

HOME & SCHOOL

Monthly Newsletter

Important Dates

May

- 6th - 10th - Teacher Appreciation Week
- 7th - Parent Volunteers Cover Recess & Lunch Duties
- 10th - Parent Volunteers Cover Recess & Lunch Duties
- 10th - Catholic Schools Night at the Rockies
- 14th - Class of 2015 Alumni Reunion
- 15th - Art Show Grades 4th - 6th
- 15th - Spring Concert 4th - 6th
- 16th - All School Mass - Steffes Award
- 17th - Catholic Schools Night at Elitches
- 21st - Brightmarten Dine Out Event
- 22nd - Teacher Luncheon
- 24th - Confirmation Rehearsal
- 26th - Confirmation
- 27th - No School Memorial Day
- 29th - AR Ice Cream Rewards
- 30th - AR Prize Wheel
- 30th - Last day for Preschool Angels
- 31st - 8th Grade Graduation & Cotillion
- 31st - Last day for Saints & Montessori

June

- 3rd - 5th - End of Year Recycling
- 4th - 5th - End of year parties K-7
- 5th - All School Mass Light of Leadership
- 6th - Field Day
- 6th - LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 11:30 AM DISMISSAL

7th Grade Diaper Drive Ended with Spectacular Results

The 7th graders went full force to make this year's diaper drive the best one yet. The diaper drive benefits the Gabriel House, which is committed to providing supplies to mothers and families of young children. The 7th graders were determined to help make a difference and their hard work paid off as they collected 15,237 diapers, which is triple the amount from last year. It was wonderful to see how engaged, excited and enthusiastic they were during this project. The kids took ownership of this project and spent time making posters, doing announcements at school, reporting inventory, soliciting donations from relatives and friends, and advertising and running the bake sale. On May 3rd, the 7th graders completed their project by delivering the diapers they collected to four separate Gabriel Houses. Way to go 7th grade on collecting an amazing amount of diapers, getting the whole school involved in your service project and finding creative ways of increasing your donations. We are all proud of your hard work!



Junior High Academic Decathlon

Academic Decathlon is just what it sounds like - challenges in all categories of education!

The decathlon consists of both team-oriented and individual events. The first team event is the logic quiz, where students complete different types of puzzles ranging from Cryptograms to Sudoku puzzles to riddles. Next, eight students each take a test in English, Science, Fine Arts, Math, Religion, Social Studies, Literature, or Current Events. The final event, Super Quiz, is a team-focused, Jeopardy-style game covering similar subject matters.

This is the fourth year that SVDP has competed in the decathlon. Teams typically are comprised of 6th-8th graders and up to 10 participants. This year the SVDP decathlon team placed fourth!



They were only five points behind the third place team out of 24,000 possible points! Grant Keelin earned a second-place trophy in the English category and McKenna Ranson earned a third-place trophy in science. Congratulations Crusaders! If you would like to learn more about Academic Decathlon, please reach out to our SVDP coach, Mrs. McConaty.

King Soopers Program Change!

The King Soopers program has changed and it is easier than ever for everyone to use. You no longer have to worry about reloading or bringing your gift card to the store, yay! Your King Soopers loyalty # (the # you use to receive discounts at check out) can now be linked to the Community Rewards Program and SVDP will receive an instant rebate every time you shop. Check out the Friday Forecast and keep an out in your child's Tuesday folder for a handout with detailed instructions on how to sign up. If every family spent just \$500 this summer alone on groceries at King Soopers, our school would benefit over \$6,000. What a great way to start off the 2019/2020 school year!

Pilgrim Mary Statue

In this busy time of life, what better way to add some peace than bringing the school's Pilgrim Mary Statues home for a week to be with you. Our school has three statues that can visit your home, to pray with you.

Sign up slots are assigned each Monday. Check out is anytime after 12 pm on the Monday assigned. Please check in by 9am the following Monday to the front office. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f45a4af23a5fc1-pilgrim>

Crusader Corner- Meet Mrs. McCracken

Estamos agradecidos por el Español en SVDP!

We are thankful for Spanish at SVDP! We cannot let the year end before getting to know a little more about our Spanish teacher—Mrs. McCracken! You may regularly see her with a STOP sign at the crossing, or even on the sidelines of a SVDP girls basketball game, but her smile and joy continues in the classroom too.

