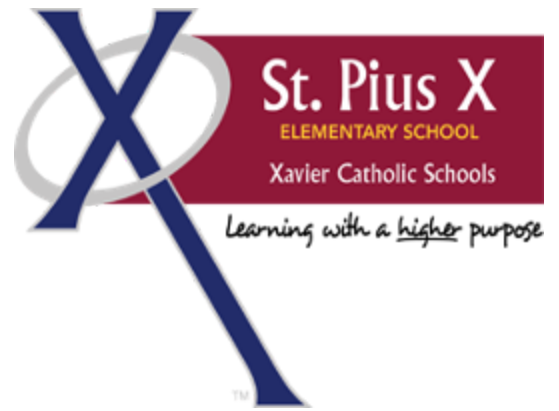


# Panther Weekly News

October 16, 2020



## Upcoming Events

- Friday, October 23rd - Casual Day
- Monday, October 26th - Thursday, October 29th - Conferences
- Friday, October 30th - NO SCHOOL

## Conferences

Conferences will be held the week of October 26th - 29th. All conferences will be held virtually. An email was sent Thursday with login information - Conference sign-up will begin at 4pm on Friday, October 16th.

## Halloween

This year for Halloween we will be doing something a little different. Students will be allowed to wear a Halloween shirt to school on Thursday, October 29th (with dress code pants). Because it is also a Mass day, the 1st and 4th grade students who will be attending Mass in person will wear normal dress code clothes to Mass and then change shirts afterwards.

A parade and costume day were considered, but the logistics of getting 320 students changed while socially distanced being a challenge, we are celebrating with classroom parties in the afternoon. The homeroom teachers will send out specific information for their classrooms. We know that this is not an ideal situation for families but we feel as though we are working to still celebrate Halloween while also keeping students safe.

## Spirit Wear

There are several opportunities to order approved spirit wear:

[PS Adfinity](#) - St. Pius X webstore - order window closes Friday, October 23rd at midnight & items will be delivered to school within 3-4 weeks

[Saints Shop](#) - Xavier online store - order deadline is Friday, October 23rd at noon & items will be delivered to school within 3-4 weeks

[Grandparent's Store](#) - a special webstore setup for Xavier Grandparent's apparel - order deadline is Friday, October 30th at noon - items will be delivered to school within 3-4 weeks & would make great Christmas gifts!

## New Website & Social Media

Our new school website will be going live next week!

Follow St. Pius X Elementary on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/SPXSchoolCR>

And, find us on Instagram - [St. Pius X Elementary Instagram](#)

## Reminders

### **Absences / Illness / Appointments**

For all attendance related items (illness, appointments, picking up early or dropping off late), please email [attendance@stpiusxschoolcr.com](mailto:attendance@stpiusxschoolcr.com) & your classroom teacher. In the case of illness, please copy the nurse [tboston@stpiusxschoolcr.com](mailto:tboston@stpiusxschoolcr.com)

### **Email Distribution Lists**

The school uses email to regularly communicate important news & information to parents / guardians. Please make sure the following email addresses are added to your contacts or safe senders.

[newsletter@stpiusxschoolcr.com](mailto:newsletter@stpiusxschoolcr.com)

[attendance@stpiusxschoolcr.com](mailto:attendance@stpiusxschoolcr.com)

[gdavid@stpiusxschoolcr.com](mailto:g david@stpiusxschoolcr.com)

Your student(s) homeroom teacher email

### **Health Reminders**

Just a reminder that if a student has one high-risk or two low-risk symptoms, they must either self-isolate for 10 days or get a negative COVID-19 test result or alternative diagnosis per the chart we must follow.

Documentation must be forwarded to the school in order to return. If you have questions of when to stay home, please reference our [XCS quick reference chart](#) - email [attendance@stpiusxschoolcr.com](mailto:attendance@stpiusxschoolcr.com) with any questions.

### **Library News**

We are happy to announce the library is officially open! Our check out process will be a bit different this year and students will check out books through our online [Destiny](#) website or by a book menu. All students have access to Destiny to search for books, put books on hold, and get information about their current holds or checkouts. See the information below for account information. **Happy reading!**

[Destiny](#) Login:

Username: first letter of first name + last name + pius grad year (ex. esmith21)

Password: pius

### **Technology - Online Learning**

Need an additional resource to learn about your child's Google Classroom or Seesaw? Take a look at the [Family Technology Resource](#) page. Bookmark this page for easy access. Information will be updated and added throughout the school year.

### **5th Grade Band**

Please click [HERE](#) for an update regarding 5th grade band for this school year.

