



ST. FRANCES ACADEMY

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

WE CAN, WE WILL, WE MUST!!

AUGUST 2011

Reclaiming our Identity,
Rebuilding our Culture,
Recommitted to our Legacy

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***Main Office
Summer Hours***

***Monday -Thursday
8:00am -3:00pm***

***Friday
8:00am -1:00PM***

Important Dates to Remember:

- August 1-12: Freshmen Institute
- September 6: Freshmen Orientation
(9am-12pm)
- September 7: Sophomore Orientation
(9am-12pm)
- September 8: Junior Orientation
(9am-12pm)
- September 9: Senior Orientation and Senior Portraits (9am-2pm)
- September 12: Mentor Day and ID pictures
(9am-12pm)
- September 13: 1st Full Day of Classes

Middle States Goals:
Improving Student Academic Performance
and
Student Discipline

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Parents,

Although we are still in the heat of July, school is just around the corner. We are looking forward to a great new school year.

We would like to voice our thanks to the Christian Brothers for their many years of service to St. Frances Academy. Because of the lack of vocations, the Brothers have to withdraw from several schools including ours. Brother Joe Kines, who has served here for many years, will be going to Calvert Hall to teach Spanish and to work in their tuition office. We would like to thank Brother Joe for all he has done for us and wish him well.

On a personal note I had my surgery in May and have recuperated. I am now undergoing Chemotherapy and I ask for your prayers so that I can make a complete recovery. I thank you for all the support you have given me and I have met with a number of parents who are also breast cancer survivors and have gone through what I am going through now. It is almost like a new ministry meeting others who have had cancer and hearing their stories.

I will be going away for the first two weeks of August and then I will be back looking forward to the new school year.

Enjoy the rest of the summer,

In Providence,

Sister John Francis, OSP

A MESSAGE FROM SISTER JUDITH TUITION OFFICE

All parents need to make payment arrangements with Sister Judith for the upcoming 2011-2012 school year. Please call Ms. Tasha Drew at 410-539-5794 to make appointments with Sister Judith. Sister Judith's hours are Monday and Wednesday from 12:30pm-2:30pm and Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00am-12:30pm.

If you have received a letter from the Archdiocese of Baltimore concerning tuition assistance please bring that letter with you so that we can apply it to your tuition.

Anyone still owing monies from previous years needs to pay off this financial obligation before being admitted for 2011-2012 school year.

Thank you,

Sister Judith

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear St. Frances Academy Family:

I trust each of you is enjoying a peaceful and restful summer. It seems like just yesterday we were counting down the days left remaining in the school year. Now, we have started counting down the days until we welcome our students and staff back to Saint Frances Academy for its 184th year.

Jesus Christ described His Kingdom using the following parable:

“A sower went out to sow.
And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path,
and birds came and ate it up.
Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil.
It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep,
and when the sun rose it was scorched,
and it withered for lack of roots.
Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it.
But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit,
a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.” - Matthew 13:1-9

Saint Frances is certainly the fertile ground of which Our Lord speaks. Furthermore, we at Saint Frances are not simply content with watching the seeds grow. We tend to go the path, the rocky ground and occasionally, into the thorns, to find lost seeds and bring them to the rich soil that is our Academy.

As we prepare for the coming school year, as we welcome the Class of 2015 to our ranks and as we send the Class of 2011 to college, please join me in praying for the faculty, students, staff, alumni and families of Saint Frances Academy. May God’s Providence continue to shine down on all of us!

In Providence,

Deacon Curtis Turner, Ed.D.
Principal

SUMMER SCHOOL GRADES

Summer school grades will not be released until all summer school financial obligations have been met and all textbooks have been turned in or paid for.

Thank you.



2011 FRESHMAN SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

FRESHMEN NEED TO READ TWO BOOKS THIS SUMMER:

BOYS ONLY:

Step Out on Nothing by Byran Pitts

GIRLS ONLY:

The Skin I'm In by Sharon Flake

BOTH:

Monster by Walter Dean Myers

Assignment #1 – Due August 1st, 2011 –to be submitted first day of Freshman Institute

Read novel #1 and answer the following questions in complete sentences using as much detail as possible. The more thought you give to these questions, the easier it will be to write your research paper. If you are unfamiliar with any of these literary terms, there are many literary terms glossaries available online.

