



# THE SAN FRANCISCO SCHOOL

## Wednesday Note Home

Our Weekly Community Newsletter  
(Occasionally on Wednesdays)

Week of January 1, 2018



## Upcoming Dates

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### Wednesday, January 3

Public Purpose Committee  
8:45am - 9:45 am

### Monday, January 8

Diversity Committee  
6:00-7:30 pm

### Tuesday, January 9

NERT Training  
6:00-9:30 pm

### Wednesday, January 10

Yale University Spizzwinks (Paul Gross '11) Singing Time Show  
12:45-1:05 pm

Learning Services Multiplication Workshop  
4:00-5:30 pm

### Friday, January 12

Community Coffee in the Gazebo  
8:00-9:15 am

Martin Luther King, Jr. Assembly  
2:00-3:00 pm

**Monday, January 15**

No School - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**Tuesday, January 16**

No School for Students - Teacher Workshop Day

Preschool Cricket/Grasshopper Parent/Teacher Conferences

Full Calendar

## In the Spotlight...



One of the priorities in our strategic plan is to engage more fully with the Portola neighborhood and San Francisco, with the hope of exploring the many resources that our location offers. We strive to create an expanded, limitless classroom in which our community learns and instructs. Under the guidance of Maggie Day & CJ Logel, the 2nd Grade's study of the neighborhood has enabled them to do just that.

Click [here](#) to read more about how 2nd Graders are living their humanitarian promise and connecting with the Portola and San Francisco communities!

## School News

**Deadline Approaching:**

## 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!](#)

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## Deadline Approaching: 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](mailto: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](http://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*.**

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## Special Thanks to Our Fabulous Facilities Team!

A special thanks to our facilities team for their hard work over the break. While we were all away, they were working hard to get various projects completed around the school. Below is a small sample of the great work that they did:

- Carpets were cleaned
- Walkaways were washed
- Touch up paint was applied around the campus
- Partition walls were installed in the Edeli boys' bathroom
- Shades were installed in the preschool North classroom
- Fire riser was installed in the preschool South play yard
- Fencing was repaired at the top of the Adventure Playground.

When you see Isaac or Gabriel in carpool or around campus, please take a moment to thank them for the regular care they give to our school. They put a lot of pride and hard work into all they do at 300 Gaven. (Also, make sure to say congratulations to Gabriel for the arrival of a baby girl on December 30!)

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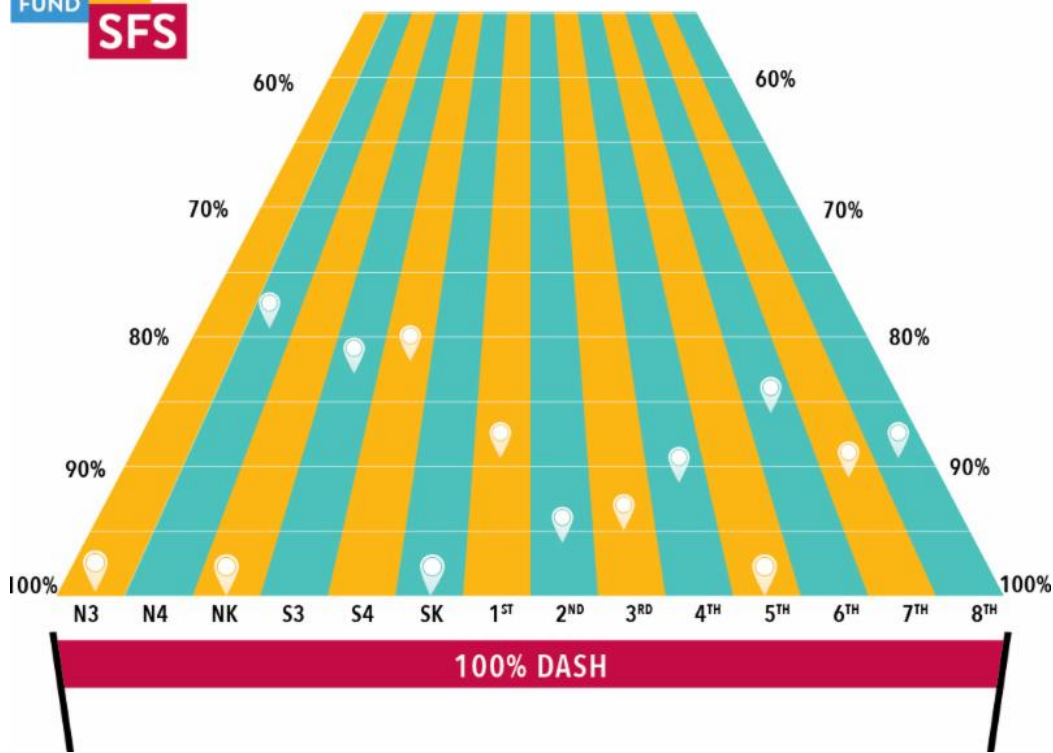
## THANKYOU!

