



Panther Weekly News November 12, 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

- November 15th - PTO Meeting
- November 19th - Casual Day

HEALTH UPDATE

Covid Recommendations

As we continue to see Covid cases in our school community, it is important to share with families the recommendations given by our local health department as well as our school/church. The Archdiocese of Dubuque and St. Pius X Elementary strongly encourage mask wearing; it is one of the layered prevention strategies to keep our students healthy. It is also supported by the CDC and local health departments. Archbishop Jackels has consistently urged all to wear masks and has included this message in almost every weekly homily that is posted on the Archdiocesan website.

In addition to highly encouraging masks at school, additional mitigation strategies which align with CDC guidance have been put in place. These include: physical distancing, hand washing, increased cleaning and disinfection, enhanced ventilation, monitoring/adjusting visitors in the school, classroom cohorts/grouping, and COVID tracking and communication to parents.

How families can help:

1. If your child has a household exposure, we **HIGHLY** encourage quarantining your child 10-14 days, or until a negative test is received on/after day 5.
2. If your child has a known close contact exposure at school or in outside activities, we **HIGHLY** encourage quarantining your child 10-14 days, or until a negative test is received on/after day 5. At a minimum, we encourage known exposures to wear a mask.
3. If your child has a known close contact exposure and is experiencing symptoms, please do not send them to school. Upon evaluation by our school nurse, if a student has symptoms and is known to be a close contact, they will be sent home.

The school & our families need to work together to prevent the spread of covid. Thank you for your help.

Mask Donations

While we cannot require students to wear masks, we highly encourage staff & students to wear one at school. We have been handing out many, many masks to students on a daily basis. **Donations of disposable masks (especially child size) would be greatly appreciated!**

COVID-19 Vaccine approved for ages 5-11 years

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized the emergency use of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine to include children 5 through 11 years of age. Click for [FDA](#) and [CDC](#) guidance regarding use of the COVID-19 vaccine in this age group.

REMINDERS

Absences / Illness / Appointments

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

Morning Arrival

Please review our morning arrival procedures [HERE](#). Please help us make this process move as smoothly as possible.

SCHOOL PICTURES

School pictures should have come home with students earlier this week. If you didn't order ahead of time, there is a website & code on a flier that you can enter to place your order now.

If your student needs a re-take or was not in school on picture day, there is a **re-take day scheduled for Tuesday, December 7th.**

PIUS PRIDE

SAVE THE DATE! - Saturday, February 5th, 2022

Pius Pride is back! We are excited to invite you all to Pius Pride 2022! Pius Pride is our school's annual live and silent auction event. This evening is a great way to mingle with old friends, meet new families, and enjoy an adult night out! You can look forward to heavy hors d'oeuvres, signature drinks, and a silent auction followed by the always entertaining live auction. The festivities will continue into the night with music and fun.

This event is not possible without the help of many volunteers - if you are interested in helping out, check out the sign-up! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A054FA8A92BA4F94-pius>

Please email piuspride@stpiusxschoolcr.com with any questions!

SUPPORT ST. PIUS X SCHOOL

Support St. Pius X while you Shop! You can make an impact while you shop at Amazon!

Simply shop at smile.amazon.com/ch/42-1505488

and AmazonSmile will donate to St Pius X St Elizabeth Ann Seton Board of Education, at no cost to you.

AmazonSmile can be used through the Amazon app too!

PTO NEWS

November PTO Meeting - Monday, November 15th - 7pm

Due to current illness levels, the meeting will take place via Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87958632074?pwd=ZmpoalZSVEJXYmlldWFrc3k1alM5QT09>

Follett Book Fair

Book fair books were sent home today! Thanks for your support.

SCRIP NEWS

Monday Order Dates - Order before 10am:

November 15th and 29th, December 6th and 13th, January 10th and 24th, February 7th and 21st, March 7th and 28th, April 11th and 25th, May 9th and 23rd

Cash and Carry Dates - 8:15am-9:00am:

November 19th, December 3rd, 10th and 17th, January 14th and 28th, February 11th and 25th, March 11th, April 1st, 15th and 29th, May 13th and 27th

TRANSPORTATION REIMBURSEMENT

First semester non-public transportation reimbursement forms for the area school districts are **due December 1st**. Click the district in which you live to find the form you need to submit. Remember Cedar Rapids school district forms need to be turned into the school office. Linn Mar forms need the signature of the principal. If you have any questions, please let us know. There are two submissions for the year (the second will be due May 1, 2022). You will be paid after the second submission for the full year.

[Cedar Rapids](#)

[Linn-Mar](#)

[Marion](#)

[College Community](#)

ACTIVITIES FOR ST. PIUS X STUDENTS

Is your child looking for a challenge? Invent Iowa is an extracurricular opportunity open to students at St. Pius X School. The program operates through the Belin Blank Center for Gifted Education at the University of Iowa. Students create their inventions at home and have check-ins with our school counselor leading up to their presentations. In the past, we have had several students place in the top 3 at the state level. Registration doesn't open until January, but students can get started creating their inventions now. Please email our school counselor at njacoby@stpiusxschoolcr.com if your child is interested in participating.

For more information: <https://belinblank.education.uiowa.edu/students/inventiowa/#how-to-participate>

****The Panther Weekly news is a weekly email sent 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 added or removed from this email distribution list, please reply to this email to let us know.****