1. What is your reaction to this novel?
 2. Who is the *narrator* – not the author, but the one who tells the story?
 3. What is the *point of view* ?
 4. What is the *setting* (time and place)? What is the *atmosphere* or *mood*?
 5. How does the *plot* unfold? Write a synopsis, or summary of the events in time order, including relationships among those events.
 6. What are the *characters* like? Describe their personalities and traits based on their actions, speech, habits, and so on. Who is the *protagonist* ? The *antagonist* ? Do any characters change throughout the novel? Are the changes believable? Do the characters have clear motivation for what they do?
 7. How would you describe the story's *style*, or use of language? Is the style informal or conversational? Is it formal? Does the story use any dialect or foreign words?
 8. What are the *external conflicts* and the *internal conflicts* ? What is the *central conflict* ? Express the conflicts using the word versus, such as “dreams versus reality” or “the individual versus society.”
 9. Are there important *symbols* ? What might they mean?
 10. What does the *title* of the story mean?
 11. What are the *themes* of the story? Are they universal (applicable to all people everywhere at all times)? State your interpretation of the main theme. How is the theme related to your own life?
- What other literary works or experiences from life does the story make you think of?

Assignment #2 – Due September 6th, 2011

Read novel #2 and answer the previous questions in as much detail as possible.

SOPHOMORE AND JUNIOR SUMMER READING

SOPHOMORES NEED TO READ ONE BOOK:

How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accent by Julia Alvarez

Assignments due August 1st, 2011 email to laura.waterhouse@sfacademy.org.

1. You must answer questions 1-12 below AND

Write a 2-3 page typed essay including a thesis statement, clear research, an introduction, main body, conclusion, good quotes and a cites page on the following question: How do you think America treats minorities and foreigners?

JUNIORS NEED TO READ ONE BOOK:

Kindred – Octavia Butler

Assignments due August 1st, 2011 – email to ellen.manuel@sfacademy.org.

1. You must answer questions 1-12 below AND

Write two 5 paragraph typed essays (one for each of the following questions):

1)Why do you think Octavia Butler chose to write a book about time travel to discuss the history of slavery throughout the United States? and 2)What effect does Dana’s first person narrative have on the novel? Each essay must include a strong thesis statement, body paragraphs, quotes, conclusion, and cite pages.

Sophomore and Junior Summer Reading Writing Assignment

Read the novel and answer the following questions in complete sentences using as much detail as possible. The more thought you give to these questions, the easier it will be to write your research paper. If you are unfamiliar with any of these literary terms, there are many literary terms glossaries available online.

1. What is your reaction to this novel?
2. Who is the *narrator* – not the author, but the one who tells the story?
3. What is the *point of view* ?
4. What is the *setting* (time and place)? What is the *atmosphere* or *mood*?
5. How does the *plot* unfold? Write a synopsis, or summary of the events in time order, including relationships among those events.
6. What are the *characters* like? Describe their personalities and traits based on their actions, speech, habits, and so on. Who is the *protagonist* ? The *antagonist* ? Do any characters change throughout the novel? Are the changes believable? Do the characters have clear motivation for what they do?
7. How would you describe the story’s *style*, or use of language? Is the style informal or conversational? Is it formal? Does the story use any dialect or foreign words?
8. What are the *external conflicts* and the *internal conflicts* ? What is the *central conflict* ? Express the conflicts using the word versus, such as “dreams versus reality” or “the individual versus society.”
9. Are there important *symbols* ? What might they mean?
10. What does the *title* of the story mean?
11. What are the *themes* of the story? Are they universal (applicable to all people everywhere at all times)? State your interpretation of the main theme. How is the theme related to your own life?
12. What other literary works or experiences from life does the story make you think of?

SENIOR SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

The Senior Research Paper

As a St. Frances Academy graduation requirement, each senior must complete and submit a 10-page literary research paper. Each student will choose two novels from the list below and read them over the summer (the first novel by August 1st and the second by September 1st). During the first semester, students will carefully examine the literary elements of each novel and develop a unique, thesis-driven interpretation of the works. Students may choose to focus on character development, plot development, major themes, imagery, symbolism, or any other significant aspects of the work. Students will conduct library research and use secondary sources to support their argument.

As you read your novels, underline passages that are puzzling, interesting, or important to the meaning of the novel.

Your first two assignments for this paper will be due over the summer. Assignments are listed below and are also posted on Moodle under "English 401." (moodle.sfacademy.org)

Senior Research Paper Novels (select two)

Ralph Ellison – *Invisible Man*
Richard Wright – *Native Son*
Alice Walker – *The Color Purple*
Toni Morrison - *Jazz*
Ernest Gaines – *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*
Rudolfo Ayana – *Bless Me, Ultima*
Amy Tan – *The Joy Luck Club*
Yann Martel – *Life of Pi*
Laura Esquivel – *Like Water for Chocolate*
Chaim Potok – *The Chosen*

Assignment #1 – Due August 1st, 2011

Read novel #1 and answer the following questions in as much detail as possible. The more thought you give to these questions, the easier it will be to write your research paper. If you are unfamiliar with any of these literary terms, there are many literary terms glossaries available online.

