

ST. VERONICA CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Parent-Student Handbook 2020-21

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**St. Veronica Catholic School
Faculty and Staff
2020-2021**

Pastor	Reverend Patrick Driscoll
Principal	Ms. Mary Boland
Kindergarten	Mrs. Miriam Robinson
Grade One	Mrs. Gina Melendez
Grade Two	Mrs. Michelle Duer
Grade Three	Mrs. Geninne Ruegg
Grade Four	Mrs. Pamela Cavagnaro
Grade Five	Mrs. Sarah Baker
Grade Six Homeroom	Ms. Tiffany Lopez
Grade Seven Homeroom	Mr. Ed Lucido
Grade Eight Homeroom	Mr. Sam Bishop
Science - Grade 6-8, 8th grade math	Mr. Peter Casper
Spanish - Grades K – Five	Mrs. Virginia Sink
Technology Coordinator	Ms. Christina Roberts
Resource Teacher	Mrs. Stephanie Nerney
Counselor	Ms. Meryl Leavitt
Physical Education	Rhythm and Moves
Music	Rhythm and Moves
Aide - Kindergarten	Mrs. Raquel Kay
Aide - Grade One	Ms. Brittany Tackett
Aide - Grade Two	Mrs. Jennifer Tarantino
Aide - Grade Three and Four	Ms. Marianne Lynch
Aide - Grades Five and Six	Ms. Michaela Lavino
Aide - Grades Seven and Eight	Mrs. Lisa Marsh
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Nancy Gainey
Business Manager	Mrs. Gianna Smith
Band	M.U.S.E.
Maintenance	Mr. Salvador Delgadillo
Extended Care Director	Mrs. Mary Firpo

Mission Statement

In partnership with each family and the St. Veronica Parish community, and as ministers who participate in the mission of Jesus Christ, St. Veronica Catholic School strives to keep Christ's image present in the world while providing a quality education which instills Christian stewardship and academic excellence.

Philosophy

St. Veronica Catholic School is committed to the education of the whole person based on the teachings of Jesus Christ. We promote and sustain the spiritual, moral, social, intellectual, physical, and emotional growth of each student.

In partnership with the family, the primary educator, and in collaboration with the parish community, we strive to provide a quality education centered in a Catholic environment of peace, security, and love.

We enable students to live their faith; become open, honest, and effective communicators; achieve their goals as active members of the community; and become responsible, lifelong learners.

School-wide Learning Expectations

**We are Falcons.
Falcons SOAR!**

Scholars who live our faith

Open, honest, and effective communicators

Active members in our community

Responsible, lifelong learners

Code of Christian Conduct

In 1998 the Archdiocese established a *Code of Christian Conduct Covering Students and Parents/Guardians*. The text is printed below.

The students' interest in receiving a quality, morally based education can be served if students, parents, and school officials work together. Normally, differences between these individuals can be resolved. In some rare instances, however, the school may find it necessary, in its discretion, to require parents/guardians to withdraw their child.

It shall be an expressed condition of enrollment that the student behaves in a manner, both on and off campus that is consistent with the Christian principles of the school as determined by the school in its discretion. These principles include, but are not limited to, any policies, principles, or procedures set forth in any parent-student handbook of the school.

It shall be an expressed condition of enrollment that the parents/guardians of a student shall also conform themselves to standards of conduct that are consistent with the Christian principles of the school, as determined by the school in its discretion. These principles include, but are not limited to, any policies, principles, or procedures set forth in any parent-student handbook of the school.

These Christian principles further include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. Parents/guardians are expected to work courteously and cooperatively with the school to assist the student in meeting the academic, moral, and behavioral expectations of the school.*
- 2. Students and parents/guardians may respectfully express their concerns about the school operation and its personnel. However, they may not do so in a manner that is discourteous, scandalous, rumor-driven, disruptive, threatening, hostile, or divisive.*
- 3. These expectations for students and parents/guardians include, but are not limited to, all school-sponsored programs and events (i.e., extended care, athletics, field trips, etc.).*

The school reserves the right to determine, in its discretion, which actions fall short of meeting the Christian principles of the school. Failure to follow these principles will normally result in a verbal or written warning to the student and/or parent/guardian and normally will find result in disciplinary action short of a requirement to withdraw from the school (i.e., suspension of a student or suspension of parent/guardian's privilege to come on the campus grounds and/or participate in parish/school activities, volunteer work, etc.).

The school reserves the right to determine, in its discretion, when conduct is of such a severe nature as to warrant immediate action without a warning and/or without an intermediate step short of withdrawal.

