



ST. VINCENT
DE PAUL
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

VIKING NEWSLETTER

September 5, 2019

SCHOOL NEWS

An NEW Face in SVdP CARE!!

I would like to welcome Mr. Robert Kawczynski as the new addition to the Care Program at St. Vincent de Paul Grade School. He is 39 years old, and was born and raised in Peoria, Illinois. He has three adopted brothers, including one with severe cerebral palsy, whom he takes care of daily. After attending Holy Family Grade School, he graduated from Peoria High School. He received his Associate's Degree from ICC. Robert has worked for the Guardian Angel Home, which houses at-risk male students. He also has extensive experience working with both disabled children and adults through his work with EPIC and Bridgeway. Robert will be a great addition to our team, as he has a "child's spirit" and a caring nature! Robert and Miss Megan Kelly will be in CARE every morning as the students arrive before school. You may also see Robert in the PM on some evenings as well. Welcome to the SVdP Care Program!

GAGA BALL PIT at SVdP...IT TOOK A VILLAGE!

Thanks to SVdP parent, **Mrs. Lisa McShane**, spearheading this project, we are most happy to have a **Gaga Ball Pit** on our playground here at school! From Mrs. McShane's leadership she secured financing through our fabulous **SVdP Men's Club**. She then communicated with SVdP Graduate and **Boy Scout Troop 156** member **Christopher Tierro** and the other Boy Scout members to build the pit for Christopher's Eagle Scout Badge. This was a summer-long project to organize and was built on Saturday, August 17th by Christopher and Troop 156. Now, **Mrs. Michelle Carew**, our PE teacher, has "picked up the gaga ball" and is teaching the game to all of our students during their PE class!

So, as you can see, it "takes a village" to organize and build it but now we have an awesome game to play out at recess for our students. And our THANKS goes to the fabulous SVdP community of Mrs. McShane, The SVdP Men's Club, Christopher Tierro, Boy Scout Troop 156, and PE Teacher Mrs. Michelle Carew!!

If you are interested in more information, here is the website to go to and read up about the game: <https://www.gagaballpits.com> Or better yet, ask your child how to play it or stop by at recess some time, and see how it is played!

Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) Testing – Aug. 26th –Sept. 20th

All students began taking the NWEA- MAPS Testing on Monday, August 26th through Friday, September 20th. These tests are actually taken 3 times a year on the computer. The students will be taking one test in each academic area: reading, math, and language usage. Our students in grades 6-8 will also be taking a test in general science. These tests are spread out over a 3-week stretch so there will not be any interruptions in their classroom schedule. These tests assist the teachers in planning instruction for individual students and to confer with parents. It also empowers our school staff as they continue to work to improve all educational outcomes. Your student's teacher will share their individual results at our October 10th conferences. Please be sure your children get plenty of sleep and have a good breakfast. Students will be utilizing our Chromebooks and laptops for the MAPs testing.

Tardiness Reminder – 3 tardies = missed recess

Respect for the learning atmosphere requires that students be on time for school. The all school prayer, Pledge of Allegiance, and daily announcements begin immediately following the 8:25a.m. Opening Bell. THERE IS NO TARDY BELL. Therefore, all students arriving after 8:25a.m. but before 10:00a.m. will be marked tardy and must first report to the main office to receive a tardy slip before going to class.

Reminder: For every 3rd tardy the student will receive a detention that will be served that day during their recess time.

If tardiness is frequent or habitual, the teacher will first address the issue with the parent/guardian. If the problem continues, the teacher will notify the office and a mandatory meeting with the teacher, parent, and principal will take place in order to discuss disciplinary action and/or continuation of enrollment at St. Vincent de Paul.

American Heritage Girl (AHG) – tonight, Thursday, September 5th

Join us this Fall as we kick off our first year. Our first Troop meeting will be tonight, Thursday, September 5th from 6:00-7:30 PM in the school Care room for girls 1st – 3rd grade for the 2019-2020 school year. Parents and their daughters are welcome to this first meeting. AHG is a Christ-centered scouting program for girls, that emphasizes leadership, patriotism, and community service as girls earn badges in areas of interest as diverse as Outdoor Skills, The Arts, and Science and Technology. Come and be a part of this exciting new program. Contact Jen Hutsell at 309-363-9432 or AHGIL1737@gmail.com for more information.

www.Americanheritagegirls.org  **YouTube** [Youtube.com/AHGchannel](https://www.youtube.com/AHGchannel)

Art Club –

SVdP Art Club is returning this school year and is open to all students in 4th – 8th grades. Art Club will meet in the Art Room with art teacher, Mrs. Gargiulo, on the first Tuesday of each month after school until 5:00 PM. There is a \$20 fee for supplies which will be billed in FACTS when your student signs up. You can pay through your FACTS account if desired. Please print, complete the attachment entitled “*Art Club flyer*” and return to the school office as soon

as possible. This sign-up form can also be found on our website at www.svdpvikings.com under Student Life, Activities/Programs, Art Program/Club.