1. What is your reaction to this novel?
2. Who is the *narrator* – not the author, but the one who tells the story?
3. What is the *point of view* ?
4. What is the *setting* (time and place)? What is the *atmosphere* or *mood*?
5. How does the *plot* unfold? Write a synopsis, or summary of the events in time order, including relationships among those events.
6. What are the *characters* like? Describe their personalities and traits based on their actions, speech, habits, and so on. Who is the *protagonist*? The *antagonist*? Do any characters change throughout the novel? Are the changes believable? Do the characters have clear motivation for what they do?
7. How would you describe the story's *style*, or use of language? Is the style informal or conversational? Is it formal? Does the story use any dialect or foreign words?
8. What are the *external conflicts* and the *internal conflicts* ? What is the *central conflict* ? Express the conflicts using the word versus, such as "dreams versus reality" or "the individual versus society."
9. Are there important *symbols*? What might they mean?
10. What does the *title* of the story mean?
11. What are the *themes* of the story? Are they universal (applicable to all people everywhere at all times)? State your interpretation of the main theme. How is the theme related to your own life?
What other literary works or experiences from life does the story make you think of?

Assignment #2 – Due September 1st, 2011

Read novel #2 and answer the previous questions in as much detail as possible. The more thought you give to these questions, the easier it will be to write your research paper.

You must have the following materials by the first day of school:

- A USB flash drive
- Your own personal copies of your two novel selections

A library card in YOUR name (either the Pratt library or Baltimore County Public Library)

A MESSAGE TO PARENTS ABOUT FPP HOURS

*Get a jumpstart on your 2011 -2012 FPP hours (Family Partnership Hours).
We are trying to get the following items before the start of school if possible.
Below are two opportunities to receive FPP credit.*

1) You will receive 3 FPP hours (total \$45) for every 10 ream case of copy paper (8.5x11) that you purchase and bring in. FYI-both Office Depot and Staples have 10 ream cases of copy paper. We will only accept unopened reams. No three hole paper.

2) You will receive 3 FPP hours (total \$45) for every “Teacher Care Pack” that you bring in. Each care pack must contain all of the following items and each item must be new and be good quality (such as Staples, Office Depot or Wal-mart brands).

- 4 pack dry erase markers
- Dry erase eraser
- Refillable Scotch tape desk dispenser and tape
- Desk stapler and 1 box of staples
- 2 boxes paper clips
- Post it notes
- 1 bottle Wite-out
- 1-12 pack each blue, black and red pens
- 1-12 pack pencils
- 1-4 pack highlighters
- 1 pair scissors (adult size)
- 1 canister Lysol wipes
- 1 box Kleenex

Please bring the cases of paper and/or the “Teacher Care Packs” to the Front Office and submit them to Ms. Natasha Drew for your FPP hours.

Ms. Drew is the Saint Frances Academy FPP coordinator for the 2011-2012 school year.

If you have any questions please contact Ms. Drew by either calling school at 410-539-5794 or email her at natasha.drew@sfacademy.org.

Academic Fee Agreement

Dear Saint Frances Parents/Guardians:

Once again this school year our textbook policy will be a rental policy. What this means is that all of your child's textbooks and lock will be rented from Saint Frances Academy and are the property of Saint Frances Academy. The books and lock must be returned to the school's bookstore at the end of the school year. There will be a rental fee charged for these books, but it is significantly less than the fee charged to purchase new or used textbooks. The books the students receive will be assigned a number and have a label placed inside the front cover of the book stating "Property of Saint Frances Academy." These books need to be returned in good condition by the last day of classes. If not, a fee will be assessed for books not returned or returned in poor condition. The fee will equal the amount of a new textbook. The cost of new textbooks can range anywhere from \$20.00 to \$150.00 per book. The fee for any book not returned to Saint Frances Academy along with all other financial obligations must be paid before the student can return to school the next year or any records, report cards, transcripts or diplomas can be released.

Below is a breakdown of the Academic Fee. All Academic Fees need to be paid in full by the day of your child's orientation.