Calendar and Schedule

Daily Schedule

7:30 a.m.	Doors Open/Drop off Begins
9:00 a.m.	Classes Begin
9:40 a.m.	Recess grade 8
9:45 a.m.	Recess grade 7
9:50 a.m.	Recess grade 6
9:55 a.m.	Recess grade 5
10:00 a.m.	Recess kindergarten
10:05 a.m.	Recess grade 1
10:10 a.m.	Recess grade 2
10:15 a.m.	Recess grade 3
10:20 a.m.	Recess grade 4
12:00 – 12:20 p.m.	Recess 5 - 8
12:20 – 12:40 p.m.	Lunch 5 - 8
12:20 – 12:40 p.m.	Recess K - 4
12:40 – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch K - 4
2:30 p.m.	Classes End
3:30 p.m.	Doors Close/Pick up Ends

Sign up for drop off and pick up time on School Speak.

Once the drop off becomes routine, quick, and efficient, we may begin classes at 8:30 a.m.

Please see [Drop Off and Pick Up Map](#).

Students should use the restroom on the way out to recess, using the bathroom, sinks, stalls, and urinals assigned to them. Kindergarten will always exit and enter through the library doors. 1st grade will always enter and exit through their exterior doors. All other classes enter through their exterior doors and follow the traffic and spacing indicators on the floor when exiting through the Library and Breezeway.

Minimum Days

Minimum Day dismissal time is 12:30 p.m.

Due to the CoVid Pandemic, we are eliminating most minimum days.

Please see the [revised Calendar](#).

Report Cards

Report Cards are distributed trimesterly to the students in Kindergarten through eighth grade. In addition to Report Cards, Parent/Teacher Conferences are held or Progress Reports are issued midway through each trimester.

First Trimester Conferences	October 8, 2020
First Trimester Ends	November 13, 2020
Second Trimester Progress Reports	January 22, 2021
Second Trimester Ends	March 5, 2021
Third Trimester Progress Reports	April 23, 2021
Third Trimester Ends	June 4, 2021

Archdiocese of San Francisco Philosophy of Grading Statement

The schools of the Archdiocese of San Francisco are dedicated to the growth and development of each child. We are committed to providing a grading philosophy that represents a way of communicating the achievement of students to the student, to their parents, to the teacher, and the administration.

Grading is the structure that enables students to monitor progress, make adjustments in study habits and strive for academic achievement. It is also designed to gauge student academic progress, provide incentives to learn, communicate student achievement, give feedback to encourage student self-evaluation, evaluate the effectiveness of instructional strategies and identify needs for differential instruction.

Standards and expectations are communicated to parents and students in a variety of ways. Student progress is measured through a multitude of assessments to ensure that student growth has occurred.

Archdiocese of San Francisco Grades

Kindergarten, Grades 1 and 2:

<i>Academic Marking Code:</i>	E	=	Exceeds standard
	M	=	Meets standard
	W	=	Working toward standard
	N	=	Not at grade level standard
	No mark	=	Standard not addressed during current marking period

Grades 3 through 8:

<i>Academic Marking Code:</i>	A	=	96 - 100
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A -	=	93 - 95
B+	=	91 - 92
B	=	87 - 90
B -	=	84 - 86
C+	=	81 - 83
C	=	74 - 80
C-	=	70 - 73
D+	=	67 - 69
D	=	63 - 66
D-	=	60 - 62
F	=	59 - below

Grades 6, 7, and 8 Remarks
 (No remark indicates that student is meeting expectations)

Areas of strength

- 5. Makes valuable contributions to class discussions
- 6. Seeks help appropriately
- 7. Engages enthusiastically in learning
- 8. Consistently demonstrates pride in work
- 9. Exhibits intellectual curiosity
- 10. Thinks critically
- 11. Works well cooperatively
- 12. Is well organized

Areas of growth

- 13. Needs to seek help appropriately
- 14. Has difficulty working cooperatively
- 15. Needs to show initiative
- 16. Needs to participate in class discussion
- 17. Needs to improve presentation of work
- 18. Needs to improve organizational skills
- 19. Has difficulty expressing ideas
- 20. Resists correction
- 21. Talks excessively/disrupts instruction
- 22. Incomplete, late, or missing assignments impact success
- 23. Low test/quiz scores impact success
- 24. Absences impact success
- 25. Needs to improve effort

For all grades:

Co-Curricular Subjects:

P	=	Participate
NP	=	Does not participate

Behavioral Expectations/Learning Skills Code:

1	=	Exceeds expectations
2	=	Meets expectations
3	=	Improvement needed
4	=	Unsatisfactory

Comment Code:

+	=	Area of strength
No Mark	=	Meets expectations
√	=	Needs improvement

An asterisk (*) next to the subject indicates the student receives a Supplemental Report.

