



February 2018

"We may encounter many defeats but we must not be defeated. It may even be necessary to encounter the defeat, so that we can know who we are. So that we can see, oh, that happened, and I rose. I did get knocked down flat in front of the whole world, and I rose. I didn't run away – I rose right where I'd been knocked down. And then that's how you get to know yourself. You say, hmm, I can get up! I have enough of life in me to make somebody jealous enough to want to knock me down. I have so much courage in me that I have the effrontery, the incredible gall to stand up. That's it."

-Maya Angelou

From the desk of Mr. McLaughlin:

As I stated in my letter of February 16th to all SFP families, we are all saddened by the tragic events at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. We continue pray for all those in that school community at this most difficult time. Out of this tragedy, we now see our young people across the country rise up and confront our law makers regarding policies that would keep all schools safe. All of us in the SFP community join in one voice to proclaim that we need to be instruments of peace, not destruction; to care for God's creation; to live lovingly, not through a lens of hate; and to always proclaim joy and hope. At SFP our first priority is to keep our students, faculty, and staff safe at all times and live by our Franciscan values and mission. We have developed a school-wide comprehensive safety plan in collaboration with our school administration, security personnel, and the NYPD. Our plans include area surveillance, evacuation procedures, and shelter-in and lock-down protocols depending on the situation. The administrative team is constantly examining our safety and security needs to provide the most secure environment for everyone in our school community. All doors in the school are locked and are under constant surveillance; our students have been informed never to open such doors for outsiders. Everyone knows to contact the school if they learn about a concern on social media or through conversation. Working together will help ensure and maintain a positive and secure learning environment for all.

The month of February was a busy one, albeit one of the shortest months of the school year, because of the mid-winter recess. It was highlighted by receiving notification from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation that John Sullivan, Cor 416, is a Finalist in the 2018 competition for a National Merit Scholarship. As we reach the mid-point of our 3rd marking period, I encourage all of our students to remain focused and continue to work hard as we move into our second semester. Let the Maya Angelou quote above help us on our journey, realizing that our academic life will bring with it some peaks and valleys, but we must always RISE UP!

We also mourn the loss our SFP legendary Varsity basketball Coach Tim Leary. He coached at the Prep for 43 years starting at North 6th Street in Brooklyn. Please read the story from the Tablet that tells of his amazing coaching career. <https://thetablet.org/leary-left-lasting-legacy-at-st-francis/>

Mr. McLaughlin



From the desk of Mr. Castellano

JUNE REGENTS EXAMS

Students are automatically registered for Regents exam associated with all courses they take at St. Francis Prep. For many classes, the Regents exam serves as the final exam for the course; the Regents exam grade can count for as much as 10% of the student's final grade. Regents exam grades appear on the transcripts of students. It is important for students to prepare well for these exams and to do their best. All teachers will do Regents exam review in class, and many teachers offer extra review classes after school. Please encourage your child to take advantage of all these review opportunities.

Some students may have missed or not passed a Regents exam from past years. Students who are missing any of the required Regents exams (Algebra 1, Biology or Earth Science, Global History, U.S. History, and English) will automatically be enrolled for the appropriate June Regents exam.

Students who wish to re-take any of the other Regents exams must see Mr. Castellano by Thursday, 8 March, in order to register for an exam. St. Francis Prep allows students to re-take an exam if the student failed it; students may not re-take an exam they passed in order to raise their score. Parents and guardians with questions about Regents exam matters may call their child's guidance counselor or Mr. Castellano at ext. 209.

From the desk of Ms. Coccia:

On Thursday, February 8, 2018, 3 members of the NYPD presented information to Ms. Turner's and Ms. Vandersmosten's Health classes. P.O. David Delvillar, P.O. Gina Hernandez, and Sgt. Donald Stewart from the 107th Precinct shared important reminders with the students regarding warning signs of unhealthy relationships and safety reminders about communicating on-line and texting. The Officers also presented resources available if students have any concerns for themselves or friends.

