



# The Latest Word

St. Perpetua School - Weekly Newsletter

November 1, 2023



## Weekly Update from Mrs. Gotchet



We are so excited to have our 6th graders back on campus after a wonderful week at Caritas! Thank you Mr. Sheridan for organizing such an incredible experience for all of our students. Thank you Mr. Pezel, Mr. Brush, Mr. Blanz, Mrs. Kosich, and Mrs. Winters for chaperoning and being incredible role models for our students!



Halloween was an absolute blast! Thank you to all the parents who came out to support our parade. Student Leadership did a phenomenal job bringing the Halloween spirit and bringing so much joy!



Today, Bishop Barber joined us for our All Saints Day Mass celebration. We began the day with our 4th grade families hosting breakfast for the bishop which then led into our 4th grade students processing in as saints and presenting all their research about their saint. Thank you Mrs. M. and Mrs. Billante for helping our students prepare for such a special Mass.

## 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 (cash or check only). Students may wear St. Perpetua spirit-wear tops and uniform bottoms.
- [Lunch Schedule](#)

### Next 10 Days

- November 1 - [Panther After School Care Begins](#)
- November 3 - Cafe Perpetua 7:20am - 9:30am
- Thursday, November 9th - **DISASTER DRILL / NOON dismissal**
- Friday, November 10th - Veterans Day, **NO School**

### Other Important Dates

- Saturday, November 11 - St. Perpetua School families hosting our Winter Nights guests

- Tuesday, November 14 - end of first trimester
- Thursday, November 16 - St. Perpetua Staff hosting our Winter Nights guests
- Friday, November 17 - NOON Dismissal
- Monday 11/20 - Friday, 11/24 - Thanksgiving break

## Monthly School Calendar



### Saturday, 11/11 School Families ~ Hosting Day

Winter Nights is a Contra Costa based program whose mission is to help participating families achieve self-sufficiency and ultimately stable housing. It is exciting and special that St. Perpetua parishioners and school families can affect a widespread crisis while giving right here at home. Thank you to many who have already expressed interest in helping!

The school is assigned **Saturday, November 11th** to provide all meals and services, and we need your help to make this a success!

[Winter Nights Information](#)

**Sign Up For 11/11 Donations & Volunteer Assignments**



### Thanksgiving Donations-Monument Crisis Center

We are once again participating in the 'Trimmings Bag' program to help provide a thanksgiving dinner for families in need. This program is run by the Monument Crisis Center, and we hope all of our families and faculty will support this outreach effort!

- **TK and Kinder students:** each student to bring 1 can of cranberries
- **1st & 2nd grade students:** each student to bring 1 can of vegetables (any type)
- **3rd grade students and faculty:** each student to bring 1 packet of gravy mix
- **4th grade students and faculty:** each student to bring 1 box of mashed potato mix:
- **5th grade students and faculty:** each student to bring 1 box of stuffing mix
- **6th grade students:** each student to bring 1 box of cornbread mix
- **7th & 8th grade students:** each student to bring 1 box of cake mix (any flavor)

**All items must be brought to the classroom before/by Monday, 11/13.**

If you would like to make a donation to help MCC buy Thanksgiving turkeys, see the flyer for a QR code [Monument Crisis Center Donations](#)

## Teacher Spotlight

Mrs. Lisa Holmes is our fabulous music teacher, and here is her synopsis of current music happenings!

The HALLS are alive with the sound of music! New recorders and ukuleles are sounding great in 3rd and 7th grade. Our choirs are not only mastering singing skills in class but our 5th graders are leading us in song at mass. Our music history students are finding connections in other classes and are excited to unlock these a-ha moments. The 8th grade wrote amazing songs together this month in anticipation of Christmas Sharing. Even with all of these accomplishments, my greatest blessing is sharing song, dance, and musical stories with our littlest students. Their exuberance is a gift every day.

This past weekend I had the pleasure of attending a Scottish Country Dance weekend at Asilomar. As I danced my way through the classes and evening formals, I was struck by how many people have touched my life in special ways. I am so grateful for our community here at St. Perpetua and your many acts of kindness. Thank you!!

## A Note From Ms. Tamara

### Building Empathy is a Lifetime Practice

This month, many of our SEL lessons focused on the topic of empathy. The ability to understand how others feel has many lifetime gifts for everyone involved. For one, practicing empathy can help us understand people better & work better with them in all areas of life, and build POSITIVE relationships. Empathy is a response based on heartfelt genuine concern for others. To show empathy, we need to first notice and understand how others feel followed by caring and showing support. So how do we build and practice this skill?