Promotion and Retention

Since most schools group children under a grade classification system, advancement of regular progress of students is ordinarily on an annual basis. Annual promotion usually indicates achievement of minimum grade level expectations.

However, each child should be considered individually. Any decision concerning promotion vs. non-promotion must be made after considering all facts related to the child's development (emotional, physical, social as well as intellectual and academic), collected from a wide range of sources throughout the year.

Written documentation of compliance with the following procedures is retained in a confidential file:

A) There is consultation between teachers and principal as early as possible in the first semester.

B) A conference is held with the parents no later than the beginning of the second trimester to advise them of the possibility of retention and to discuss possible remedial actions.

C) Follow-up conferences with the parents are held to evaluate the academic progress of the child.

D) Evaluations and reports to parents must indicate failure to achieve minimum objectives in at least two basic subjects. A student shall be retained no more than one year at any given grade or level. Ordinarily, a student should not be retained more than once while in elementary school.

(This entire section is taken from the Administrative Handbook. #5134.1 – 5134-2)

Homework

Homework planned to meet the needs of students has an essential place in the educational program. Homework should be assigned to reinforce concepts and skills that have been presented in class; to foster the student's creativity and discipline through enrichment projects

or research; and to train the student to work independently and accept responsibility for completing a task (Administrative Handbook, #6227).

Given the challenges of CoVid Pandemic and the amount of work our students and parents have done at home since March 2020, we are providing time before and after classes begin each day for students to complete their homework in school with support and supervision of their teachers and aides.

We strongly urge every student to read for pleasure at home every day. We recommend a minimum of 30 minutes every day for every student.

School Records

St. Veronica Catholic School abides by the provisions of the Buckley Amendment regarding the rights of parents and students to access school records. If a parent wishes to review such records, the school requires a written request and a minimum of a twenty-four hour notice. If a parent wishes to have records transferred, the school requires parents to complete the [Authorization to Release Information](#) form. The school also requires written permission from parents to provide recommendations for students.

Archdiocesan Non-Discriminatory Policy

The Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of San Francisco, mindful of their mission to be witnesses to the love of Christ for all, admit students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to the students at the respective schools. These schools do not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, and national and/or ethnic origin, age, sex, or disability in the administration of their educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other school-administered programs (Administrative Handbook, #5111.1)

St. Veronica Catholic School Acceptance Policy

Applicants to St. Veronica Catholic School are tested on basic skills. Teacher recommendations, past report cards, standardized tests scores, and interviews with the student and/or family are also considered. Acceptance of applicants is based upon the following priorities:

- Siblings of current or former St. Veronica Catholic School students
- Legacies, children of alumni
- Catholics
 - Registered in St. Veronica Parish
 - Registered in St. Augustine and Mater Dolorosa Parishes
 - Registered in another Catholic parish
- Non Registered Catholic
- Non-Catholics

All new students are accepted for a probationary period of one year. If, at the end of the year, or at any time during the probationary period, a student's conduct, effort, and/or achievement are found to be unsatisfactory, or parents fail to meet the expectations outlined in this

Parent-Student Handbook; the student's enrollment will be reviewed and, if deemed necessary, terminated.

Special Needs/Learning Differences

Students with special needs may be eligible for admission. Previously diagnosed special needs must be discussed with administration at the time of admission. Should concerns arise after a student is enrolled, parents may be requested to have their child evaluated by the local public school district or a private agency or consultant. Should a child be determined to have a learning disability (as determined by the State of California criteria), St. Veronica Catholic School will work to meet the child's specific needs. A resource teacher will work with the classroom teacher to provide assistance needed for the student to make progress. Should we find that our program is not meeting a child's needs, we will work together to determine what the next step might be.

Students with Learning Interventions and/or Accommodations

"Students attending the Catholic elementary schools in the Archdiocese of San Francisco who have a valid and current assessment and identification by a credentialed school psychologist, licensed educational psychologist, speech pathologist, occupational therapist, medical doctor, educational therapist or credentialed learning specialist and an RTI form may be given special consideration with regard to report card grades. All documented students must have an RTI referral form on file at the school site." (Guidelines for Report Cards, 2011)

A Supplemental Report Card may be used for students with such documentation. An asterisk (*) next to a subject on a Report Card indicates the student receives a Supplemental Report Card.