After growing up in a small city of central west Mexico, Colima, Mrs. McCracken pursued her initial education in Finance and worked for 20+ years in Government and Banking positions. She came to Denver 16 years ago when she married her husband, a Denver native. And while continuing her career in Finance, Mrs. McCracken decided 4 years ago to finally pursue a passion she held as a teenager— Education. Upon completing her certification requirements, Mrs. McCracken worked at the Denver Language School with 3rd, 5th and middle school students.

Now here at SVDP, Mrs. McCracken leads our Spanish program for K-8 grades! Managing curriculum for K-8 graders is no small task, but she is always doing this with a smile and certainly she is making a difference: *“Education is the basis of success; an individual never stops learning and that is why I am still preparing myself to touch lives by sharing my knowledge and culture!”*

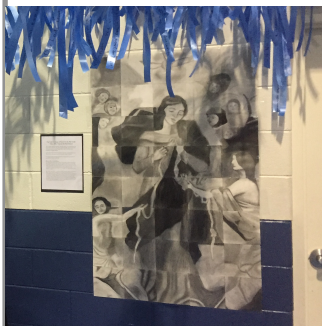
Mrs. McCracken’s time with the kids is limited: Kindergartners receive 15 minutes/week; 1st-3rd grader 30 minutes/week; and 4th-8th grades have class twice a week from 30-50 minutes, depending on the grade level. While this schedule is limited, Mrs. McCracken says, *“Even though Spanish class was not taught at SVDP for a few years, I am excited to see how much growth some students have showed during this school year.”*

As the school year winds down, Mrs. McCracken has shared what she has enjoyed most about our SVDP community: *“Besides the mission and history of the school, I am amazed to see how strong the community is and how much the parents are involved and engaged in many activities and fundraisers to help the ones in need... what a great example of ‘giving’ for our students!”*

Mrs. McCracken and her husband have 2 daughters, Isabel and Lucia who are current 7th and 5th graders at SVDP. As a family, they enjoy attending their basketball and volleyball games, church activities, going to the mountains, and of course traveling back to Mexico annually to visit family.



Archdiocesan Art Show



St. Vincent de Paul's burgeoning art program was well represented at the Archdiocesan Art Show, held at St. Pius X Catholic School from April 26-28.

SVDP had over 60 artists represented across K through 8, and wishes to congratulate Thomas Bradac (Artist Choice Award), Rylee Buesing (Golden Brush Award), Emily Bacon (Golden Brush Award), and

Andrew Gram (Golden Brush Award). Well done, artists!

SVDP's submission also included a stunning group project done by our 8th graders of Our Lady Undoer of Knots, which included prayers from each student.

Grandparents Day

Grandparents Day 2019 took place on Friday, April 12, and was a great success! About two hundred and fifteen grandparents and special friends came out on a cool spring morning and started their day with an amazing spread of food, as always, from SVDP parents.



SVDP Irish dance students from The Wick School performed, and Sister Dominic welcomed our guests, who then headed to the school for special time with their grandchildren or special friends. Fourth and fifth graders interviewed their guests, first graders played games, and second graders performed!

Thank you to the grandparents and special friends who attended this special annual event!

Derby Fun for Everyone

Hats off to our Gala Co-Chairs Courtney Ranson and Julie Wright for spending close to a year planning such a magnificent evening. The Cable Center was absolutely stunning and decorated to the nines with overflowing roses and beautiful derby pictures. The decorations team of Kerry Hutcheson, Courtney Wells, Kari Thiessen and Nancy Harry definitely executed a beautiful vision. We all enjoyed the thrill of bidding online and raising our paddles for superior products, trips, and parties. A huge thank you goes out to the acquisitions team for spending countless hours soliciting, gathering, and organizing donations. We can't wait to get the final numbers to see how much was raised. There are so many helpful hands that come together to make our Gala a success. We wish we could list each one of you individually but we worried you all wouldn't read a 10 page newsletter if we did. Therefore, we are sending a huge thank you out to all of the Gala volunteers that made this year a success! We appreciate all of your hard work, talent, energy, and time that you put into making this year's Gala one for the history books.

Save the Date for our next Dine Out on May 21 at Brightmarten Restaurant- look for more details soon!