The students responded to this presentation with thoughtful insight and interest. Dating can be a difficult time in a young person's life. We often think of domestic violence and abuse as limited to "others" and "older" people, but it is also important to understand and recognize what is healthy and unhealthy in all relationships in all age groups.

The presentation was informative and provided real resources; it also demonstrated to the students how the NYPD helps those in the community and is a source to go to when students are unsure of a situation and want to seek assistance. We are grateful for the continued positive relationship SFP has with the local Police precincts and officers.



From the Desk of Brother Lawrence Boyle, OSF, Registrar

NON-RESIDENTS OF NEW YORK CITY TRANSPORTATION REQUESTS

Parents of students who reside outside the City of New York are reminded that transportation requests for the School Year 2018-2019 are due in district offices usually on March 31st. Districts may have different dates this year due to the observance of Easter (April 1), Passover (March 31), and Spring Recess. If your district provides any sort of transportation and you have not heard from them regarding the next school year, please contact them.

CAMPUS MINISTRY





Pictured left to right, SFP volunteers: Kirsten Corwin, Rob Johnston, Mark Tiezzi, Shubin Gong, Shawn Sempowich, Marisa Inglese, Victoria Donato, Brianna Sheridan, Caitlyn DeProssino, Angela Castranova, Elise Sementilli, Gabby Espinal-Santiago, and Johnny Sullivan.

Saint Francis Prep is grateful for the members of the 2018 Franciscan Volunteer Program, Long Island team (pictured). Franciscan Immersion Experiences are extended service trips that bring students to different parts of the world to learn more about poverty, justice, service, community, and faith. For many years, students from Franciscan high schools have been gathering as an alternative to the traditional February break to serve the poor and vulnerable of our communities. Students participate in a service-learning experience designed to confront issues which divide our community -- poverty, race, class, hunger, and homelessness – in a safe, prayerful, and constructive environment.

This year the program was hosted by Saint Anthony's High School in South Huntington, New York. SFP students and St. Anthony's students were joined by student volunteers from Notre Dame Regional High School in Cape Girardeau, MO. Each school sent 10 Students and at least 2 faculty chaperones. It is a great testament to each member of the team that he or she committed to a week of direct service to those people marginalized in our community.

Our students worked with The Huntington Youth and Family Services League, The INN (Interfaith Nutrition Network in Hempstead), St. Joseph's Home for the Aged in Huntington, and the Bishop Ryan Outreach in Wyandanch. The group also participated in a Midnight Run, sponsored by SFP with the help of MidnighRun.org, an organization that connects groups of volunteers with the homeless community of Manhattan. Students took time to pray and reflect about their experience; they even found a little time to sing, play games, and celebrate together. The experience was capped by a trip on the Staten Island Ferry, mass at St. Francis of Assisi Church, and sightseeing in and around Bryant Park.

Our team members this year brought diverse experiences and insights to the program. The work that they accomplished alongside two other Franciscan high schools was absolutely incredible. Special thanks are in order for the programs chaperones, Mr. Rob Johnston, Ms. Kirsten Corwin, and Mr. Shawn Sempowich, and to our chaplain, Fr. Ralph Edel, who came to St. Anthony's to celebrate mass for our volunteers, and Dr. Christian Sullivan who came out to help prepare for the Midnight Run.

There are two more Franciscan Immersion Experiences occurring this year. The first is at the end of April in Camden, New Jersey. The second will see our SFP students travelling to Lima, Peru, to minister to the sick children of the Hogar San Francisco De Asis. More information about both of these experiences can be found on the Campus Ministry web-page. Sign-ups are happening now. Please contact Mr. Sempowich in the Campus Ministry Office with any questions or concerns.



Volunteers from St. Francis Prep, St. Anthony's, and Notre Dame Regional School.