Animals

Parents and/or students must obtain prior permission from the principal to bring animals into the school. (*Administrative Handbook, #6325*)

Attendance

Please email office@saintveronicassf.org by 9:00 a.m. if your student is absent.

For the safety of the school community, we will not provide books or materials for students who are absent due to illness. Falcons are expected to SOAR. Therefore all students from kindergarten through 8th grade should be encouraged by parents and teachers to speak directly to their teacher when they return from an absence about how best to learn the lessons they have missed.

Parents or guardians should speak to the teacher on behalf of their student in the case of long-term absence in order to help their student establish a learning plan.

Please inform the school immediately if your child has CoVid19 or any other contagious illness, so the community can be informed of possible exposure.

Please report all cases of lice to the office.

Doctor and Dentist Appointments

If a student must be dismissed during the day, email the school office and the teacher by 9 a.m.

Park in a reserved parking space in front of the rectory. Come down the stairs by the garden and ring the bell. Your student will be brought to you.

Students who leave may not return until the next day.

A medical or dental absence is excused when a doctor/dentist's note is provided.

A teacher cannot release a child during the school day without authorization from the office.

No child may leave the school grounds during school hours for any reason unless accompanied by an authorized adult.

Medication

All medication (prescription and/or over the counter) to be taken during school hours must be accompanied by the [Medicine Release and Authorization Form](#). The form must be completed by the parent or guardian and the physician and turned in to the school office with the medication. All medication must be stored in and administered through the school office.

Tardiness

When the health screening process is complete, at 9:00 a.m., students will no longer be admitted. During Distance Learning students who are not logged on to Zoom or Google meet at 9:00 a.m. will be marked tardy.

Truancy

Any student who is absent from school without a valid excuse for more than three days or who is tardy in excess of thirty minutes on each of four days or more in one school year is truant. Habitual truancy may result in expulsion.

Parent Newsletter

The parent newsletter and other announcements are posted on SchoolSpeak. The newsletter is uploaded on Friday afternoon. Please read the newsletter every week.

Flyers

All flyers or letters sent through school must be submitted to the principal for approval by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday to be included in the Friday Newsletter.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be scheduled for every child on Thursday, October 8, 2020. This year they will be phone conferences. Parents sign up for appointments on School Speak. Additional phone conferences may be scheduled as needed.

Other Conferences

Our mission is to partner with families. As Falcons, we strive to be open, honest, and effective communicators. As Catholics, we value community and believe in the social teaching of subsidiarity. If/when issues arise, we want to resolve them as simply, directly, and quickly as possible. Please email the principal, the office, or your teacher to request a phone conference if you have a question or concern.

Phones

Students may not use cell phones at school. If a student must carry a phone, it should be switched off and remain in the student's backpack while the student is on campus. Visible cell phones will be confiscated from students and held in the office.

Discipline

Discipline in a Catholic school is considered an aspect of moral development. Our goal is to encourage self-discipline. This requires time, patience, and consistency, along with the cooperation of students, faculty, staff, administration, and families. St. Veronica encourages growth in responsibility, respect, and concern for others. During this time of global pandemic following health and safety regulations, such as wearing face coverings, washing hands, and maintaining physical distance, is an essential way of showing respect and concern for others. When a student fails in these areas, an effort is made to help the student examine their behavior, recognize the consequences of their behavior, rectify the problem and/or make a plan for improvement. However, when a student is consistently unwilling to change inappropriate behavior, corrective measures must be carried out. St. Veronica Catholic School employs the following measures:

Detention

Parents or guardians will be notified by telephone when a child is given detention. They should park by the rectory and ring the doorbell outside the office when they come pick up their child.

Reasons for detention may include, but are not limited to: behaving inappropriately, disrespecting other students, or disregarding safety rules.

Probation

A student may be placed on probation for a relatively serious offense or for continued misconduct after a warning, when the misconduct does not require more serious action (Administrative Handbook #5175).

Parents or guardians will be notified in writing when a child is placed on probation. Reasons for probation may include, but are not limited to: fighting (verbal or physical), cheating (actual, attempted, or assisting others in cheating), lying, repeatedly breaking any school rule, stealing, harassment, willful disrespect to a teacher or any person in authority, willful damage to property, any other behavior deemed seriously inappropriate by the principal. If the student is an eighth grader, his/her actions may jeopardize participation in graduation activities or the ceremony itself.

