

# Cougar Tracks

2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

EDITION 16—DECEMBER 13, 2017

Dear Parents,

How is your Advent going? This week our candle represents faith reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. What a beautiful time Advent is. How are you sharing this time with your child/children?

While the school celebrates this "mini" penitential season, we do have to continue to support our various school programs. MAP testing is still moving forward according to the schedule we sent out last week. We are seeing some incredible growth in our students! What does this tell us? We do question that—is it because we are giving dress code rewards; is it because of the new math program; is it because we are creating a fun and spirited approach to the testing; I do not know. Excitedly, we are seeing scores grow.

Last week, grades 3-8 attended a spirited Geography Bee with the final rounds including Lorenzo Mele and Guillermo Elias. In the end, Lorenzo had the final answer. Thursday, we will join with our classroom spelling bee winners for our school spelling bee. The winners from the two bees go forward in two different ways. Lorenzo will be taking a geography test and if he scores high, he will be invited to the state geography bee. The winner of the school spelling bee will compete on January 18, 2018, in the diocesan bee held here at St. Cyril. Congrats to our winners.

Our homerooms are busy collecting for their various gifts items. We will be collecting those items on Friday, December 15. Please make sure to help you child's homeroom out with either a donation towards the gifts or the gifts themselves. Your modeling of generosity is a wonderful life lesson for your child. Thank you in advance for helping spread the joy of Christmas to 16 needy families.

Next week holds some special times for our students. Monday, the 18th, students in grades 3-8 will attend reconciliation service. What a special time for students to clear their conscience and journey into the Christmas season. On the 20th, our primary students will share Christmas joy with their junior high buddies. Finally, on the 21st, our entire student community will gather for Las Posadas and a "fiesta." These days are so special, and I thank you for making sure your students are here for these exciting events.

We will not have a School Express Wednesday, December 20th. With that in mind, please watch your email for your student's progress report which will come out on that day. Again, it is a snapshot of where your student is half way through the trimester. No one should be surprised with grades as every parent has the ability to check RenWeb daily to see how your student is doing. If you do not know how to access RenWeb, please let us know and we will help you.

The School Express and Cougar Tracks will resume in 2018. This does not mean we might not email you prior to the New Year to remind you of various things. Here is an example of something we might email about: the lost and found rack will be emptied during the Christmas break, please double check to see if anything belongs to you or your students prior to leaving for the break.

On behalf of the entire faculty and staff, we wish your entire family the blessing of the season. May all embrace the love our Lord shares with us daily and be grateful for his birth. May we pray that our world acknowledges the blessings bestowed on each of us and accept all as unique individuals as gifts from our Lord. Lastly, may we look forward to the second coming of our Lord to embrace our world.

Go Cougars!

Dr. Zeches

Preparing our students spiritually, academically & socially to take personal responsibility for a lifetime of faith, learning, leadership & service.



### Calendar Reminders:

Thurs., Dec 14	Pastries with the Principal 2 PM Spelling Bee
Thurs., Dec 21	10 AM Las Posadas 12:15 PM dismissal No After School
Fri., Dec 22	First Day of Christmas Break
Mon., Jan 8	Classes Resume

**Fruit of the Month:**  
*(Fruit of the Spirit)*  
December: Joy

**Thank you for the Tasty Treats!**  
Sanders Family  
Martel Family  
Weitman Family



\*Please fill out the pink form so we can thank you\*

**Word of the Week:**  
*testimony/testify*

*A man named John was sent from God. He came for **testimony**, to **testify** to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to **testify** to the light.*

John 1:6-8

### PRESENT REMINDER

If your student is exchanging presents with just one or two students, please save that for playdates or outside of school activities. Thank you for understanding, and helping us with this.

## Prayer of the Week

Advent Prayer of Love: Dear Jesus, may the light of your love always shine in our hearts. As Christmas draws closer, we marvel at your great love for us. Let your love transform every aspect of our lives and touch everyone we encounter. Our hearts are open to you, Jesus. Amen.  
Found on [dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever/advent-prayers](http://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever/advent-prayers)

## SPORTS UPDATES

Sports season is in full swing! This week we have several home games. Just a reminder that games start at 4:00pm. If you unable to give your son/daughter a ride to an away game, please contact your team's driver coordinator!