Science Research

This January, a number of seniors in the Science Research Program were recognized for their outstanding research. All 17 seniors in the program completed their own novel research projects in a field of their choice. The seniors have entered into three major competitions thus far: The Regeneron Science Talent Search (STS), The Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (JSHS), and New York City Science and Engineering Fair (NYCSEF). Patrick McArdle and Gabriella Varvarigos received Research Report badges from Regeneron STS, Christina Lino received an Initiative Badge, and Anthony Abicca, Nikki Chati, and Kayla Keenan received both Research Report and Initiative Badges. JSHS invited Anthony Abicca, Christina Lino, Patrick McArdle, and Samantha Nierer to present their findings as semi-finalists on Sunday, February 4th. Hiuyu Au, Nikki Chati, Havilland Firoz, Clare Iriarte, Kayla Keenan, Daniela Mastronardi, Patrick McArdle, Samantha Nierer, Lauren Secilmis, and Rachel Zhang will be attending the semi-finalist round at NYCSEF on March 3rd. We are so proud of everything they have accomplished thus far and wish them all the best as they continue on to further rounds of competition!

Music Department

The Music department at St. Francis Preparatory School is inarguably woven into the fabric of life at Prep and beyond!



In late January, Prep's Jazz Band and Chamber Orchestra performed for Accepted Students Night, providing a strong representation of the department's performance prowess. Late January also saw our students in our beginning string, band, and percussion classes, String Orchestra, and Junior Band perform in our "Concert for Beginning Students." This event gave our younger students the forum to shine in their own concert.

January also saw our outreach program at P.S. 115 begin its 6th year. P.S. 115 students have the opportunity to study band, percussion, and string instruments with Prep teachers and alumni, and each student will perform two concerts in the spring, including at Prep's Spring Concerts. On January 27th, our Chamber Orchestra travelled "home" to St. Francis College to perform for the inauguration of Dr. Miguel Martinez-Saenz as the 19th President in the College's 160-year history. Students earned rave reviews from college staff and invited guests, including numerous other college presidents.



February 3rd saw the beginning of Prep's partnership with the Paul Effman Music Service, as PEMS held a rehearsal for nearly 300 5th- to 8th-graders at Prep. Prep will host the PEMS Honor Bands for numerous rehearsals, and their performance on March 24th in the Brother Ralph Clifford, O.S.F. Memorial Auditorium. Then, on February 7th, our Chamber Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Robert Johnston and student teacher Mr. Matthew Masiello, was again front and center as they performed for Prep's National Honor Society Induction Ceremony. The Chamber Orchestra has performed at this event since the late 1990's.

On Saturday, February 17th, Dr. Robert Corbino and Mr. Robert Johnston were presenters at the 2018 Biennial NAfME-Collegiate/NYSSMA conference. The conference is an event where students studying music education from all over New York come together under one roof to learn more about the field they are entering. With a variety of sessions and exhibitors, students will leave with an abundance of materials and inspiration. This conference also allows students to network with each other and share ideas. This year's conference took place at the Aaron Copland School of Music, located in Queens College, the City University of New York. Dr. Corbino's and Mr. Johnston's session was entitled "Beyond the edTPA: A 'baker's dozen' worth of tips for the new teacher" and was presented to a full room of aspiring Music educators.

Model UN

The St. Francis Prep Model United Nations Team attended a conference at Connetquot High School which was attended by 200 delegates from 10 different high schools. Our delegation did an excellent job resolving issues in their committees. We sent a delegation of 19. In particular, we would like to recognize the following students: Thanasi Dilos, Cor 204, who earned Honorable Mention as Germany; Kayla Keenan, Cor 409, who earned Best Delegate as North Korea in the Security Council; Joanne Gotanco, Cor 307, earned Best Delegate as Spain in the European Union; and Abigail Bossa, Cor 302, earned Best Delegate as Egypt in the World Health Organization.