Suspension

A pupil may be placed on suspension for serious misconduct on campus or off campus, during school related activities, or for continued misconduct after having been placed on probation. In exceptional cases, the principal may suspend a student without affording the student an opportunity for a conference if an emergency situation exists. An emergency situation is defined as a situation determined by the principal to constitute a clear and present danger to the lives, safety or health of students or school personnel (Administrative Handbook, #5176 and #5176.1a).

Parents or guardians will be notified in writing when a child is suspended. A suspension may be served either at school or at home at the discretion of the principal and may be extended if behavior has not improved.

Expulsion

A student may be expelled from school for misconduct of a very serious nature calling for immediate dismissal without suspension, or for a repetition of conduct for which the student has been suspended one or more times. Expulsion, the permanent termination of a student's enrollment, is a sanction that should be invoked rarely, as a last resort for clear and serious causes (Administrative Handbook, #4177).

Reasons for immediate expulsion include, but are not limited to, the following actions gravely detrimental to the moral and spiritual welfare of other students: incorrigible or disruptive behavior which impedes the progress of the rest of the class; assault, battery, or any threat of force or violence directed toward any school personnel, students, or other persons on school property or during school related activities; habitual or persistent violation of school regulations; use, sale, distribution or possession of narcotics, controlled substances, or alcoholic beverages; use or possession of firearms or other potentially harmful objects or weapons; gang-related conduct or activity; theft, extortion, arson; habitual truancy; malicious damage or destruction of real or personal property at school; hazing; violation of Student-to-Student Harassment Policy; and violation of the Code of Christian Conduct (Administrative Handbook, #5177.3a-1).

Harassment

In 1992 the Archbishop of San Francisco promulgated a comprehensive set of policies and procedures covering all forms of unlawful harassment, with particular emphasis on sexual misconduct in the workplace and in ministerial relationships, as well as highlighting the unique respect and responsibility which is owed by adults to children. In 1996 a supplement to that

policy was added specifically focusing on student harassment. The policy serves as a tangible witness to the Catholic commitment to live, love, and respect as Jesus did.

The Archdiocese of San Francisco affirms the Christian dignity of every student. It is the policy of the Archdiocese to provide an educational environment in which all students are treated with respect. Harassment is unacceptable conduct that is severe, pervasive, and deliberate. Harassment occurs when an individual is subjected to treatment in a school environment which is hostile, offensive, or intimidating because of the individual's race, creed, color, national origin, physical ability, or gender. Harassment of any student by another student is prohibited and will not be tolerated.

A charge of harassment shall not, in and of itself, create the presumption of wrongdoing. However, substantiated acts of harassment will result in disciplinary action up to, and including, expulsion. Students found to have filed knowingly false or frivolous charges will also be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including expulsion. Depending on the nature and extent of the charge, if reasonable suspicion of misconduct is determined, the alleged harasser may be sent home pending conclusion of the investigation by the school.

A complete copy of the comprehensive *Policy against Harassment*, including the detailed policies on child abuse and student harassment, is available in the principal's office.

Zero-Tolerance Policy

The administration, faculty, and students of St. Veronica Catholic School have a Zero-Tolerance Policy toward injustice, which includes, but is not limited to, teasing, bullying, threats, violence, mean spirited words, and actions. Within this policy, the students generated a list of issues that need to be reported to the principal or teacher. Confidentiality will be observed. This list includes, but is not limited to, the following: any type of weapon at school, any kind of drug or alcohol, any talk by anyone about doing harm to others or themselves, any internet bullying or undesired publishing of personal photographs, videos or information of others, violation of the [Archdiocese of San Francisco Technology Responsible Use Policy Students and Parents](#) and any knowledge of theft or damage to property. Lack of compliance with Zero-Tolerance Policy may result in immediate expulsion.

Parent Obligation

- **Abide by the Code of Christian Conduct.**
- **Cooperate with school policies and administrative directives.**
- **Complete all required forms. Submit them on time. Update them as needed.**
- **Attend Back-to-School Night and Parent-Teacher Conferences.**
- **Abide by your [tuition contract](#).** Complete and log service hours on time.
- **Pay tuition promptly.** Contact Gianna Smith immediately if you cannot to work out a plan for payment.
- **Pay fees promptly.** If/when applicable.

Archdiocesan Required Medical Forms

The Archdiocese of San Francisco requires two very important medical forms for all students: [Medical Release and Consent to Treatment of Child](#) and the [Universal Medical Information/ Emergency Contact/Release and Consent Form](#).

