thank you for making the sacrifices to give your children the gift of Catholic education. Thank you for choosing St. Perpetua. Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

Whether they know it or not, your children are lucky to have you in their corner. And one day when they are all grown up and married, they will bust out their 8th grade sweatshirts and think fondly of their time at St. Perpetua just as my brothers and I do on occasion (see photo below).



A few reminders as we finish Catholic Schools Week:

1. Thursday, February 1 - Celebrating Vocations
 2. Students may dress as what they want to be when they grow up or wear college spirit wear
3. Friday, February 2 - Celebrating Faculty, Staff, and Volunteers
 4. It's the 100th day of school!
 5. Students may dress as 100 year-olds! (If students do not wish to participate, they MUST wear their uniform)

Save the Date: Thursday, February 7 - State of the School

- Join us in the Community Center at 6pm for our mid-year State of the School.
- We will talk all things St. Perpetua: the progress and success of the current school year as look ahead to the 2024-2025 school year (first day of school, tuition, etc.).

- Join us after for refreshments and appetizers to get to know other school families, staff, and school board members.
- This is an adult-only event.

School Schedule and Calendar

Normal Bell Schedule

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Fridays: 8:00 - 3:05pm
- Wednesdays: 9:00 - 3:05pm - Late start and mass uniforms
- Fridays: Cafe Perpetua 7:20 - 9:30am ~ unless stated as a 'No Cafe' day ~ (cash or check only). Students may wear St. Perpetua spirit-wear tops and uniform bottoms.
- [Lunch Schedule](#)

Next 10 Days

- Thursday, 2/1 - students dress as what they want to be when grown up ~ or ~ college gear
- Friday, 2/2 - 100th day of school! Students dress as 100 year-olds (or wear school uniform)
- Friday, 2/2 - **NOON Dismissal (Panther House closed)**
- Friday, 2/2 - **Cafe Perpetua Open** 7:20 - 9:30 am
- Sunday, 2/4 - Rise & Shine Mass, hosted by 6th & 8th grade
- Thursday, 2/8 - State of the School Presentation in the Community Center: 6:00 - 8:00
- Friday, 2/9 - **Sweetheart Dance** in the Community Center: 6:45pm - 10:00 pm

Other Important Dates

- Wednesday, 2/14 - Ash Wednesday ~ School Mass, students wear mass uniform
- Thursday, 2/15 - students have red, white, & pink 'valentine free dress'
- Friday, 2/16 - **NO SCHOOL** ~ enjoy a 4-day holiday!
- Monday, 2/19 - President's Day Holiday
- Friday, 2/23 - **NOON Dismissal (Panther House closed)**
- Friday, 2/23 - **Cafe Perpetua Open** 7:20 - 9:30 am
- Friday, 2/23 - **Taste of St. Perpetua** in the Community Center: 6:30pm - 9:30 pm
- Thursday, 2/29 - Last day of the current Scrip profit tracking period (3/1/23 - 2/29/24)

Monthly School Calendar

St. Perpetua Auction - Saturday, April 13th

We are looking for families to help us host new [Sign Me Up Parties!](#)

Join together with a few friends and come up with a theme and we can help you plan it. Contact [Tawny Burns](#) if you've got an idea or would like to host. These are a great way to help us meet our annual fundraising goals.



[Follow the Auction on Instagram!](#)

[Auction Website](#)

Financial Assistance for the 2024 - 2025 School Year

Families can apply for need-based financial support through FACE and The BASIC Fund. All financial aid awards are evaluated by FACTS, a third-party facilitator, and are based solely upon a family's demonstrated need. Families may be awarded either a FACE or BASIC award but not both. In addition, St. Perpetua School also offers school-funded tuition assistance through our Tuition Assistance Fund. This assistance is awarded after the FACE and BASIC awards have been determined. St. Perpetua Assistance is also evaluated using the FACTS analysis, so all interested families must submit an application through FACTS in order to request this financial assistance.

FACE (Family-Aid Catholic Education) Tuition Application is now available. FACTS is the third-party vendor used to process and analyze all FACE applications. If you do not already have an account, you

will need to create one. Please choose your school; you will also see "FACE" as "Other organizations." Checking the box ensures FACE will see your application. The application's due date is March 31, 2024. If all required documents have not been submitted prior to March 31, your application will not be eligible for review and possible assistance.

The BASIC Fund also offers financial assistance. The [Basic Fund Application](#) is online and [open to families with at least one child attending private school for the first time](#). The earlier you apply, the better your chances are of receiving a scholarship. Families applying for new siblings for the first time must apply **by March 29, 2024**. Renewal applications will open later in March. [BASIC Flyer](#)

Please contact Kim Fogarty at 925-430-6732 with any questions about the financial aid process.

Have you met your Scrip profit obligation??

All families have a Scrip profit obligation, per the Family Agreement you signed as part of the admission process for this 2023-2024 school year.

- **The current tracking period is 3/1/23 - 2/29/24, so you still have time to earn your Scrip profit!**
- New families starting the 2023-2024 school year have a \$125 **profit** obligation
- All other families have a \$250 **profit** obligation
- Families will be billed on April 1st for any profit shortfall
- New families this year earn tuition credit for earned profits above \$275
- All other families earn tuition credit for earned profits above \$400
- Tuition credits will be issued on April 1st

We are placing our school order for Yearbooks next week!

Yearbook signing is one of the 'stations' at our June Field Day event, and all the kids love getting their books signed by friends in all classes.

