



THE SAN FRANCISCO SCHOOL

Tuesday Note Home Our Weekly Community Newsletter

Week of December 4, 2017



Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, December 6

Creating a More Inclusive Community: A Discussion of the School's Family Event Guidelines & More

4:30-6:00 pm

NERT Personal Readiness Training Workshop

6:00-9:30 pm

Thursday, December 14

3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade Holiday Plays

6:30 pm

Friday, December 15

1st-8th Grades Ice Skating

Community Coffee & Tea

8:00-9:15 am

8th Grade St. George & the Dragon Play

1:00-2:30 pm

Monday, December 18 - Monday, January 1

Tuesday, January 2

School Resumes

Full Calendar

In the Spotlight...



As we celebrate our 52nd year at The San Francisco School, the holiday season is once again filled with magic - even considering San Francisco's notorious lack of snow. Tiny preschoolers with tinier jingle bells sing for older classes, upper elementary students and 8th Graders embrace marathon rehearsals for the winter plays, and the promise of ice skating and winter break lingers just around the corner. And, of course - there is singing. At SFS, there is always singing.

The debate over holiday music in schools is as old and well-worn as some of the songs themselves. Perhaps not as old as "O Holy Night" ...but definitely at least as old as the Mariah Carey version. School communities wonder: does including religious music in a holiday program alienate those who don't share its beliefs? Or would its exclusion mean preventing children from learning classic pieces of music?

[Click here](#) to keep reading *Music and Tradition: Celebrating the Holidays at SFS!*

School News

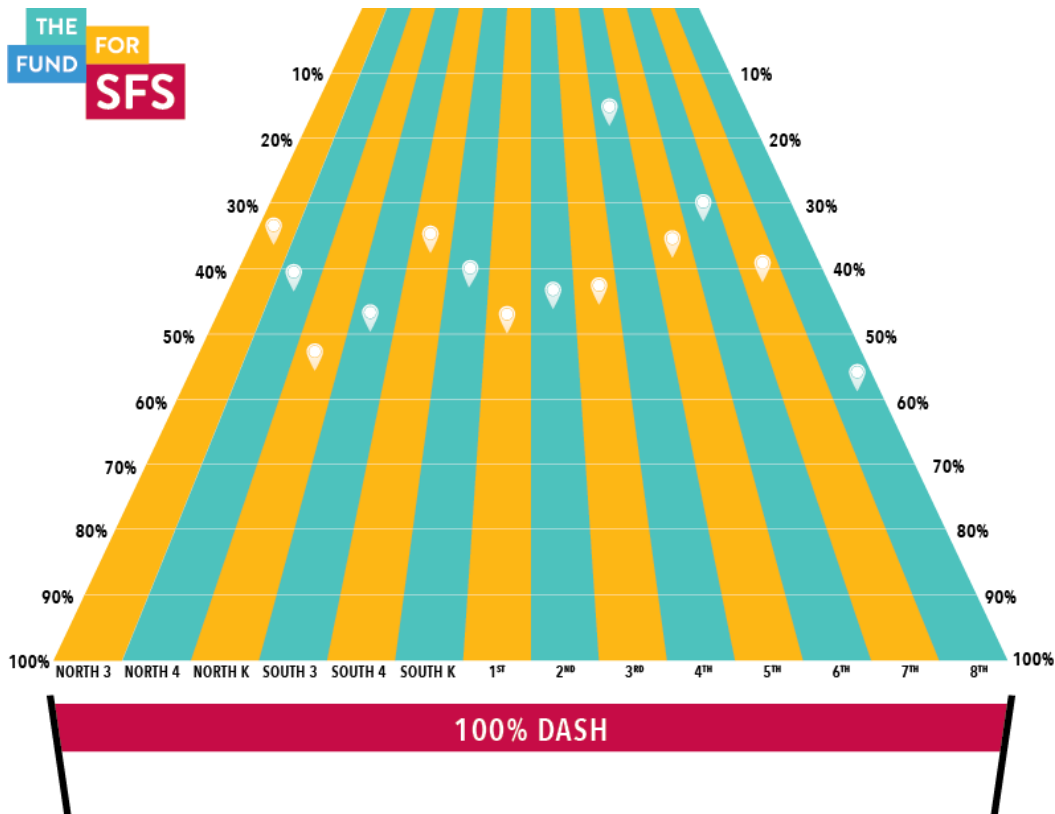
The Fund for SFS

Let's kick this race into high gear by pledging or donating today! Donations can be mailed to school, dropped off at the Front Desk or made directly online at www.sfschool.org/donate. If you prefer, **pledge now** to make your participation COUNT and donate before June 30, 2018.

Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference and helps fund classroom programs and indexed tuition, attract and maintain outstanding faculty, and maintain and enhance our campus! Our goal is 100% participation and to raise \$425,000 before December 31, 2017.

We are currently at 43% parent participation, 95% faculty & staff participation, and 100% trustee participation, and so far we have received pledges or gifts totaling ~\$300,000. THANK YOU!

Help us reach our goal and help your class reach 100% by donating or pledging today! Your participation has helped get your class closer to the 100% finish line. **8th Grade** is currently in the lead at 58% with the **North Class Dolphins** hot on their heels at 55%! The first class to reach 100% participation will receive two tickets to the spring auction at the California Academy of Sciences to be raffled within their class!



Calling All SFS Community Builders!

Creating a More Inclusive Community:

A Discussion of the School's Family Event Guidelines & More

Wednesday, December 6, 2017

4:30-6:00 pm in the 8th Grade Room

Come join in this exciting opportunity to engage in our work as parents and

guardians as we build community through the events we create. **Everyone is welcome** – whether you're new to SFS or are in your 11th year. We will review the new [SFS Family Event Guidelines](#) (see Steve's latest [Headspace](#) article), work with others to discuss scenarios that emerge when designing activities, and brainstorm community and class activities that bring our vibrant community together in ways that align with our mission and values. We hope to see you there!

Last Day to Order SFS 2018 Calendars



SFS School Calendars are back and will be here just in time for holiday giving. This is a revival of the annual calendar project some of you may remember that features student artwork. We have created a new 12" x 12" format that features this year's K-8 Pacific Coastline "Save Our Seas" paintings. Calendars will cost \$15 each and will be available by preorder only through **today**. Please list your name and the quantity that you would like to order in this [Google Sheet](#), on the list at the Front Desk, or send an email to Jenn at jkeesepowell@sfschool.org. We will contact you next week regarding payment. Calendars will be available prior to the Winter Break via the Front Desk. A sample of the calendar is currently available at the Front Desk.

Middle School Fundraiser for UndocuFund



At the last two Town Meetings, the Middle School learned about the organization [UndocuFund](#) and the important work [GCIR \(Grant Makers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees\)](#) is doing to support communities in the North Bay that survived the terrible fires. This past Friday, they had the honor of hearing Camellia Rodriguez-SackByrne, Program and Initiatives Manager, speak about UndocuFund's important work. The Middle School Student Council is leading the way to raise funds before Winter Break to lend a helping hand. Here's the plan from our Student Council presidents:

Dear SFS Families:

Over the next two weeks we are holding a fundraiser for the undocumented immigrants affected by the North Bay wildfires. As a part of it, we are holding a giant bake sale on **Thursday, December 14**, at the end of the school day. 6th, 7th, and 8th Grades will each have their own tables to sell the items brought in by their grade. All proceeds will be going to UndocuFund.

Elementary School families, please mark your calendar to pick up treats with your child/children at the end of school on December 14.

Middle School families, please send your child with baked or store-bought

items to be sold and/or money to buy treats. *Items containing nuts are not allowed.*

The Middle School will also be taking **donations through December 15th**, with a goal of raising approximately \$20 per student. We have encouraged our classmates to do extra chores, babysit, or tap into their own piggy banks to donate to this cause.

The class that raises the most donations for UndocuFund will have a pizza party sponsored by Student Council. The money we raise together could greatly help families who lost everything in these fires.

Thank you for supporting our efforts.