Families must complete these forms for each student at the beginning of every school year and update them whenever the information on the form changes. For the health and safety of your students we must have current information at all times.

These forms provide the school with contact information for parents; emergency contacts when parents cannot be reached; medical conditions, allergies, medications, etc.; a medical release form in the event of an emergency; consent to disseminate the information on the medical page to authorized persons (i.e., paramedics, emergency doctors).

Emergency Contacts

List people on the Universal/Medical information form as emergency contacts who are capable of picking up your sick or injured child within 30 minutes and capable of making decisions regarding your child. Inform the people you are listing as emergency contacts.

Archdiocesan Required Technology Forms

Families must also complete the [Archdiocese of San Francisco Media and Student Work Agreement](#) and the [Archdiocese of San Francisco Technology Responsible Use Policy Students and Parents](#) for each student. These forms are kept on file for the duration of the school year.

Registration Fee

There is a refundable registration fee of \$300 for each student at the time of registration. This fee covers fees the school is required to pay for every child enrolled at St. Veronica: student accident insurance, testing costs, Archdiocese administrative fees, Virtus Youth Program, Catholic Television Network, etc.

Additional School Fees

These fees will be charged if/when we resume these programs after the CoVid crisis has passed. We will notify you in advance if/when we intend to do this.

School Guild Dues - \$75 per family

Men's Club Dues - \$75 per family

Extended Care Registration - \$35 per family

Bingo Dessert Fee - \$25 per family

Graduation Fee

\$300.00 per student. This fee contributes to the cost of graduation ceremonies and festivities.

Sacrament Fee

\$40.00 per student. This fee contributes to the cost of curricular materials, certificates, flowers, and miscellaneous expenses for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

When sending any amount of money to the school for any purpose, please place the correct amount in an envelope and write your child's full name, grade, amount of money enclosed and purpose clearly on the envelope. The school accepts NO responsibility for lost cash or checks.

Service Hours

Service hours provide funding for school programs and projects and build community spirit. Thirty hours of service are required of all families at the participating or partially participating tuition tiers. Service hours are to be completed by April 30th. Parents are responsible for logging all service hours on SchoolSpeak. Failure to complete service hours may result in transfer to a higher tuition tier. Eighth grade families must complete their hours in order for eighth graders to participate in graduation activities.

Fundraising

Class Assignments

All school families benefit from fundraisers and are encouraged to participate in them. While families may volunteer at any fundraiser, each class is assigned responsibility for a specific fundraiser based on the grade of the oldest child in the school.:

Grades K/One/Two/Three	Bingo
Grade Four	Snack Shack
Grade Five	Santa's Breakfast
Grade Six	Luck of the Irish Dinner & Raffle
Grade Seven	Crab Feed

Bingo

Bingo has been cancelled until further notice.

Parish Festival

The Parish Festival has not been scheduled for this year.

Parent Organizations

School Guild

All St. Veronica Catholic School parents are members of the School Guild. The Guild contributes to the enrichment of the students, social and financial support of the school, and special Guild projects. Meetings will be virtual.

Men's Club

Every school family is a member of the Men's Club. The purpose of the Men's Club is to instill commitment to the spiritual and physical well-being of the Parish and the School. The Men's Club supports the sports program. Meetings will be virtual.

Parent Behavior and Conduct

Parents must comply with the Code of Christian Conduct of the Archdiocese of San Francisco which is included in this handbook. All interactions with and communications between or about members of the St. Veronica community, including administration, faculty, staff, students, and other families must be guided by Gospel values. All must presume good intentions, strive for cooperation, and demonstrate respect at all times.

In School Parties

Due to the CoVid Pandemic In school parties have been cancelled until further notice.

Out of School Parties

Invitations for private parties may not be distributed at school to any member of a class unless the entire class is invited. Exclusive parties should not even be discussed at school because we are Catholic. We strive to build community and inclusivity.

Birthday Treats

Due to the CoVid Pandemic we will refrain from sharing any food at school including birthday treats. We will celebrate our students on their birthdays in other ways.

Other Treats

Balloons, flowers, and gifts may not be delivered at school to any student for any occasion, including birthdays, First Communion, graduation, etc. Limos are not allowed on campus or nearby for pick-up at dismissal.

Safety Procedures

In the event of a schoolwide emergency

- We will email parents and guardians through School Speak.
- Children will remain in the school's custody until you, or your designee, picks them up. Identification is required to release children. A current Permission to Release Form must be on file with the school at all times.
- If public schools in South San Francisco close due to an emergency, we will also close.

