

# St. Francis de Sales Newsletter

## April 2024

St. Francis de Sales School  
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Beckley, WV 25801  
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### UPCOMING Events

**St. Francis de Sales School Mission Statement**  
Saint Francis de Sales Catholic School exists to provide a safe, nurturing environment for our students in their pursuit of academic achievement, moral development, and spiritual growth in Our Lord, Jesus Christ. This combination builds character and creates responsible citizens.

- April 8**– Solar Eclipse Day
- April 8**-Chess Club mtng.
- April 9**-STEM Club mtng.
- April 10**-SFDS Track Meet @ Woodrow Wilson High School
- April 11**-Photography Club
- April 13**-**SFDS GALA/ Masquerade Ball**
- April 15**- 4-H Meeting
- April 17-18**- SFDS Book Fair
- April 18**-SFDS Track Meet @ Shady Spring High School
- April 18**- Brownie & Jr. mtng.
- April 19**-SFDS Spring Dance
- April 22-May 10** NWEA MAP Growth Testing
- April 22**-**Earth Day**
- April 24**-SFDS Track Meet @ Shady Spring High School
- April 26**- Noon Dismissal/ Staff Training/AFC until 3PM
- April 29**-Theater Club mtng.
- April 30**- First Communion Practice 4:30 PM
- May 3**-Middle School Trip
- May 5**- First Communion
- May 20**-Preschool Graduation
- May 22**-Eighth Gr. Graduation

## Spring Book Fair 2024

The Spring Book Fair is scheduled for April 17th– April 18th in the Parish Center. Each class will be scheduled for a specific date and time that they can shop. Books-a-Million is our vendor for this book fair.

The money earned will be used to restock AR books and library books for the school. Students that have earned free book certificates will be able to use them at this fair.

**Payment forms accepted**

**are cash or coupon only.** No checks will be accepted due to Books-a-Million processing.

After school shopping is offered on Wednesday from 2:30-5:15 in the Parish Center. Special thanks to Rhonda Willson and our Home/School Association for organizing this event!



## April 8 - Solar Eclipse Day

On April 8, 2024, a total solar eclipse will cross North America, passing over Mexico, the United States, and Canada. A total solar eclipse happens when the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth, completely blocking the face of the Sun. The sky will darken as if it were dawn or dusk.

Except during the brief total phase of a total solar eclipse, when the Moon completely blocks the Sun's bright face, it is not safe to look

directly at the Sun without specialized eye protection for solar viewing. For that reason, some schools plan to let out early so children can watch the eclipse with their family and others won't release kids until after the height of the eclipse. St. Francis will have a normal day of school in which we will learn about the eclipse. We will send students home with a pair of eclipse glasses; however, students will not be viewing the eclipse with us at the school. The height of the eclipse

happens at about 3:05 PM - after car riders are dismissed. The students that stay for After School Care, will go straight to the gym as usual.

If you want your child to view the eclipse you must sign your child out by 2PM that day. Although we are very excited about the eclipse, we want to be conscientious about each student's visual well-being too! We will operate on a regular schedule for this special day.

# PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

**For an increase in vocations to the priesthood.** And special blessings for our own priests, Fr. Leonard and Father Thomas.

**For all those who serve in the military.** We pray that God will bless them and keep them safe.

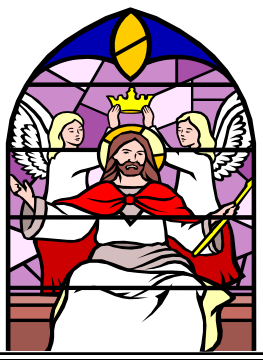
**For all workers who perform their jobs with attention to detail and compassion.** May their efforts be noted and appreciated by those they serve.

**For victims of violence and their families.** May they find peace and comfort.

**For all those who are sick or fighting disease.** May God help them to heal and ease their pain.

**For all those who have recently had a death in their family.** May God help them through this time of grief.

**For all of our generous patrons and parishioners.** Especially for the contributions to our school for technology, tuition assistance, and maintenance.




*Friendship isn't a big thing.  
It's a million  
little things!*

**Education in Virtue: Humility**

Humility is the quality of not being arrogant or putting yourself above others. It's being modest! It's thinking of others before yourself!

Humility may look like you congratulating someone else who did better on a project or on a test. It may look like you allowing others to go ahead of you in line or allowing others to talk and share their opinions as you listen.


Humility has to do with realizing the gifts and talents that God has given you and thanking Him for them and for all of His wondrous creations on Earth!

**Home/School Association**

Our next meeting for the Home/School Association is scheduled for Wednesday, April 10th at 1:30 PM. We will meet in the church hall.

We will be wrapping up gala details, planning for Teacher Appreciation Week, and the end of year school carnival.

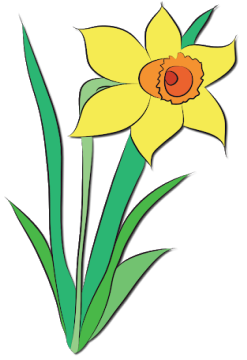
Please plan to attend!



St. Francis De Sales School



Where Faith and Knowledge meet!



## Testing- April 22nd to May 10th

**Students will be engaged in the Spring session of the NWEA MAP Growth Tests from April 22nd through May 10th. This assessment will inform curricular decisions and individualized instructional decisions.**

**We want all students to put forth their best efforts! Encourage your child to do his/her best work! Please help your child get to bed early and eat well before school, send a healthy snack with your child to school, and schedule appointments for dates outside of our testing window.**

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**Important Dates**

*May the renewal of life at Easter bring  
you many blessings of love, hope, peace,  
and happiness.*

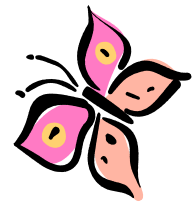
**Happy Easter!**



- **Early Out/Noon Dismissal—Faculty Training-** April 26th  
(After School Care Open Only Until 3 PM on April 26th)
- **NWEA Testing Period—** April 22nd-May 10th
- **ARK Testing Period—** March 18th– May 4th
- **MS Trip to Baltimore—** May 3rd
- **First Communion-** Sunday, May 5th at 11 AM Mass.
- **Staff Appreciation Week—**May 6th-10th
- **Preschool Crossing Over/Graduation—**May 20th
- **8th Grade Graduation—** May 22nd at 6:30 PM Mass.
- **Last Day of School—**Friday, May 24th-Field Day - Noon Dismissal.
- **Teacher Work Days—** Tuesday, May 28th –Friday, May 31st

**Have you completed the tasks necessary to re-enroll your student for the 2024-25 school year at Saint Francis de Sales School?**

**In the communication envelope with this newsletter, we sent re-enrollment directions and tuition assistance information. If you have questions or need help, call us!**



**SFDS Office  
Phone #-  
304-252-4087**

**Regional Social Studies Fair**



The Regional SS Fair was held at Westside High School and several of our students were First Place winners and will move on to state competition:

Ellie Gamble & Fatima Hamo-  
“Producing Nike”

Asad Tanveer- “The Akkadians.”

**We wish these students good luck at the state competition!**

We had some very good Second Place projects too:

Aya Kabbara & Jola Aborisade-  
“How Barbies Influence Society”

Rajeev Polisetty- “Chola Dynasty”

Francie Lewis- “\$uper Trooper”

We are very proud of our students!

**Go Saints Go!**