As we reach this colder season it's a great idea to make sure to wear layers! For games, sweatshirts are always allowed on the outdoor courts. Sweat pants and loose-fitting joggers in a solid black, grey, or navy blue with no logo or stripes (just like game-day shorts!). Same rules apply to practice but can be any color, as long as its school appropriate! Any questions please ask Coach Schwab!

Games this week:

Wednesday: Varsity & JV BVB vs. JOES (HOME)

Thursday: JV GB vs. JOHNS (AWAY)

Sportsmanship is contagious,  
let's have an epidemic!



## THANK YOU!

Thank you to all those students who drew pictures for the St. Cyril School Christmas card. Three students' cards were chosen. They will be sent to all the other Catholic schools and to other people who have supported our school in many ways. Congratulations to Savannah Duclou, Valeria Campos and Natalie Hennings.

## OFFICE REMINDERS

- As we try to keep our arcades and new court area free from gum "tracks", please review with your student that gum is not permitted on campus.
- Please label your student's clothing so that if it gets lost, we can return it to them.
- YAY! Good job parents calling in or emailing when your child was sick! This morning, even with all of the kids that are out sick, 100% of the absences were accounted for. That is so much appreciated and saves a lot of time for the office. :) Thank you and keep up the good work!

## FUTURE KINDERS

If you have a child who would like to be considered for the 2018-19 Kindergarten class, applications are now being accepted. For an application, please stop by the office or visit our website at [www.stcyril.com](http://www.stcyril.com).

Welcome, soon-to-be Cougar siblings: Robert A., Ryker B., Victoria B., Emma D., Clark F., Emilio G., Dutch L., Laurel L., Angelina M., Joseph M., Theofania R., Benjamin S., Gabriella S., Luis S., Marcelino S., Dylan T., and Roman V.

## SCRIP

'Tis the season to buy Scrip! Orders will be placed on Monday, December 18 to finish up the calendar year! Scrip orders now count toward the second half of the year. Remember every gift card you purchase gives money back to the school!

## COMING SOON!

We are so excited to announce that our school will be participating in the Apex Fun Run as one of our major fundraisers in spring 2018! The Apex program will be with our students from January 22nd through February 2nd as we raise much needed funds to help our school. Watch for more information each week on this fantastic program!

## SPECIAL DRESS FOR NEXT WEEK

Parents, students will have a different dress code for Wednesday, December 20th and Thursday, December 21st. On Wednesday students are allowed to wear appropriate Christmas attire but please, no jeans. On Thursday students may wear the same apparel as Wednesday plus the addition of Latin American attire. If you have any questions, please contact the teachers in your child's department.

## GEO BEE FINALISTS

Fourth Grade: Paul Deeb and Emma Mireles  
Fifth Grade: Santiago Sarmiento and Joseph Lechowick  
Sixth Grade: Morgan DeVitis and Guillermo Elias  
Seventh Grade: Dominic Camacho and Jackson Godlove  
Eighth Grade: Heidi Locke and Lorenzo Mele  
*Congratulations to the winners!*

First place—Lorenzo Mele and Second place—Guillermo Elias

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

1st Annual Premier Chess Pre-Arizona State Grade Championship Camp at Sonoran Science Academy—Tucson!

January 2-4, 9 AM to 5 PM

National Master Evan Rabin, CEO of Premier Chess will lead camp. Camp will be open to all students K-5; we will cater to students from beginner to master.

To register or ask any questions, reach out to Evan Rabin, CEO of Premier Chess at [erabin66@gmail.com](mailto:erabin66@gmail.com) or (917) 776-1306 or Molly Coy, Lower Elementary Department Head at Sonoran Science Academy - Tucson at [mcoy@sonoranschools.org](mailto:mcoy@sonoranschools.org) or (520) 665-3430.

Please mark your calendar for January 6, 2018 - 5K Walk/Run for Vocations!

Please go to this link <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/3rd-annual-5k-color-walkrun-for-vocations-tucson-tickets-41016986912> to register. Once registered, a ticket will be generated as proof of your registration. Please print and bring with you the day of the 5K Walk/Run.

The 5K Walk/Run will take place on Saturday, January 6, 2018, we will be set-up on the Northwest corner of Reid Park. Registration will begin at 11:00 AM. Race will begin at 12:00 / All Walkers will begin at 12:15

Mass will be at 1:00 PM followed by a family and community celebration. Music, face painting, food, fun and many surprises! Come one, come all! Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Vocations office.