Emergency Evacuation and Earthquake Procedure

Periodic emergency drills are conducted at St. Veronica Catholic School. During evacuations, children are led to areas beyond the parish buildings. In the event of a real disaster (fire, earthquake, flood, etc.) parents may not enter the parish grounds in their cars. They are to park

on local streets, making sure the way is clear for emergency vehicles, and then proceed on foot to pick up their children.

The following is a summary of our earthquake plan:

- At the beginning of ground movement, each teacher will give the students the command to drop, duck, cover, and hold.
- Students will immediately get under a desk or table, kneel, and hold the legs of the desk/table.
- Teachers will keep students under desks until the quake is over and an all clear bell sounds.
- Then, the teacher will ensure that students' clothes and bodies are free of glass and students can exit the building safely. Extreme caution will be used in exiting the building.
- Procedures are in place for turning off gas and water lines.
- Children will be evacuated to the assembly area where roll call will be taken.
- Search and rescue of the entire building will be conducted if necessary.
- Immediate first aid will be given.
- Children will be dismissed only to parents/guardians or designated adults listed on the emergency release form.

Bicycle Rules

- Enter and leave school grounds cautiously.
- Walk your bicycle on school grounds.
- Lock your bicycle in the rack outside the school.
- Wear a helmet when riding.
- Follow all SSF bicycle safety rules/laws.
- Never borrow or touch another person's bicycle.

Social and Emotional Development

In keeping with our mission and philosophy, St. Veronica Catholic School supports the social and emotional development of our students. All students participate in the Second Step Program.

In addition, we employ a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist to support students and families. Parents or Guardians must sign a release for students to receive individual counseling.

Lunch

Students should arrive in the morning with a lunch and a full water bottle.

Weather permitting, lunch will be eaten outside. Otherwise it will be eaten in the classroom.

For the safety of our school community, we will not accept deliveries of food from any vendor or from parents or guardians.

School Uniform

Adherence to uniform regulations is required of all students. Uniform violations are subject to disciplinary action.

Face Coverings

The most important piece of every student's uniform for the 2020-2021 is a face covering. "Per San Mateo County's Health Officer, a 'Face Covering' means a covering made of cloth, fabric, or other soft or permeable material, without holes, that covers only the nose and mouth and surrounding areas of the lower face... A face-covering should not be medical-grade or use a valve device." Students must wear a face-covering to school, while walking across school grounds, and in common areas of the campus." They must also wear them whenever they are told to do so by faculty or staff. Face coverings should be cleaned regularly.

Full Dress Uniform

BOYS - Full Dress Uniform

- Navy twill long pants (waistband or jogging style)
- White cotton short sleeve polo shirt
- Green V-neck pullover sweater with school logo
- White or black crew socks
- Black shoes

BOYS - Optional Items

- Navy twill shorts
- Burgundy sweatshirt with school logo
- SV burgundy fleece jacket
- Black or brown belt

GIRLS - Full Dress Uniform

- Uniform plaid jumper (grades K-5)
- Uniform plaid skirt (grades 5-8)
- White cotton short-sleeve blouse or polo shirt
- Green V-neck pullover sweater with school logo
- White or black knee socks, tights, or crew socks
- Black shoes

GIRLS - Optional items

- Navy twill shorts, skorts, or long pants
- Burgundy sweatshirt with school logo
- SV burgundy fleece jacket

Clothing Clarification

- **Full Dress Uniform** is required of all students on special occasions.
- **Full Dress Uniform** days are posted on the School Calendar.
- Shirts and blouses are to be tucked in during the school day.
- Pants are to be worn at the waist. They are to be the proper length and **not** baggy.
- Shorts, skorts, jumpers, and skirts may **not** be more than 2 inches above the knee.

- Clothing must be neat and tidy, **not** sloppy or oversized.
- Clothing must be in good condition. Rips, tears, and holes uniforms are **not** acceptable.
- Students may wear all white long or short sleeved t-shirts underneath their uniform.
- Turtlenecks are **not** permissible.
- Every student must have a uniform sweater or sweatshirt with him/her at all times.
- Jackets may be worn outside over the uniform sweater or sweatshirt.
- Jackets and/or non-uniform sweatshirts may **not** be worn inside in class, church, or assemblies.
- No visible logos on shoes or socks.
- No gang related clothing, such as grunge, baggy, low riding pants or colors.
- No hats (unless for health reasons as stated in a doctor's note).
- All items of clothing should be marked with a name.

