



ST. FRANCES ACADEMY

FEBRUARY 2007

Saint Frances Academy
501 East Chase Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

(410) 539-5794 main office
(410) 685-2650 fax

*The theme for
 this year...*

STEPS
ANCESTRY
NEED
KNOWLEDGE
OBEDIENCE
FELLOWSHIP
A
O
S
P

Inside this issue:	
Administrative Announcements	2
Academic Calendar	3
Departmental News	4-6
Athletic Schedules Important Message	7
Community Center Calendar	8
Computer Lab Calendar	9

FELLOWSHIP

Spending time with our elders allows us to tap into a lifetime of knowledge, wisdom and experience. Let us take time out of our busy schedules and talk with our family and friends. Knowledge is power. With power we can change the world.

SPIRITUAL VITAMIN

WHAT IS GOD TELLING YOU?

What is God telling you with the problems He permits in your life? The problems you face will either defeat you or develop you depending on how you respond to them. Unfortunately most people fail to see how God wants to use problems for good in their lives. They react foolishly and resent their problems rather than pausing to consider what benefit they might bring.

HERE ARE FIVE WAYS GOD WANTS TO USE THE PROBLEMS IN YOUR LIFE:

God uses problems to DIRECT you. Sometimes God must light a fire under you to get you moving. Problems often point us in a new direction and motivate us to change. Is God trying to get your attention? "Sometimes it takes a painful situation to make us change our ways." Proverbs 20:30 (GN)

God uses problems to INSPECT you. People are like tea bags. If you want to know what's inside them, just drop them into hot water! Has God ever tested your faith with a problem? What do problems reveal about you? "When you have many kinds of troubles, you should be full of joy, because you know that these troubles test your faith, and this will give you patience." James 1:2-3 (NCV)

God uses problems to CORRECT you. Some lessons we learn only through pain and failure. It's likely that as a child your parents told you not to touch a hot stove. But you probably learned by being burned. Sometimes we only learn the value of something, if we lose it. "It was the best thing that could have happened to me, for it taught me to pay attention to your laws." Psalm 119:71-72 (LB)

God uses problems to PROTECT you. A problem can be a blessing in disguise if it prevents you from being harmed by something more serious. Last year a friend was fired for refusing to do something unethical that his boss had asked him to do. His unemployment was a problem - but it saved him from being convicted and sent to prison a year later when management's actions were eventually discovered. "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good." Genesis 50:20 (NIV)

God uses problems to PERFECT you. Problems, when responded to correctly, are character builders. God is far more interested in your character than your comfort. Your relationship to God and your character are the only two things you're going to take with you into eternity. "We can rejoice when we run into problems; they help us learn to be patient. And patience develops strength of Character in us and helps us trust God more each time we use it; until finally our hope and faith are Strong and steady." Romans 5:3-4 (LB) Here's the point: God is at work in your life-even when you do not recognize it or understand it. But it's much easier and profitable when you cooperate with Him. Print this out and read this regularly. Some of you could probably use this right now!

"YOU ARE BLESSED -- THERE'S NO NEED TO BE STRESSED!"

-Author Unknown

WE CAN, WE WILL, WE MUST!!

ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSINGS FROM SR MARCIA

God's peace to everyone! The liturgical season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 21. Lent is a time of praying, fasting and almsgiving, as we prepare for the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. How can we renew ourselves this year? Here are some suggestions:

Prayer

Spend some quiet time with the Lord daily.

Fasting

Watch less television.

Almsgiving

Use your talents for the good of others.

There are many actions you can take during the six weeks of Lent. Whatever your sacrifice, remember how the Lord sacrificed Himself for us. "I am quite confident that the one who began a good work in you will go on completing it until the day of Jesus Christ comes." (Philippians 1:6)

A MESSAGE TO PARENTS

Sunday February 18 2007 is the next date for Prayer around the Square. As usual we will meet at 3 pm in the foyer of the 1870 building. If you cannot make it please pray with us and for us at 3 pm. Thank you!