We'd like to acknowledge and appreciate all the donors who helped us to reach 90% parent/guardian participation in this year's Annual Fund. Your support, combined with that of our staff, trustees, alumni families, grandparents, and friends, has helped us to raise **more than \$400,000** in donations and pledges so far!

**Congratulations** to the four classes that have reached 100% participation: North K, 5th Grade, North 3, and South K! Thank you for your leadership. The North K Dolphins were the first to cross the finish line and will therefore receive two tickets to the spring auction at the California Academy of Sciences to be raffled off among their class. Hooray!

There are quite a few classes that are super close to reaching 100%. **You can still help** your class cross the finish line and help us reach 100% participation! While the 100-day Annual Fund campaign has ended, we still welcome your support of The Fund for SFS through June 30, 2018. Every gift counts and is appreciated. Donations can be mailed to school, dropped off at the Front Desk or made directly online at [www.sfschool.org/donate](http://www.sfschool.org/donate). If you prefer, **pledge now** to make your participation COUNT and donate before June 30, 2018.

Lastly, if you have already donated and need an electronic copy of your acknowledgement letter in order to process a **corporate match**, please let Jenn in the Advancement Office know ([jkeesepowell@sfschool.org](mailto:jkeesepowell@sfschool.org)). We're happy to help! Don't know if your firm matches charitable gifts? Check [here](#) to see if your firm has a matching gifts program.



## In Search Of...

**Library Volunteers:** Books are piling up on the book box! We have two amazing volunteers, Sally Kobayashi Osborn and Bethany Paves, but we are such avid readers at The San Francisco School that we need one more person to help check-in and shelve books! Please email Solveig if you can help: [sdimon@sfschool.org](mailto:sdimon@sfschool.org).



Also, many thanks to our wonderful intern (and SFS parent) Tamara Foster, for all her work this fall, teaching 6th graders to spot Fake News, doing book talks, and making new signs for the shelves!

**Magazines for Lower Art Room:** Tiphani Russell is in search of old magazines for an art project. Anything colorful would be great, but no celebrity or fashion magazines, please. Even furniture or decor catalogs would be great! Email Tiphani with questions: [tmrussell@sfschool.org](mailto:tmrussell@sfschool.org)

## Add Your Family Photo to the Directory

Please send us that great family photo from your holiday card for the photo directory (or any other family photo)! Please email photos to [photodirectory@sfschool.org](mailto:photodirectory@sfschool.org). For families with multiple households, please send multiple pictures. Thanks!

If you aren't familiar with the Parent Directory, it is available once you are logged in to [SFS Today](#). It lists all the families at the school and can be sorted by class. There are many other useful features available there as well like the Carpool Map, access to handbooks, the school calendar, etc.



Reminder, to access the Parent Directory:

- Log in to SFS Today
- Click "Parent Directory" from the menu on the right
- If you'd like to see your whole class, click on the "show all records in the directory" link below the search field
- Select the desired grade from the "Search by grade" dropdown menu

If you don't remember your login to SFS Today, please contact Steve Rubin [srubin@sfschool.org](mailto:srubin@sfschool.org).

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## NERT Disaster Training Workshop



Are you ready for the next disaster? Do you have an agreed-upon family meeting place after a disaster? Does everyone in your family have the phone number of an out of state contact to check in with? Do you have spare glasses and essential medications in your to go bag or earthquake kit? These are just a few of the

reminders shared at last week's informative and engaging NERT training, hosted by the SFS Public Purpose Committee and attended by 30 people from SFS and the Portola neighborhood. Lt. Tse from the fire department managed to make this serious topic fun and entertaining too! Want to learn more? You can [sign up here for a six-week training on the SFS campus](#) starting **Tuesday January 9th**.

