



Panther Weekly News

March 25, 2022

UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 28th - April 1st - Lenten Service Project Coin Drive
- March 28th - SCRIP Monday Order
- March 29th - Spring Picture Day
- March 31st - 1st & 2nd Grade Music Concert

LENTEN SERVICE PROJECT

Our school will be hosting a Food Bagging Event during Holy Week. We are working with Joe O'Leary at Take Away Hunger Cedar Rapids to coordinate this event. All students will have the opportunity to help bag rice meals that are given to people in various parts of the world that are in need of a nutritious meal. Some of the jobs that students may have will include measuring rice, scooping vitamins and nutrients that are added to the rice, sealing the bags, weighing the bags, counting the meals, packaging the meals into boxes, and creating cards for the people who receive the meals. Each classroom will be assigned a time slot on either Tuesday, April 12th or Wednesday, April 13th.

In order to host this Food Bagging Event we need to raise funds to purchase the supplies. We will have a Coin Drive the week of March 28th. Students are asked to bring pennies on Monday (3/28), nickels on Tuesday (3/29), dimes on Wednesday (3/30), quarters on Thursday (3/31), and dollars on Friday (4/1). Please see the following [FLIER](#).

SPRING PICTURE DAY

Tuesday, March 29th

Orders will be done online only - no paper orders will be sent home. To order ahead of time, please go to mylifetouch.com and enter our **Picture Day ID: EVTDJQKN3** You can also wait until after photos are taken to place an order.

School picture day is considered a "dress-up" event.

- Appropriate clothing may include uniform approved pants and a nice shirt
- Skirts & dresses (of the appropriate length) are acceptable for girls
- Thin or spaghetti straps, sleeveless, crop shirts, exposed shoulder tops and tank tops are not allowed – if these styles are worn, a sweater (or something similar) must be worn over top
- Jeans, sweatpants, etc. are not considered dress code or better - no faded, ripped, torn or baggy pants.

NOTES FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

The 1st and 2nd Graders would like to invite you to attend their concert "Make a Joyful Noise" on Thursday, March 31 @ 7:00 PM in the St. Pius X gym. Doors will open at 6:45.

Please keep your children with you until about 6:55 when they will be called to the performance area. Students should wear dress code clothing or better.

It will be an evening filled with beautiful and upbeat music. Let's usher in Spring with a musical celebration!

FROM THE ART ROOM

It is that time of year when we break out the clay and printmaking supplies to round off the end of the year! **I am in need of rectangular plastic table cloths for these projects.** As you can imagine they can be quite messy so these will help with the cleanup process. If you are willing to donate these, art kiddos and I would really appreciate it! Thanks! Mrs. Dempewolf

KINDERGARTEN VISION SCREENING

St. Pius X Elementary will be offering a free vision screening to all kindergarten students on Tuesday, March 29, 2022. Consent forms were sent home earlier this week. No child will be screened without a signed and completed consent form. The screening is offered by a local Lions Club in conjunction with Iowa KidSight, in the Department in Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital. Participation is voluntary. If you have any questions, please contact Teresa Boston, tboston@stpiousxschoolcr.com or Iowa KidSight, kidsight@uiowa.edu.

ST. PIUS X ELEMENTARY 21-22 YEARBOOK

LAST CALL! The order deadline is noon on March 28, 2022!

It's time to order your 2021-2022 St. Pius X School yearbook!

Orders can be placed online through ybpay.lifetouch.com

Our school yearbook ID Code is: 1248522 - all yearbooks are \$10.

2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR UPDATES

2022-23 Approved Calendar

Our calendar for the 22-23 school year has been approved by the School Board and is now available for families. Please note that the actual start and end times for each day are subject to change, but the dates are accurate.

[2022-23 Calendar](#)

2022-23 Registration - NOW OPEN!

The process to re-enroll your St. Pius X student(s) for next school year is now available. If you have students at either Regis or Xavier, please wait to register them until those schools send more details to you.

If you have a student who will be new to St. Pius next school year or know of a family interested in joining our community, there is a slightly different process to get registration started.

Please contact the school or email [Geri David](mailto:Geri.David) if you have any questions or would like more information!