There are many ways but I want to highlight one of the most powerful methods to practice this skill is to reflect on these key questions when noticing someone who is experiencing difficulty for any reason: 1. *What is this person feeling?* 2. *How would I feel if I were in their shoes?* And 3. *What can I do to be supportive?* Remember, empathy is an emotional superpower that is built over time so start practicing it daily and you can make the world a better place and contribute to your ongoing success in all areas of your life.



### Cafe Perpetua - Friday, 11/3 from 7:20 - 9:30am

**This will be our LAST cafe` until our annual Cafe` Perpetua Christmas Boutique on December 1st and December 2nd, as the cafe` elves will all be busy preparing for the boutique!**

Students **MUST** be accompanied by an adult when the visit the cafe between 7:20 - 7:40 am.



### Save The Date - Wednesday, November 29th

Ladies Night Out is Wednesday, November 29th from 6:30 - 9:30pm at the St. Perpetua Community Center. Don't miss this fun evening of 'Sips & Shopping' with many unique vendors. This is a great event to invite friends to join and get a jump on your holiday shopping while supporting our school!

**Buy Tickets  
Now**



### Peppermint Shoppe - December 2, 9:00 - 11:00

Peppermint Shoppe is a sweet opportunity for children to shop for Christmas gifts for their parents, grandparents, siblings, friends, teachers, and pets. Each item is priced at \$2.00 and payment is accepted by cash or check only.

**This is a 'kids only' event.** Each child will be paired with a junior high elf to help the little kids shop. While parents wait for their child, they can visit Mrs. Meo's

Christmas Boutique and buy coffee and treats at Café Perpetua.

Watch for an early appearance by St. Nicholas! Contact [Sally Salay](#) with any questions.



### Cafe Perpetua Christmas Boutique ~ 12/1 & 12/2

Please join us for Cafe` Perpetua's annual Christmas Boutique on Friday, December 1st from 7:20 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and on Saturday December 2nd from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Please watch for more details to come!

We are proud of our Junior High students for their involvement in the community. Don't forget their 10 hours are due November 15th and there are **many opportunities** available.

- **Sign Up for Donut Service** at mass
- **Create Birthday Bags** for Monument Crisis Center
- **Monument Crisis Volunteer Opportunities**
- **Youth Homes Organization**
- **NEW Winter Nights Opportunities**



**Service Hours  
Form**



## St. Perpetua's Spring Musical

It's a "big bright beautiful world" as everyone's favorite ogre, SHREK, leads a cast of fairytale misfits on an adventure to rescue a princess and find true acceptance.

- **Who:** St. Perpetua students grades 1st - 8th
- **Registration opens: Tuesday, November 14th at 9am ~ SPACE IS LIMITED!**
- **Click here** for more information, details and registration.
- Email questions to [renee@performingacademy.com](mailto:renee@performingacademy.com)



## Panther House After-School Care - begins Nov 1st

Panther House after school care is available beginning November 1st. Please take time to review the [program details](#). If you are interest in enrolling your child(ren), please fill out the [enrollment form](#) and the [November calendar](#) with each child's dates/times they will attend. Submit forms via email to [pantherhouse@stperpetuaschool.org](mailto:pantherhouse@stperpetuaschool.org).

- **Enrollment Form** - required for all full and part-time students
- **November Part-Time Calendar** - fill out the dates & times attending if you are registering for part-time care.



## Author Max Brallier event at Rakestraw Books

Come meet Max Brallier at the release of his newest book in the best-selling *Last Kids on Earth* series. For more information and to purchase your tickets, please visit Rakestraw books at

<https://www.rakestrawbooks.com/event/brallier>



## 11/13 Boy Scouts Open House for 5th grade & older

Join them for their next Open House on 11/13. See flyer for additional details.  
[Boy Scouts Open House](#)



## Books & Bundts ~ a 'Sweet' Reading Incentive

Walnut Creek's Nothing Bundt Cakes is encouraging youth reading! Students will receive a free Bundtlet for each month that they read 400+ minutes. See flyer for additional details. [Nothing Bundt Cakes Reading Incentive](#)



## Application for 2024-2025 School Year

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



## 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

- [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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