The first annual SFA Spring Clean-Up will take place on Saturday March 31, 2007. Starting at 9 am and continuing until 2 pm, there will be opportunities to help spruce up Saint Frances and the surrounding area. Here is a chance to pick up community service hours. For more information call Coach Owens at 410-539-5794 or email him at david.owens@sfacademy.org

Parent Meetings will be organized around classes this year. The schedule is as follows:

February 14 = senior parents

March 14 = junior parents

April 11 = **no meeting (Easter break)**

FROM THE BOOKSTORE

The book bill is an annual fee that must be paid. If this fee is not paid, students may not be able to receive their report card or final transcript.

All remaining balances on student book bills are now overdue. If you have a balance for your student's books, you will be receiving a letter this month. Please make payment arrangements in the main office.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Middle States Goal:

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

FEBRUARY 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2 Homecoming Day	3
4 Gold Week	5	6 Mother Lange Prayer Service Sophomore Pinning Ceremony Semester Awards 9:30 am	7	8 Council Faculty Meeting 8:00-9:15 am	9 SFA Board Meeting 12:15-2:30	10 ACT Testing
11 Blue Week	12	13	14 Senior Parent Meeting 7:00 pm Happy Valentine's Day! Center Stage Trip	15 Team Faculty Meeting 8:00-9:15 am UMBI Trip	16 NSBE Jr. Trip to the Convention Center	17
18 Gold Week	19 Presidents' Day No Classes	20 3rd Q Progress Reports due	21 Ash Wednesday Liturgy 10:00 am	22 Departmental Faculty Meeting 8:00-9:15 am	23 African American History Month Assembly	24
25 Blue Week	26	27	28			

ACADEMIC GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT NEWS



Financial Aid Workshop! Wednesday, February 14, 2007 7 p.m.

Please come to our Financial Aid workshop, held exclusively for parents of seniors, who are applying to college. Our financial aid guest will be Mr. Mark Lindenmeyer, Director of Financial Aid, Loyola College. Mark has over 30 years of experience and will guide you through the entire process. You will learn about:

- Filling out the **FAFSA On the Web** electronically (which is a lot easier to complete and you get a much quicker response)
- Grants/Loans/Work Study
- Maryland State aid
- Scholarship opportunities
- A chance to ask general college questions

You can get a head start on this process if you have access to the Internet and an email address by registering for your PIN (personal identification number). Apply for a PIN for both yourself and your student at www.pin.ed.gov. You will receive the PIN in three business days by email.

In order to apply for financial aid (FAFSA), you will need your 2006 federal tax return. If you cannot do your taxes before the workshop, still come to the workshop and bring your W-2s. Mr. Lindenmeyer will be happy to answer your questions about completing the FAFSA form.

Please RSVP to Ms. Barbosa that you will be attending this important seminar: linda.barbosa@sfacademy.org or 410-539-5794 x25.

Financial Aid 101

It is time for seniors to complete the financial aid process to receive money to go to college! Applications (FAFSA) are due on March 1, in order to be considered for Maryland State aid. It is most efficient if you and your student fill out everything online.

Financial aid is money given by the US Government and the State of Maryland to attend college. There are three types of student aid:

Grants: money that doesn't need to be repaid

Work-Study: allows you to earn money for college by working on-campus

Loans: borrowed money that you will need to pay back, at very low interest rates, after you graduate from college and begin your career.

1. If you haven't already done so with Ms. Barbosa, apply for your PIN, which is a four-digit number allowing you to electronically sign your online application. Go to www.pin.ed.gov, click on apply for PIN, and it takes 2 minutes to fill out.
2. Gather documents needed to apply, including your 2006 tax return, W-2 forms, and other records of income.
3. Once you receive your PIN, complete the worksheet and fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or the FAFSA. Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov in order to begin the process. If you haven't completed your tax forms yet, you can estimate your answers. You can go back and correct your information later. Don't forget to apply before March 1!!!! Money is on a first come, first serve basis! **DO NOT GO TO www.fafsa.com!!!!** You will have to pay!
4. The Government will then send you a SAR or a Student Aid Report. If necessary, make changes or corrections on it and resubmit your SAR for processing.
5. Make sure the financial aid offices at the schools you have been accepted to and are interested in going to have all the information to determine your eligibility.
6. Review award packages from your colleges and compare amounts and types of aid.
7. As soon as you know which school you want to attend, visit the Financial Aid department of that school. The office will assist and help you with any financial issues.