Viking Voices Choir Sign-ups – 3rd -8th Graders – beginning Sept. 8th

Viking Voices Choir begins on Sunday, September 8th! Rehearsals are held on Sundays in between the 9AM and 11AM Masses, from 10:00 AM to 10:45 AM, in the Music Room at the south end of the school. The children will sing on occasional Sunday and Holy Day Masses throughout the year, with some community performances too.

Any child in grades 3-8 is welcome to join no matter their experience or ability. To register your child visit bit.ly/VVregistration. Information, questions, and schedule: contact the director, Leah Olsen, leah@olsenemail.com or 309-282-9128.

Fr. Willard and Fr. Taylor Birthdays

Both our parish priests have birthdays in September. Join our school in wishing both Fr. Willard on Monday, Sept. 9th and Fr. Taylor on Sunday, Sept. 22nd a very Happy Birthday!

Chess Club – sign-ups due by Friday, September 13th

SVdP Chess Club is open to all students in 3rd – 8th grades. Meetings are every Wednesday when school is in full-day session in the school cafeteria from 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM. Chess Club will begin meeting on Wednesday, September 18th this year. Please print, complete the attachment entitled “*Chess Club*” and return to the school office by Friday, September 13th. This sign-up form can also be found on our website at www.svdpvikings.com under Student Life, Activities/Programs, Chess Club. Fr. Taylor is the moderator of the Chess Club.

Vision/Hearing Testing – Monday, Sept. 23rd and Tuesday, Sept. 24th

Testing will be conducted Monday, September 23rd and Tuesday, September 24th. The screenings are as follows:

PreK -	Vision and Hearing
Kindergarten -	Hearing
1 st Grade -	Hearing
2 nd Grade -	Vision and Hearing
3 rd Grade -	Hearing
8 th Grade -	Vision

In addition, any special placement students, any new students, and those referred by the classroom teacher are screened for both. Those students with a “possible” hearing or vision problem are referred to a doctor for examination and/or treatment and will be followed up by the Health Department. Parents who do not receive a letter or a call from the Health Department can assume their child “passed.”

September ½ Day School Date – Wednesday, September 25th

Reminder that there will be ½ day of school on Wednesday, September 25th due to Professional Development for our teachers. Dismissal will be at 11:30 AM and AfterCARE will be available but parents need to provide a lunch.

School Picture Day – Wednesday, October 2nd

TSS Photography will be here on Wednesday, October 2nd to take school pictures. Whether pictures are purchased or not, every child will have a picture taken since it will serve as their yearbook picture. Ordering instructions will be sent home later this month. Picture Day is a uniform or dress up day.

Bullying/Violence Prevention Program at St. Vincent de Paul

Beginning next week The Center for Prevention of Abuse will work with our 4th - 7th students in a Social Emotional Learning/Bullying Prevention Program. It is a school-based bullying prevention program designed to decrease bullying at school and help students build more supportive relationships with each other. Students in these grades will learn a variety of friendship skills, including strategies for making and keeping friends, and steps for joining a group activity. This program also teaches students the skills for coping with bullying:

- How to *recognize* bullying behaviors
- Use assertive not aggressive behaviors to *refuse* bullying, and
- How to *report* bullying to an adult(s).

The K-3rd grades will have their bullying program next semester. SVdP is very fortunate to have the support from The Center for Prevention of Abuse to address an issue that we at St. Vincent de Paul feel is a very important prevention program.

Sickness and School Attendance –

Please remember if your child has vomited, has diarrhea, or a fever, the student **MUST** be vomit-free, diarrhea-free and fever-free (without fever reducing medicine) for at least 24 hours before returning to school. If your student leaves school due to vomiting, diarrhea or fever, he/she will not be allowed to return the next school day.

Also a reminder: students that are absent from school due to illness, for three (3) or more consecutive school days, are **REQUIRED** to submit a note to the office from the health care provider, giving permission for the student to return to school.

Another reminder: The principal **MUST** approve in advance extended absences of more than 3 days due to vacation. An “*Extended Absence Form*,” located on SVdP website under *For Parents, Common Forms* or in the school front office, must be completed and returned to principal before absence.

If you have any questions regarding these policies, please see the St. Vincent de Paul Parent/Student Handbook (page 23) or call the school office 691-5012.

Cold Lunches -

Please remember for ALL students who bring their lunches **that NO candy or soda be included in their cold lunches**. Too many children eat the candy and then throw out the nutritional part of their lunch. As for soda, there are way better nutritional options for our students when bringing drinks to school: fruit juice, water, and milk. There is also an option

to buy school milk for 50 cents. Between school birthdays and holiday parties our children have plenty of opportunity to enjoy those sweets outside of our school cafeteria.

*If a parent chooses to send fast food/restaurant food, the child will be asked to eat it in the office conference room with a friend. SVdP strives to provide a nutritional cafeteria for both our school-provided lunches and those brought from home.