Speech and Debate

Congratulations to the SFP Debate and Congress Teams for their victories this weekend at the Maurice Braithwaite Tournament of the Brooklyn Queens Catholic Forensic League Speech and Debate competition! Out of approximately forty students, senior Josh Persad won the 3rd place trophy, and fellow senior Isabel Casares won the first place trophy in the Student Congress competition.

Seniors Havilland Firoz and Rachel Luscher won 3rd place in the Intermediate Public Forum debate competition out of an even larger group of students, and Juniors Nyla Firoz and Yuri Seo won 5th place trophies in the very same competition. Mr. Kennedy reported, "We could not have been prouder of our students, who represented us magnificently – even more so as their victories came at the tournament hosted by St. Francis Prep itself. It was a wonderful day."



Art Department

Scholastic Art and Writing Awards: New York City Regional Exhibition

We are thrilled to announce that students from the SFP Art Department are once again winners in the National Scholastic Arts and Writing Awards. Students from across the nation submitted 255,000 works of art and writing to the Scholastic Art Competition. Winners are recognized at the regional level and celebrated in exhibitions and ceremonies at The New School and The Metropolitan Museum of art. This year, our winners are the following students:



Winning a Gold Key Award from Scholastic Arts and Writing is an impressive achievement – not only because of all the New York City teens who entered, their work was recognized as some of the strongest, but also because they will have their art work exhibited in one of the most famous locations: the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Presented by the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers, the Scholastic Awards are the longest-running and most prestigious recognition program for creative teens in the United States. Their art work and the work of more than 600 works of art and writing will be exhibited from March 23rd to May 28th in the Ruth and Harold D. Uris Center for Education. Many other students, ranging from sophomores to seniors, from the Art Department also entered the competition and received Silver Keys and Honorable Mentions. The Art Department is extremely proud of all those who entered and their accomplishments!

Scholastic Art and Writing Awards –

Gold key winners

- Mariana Papadopoulos Gold Key - Ceramics and Glass, Deep Blue
- Elise Sementilli Gold Key - Digital Art, A Reflection on School
- Victoria Reshetnikov Gold Key – Painting, Delicate Conversation
- Janine Sahagun Gold Key - Drawing and Illustration, Confusion
- Viviana Torres Gold Key – Painting, Veins
- Aedan Wojciech Gold Key - Photography Recreation of "Invasion of Prague"





Scholastic Art and Writing Awards

SFP WINNERS Alphabetically

- Alexia Albano: Honorable Mention - Drawing and Illustration, Spill Of Emotions
- Alexia Albano: Honorable Mention - Drawing and Illustration, In My Feelings
- Jordan Ban: Honorable Mention - Photography, Blurryface
- Gavril Brown: Silver Key - Photography, Words
- Gavril Brown: Silver Key - Digital Art, Angel's Breath
- Jinghong Chen: Honorable Mention - Drawing and Illustration, Mountain, Ocean, and Mind
- Mofan Chen: Honorable Mention - Digital Art, One World Trade Center #4
- Mofan Chen: Honorable Mention - Architecture and Industrial Design, Wood Castle
- Mofan Chen: Silver Key - Film and Animation, Citedale
- Victoria DeVine: Silver Key - Digital Art, Poison Ivy
- Justin DiMaggio: Honorable Mention - Digital Art, Bleed Through
- Justin DiMaggio: Honorable Mention - Digital Art, Shotaro
- Justin DiMaggio: Honorable Mention - Digital Art, Reaper Self Portrait
- Justin DiMaggio: Silver Key - Architecture and Industrial Design, Video Game Lounge Concept
- Brenna DiTommaso: Honorable Mention - Photography, Happy Place
- Alanah Durant: Silver Key - Drawing and Illustration, Stress
- Briana Golden: Honorable Mention - Photography, Strangled
- Briana Golden: Silver Key - Photography, Rebirth
- Briana Golden: Silver Key - Photography, Contrast
- Briana Golden: Silver Key - Photography, Burning Out
- Briana Golden: Silver Key - Photography, Tied Up
- Briana Golden: Silver Key - Photography, The Shadow
- Briana Golden: Silver Key - Photography, Recorded
- Briana Golden: Silver Key - Digital Art, Clarity
- Laima Kezys: Honorable Mention - Drawing and Illustration, BLEGH
- Laima Kezys: Honorable Mention - Drawing and Illustration, Loquacious
- Yejin Kim: Honorable Mention - Drawing and Illustration, Crying Children
- Emma Klagsbrun: Honorable Mention - Photography, Free To Be
- Emma Klagsbrun: Silver Key - Photography, Darkness Consumes
- Catherine Krahm: Silver Key - Architecture and Industrial Design, Howl's Diner
- Alexis Lodico: Honorable Mention - Ceramics and Glass, Decomposing Flower
- Rikamarie Lourdes Mantaring: Honorable Mention - Drawing and Illustration, Lost in the Light
- Rikamarie Lourdes Mantaring: Honorable Mention - Drawing and Illustration, The Void
- Rikamarie Lourdes Mantaring: Silver Key Painting, The woman of the Jungle
- Rikamarie Lourdes Mantaring: Silver Key - Drawing and Illustration, No Looking Back
- Mark Milian: Honorable Mention - Digital Art Capture Life, Before It Passes You By
- Fernando Ng: Silver Key - Digital Art, Moon Cake
- Zhamia Nunez-Simon: Honorable Mention - Drawing and Illustration, Where Do I Start ?
- Hannah O'Connell: Honorable Mention - Mixed Media, Wings