2011-2012 Academic Fee

Textbook fees	\$260.00
Locker rental fee	\$5.00
Lock rental fee	\$5.00
PTA Membership fee	\$30.00
Parent planner fee	\$5.00
Student planner fee	\$5.00
Yearbook fee	\$70.00
Equipment usage	\$50.00
Student ID	<u>\$10.00</u>
Subtotal	\$440.00
Government textbook fund deduction	<u>-\$90.00</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT	\$350.00

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please call Mrs. Holub at 410-529-5794 x23.

_____(CUT ALONG LINE AND RETURN TO SCHOOL OFFICE)_____

I, _____ parent/guardian of _____ (student's name)

have read and understand the Academic Fee and Book Rental policy stated above.

_____(Parent/Guardian signature) _____ (date)

_____(Student's signature) _____ (date)

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Middle States Goal:

“Meeting Our Mark in Reading, Mathematics, and Technology!”

AUGUST 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Freshmen Institute Begins 8:30AM- 3:00PM	2 Freshmen Institute	3 Freshmen Institute	4 Freshmen Institute	5 Freshmen Institute	6
7	8 Freshmen Institute	9 Freshmen Institute	10 Freshmen Institute	11 Freshmen Institute	12 Freshmen Institute Ends Cook out and closing ceremony	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 1st and 2nd year Teacher Orientation 9am-3pm	25 1st and 2nd year Teacher Orientation 9am-3pm	26 1st and 2nd year Teacher Orientation 9am-3pm	27
28	29 Faculty Retreat 8:30-3:00	30 Business Meeting 8:30-3:00	31 Business Meeting 8:30-3:00			

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Professional Development for Teachers 9am-3pm	2 Professional Development for Teachers 9am-3pm	3
4	5 LABOR DAY HOLIDAY	6 Freshmen Orientation 9am-12pm Counseling Orientation 9am-3pm	7 Sophomore Orientation 9am-12pm Counseling Orientation 9am-3pm	8 Junior Orientation 9am-12pm Counseling Orientation 9am-3pm	9 Senior Orientation Senior Portraits 9am-2pm	10 ACT test
11 Blue	12 Mentor Day 9am-12pm ID Pictures	13 1ST FULL DAY OF CLASSES	14	15 Department and Communication Faculty meeting	16	17
18 Gold	19	20 October Newsletter Submissions due	21 Back to School Night 6pm-8pm	22 Athletics Faculty meeting	23 Opening School Liturgy 9:30am	24
25 Blue	26 Bea Gaddy Week begins	27	28 ACRES exam For Seniors Freshmen Testing	29 Council and Communication Faculty Meeting	30 College Round Robin	

COMMUNITY CENTER CALENDAR August 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Jubilarians Celebrated at the OSP Motherhouse at 11:00 AM	16	17	18	19 Nick Myles Gym 9:00 AM-5:00 PM	19 20 Nick Myles Gym 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



St. Frances Academy Varsity Tennis Schedule

Principal- *Dr. Curtis Turner* Varsity Head Coach – *TBA*

President- *Sister John Francis Schilling OSP* AD: *Nicholas L. Myles*

	Date		Opponent	Times
September	8	Thursday	@St. Timothy's	3:45p.m
	15	Thursday	Glenelg Country	3:45p.m.
	20	Tuesday	@ John Carroll	3:45p.m.
	22	Thursday	@Oldfields	3:45 p.m.
October	4	Thursday	@Friends	3:45p.m.
	11	Tuesday	@Baltimore Lutheran	3:45p.m.
	18	Tuesday	Quarter-finals	3:45p.m.
	19	Wednesday	Semi-finals	3:45p.m.
	21	Friday	2011 IAAM Tennis Championship	T.B.A

*** PLEASE NOTE ALL HOME GAMES WILL BE PLAYED AT *** **Druid Hill Park Lakeside Tennis Courts ADDRESS:**

1301 E DRIVE BALTIMORE, MD 21217

***There will be an Interest Meeting for Girls Tennis
on August 1 @ 3pm in the gym.***

All parents and students are invited to attend.

FROM THE SCHOOL BASED HEALTH SUITE

All students must have up to date immunizations to begin school. If you receive a call from the health center staff, please address this topic immediately. If you believe your student has already had the vaccinations in question, please have a copy brought or faxed to the Health Suite @ 410-528-8747. If your student has not had the immunization, please bring him/her to the health suite or to his/her clinic or doctor to get immunized as soon as possible.

Look for more information regarding seasonal flu shots, HBV vaccine (now available for males) and meningitis boosters will be available in the September issue of the newsletter.

Have a happy, healthy remainder of summer.

Health Suite Staff