Volunteer Information and Safe Environment –

All volunteers must complete the following in order to volunteer at the school (to be in the classroom, drive for field trips, coach, etc.). Once completed it is good for the rest of your student/s school years and does not have to be retaken. The requirements are:

- 1) (SE) complete the online “Safe Environment Training” program (approx. 1 hr - 1 hr 15min), and if possibly driving students:
- 2) (Safe Driving) complete the online “Safe Driving Training” program (approx.. 20 minutes)
- 3) (Authorization for DCFS check - CANTS) complete a Child Abuse and Neglect Tracking System check form – print, complete, and return to school office
- 4) (Background Check) complete a Criminal History Background Check - online

For those who have not completed these diocesan requirements and want to volunteer and/or drive students, the directions are attached and entitled, “*VOLUNTEER 1 – Safe Environment Training.*”

*Be sure to **print your certificate(s) of completion** and bring into SVdP office to volunteer.

Viking Newsletter dates – bimonthly email distribution

For the 2019-2020 school year, the Viking Newsletter will be emailed home to all our families every other Thursday. This is to make sure that the information gets home to our parents. The Viking Newsletter which contains important school information is always available on our website and ParentsWeb. The following are the dates to be looking for the Viking Newsletter the first semester:

Thursday, Sept. 19th
Thursday, Oct. 3rd
Thursday, Oct. 17th
Thursday, Oct. 31st
Thursday, Nov. 14th
Thursday, Dec. 5th
Thursday, Dec. 19th

RELIGIOUS NEWS

Feast Week – September 22nd – 27th

All families are welcome and encouraged to join us for all of our feast week activities:

ST. VINCENT de PAUL

FEAST WEEK events

SEPT. 22-24

Parish Mission-Universal Call to Holiness
Sainthood is for you too! Come hear engaging talks by Father John Eckert. Adoration and confession available.
7:00-8:15pm in the Church

SEPT. 25

Youth Led Holy Hour
People of all ages, join us for a special time of Adoration led by our parish youth. Youth will lead praise and worship, meditations, and prayers. 6:00pm in the Church

SEPT. 26

Mass & Sacrament of Anointing
All are welcome to join us for Mass. Those who are suffering the infirmities of serious illness or old age may receive the Sacrament of Anointing. 6:15-7:15pm in the Church

SEPT. 27

Feast Day Happy Hour
Come and celebrate our feast day with free drinks and appetizers. Adults only.
5-8pm in the Parish Hall

Feast of St. Vincent de Paul – Friday, Sept. 27th

Please join us for a prayer service in honor of our patron, St. Vincent de Paul, on Friday, September 27th at 2:30 PM at our St. Vincent de Paul statue in the front of the school. Do you already pick up your child from school? Come just a few minutes earlier and show your child how important it is for you to participate in prayer with us!

Save the Date - 7TH Grade Parent Confirmation Meeting – Mon., Oct. 7th

All 7th grade parents should attend an informational sacrament meeting for Confirmation on Monday, October 7th at 7:00 PM in the parish hall.

ATHLETIC NEWS

IESA sports physicals required - 7TH and 8TH students

ALL students in 7th and 8th grades participating in sports must turn in a sport physical prior to the season start date. The \$45.00 athletic fee per sport should also be paid as soon as invoiced in your FACTS account.

The **Fall Semester** sports are Cross Country, Golf, Baseball, Girls Basketball, Cheerleading, and Boys Basketball

1) Boys Basketball/Cheerleading sports physicals must be turned into the school office on or before Monday, October 21st.

If you have any questions, please contact Chris Schifeling at topher@mtco.com or 309-208-8226.

SCRIP NEWS

Scrip order /pick-up dates – orders due tomorrow, Friday, Sept. 6th

Scrip orders are due tomorrow, Friday, September 6th. Pick up date is Friday, September 13th in the school office. Please e-mail Linsey Kauffman at lynzi2782@yahoo.com with questions.

COMMUNITY NEWS

JumpStart Gymnastics Open House – Saturday, September 7th

Please see flyer in front school office hanging files if interested in JumpStart Gymnastics and Kids Activity Center's open house this Saturday, September 7th from 2-4 PM.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September	06	All-School Mass	9:15 AM
September	10	Adoration (all day)/Benediction	3:00 PM
September	13	All-School Mass	9:15 AM
September	15	Catechetical Sunday Mass of Teachers	9:00 AM
September	17	Adoration (all day)/Benediction	3:00 PM
September	20	All-School Mass	9:15 AM
September	23	Vision/Hearing Testing	
September	24	Vision/Hearing Testing	
September	24	Adoration (all day)/Benediction	3:00 PM
September	25	½ Day of School – Staff Development	dismiss at 11:30 AM
September	27	All-School Mass	9:15 AM
September	27	Feast of St. Vincent de Paul Prayer Service	2:30 PM at SVdP Statue
October	01	Adoration (all day)/Benediction	3:00 PM
October	01	All-School Rosary	2:40 PM
October	02	School Picture Day	8:30 AM in small gym

Have a great September!

Thank you,
Mrs. Patsy Santen
Principal