Your Student Council Presidents,
Brian Moore and Elijah Sandler

Ice Skating Logistics - Elementary & Middle School

Thank you in advance to every driver for our upcoming trip on **Friday, December 15!** In order to assure smooth transitions and traffic safety, please follow these guidelines:



- By **Friday, December 8**, make sure SFS Front Desk has your vehicle and driver information
- Slow down when entering the carpool lane
- Enter the lane at your grade's assigned time, not before (see times below)
- Do not park in the white zone or leave the car unattended Friday, December 15th from 8:00 - 10:15 am
- Have the car ready for all passengers before entering the carpool lane

Middle School Departures & Returns

8th Grade enter carpool lane at 9:10, depart for rink at 9:15

7th Grade enter carpool lane at 9:17, depart for rink at 9:20

6th Grade enter carpool lane at 9:22, depart for rink at 9:25

11:40 All Middle School grades depart the rink and return to school

3:15-3:25 pm Normal carpool pickup

**Alternatively, Middle School students ONLY may be driven directly to the rink without coming to school first; they should arrive no later than 9:45 am at the rink. If dropping kids directly at the rink, drivers are welcome to stay and help with the return to school.*

Elementary School Departures & Returns

4th & 5th Grades enter carpool lane at 10:00, depart at 10:05

2nd & 3rd Grades enter carpool lane at 10:07, depart at 10:10

1st Grade enter carpool lane at 10:12, depart at 10:15

12:00-12:05 All Elementary grades depart the rink and return to school

3:00-3:15 Normal carpool pickup

Yerba Buena Ice Rink Drop Off & Pick Up

750 Folsom Street between 3rd and 4th Streets.

There is an entrance and an elevator to the rink on Folsom, closer to 4th Street. For greater ease with drop off and pickup, we are providing staff escorts at this corner. Teachers will escort students from carpools to the rink. Drivers can either drop students with the escorts or park and escort students in themselves. Drivers are welcome to skate! Elementary parents/drivers can also pick children up at this location between 12:00 and 12:05.□

Middle School escorts: Tiffany and Nancy
Elementary escorts: Maggie, Solveig, Toni

Directions from School

Dropping Students Off: Gaven Street east. North on San Bruno. Take 101 north and exit at 4th Street. Continue to Howard Street. Turn left onto Howard and proceed to 3rd Street. Turn left at 3rd Street and turn left onto Folsom. The rink is on Folsom, on your left, between 4th and 3rd Streets.

Parking:

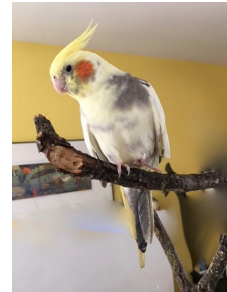
- 5th & Mission Parking Garage, 833 Mission Street (between 4th & 5th streets, adjacent to Moscone West), (415) 982-8522 x18
- Hearst Parking Center, 45 3rd Street (entrance on Stevenson, 2 blocks from Moscone South/North), (415) 989-4000
- Moscone Center Garage, 255 3rd Street (Folsom & Howard, across the street from Moscone South's Esplanade Ballroom, (415) 777-2782 (garage)
- Museum Park Garage, 300 3rd Street (entrance on 3rd and Folsom streets), (415) 284-9553

In Search Of...

Can you offer your services as an AirBnBird? My name is Kylie, and I was rescued by math teacher Jadine a few months ago; now I live happily in the North Class. I am looking for a vacation home during the winter break from **December 18** through **December 28**.

I am a very personable bird and come with my own cage and food. I am a bit sensitive to cold temperatures (under 70 degrees), drafts, and sudden temperature changes. You should know that I am a good flyer despite having my flight feathers clipped...so cats, dogs, open windows, or doors are not for me.

Please check in with Vahlee or Dolores (vpeters@sfschool.org, delkin@sfschool.org) if you would like a pet bird for 10 days (or to split the time with another family). Thank you!



Reminder from the Business Office: Indexed Tuition

For current families interested in applying for Indexed Tuition for next school year, the application through School and Student Services (SSS) by NAIS is due by Thursday, January 18. For those who are new to the Indexed Tuition application process, please feel free to reach out to Jeanette Moore with any questions (jmoore@sfschool.org) or 415.287.2008. Click the link below for more details on the application process, and click [here](#) for a PDF of the

Workbook & Instruction Booklet. Key steps include:

- Going to the website sssbynais.org/parents.
- If you have previously received IT from SSS, login to PFS Online as a Returning Family. If you are new to the IT process, create a PFS Online account.
- The school code for The San Francisco School is 7100.