### **STO Information**

**What is STO?** Click [HERE](#) for more information!

**65% Tax Credit Too Good to be True?** Not at all. If you file an Iowa Income Tax Return, your contributions to the *Our Faith School Tuition Organization* (STO) receive a 65% tax credit. That means for every \$1000 you donate, you receive an Iowa income tax credit, not a deduction, of \$650, which would lower your Iowa tax bill by \$650. In addition, your gift may qualify for federal deductibility. And that gift you made? It's going to provide \$1000 in need-based assistance to families in the Archdiocese of Dubuque. And your out of pocket cost for that gift? No more than \$350 and will be less if you itemize and are able to take the federal charitable gift deduction! It really is that simple. Visit [www.ourfaithsto.org](http://www.ourfaithsto.org) or call the Archdiocese of Dubuque at 800-876-3546 ext. 219 to learn more.

### **Lunch Menu & Accounts**

Click [here](#) for the October Menu

### **SCRIP News**

### [Cash & Carry Order Form](#)

**SCRIP Important Dates** - These dates are subject to change

Monday Orders - due no later than 10am and sent home on Thursday of the same week with your Pius student.

11/09, 11/30, 12/07, 12/14

Cash and Carry Dates - Orders are due by noon & will go home with your Pius student.

10/29, 11/12, 12/03, 12/10, 12/17

### **Bussing Reimbursement**

Reimbursement is given from the public system to parents who do not have busing available to them and live outside the 2 mile boundary. **For this school year, that includes all students living outside the 2 mile boundary due to no bussing available for any students.** First semester forms for the area school districts are due December 1<sup>st</sup>. Click the district in which you live to find the form you need to submit. Cedar Rapids school district forms need to be turned in to the St. Pius X office. Linn-Mar forms need to be signed by Mr. O'Donnell before it is sent to Linn-Mar.

[Cedar Rapids](#)

[College Community](#)

[Linn-Mar](#)

[Springville](#)

[Marion Independent](#)

### **PTO News**

#### **Hy-Vee Cash for Students**

Save your Hy-Vee receipts to earn money for St. Pius! \$1 will be earned for every \$200 collected in receipts.

Receipts can be turned in to the school office at any time. Qualifying Cedar Rapids and Marion Hy-Vee receipts include:

- Grocery
- Catering
- Pharmacy
- Fuel
- Hy-Vee Starbucks & Caribou
- Wine & Spirits

#### **Box tops for Education**

Earn cash for St. Pius simply by scanning your grocery receipts! It's simple, no more clipping! Just download the All-New Box top app and scan your receipts to find participating products. School earnings are instantly added online. Download the app from the Apple store, or get it on Google Play. Use Referral Code NBVP2IVE when signing up. Note: Receipts must be redeemed within 14 days of purchase.

### **Activities for St. Pius X Students**

#### **Saints Baseball - Registration for the 2021 Season is Underway**

Saints Baseball is the youth feeder organization for the Xavier Saints. The Saints Baseball program offers the opportunity to play on either competitive or recreational baseball teams in a fun/Catholic environment. Our program has our own baseball fields and also offers an indoor practice facility.

Registration for the 2021 Saints Baseball season is underway and teams are filling up quickly.

- 7U - Coach Pitch for Pre-K, K and 1st graders
- 8U - 2nd grade
- 9U - 3rd grade
- 10U - 4th grade
- 11U - 5th grade
- 12U - 6th Grade
- 13U - 7th Grade
- 14U - 8th Grade

To register:

Go to: <https://active.leagueone.com/Olr/Pages/Welcome.aspx?ClubId=16152>

If you have registered with us before, you can use the same login and password as last year - If you have not registered with us in the past or if you've forgotten your registration information, please click on Create Account. Questions, please email [saintsbasketball2013@gmail.com](mailto:saintsbasketball2013@gmail.com)

### **News from Xavier**

#### **Xavier Booster Club**

Join the Xavier Booster Club Today! 100% of dollars go to fund over 40+ Student Activities & Athletics. Each year XBC allocates over \$75,000 to Xavier programs. Over 130+ Saints Families, Friends and Businesses have already signed up. Learn more here <https://xaviorsaints.org/xbc>

### **St. Pius X / St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Community News**

**THANK YOU** to all who donated at the blood drive on Saturday, October 10th. We had 45 donations and 3 first time donors! Since we had more than 20 donors, we also qualified for a Life\$avings School Grant. St Pius X School will receive a \$295 Walmart gift card to purchase school supplies. Planning for the next year will begin soon; please mark your calendar early for our next drive at SEAS on February 9, 2021.

**\*\*The Panther Weekly news is a weekly email sent (usually on Fridays) to parents & other supporters of St. Pius X Elementary to keep you up to date with school & community news. If you would like to be removed from this email distribution list, please reply to this email to let us know.\*\***