Tuition Assistance

St. Pius X Elementary School encourages all families to complete the application for STO funds.

STO 22-23 Tuition Assistance Application Process

Deadline for application is April 15th.

Step 1: Apply Now - Complete one FACTS application per family at <https://factsmgmt.com/>

Step 2: Upload 2021 Federal tax return and all schedules. - Include your entire federal tax return and all schedules.

Step 3: Application Fee - The \$31.00 fee will be covered by St. Pius X School.

Step 4: Seek Assistance - For questions about the application: Call FACTS Helpline at 866-315-9226 (Monday–Thursday 7:00am to 7:00pm & Friday 7:00am to 5:00pm.)

For help with uploading documents or other assistance completing the application: Contact Geri David in the business office.

For more information about the application process and eligibility requirements: Go to ourfaithsto.org/faqs-for-parents.

Step 5: Receive Notification - Qualifying families will receive notification of STO awards by May 22nd.

Step 6: Local Tuition Assistance - If you need additional tuition assistance beyond STO or miss the April 15th priority deadline, you should still complete the STO application and reach out to your school about any additional local tuition assistance options.

TRANSPORTATION REIMBURSEMENT

Second semester non-public transportation reimbursement forms for the area school districts are **due May 1st**. Reimbursement will be given from the public system to parents who do not have busing available to them and live outside the 2 mile boundary. For this school year, that includes all students living outside the 2 mile boundary due to no busing available for any students.

Click the district in which you live to find the form you need to submit. The Cedar Rapids school district forms need to be turned into the St. Pius X office. Linn-Mar needs to be signed by the principal before it is sent to Linn-Mar. Payments for the full year are typically sent mid-late summer.

[Cedar Rapids Community School District](#)

[College Community School District](#)

[Linn Mar Community School District](#)

[Marion Community School District](#)

VOLUNTEER UPDATE

Approved volunteers - watch for an email early next week with several upcoming volunteer opportunities! Before the end of the school year, we will have opportunities to help with the following:

Lenten Service Project, Grandparent's Day, Teacher Appreciation Week, Morning with Mom, Rainbow Olympics, Lunchroom Volunteers & Monthly Staff Lunches

A reminder for volunteers in the building -

We are excited to have more parent volunteers back in the school building. As a reminder, we ask that you kindly stay in the space you are volunteering. Unexpected visitors in classrooms or in the hallway outside the classroom can cause disruptions to instruction and student learning.

LUNCH MENUS

The April lunch menu is now available to view on the [school website](#).

ACTIVITIES FOR ST. PIUS STUDENTS

Summer Solutions

Summer may feel far away, but we know how quickly those last few months of school can go! Be ready this year and order your *Summer Solutions* books today! Online ordering for Summer Solutions books is now available!

Books will be shipped directly to your home. Order Summer Solutions for your child at the grade that they are currently in. (If your student is a current kindergarten student and will be in 1st grade next year, order the kindergarten books)

<https://www.summersolutions.net/>

PTO NEWS

HyVee Receipts

March 31st is the cutoff date for receipts to be submitted for the 2021-2022 year. Please have all receipts to school by Monday, April 4th so they can be submitted before the deadline.

Grandparent's & Special Friends Day

Save the Date! We are planning to host our annual Grandparent's & Special Friends Day on Friday, April 29th. Grandparents or Special Friends are invited to attend mass with their student(s) and then spend a brief amount of time after mass seeing their student's classroom(s). Watch for an official invitation & RSVP coming soon!

**Due to ongoing health concerns, this event is subject to change!

Upcoming events

3/28 - PTO Meeting

4/29 - Grandparent's & Special Friends Day

SCRIP NEWS

We are looking to fill one main position within the Scrip program and we need your help! It's imperative we have 1-2 individuals trained and ready to fill this role in order for the St. Pius X Scrip Program to continue. If you have a couple hours available every other Monday and want to learn more...please email to find out how you can help! scrip@stpiusxschoolcr.com

SCRIP Important Dates - These dates are subject to change

Monday Orders - due no later than 10am and sent home on Thursday of the same week with your Pius student.