Key dates, as also highlighted on the website are:

- **January 18, 2018:** The PFS is due. Use estimates for the 2016 calendar year, and update as more information (such as W-2s and 1099's) become available.
- **February 9, 2018:** Submit 2017 tax returns.
- **End of February 2018:** SFS will communicate 2017-2018 Indexed Tuition awards to families. For families that are unable to submit a 2017 tax return before this date, the Indexed Tuition award will be based on information available and is pending until a final 2017 tax return is received.

Please note, a new section has been added this year: a *Monthly Income and Expense Statement*.

January Teacher Workshop Day Childcare

Limited childcare will be provided for SFS-enrolled preschool, elementary, and middle school students for the **January 16, 2018** Teacher Workshop Day.



Camp Hours: 8:30-5:00 pm

- Weather permitting, students will be traveling to a local attraction.
- Lunch is NOT provided, please pack a nut free lunch and additional snack
- Please wear comfortable shoes and clothing in preparation for a day of walking
- Note that there is no time allotted for nap time, so please consider how this may impact your preschool child

-Deadline to register is January 5, 2018. There will be NO drop-ins to ensure proper staffing ratios.

[Register Here!](#)

What's Cookin' This Week?*



Wednesday: Pizza w/ Caesar Salad & Cornbread

Thursday: Sloppy Joes w/ Sweet Potatoes & Fruit

Friday: Picnic Lunch (for Preschool/Kindergarten)

Monday: Burritos w/ Coleslaw & Fruit

Tuesday: Soup Day w/ Salad, Cornbread, & Cheese

*Menus subject to change due to delivery changes and general human fallibility

News from the Family Association

Coat & Boot Drive!
New and Used Child & Adult Sizes Needed!



ONE WARM COAT®
CELEBRATING
25 YEARS

There are two bins in the front hall to collect:

- (1) New children's winter coats, raincoats, and boots for North Bay fire victims
- (2) Gently used adult and children's winter/warm coats for [One Warm Coat](#)

Please bring donations **by Friday, December 15 by 3:00 pm.**

Questions? Comments? Contact FA@sfschool.org!

Beyond the Gates

A Christmas Story: The Musical at SF Playhouse



SFS 8th Grader Panita Serizawa is featured in *A Christmas Story: The Musical* at the San Francisco Playhouse!

Nine-year-old Ralphie Parker wants nothing more for Christmas than an official Red Ryder Carbine-Action 200-Shot Range Model BB Gun. But first, he'll have to navigate past a maniacal department store Santa, an infamous leg lamp, a triple-dog-dare to lick a frozen flagpole, and much more. Nominated for three Tony Awards in 2013, *A*

Christmas Story is a classic and heartfelt holiday tale backed by a magnificent score.

Dates: **Now through January 13, 2018***

***Panita is performing in all shows EXCEPT Friday, December 8.**

Tickets: www.sfplayhouse.org

Contact Linda (LSerizawa@gmail.com) for a special family and friends

California Revels

Looking for something different than the usual Nutcracker, Christmas Carol, etc? The California Revels at the Scottish Rite Theater in Oakland offers a unique annual show that has deeply influenced our own music program, inspiring our annual St. George and the Dragon play. This year's theme are Winter Solstice traditions from Scotland, complete with some audience sing-a-long. Highly recommended! Head to the [California Revels website](#) for more info!



Family Matinees at SF Jazz



Doug Goodkin's jazz group [The Pentatonics](#) has been giving hands-on jazz workshops to kids after each month's [Family Matinee](#) at the [SF Jazz Center](#). (Free, sign up on the spot). This month's offering is Marcus Shelby with Daniel Handler of Lemony Snicket fame, **December 16 at 11:00 am** at SF Jazz Center, with optional workshop at noon. While you're at it, mark your calendars for Doug's group debut on stage for the May 12 Family Matinee. Tickets are already going fast!

Common Sense Media Tip of the Week

With the holiday season in full swing, parents often get lots of input about what gifts kids want. Often, tech toys, digital gifts, and new devices make the list, and it can be hard to sort out what to buy and what to deny.

If your kid is clamoring for a phone, it might be helpful to think about their overall maturity, their sense of responsibility, and their ability to think through consequences to **determine if they're smartphone-ready**. For kids who are hoping to get **virtual reality gear**, it's good to know what's available and what kind of extra stuff you might need to make it work. Going **retro with a modern twist could be a cool choice** for some kids, too.



The San Francisco School

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TNH Submissions
(Deadline: Mondays
at 12:00 pm!)

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