Your student should already have applied for their PIN with Ms. Barbosa. Please attend our Financial Aid Night on Wed. Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. and bring your 2006 W-2s. In mid-February, your student will fill out the FAFSA worksheet and FAFSA online with Ms. Barbosa. Please speed up this process by completing your tax returns as soon as possible. Your student will also be coming home with lots of financial aid booklets to read over to learn more about this process. And as always, feel free to call Ms. Barbosa at 410-539-5794 x25 or email her at linda.barbosa@sfacademy.org if you need assistance in the process.



SUMMER INTERNSHIPS, EXPERIENCES, & OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Spring Break HBCU College Tours, April 9-14, 2007. Fee. Visit www.hbcucolleetours.com or www.urbanyouth.org.

Sophomores and Juniors! **The University of Notre Dame's Summer Experience** (June 24- July 7) will offer you a chance to live on campus and take academic courses in acting, film, business, entrepreneurship, literature, opera and song, pre-law, policy, debate and public speaking, psychology and theology. Scholarship assistance is available for qualifying students. Applications due by March 1. <http://precollege.nd.edu>.

Princeton University's Summer Journalism Program is a 10 day all-expenses-paid program held in August on campus. You must be an entering junior or senior in the Fall, 2007, have a 3.0 GPA, and have a demonstrated interest in journalism, and a combined parent income no more than \$45,000/year. The program is intended for students who come from under-resourced financial backgrounds. The application must be postmarked by Feb. 15 and are available at www.princeton.edu/~sjp.

Otis Summer of Art- four week college prep program in animation, architecture, fashion, graphic design, illustration, drawing, digital media and photography, and painting. Visit www.otis.edu/ce.

Girl's Leadership Workshop at Val-Kill, Mrs. Roosevelt's country home and personal retreat at Hyde Park, NY, is offering an unique experience to girls entering their 10th or 11th grade year in the Fall, 2007. Girls will experience 9 days of empowerment and education on becoming the next generation of social justice leaders. Applications due on Feb. 15. Visit www.ervk.org and see Ms. Barbosa for an application.

Landmark College Summer Programs for High School students who learn differently. Landmark College is leading the way for students with learning disabilities and ADHD. The programs held this summer will prepare students for more challenging and complex levels of coursework that occur in the junior and senior year of high school. Students who attend will also be able to identify problem areas that may hinder them. This process will help them get on the right track and lay the groundwork for a successful college admission process. This program can facilitate a smooth transition to college and exploration of academic and career options. Limited scholarship and need-based grants are available. Applications can be downloaded at www.landmark.edu.

Syracuse University's Summer College for High School Students. Choose from 6 week credit bearing programs in acting, architecture, engineering and computer science, fashion and textile design, forensic science and interior and environmental design, 2-week non-credit art studios and one-week non-credit music workshops. Some partial tuition scholarships are available for credit bearing programs only. Scholarship deadline is April 15 and application deadlines are later. Visit www.summercollege.syr.edu.

John's Hopkins Bayview Medical Center's Junior Summer Volunteer Program-Would you like to examine careers in the health care field and perform community service? All prospective Junior Volunteers will be interviewed and will participate in a hospital orientation session before starting the 8-week summer program. For more information, call 410-550-0627.

Washington University in St. Louis- High School Summer Scholars Program. For students entering their senior year. Experience college life before your Freshman year. You must have a B+ average. Scholarship assistance available to students financial need. Application deadlines are May 4 and June 8. Visit www.college.wustl.edu/hssp.

The Catholic University of American is offering a Pre-College Workshop on **Experiences in Architecture**. Three-week workshop for students interested in architecture and design-related fields. Visit <http://architecture.cua.edu/experiences.cfm>.