- We are planning to place a school order a yearbook for each St. Perpetua Student, TK - 8th grade
- As a convenience for our parents, we have eliminated the need to place individual online orders
- Yearbook(s) will be invoiced to family accounts on April 1st ~ \$35 per yearbook
- **If you DO NOT want to purchase a yearbook for your child(ren), please send an email to [Kim Fogarty](#) by Monday, February 5th**

**SCHOOL
YEARBOOK**
Pre-Order

Sign-Up to be a Hot Lunch Volunteer ~ slots open for January - May

We have unfilled slots for hot lunch volunteers, and we need your help! Each day has a Lead Parent who will be there to show all volunteers everything you need to know to keep our hot lunch service running efficiently.

Here is the [Sign-Up-Genius link](#) for all available slots January - May. Earn your volunteer hours and have fun and the same time!

Basketball Skills Clinic with Ms. Ralston & Ms. Bri

- **Saturday, February 10th**
- 10:00 - 11:15 at JM Middle School Courts
- See [Flyer](#) for details



CYO Track & Field Registration ~ now Open!

CYO Track & Field is a rec program for runners of all levels in grades 2-8.

- The St Perpetua, St Monica and Santa Maria teams train together at practices.
- Registration is now open and athletes from all three parishes can register using the ["Register Now" link](#).
- The registration cost for the 2024 season is \$135 per athlete.



No-Name 'mass uniform' sweaters ~ up for grabs

We have several 'no name' mass sweaters. **Claim them (and NAME them) before they are gone!**

- Dennis blue cardigan ~ youth medium
- Dennis green cardigan ~ youth medium
- Dennis green v-neck sweater ~ youth XL (3 available)
- Dennis green vest ~ adult small
- Amazon green v-neck sweater ~ kids XXL
- Lands End green v-neck sweater ~ adult small
- Amazon Essentials green v-neck sweater ~ kids XL

St. Perpetua's Sweetheart Dance is February 9th!

A longstanding St. Perpetua tradition, the Sweetheart Dance is a special evening our girls have to share with their dads or someone special and all of their friends to dance the night away!



Raffle baskets, our favorite photographer, the amazing DJ keeping the dance floor full, and the ever popular dessert bar are all in the works for an incredible event!

Purchase your tickets [HERE!](#) You *may* have purchased tickets for this even at last year's auction. Please reach out to Cameo Gore if you want to double-check.

We need volunteers to help this unforgettable evening happen! Please consider signing up for a variety of opportunities and earn your volunteer hours! [Volunteer Link](#)

Hosted by:

Cameo Mucha, Vanessa Beltran, Tawny Burns, Mary McCoy, Heather Alexander, Christine Milne, Jenna O Murchu, Kelly Fontana, Liz Voelker, Lindsay Hanover, Kelly Inman, Suzanne Kroger, and Molly Maduck



Taste of St. Perpetua is coming on Feb. 23rd!

Taste of St Perpetua is an annual community event which entails volunteers of our community making their specialty recipes from appetizers to desserts. It will be held on Friday, **February 23rd at 6:30 in the Community Hall.**

Buy your tickets [HERE!](#)

Like to cook? Have a family recipe you want to showcase? We are in need of chefs to make this event a success. If you love to cook (and you do NOT need to be a professional or have any prior food experience), please consider participating! Have a favorite go-to appetizer or family favorite recipe for a dessert, please make it! Feel free to partner up with a friend, if you'd like.

Deadline to sign up to be a chef is Wednesday, February 14th.

Email Heidi Kuss at heidiakuss@gmail.com to sign up and answer any questions you may have.



Panther House After-School Care

Panther House after school care is available. Please take time to review the [program details](#). If you are interest in enrolling your child(ren), please fill out the [enrollment form](#) (required for all students).

Submit forms via email to pantherhouse@stperpetuaschool.org.

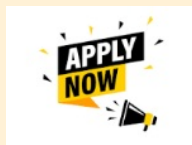
February Calendar



Lafayette Library & Learning Center Activities

Celebrate the creations of Black History inventors that changed life as we know it by 'Crafting Creations" on each Wednesday in February! For ages 9 - 18. No registration needed.

See [flyer](#) for details on each Wednesday event.



Application for 2024-2025 School Year

[Application Link](#) for **NEW STUDENTS** interested in the upcoming school year

Contact Gretchen Trapp, our Admissions Director, gtrapp@csdo.org for more information on class availability or to set up a tour.



Volunteer Opportunities and Links

We need your help at St. Perpetua. Please review the [volunteer participation agreement](#) and sign up now to complete your hours and get to know our wonderful St. Perpetua school community.

Sign Up Now to Volunteer

- [Sweetheart Dance Volunteers Needed](#) - **NEW**
- [Hot Lunch Volunteers Needed](#)
- [Yard Duty Volunteer](#) - 2 required for each family
- [Crosswalk Volunteer](#) - 1 required for each family
- [Become an 'All Clear' volunteer](#)

[Log Volunteer Hours](#)

Important Links

- [Choice Lunch Service](#)
- [PowerSchool Login](#)
- [Family Directory](#)
- [Scrip Obligation & ordering information](#)
- [2023-2024 Parent & Student Handbook](#)
- [Faculty Directory](#)
- [Attendance Policy](#)
- [Uniform Policy](#)
- [Printable School Calendar](#)
- [Archived Constant Contact Newsletters](#)



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