Principal's Newsletter

- Hannah O'Connell: Silver Key - Painting, Field of Flowers
- Mariana Papadopoulos: Gold Key - Ceramics and Glass, Deep Blue
- Mariana Papadopoulos: Honorable Mention - Painting, Yiaya Mou
- Mariana Papadopoulos: Honorable Mention - Painting, From Astoria
- Olivia Perez-Fung: Silver Key - Painting, Drippy
- Victoria Reshetnikov: Gold Key - Painting, Delicate Conversation
- Janine Sahagun: Gold Key - Drawing and Illustration, Confusion
- Janine Sahagun: Honorable Mention - Drawing and Illustration, Holiday Reflections
- Elise Sementilli: Gold Key - Digital Art, A Reflection on School
- Viviana Torres: Gold Key - Painting, Veins
- Viviana Torres: Honorable Mention - Drawing and Illustration, Viva Colombia
- Gabriella Varvarigos: Honorable Mention - Painting, Ocean
- Aedan Wojciech: Gold Key - Photography, Recreation of "Invasion of Prague"





Isabella Agate wins Third Place in 2017 Keep Christ in Christmas Art Contest.

Over the past few years, students from our school have participated in the Keep Christ in Christmas Art Contest. The organizers of the contest, through The Tablet newspaper, received more than 800 entries from schools, parishes, and homes from throughout Brooklyn and Queens. This year, our Art Department is proud to announce that sophomore Isabella Agate won third place in this year's contest! Not only has her artwork been displayed in February's edition of The Tablet newspaper; she also received a certificate and a scholarship prize. She was awarded these items on Wednesday, January 24, 2018, during a ceremony held at the Knights of Columbus in Brooklyn. We are very proud of her accomplishment!





Field Trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art with A.P. Art History

Ms. Shmerykowsky

On January 31th, 2018, the Advanced Placement Art History class visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. We recently finished learning about the Greek and Roman civilizations and thought it best to see their history come to life with a visit to the museum. Our tour was entitled "**Ancient Greece and Rome: Art of Heroic Ideals.**" In two groups, the students learned how the cultures of ancient Greece and Rome used visual art and mythology to understand concepts like beauty, death, and heroism. As they traveled through the Ancient Greek and Roman Wings, students were mesmerized to see sculptures, paintings, and ancient artifacts from so many years ago. They were amazed at how their perceptions of the art work changed when they had the chance to see everything in person rather than on a Smart Board! Afterward, the students were allowed to explore the museum to see a variety of other art historical topics we are currently covering, such as Byzantine, Romanesque, Gothic, and Early Renaissance. They also spent time drawing in the Roman and Greek Wing! To observe such beautiful classical sculptures while drawing is an experience not many people have. The students had a wonderful experience at the Metropolitan Museum, gained better insight as they prepare for the Advanced Placement Exam, and gained more appreciation of the past!