STAR (The Science Training and Research Program) at The College of William & Mary. This is a pre-collegiate summer enrichment program for rising 11th grade students from disadvantaged backgrounds. This program will introduce students to the world of science, research and technology. All expenses for this 4-week program will be paid for, including housing, meals, textbooks, and recreation through a generous grant. The application deadline is May 9 and can be downloaded at <http://www.wm.edu/multiculturalaffairs/starprogram.php>.

American University Presents Discover the World of Communication, Summer, 2007. June 18- July 13. If you want to build a portfolio of photographs, script and shoot your own film, direct a movie or act in one, write news stories like the pros, speak publicly with confidence, create animated films, lobby for the environment, or broadcast the weather, go to www.soc.american.edu/highschool.html.

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

THERAPEUTIC COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

Support for Grandparents and Family Members Raising Teens

The St. Frances Academy Counseling department is offering counseling services to grandparents and family members raising teens. Group meetings will focus on providing spiritual support to cope with the challenges of intergenerational parenting and discussion topics such as communicating with your teen.

**Group Meetings are scheduled for: Wednesday, February 7th and February 28th
From 6:00 -7:00 PM**

In the St. Frances Academy Community Center Conference Room

Individual & Family counseling is available by appointment. This service is open to St. Frances Academy families and the surrounding community.

FROM THE HEALTH SUITE

Remember all students need to have their series of Hepatitis B vaccine completed. If you have just begun the series, please complete the series. This will insure your child being able to continue in school without interruption. If you have any questions or concerns, please see Pat Setlow, Nurse Practitioner or Ebony Hector, medical assistant in the Health Suite.

THE DEPARTMENT OF RECRUITMENT & PARENT VOLUNTEERS

SFA Class of 2011

We are in the active process of recruiting our next Freshman class at SFA.

If you know of a young lady or young man that is possibly interested in attending SFA, please forward me their contact information, and I will write to them.

Giant Register Tapes Program

www.giantfood.com/aplus

For those of us who shop at Giant: Be sure and go online and register to save the Register Tape Program at "A+ Bonus Bucks". It allows us to get needed items for our school. After you designate our school, each shopping trip at Giant using your **BonusCard** earns **CASH** for our school! Each month, the amount of **CASH** awarded will be updated on the Giant website. Our school will receive a check at the end of the program. The money can be used for any of our school's educational needs. Remember, even if you designated last year, you must re-designate this year for our school to receive credit. Attending to this simple process makes a HUGE difference to our school. We need your support. Please be sure to designate- Saint Frances Academy - using ID # 01224

Parent Volunteer Program

The Parent Volunteer Program has gotten off to a flying start! When you are able to come in and volunteer with us, you must check in at the main office and sign in. Please call me if you have any questions or just need some direction.

We have quite a large wish list at Saint Frances Academy.

NCEA Convention Comes to Baltimore

The National Catholic Educators Convention is coming to Baltimore this spring. The dates are April 10 – 13, 2007. We need volunteers to serve in various capacities and at different times during the week. We would like as many of our parents to sign up as possible! This would satisfy your ten (10) hours if completed during this week.

Please contact Coach Owens Immediately to sign up! There are only so many slots available. (443) 310-0795 or david.owens@sfacademy.org

Coach David Owens

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

ATHLETIC SCHEDULES

GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY	2	FRI	ST. PAUL'S	5:30 PM
	7	WED	@MCDONOGH	6:00 PM
	9	FRI	@NOTRE DAME ACADEMY(VA)	6:30 PM
	12-17	MON-SAT	IAAM TOURNAMENT @VILLA JULIE COLLEGE	TBA

GIRLS JV BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY	1	THU	ST. PAUL'S	4:00 PM
	7	WED	@MCDONOGH	4:15 PM

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY	2	FRI	CALVERT HALL	7:30 PM
	4	SUN	@SPALDING	3:30 PM
	7	WED	@CENTRAL	7:15 PM
	9	FRI	@ CARDINAL GIBBONS	7:00 PM
	11	SUN	@MCDONOGH	3:30 PM
	16-23	FRI-	MIAA TOURNAMENT	TBA
	25-28	SAT-TUE	BCL TOURNAMENT	TBA