3/28, 4/11, 4/25, 5/9, 5/23

Cash and Carry

SCRIP Cash & Carry will be available through backpack mail only until Spring. Please send your order forms, with payment, in a sealed envelope with your student anytime during Monday order weeks. Students will need to drop it in the SCRIP office mailbox or the main office. Please send an email to scrip@stpiusxschoolcr.com to let us know to look for your order. Orders will be filled on Friday morning and sent home with your student that same day.

*Reminder that this is only during Monday order weeks. Cash & Carry Dates: 4/1, 4/15, 4/29, 5/13, 5/27

**Please note, if you need quite a few cards from the same vendor, you should submit a Monday order. We only have 5-10 of most cards on hand at any given time, and we do not fill partial orders.

NEWS FROM OUR SUPPORTING PARISHES

Concert at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Tuesday, March 22 - 7pm

The Women's Choir of St. Catherine University, St. Paul, MN, Patricia Cahalan Connors, director, is coming to Cedar Rapids as part of their 2022 spring break tour of the upper Midwest. In collaboration with **The Women's Chorale of Xavier High School**, Phillip Schroetter, director, the choir will perform at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church.

The concert is free, and all are welcome to attend.

SPX Blood Drive

Save the Date for a St. Pius X Church blood drive - Thursday, April 7th! You can sign up now at:

https://login.bloodcenter.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/103255

NEWS FROM XAVIER & REGIS

Xavier High School Spring/Summer Camps

Registration is now open for Spring/Summer youth camps at Xavier High School! Campers will have the opportunity to learn from the coaches and directors of our championship-caliber activities programs. All campers will receive a shirt with each camp registration.

Information for individual camps and sign-up links can be found at XavierSaints.org/Camps.

The following camps are now open for registration:

- BASEBALL: APRIL 12 (AGES 8-10)
- BASEBALL: APRIL 19 (AGES 11-14)
- GIRLS BASKETBALL: JUNE 6-10 (GRADES 1-8)
- SHOOT LIKE A CHAMPION: JUNE 8-9 (GRADES 3-9)
- WRESTLING: JUNE 8-9 (GRADES K-12)
- SHOW CHOIR: JUNE 13-17 (GRADES 1-8)
- CO-ED TRACK: JUNE 21-24 (GRADES 5-9)
- VOLLEYBALL: JUNE 25 (GRADES 1-8)
- BOYS BASKETBALL: JULY 18-21 (GRADES 1-8)
- FOOTBALL: AUG. 1-3 (GRADES 5-8)

Free Family Movie Night at Xavier HS Featuring "American Underdog"

Saturday, March 26th at Xavier High School - Kids games will start at 5 p.m. - the movie will begin at 6:30 p.m.

All families are invited to join us on Saturday, March 26th at Xavier High School for a free family movie night featuring "American Underdog," the incredible story of Regis HS alumnus/NFL Hall of Famer, Kurt Warner (R89)!

In addition to the movie, the evening will also feature free games, door prizes, and face painting hosted by Xavier HS students for children attending. Free popcorn will be available (drinks and other snacks will be available for purchase at the concession stand). The movie will be shown on the video board in the Ron Thillen Gymnasium at Xavier High School. Families are welcome to bring their own chairs/blankets to watch from the gym floor. Seating in the bleachers will also be available. Entry to this event is free and open to all families.

NOTE: The movie is 1 hour, 52 minutes long.

NEWS FROM METRO CATHOLIC OUTREACH

Our MCO food supply is going out fast each week since we've been serving more families the past month. We are seeing more empty shelves in the pantry than we have for over a year!

We are getting whatever free & inexpensive food we can from HACAP, but are also purchasing more & more from our local grocery stores. If our parish members can get a few items next time they go shopping to send down to us, it would be greatly appreciated. Maybe some good deals can be found online & items sent to us. Whatever works. We will make use of whatever people can send us!

Please watch our weekly updates and Facebook posts for the latest food & supply needs. (You can like us on Facebook to help remind you.)

****The Panther Weekly news is a weekly email sent to parents & other supporters of St. Pius X Elementary to keep you up to date with school & community news. If you would like to be added or removed from this email distribution list, please reply to this email to let us know.****