Students from Mr. Biondolillo's Advanced Studio in Art I Honors classes also joined this field trip. While their tour did not focus on ancient art, the students were able to move about the museum and take in the different areas they have studied in class. Of particular interest to many of the students was the European Painting Wing, as it is a favorite subject of Mr. Biondolillo and many of the works were familiar to them. The students were assigned the task of selecting two pieces of art to reproduce in both traditional and digital formats. The entire day concluded when Mr. Biondolillo guided the students through the temporary Michelangelo exhibit. The group was very moved to see Michelangelo's original sketches and a beautiful recreation of the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel; many took the opportunity to photograph as much of this fleeting exhibit as possible. As this particular installation was temporary to the Met, it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that the whole class will cherish.



English Department

At the New York City Poetry Out Loud competition on February 8th, at F.I.T.'s Katie Murphy Theatre, junior Amy Mwai placed 2nd in the final round of competition. As the runner-up, Amy will compete in the New York State Poetry Out Loud competition in Syracuse on March 9th. Congratulations also go to Aaila Awan, who finished 3rd in the final round.

Thanks to Mr. Paccione for his coaching in preparing the students, and Mrs. Rehill for her support. Thanks also to Mr. Hafker for organizing Poetry Out Loud each year.

Note: St. Francis Prep is the only high school in New York City who has sent 3 of its students to the New York State Regional over the past 10 years!



Principal's Newsletter



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Principal's Newsletter



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Athletics

Boys' Track:

On Friday, February 16th, the Sprint Medley Relay team of Lance Lee, Shawn Bendeck, Dean Athanailos, and Zalen Nelson, with Andre Sobers as an alternate, broke the school record of 3:37.5 (set in 1991) by almost three seconds, running 3:34.75. Their time is currently 7th fastest in the US. Zalen Nelson anchored the team with a phenomenal 1:54.44, one of the fastest 800 meter times in the State this year.

By running under 3:37, they have qualified for the Championship race in the New Balance National Indoor Track and Field Championships on Saturday, March 10. Congratulations and all the best!