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## SFS Alum Returns with Yale University Spizzwinks

SFS alumnus Paul Gross (2011) will be bringing his college a capella group, the [Yale University Spizzwinks](#), to the SFS campus for a special Singing Time concert on **Wednesday, January 10 at 12:45 pm!** Founded in 1914, the Spizzwinks are an all-male a cappella group comprised of Yale undergraduates. Their concerts feature a diverse musical repertoire - from Beatles classics to jazz standards to pop hits by artists like Taylor Swift and Adele - and their recent concerts in Europe, Africa, China, New Zealand, and across the United States have drawn sell-out crowds. They are a completely self-funded 501(c)(3) nonprofit and are entirely student run.



If you can't make it to campus that afternoon (or if you just can't get enough of the Spizzwinks), you can also catch them at their San Francisco concert on **Sunday, January 14, 1:00-2:30 pm** at the First Unitarian Universalist Church (1187 Franklin St) or at their Berkeley concert in conjunction with Continuum, the professional alumni ensemble of Oakland's Grammy Award-winning Pacific Boychoir Academy, on **Sunday, January 14, 5:00-6:30 pm** at Hertz Hall on UC Berkeley's campus (101 Cross-Sproul Path, Berkeley).

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**Walking School Bus Returns!**



Does one of your New Year's resolutions include getting more exercise? Why not join the walking school bus on Thursday mornings? It's great for the environment, and helps build community with our kids (and parents) across grades.

We leave from Randall and Chenery at 7:50 am, Chenery and Miguel at 7:55 am, and St. Mary's Park at 8:05 am. We arrive at school before 8:30, so there is time for adults to catch BART or a ride to work. You are welcome to drop your kids with us too - we always have at least two adults. Last week we had a total of 19 people! Maggie Weis supplies yummy snacks for all walkers too.

Contact Sho Kuwamoto if you have questions ([sho@kuwamoto.org](mailto:sho@kuwamoto.org)) or Cathy Manshel if you're interested in starting a Bernal or Noe Valley group ([cmanshel@gmail.com](mailto:cmanshel@gmail.com))!

## What's Cookin' This Week?\*



**Wednesday:** Enchilada Casserole w/ Coleslaw & Fruit

**Thursday:** Tuna Noodle Casserole w/ Roasted Cauliflower & Fruit

**Friday:** Picnic Lunch (for Preschool/Kindergarten)

**Monday:** Bulgur & Sausage w/ Broccoli & 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

Thank you to everyone who donated coats to the OneWarmCoat project and to the North Bay fire victims! The coat drive was a huge success! On Friday, December 15, SFS parent Jessa Post drove the donations up to

Ukiah. and on Monday, December 18, we delivered more than 75 gently-used coats to the OneWarmCoat project at St. Anthony's Foundation in the Tenderloin. Their staff was impressed by how many coats we collected! Well done, SFS!!

Questions? Comments? Want to get involved with the Family Association? Contact [FA@sfschool.org](mailto:FA@sfschool.org)!



## 2018-19 School Calendar



Find important dates and download a PDF of the 2018-2019 calendar [here](#)!

## 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](http://www.sfplayhouse.org)

Contact Linda ([LSerizawa@gmail.com](mailto:LSerizawa@gmail.com)) for a special family and friends discount - 1/2-price tickets!

## Common Sense Media Tip of the Week

We are always on the lookout for the best new media for our kids that won't do them harm and might even teach them something. It's a worthy goal and one that definitely makes an impact on kids, but there's a factor we sometimes don't consider: us. As parents, we ultimately have the most impact on our kids, not only through our media choices and limits, but also through shared viewing and playing with our kids.

So when we find or approve those titles for kids to watch, read, and play,



what can we do to squeeze the most benefit from that media? First, when we sit down for family movie night or to read before bedtime, we're creating a connection with our kids – no surprise there. And when edgy or upsetting moments come up, we can use them to convey our values and share information. Most important, when we **co-view** and **co-play** with our kids, and laugh, cry, discuss, and debate, we're using media to deepen relationships, and that is time well-spent indeed.



## The San Francisco School

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[Visit Our Website](#)

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

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