BOYS JV BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY	2	FRI	CALVERT HALL	4:00 PM
	4	SUN	@SPALDING	1:45 PM
	7	WED	@CENTRAL	5:30 PM
	9	FRI	@GIBBONS	5:15 PM
	11	SUN	@MCDONOGH	1:45 PM
	14-27	TUE-MON	MIAA/BCL TOURNAMENT	TBA

An Appeal for St. Frances Academy Staff Member, Ebony Hector's Cousins

In late January, Ebony Hector, Health Assistant in the school's Health Suite, lost her cousin, Banita Madden, to unspeakably tragic circumstances. She leaves to mourn, among the rest of her family and friends, three children: a girl, Nastjah Madden (age 8) and two boys: Troy Pendleton (5) and Danon Sampson (15 months), who were unfortunate witnesses to the tragedy. They will live with their great grandmother, Ruth Turner. Ms. Turner is Ebony's grandmother.

Mayor Sheila Dixon's office has been very kind and supportive of the family. Her staff is helping Ms. Turner locate suitable housing. They helped with funeral arrangements and Mayor Dixon attended the funeral.

The children are in dire need of clothing and other personal effects. If any one wishes to make a clothing or cash donation to support these three children now without parents, please contact St. Frances Academy, 501 E. Chase Street, Baltimore, MD. 21202. The phone number here is 410-539-5794.

Please help.

COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS

FEBRUARY 2007

S U N	M O N	T U E	W E D	T H U	F R I	S A T
				1 Peg Prentice MPR 8am-3pm Girls JV Bball vs. St. Paul's 4:00 pm	2 Homecoming Day at SFA! Girls V Bball 5:30 pm Vs. St. Paul's Boys V Bball 7:30 PM vs. Calvert Hall Boys JV Bball	3 Ernestine Bogues MPR 2:00-7:30 pm Birthday party
4	5	6	7 Grandparents Conf Rm D. Shannon 6-7 pm	8	9 SFA Board MPR 8:30 am- 3:30 pm	10 Akeesha Kelly ??? Birth- day party 3-7 pm MPR
11	12	13	14 Caroline Center KIT 8:00-1:00 pm Food service SFA Parents Meeting MPR 7:00 pm	15 Caroline Center KIT 8:00 am-1:00 pm Food ser- vice	16 Loyola College MPR AM set up 1:00-4:00 PM use. Nealis	17 Cierra Jones ??? Baby shower 3:00-7:30 pm
18	19	20	21 Caroline Center KIT 8:00 am-1:00 pm Food Service Ash Wednes- day Liturgy Gym 10 am	22 Caroline Center KIT 8:00 am-1:00 pm Food service	23 Caroline Center KIT 8:00 am-1:00 pm Food ser- vice	24
25	26	27 Caroline Center KIT 8:00 am-1:00 pm Food ser- vice	28 Caroline Center KIT 8:00 am-1:00 pm Food ser- vice Grandparents Conf Rm 6-7 pm			

COMPUTER LAB CALENDAR



Computer
Lab

February 2007

S U N	M O N	T U E	W E D	T H U	F R I	S A T
				1 Closed	2 Closed	3 No School
4 No School	5 Study Hall Open Lab	6 Closed	7 Study Hall Open Lab	8 J.A Club Open Lab	9 Closed	10 No School
11 No School	12 Study Hall Open Lab	13 Closed	14 Study Hall Open Lab	15 J.A Club Open Lab	16 Closed	17 No School
18 No School	19 Study Hall Open Lab	20 Closed	21 Study Hall Open Lab	22 J.A Club Open Lab	23 Closed	24 No School
25 No School	26 Study Hall Open Lab	27 Closed	28 Study Hall Open Lab			

Stay in school !
Do your best !
Love one another!

J.A Club 3 pm-4 pm
Monday & Wednesday

Study Hall 3 pm-4 pm
Monday & Wednesday

Open Lab 3 pm-5 pm
Monday, Wednesday,
and Thursday

Lab Closed Tuesday and
Friday

Mr. Seaton Rm-255
Email: Philipseaton@yahoo.com

Second email
Philip.seaton@sacademy.org