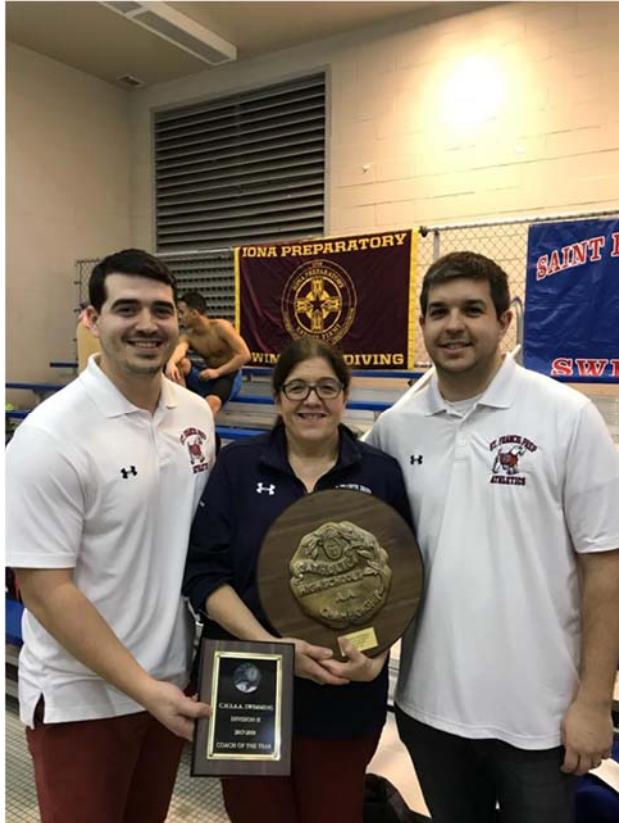


Swimming

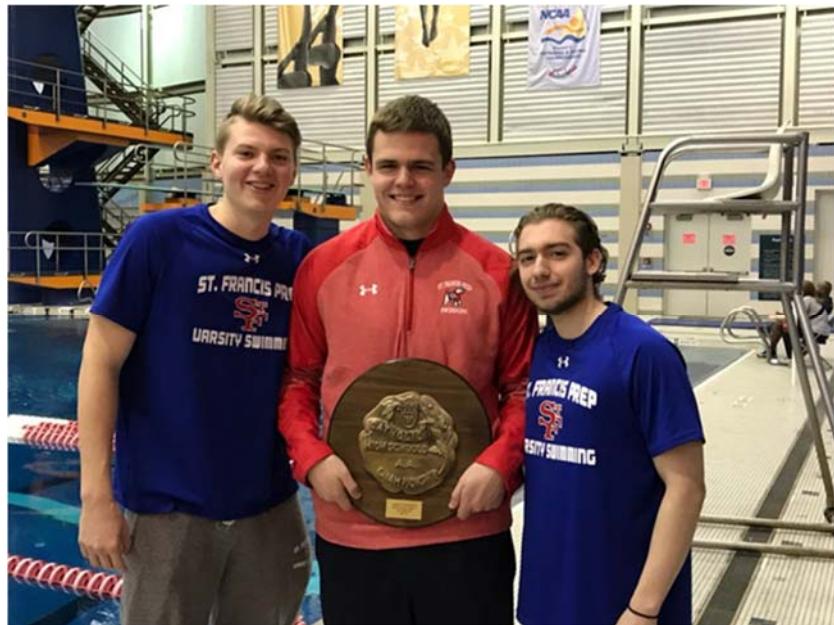
Congratulations to the boys' varsity swimming team on winning the B Division at championship this season!



Principal's Newsletter



pictured: Coach of the Year Danny Finn, Maria Finn, and Dave Correiria



pictured: Captains: Aaron Sheridan, Liam Carroll, and William Kinkel

SF Principal's Newsletter

College Signings



Madison Reichert – UMass Dartmouth



Principal's Newsletter



Jazmin Andrews – Post University



Alumni – Kevin Garcia, Professional Soccer player



New Summer Program

St. Francis Prep Introduces ...

Francis Kids!

A Summer Bible Camp for ages 4-7

(must be 4 of Dec 1, 2018)

July 23rd – July 27th, 2018

9:00 am to 12:00 noon

This year's theme is

"Shine and Serve"

Join us this summer for crafts, Bible lessons, music, play, and fun! Each day will begin with an opening prayer and song. The rest of the day will consist of four 35-minute sessions of Music, Arts and Crafts, Play and Games, and a lesson focused on our theme each day. Each day we will celebrate one of the four Franciscan Values! Camp staff and counselors will be current faculty and students of SFP. Each child will be assigned a group and a camp counselor who will be responsible for them from arrival to dismissal.

A sample schedule of your child's day will look like this:

9:00 - 9:10 Arrival and Welcoming

9:10 – 9:45 Lessons

9:45 – 10:20 Arts and Crafts

10:20 – 10:40 Snack

10:40 - 11:15 Music

11:15 – 11:50 Games and Play

11:50 - 12:00 Closing and Dismissal

* Registration will be on a first come, first served basis.

* This session will include one week of Camp, a Francis Kids T-shirt, and art supplies. Children should bring a snack and water bottle. Go to our website for registration details: www.sfponline.org. Click on Summer at SFP.