Free Dress

- Students in free dress need to wear tasteful, appropriate clothing.
- Inappropriate clothes include, but are not limited to, the following: gang-looking clothes, sagging clothes, short shorts, oversized shirts, tight-fitting clothing, spaghetti-tops, tank tops, midriff tops, and inappropriate t-shirts.
- Girls may wear leggings or yoga pants as long as their shirts reach the top of the thigh.

Distance Learning Dress

Students who attend live sessions, on Zoom or Google meet, should be in uniform from the waist up. To clarify, students should be in white shirts and St. Veronica sweaters or sweatshirts. They may wear appropriate free dress from the waist down. NO pajama bottoms, please.

St. Veronica Catholic School depends on parental support to maintain uniform standards. Interpretation of the uniform regulations is the prerogative of the faculty and administration of the school. Violations of the uniform regulations may result in disciplinary action.

Shoe Clarification

Shoes must be good and sturdy with rubber or crepe soles.

Shoes must be all black.

Shoelaces must be all black.

Shoes may not have any colored or visible markings or logos.

All black athletic shoes may be worn.

Shoes may have ties, Velcro, buckles, or slip on.

Fad shoes with thick, chunky heels, platforms, or thin-soled slip-ons are **not** acceptable.

Heels higher than 1 inch are **not** acceptable.

No high tops or boots.

No flip-flops or sandals.

Basically, shoes must be safe and must be all black. If you are unsure whether shoes meet the regulations, please check with your teacher or administration prior to purchasing them or wearing them at school.

St. Veronica Catholic School depends on parental support to maintain uniform standards. Interpretation of the uniform regulations is the prerogative of the faculty and administration of the school. Violations of the uniform regulations may result in disciplinary action.

Grooming and Accessories

Students at St. Veronica are expected to be clean and well-groomed at all times while avoiding anything that is faddish or distracting.

Hair

- Hairstyles must be conventional.
- Hair must **not** hang in a student's eyes.
- Hair must be its natural, God-given color.
- Bleaching, coloring, lightening, or highlighting of hair is **not** allowed.
- Shaved sides, tails, sculpted sides or designs, Mohawks, fauxhawks, lines, etc. are **not** allowed.

BOYS

Boys hairstyles must be blended and all one cut all the way around the student's head.

Boys' hair may **not** be longer than 2 inches at the top of the head.

A #2 blade on the clippers is the minimum allowed.

Hair must be above the ear and off the collar.

GIRLS

Headband, clips, and ponytail holders should be plain and without any decoration.

Headbands, clips, and ponytail holders should be one SV uniform color (black, white, dark green, burgundy) only.

St. Veronica uniform plaid headbands and hair accessories are acceptable.

Jewelry

Crosses, crucifixes, and religious medals may be worn.

A watch or fitbit may be worn. **NO** smart watches.

Other jewelry is **not** allowed. This includes necklaces, bracelets, ankle bracelets, rings, etc.

Exception: Girls may wear one small post earring in each earlobe.

Hoop or dangling earrings are **never** allowed.

Boys are **not** allowed to wear earrings.

Grooming

Makeup, lipstick, lip-gloss, etc. are **not** allowed.

Nail polish and fake nails are **not** allowed.

Boys in upper grades must be clean-shaven.

St. Veronica Catholic School depends on parental support to maintain standards. Interpretation of the regulations is the prerogative of the faculty and administration of the school. Violations of the regulations may result in disciplinary action.

Classroom Supplies

Students may not share school supplies.

Students are responsible for the care of all school books and property.

Parents will be billed for damaged or lost books or property.

Wheeled bags and backpacks are not allowed. Students should wear their backpack with hands free to be washed on entry to school.

School Supply Lists

Please provide the [listed supplies](#) for your child. Replenish as needed.

Technology/Social Media Policies

All students and parents in the Archdiocese of San Francisco must sign and abide by the [Archdiocese of San Francisco Technology Responsible Use Policy Students and Parents](#).

All students must abide by St. Veronica's [Zoom Rules/Norms/Expectations](#) for Students Distance Learning.

Conduct, whether inside or outside the school, which is detrimental to the reputation of the school or harmful to any member of the community may result in disciplinary action.

St. Veronica Catholic School encourages prudence at all times and, for the safety and respect of this community, the following guidelines have been established:

- Students and parents are strictly prohibited from using the name of the school, its logo, pictures, uniforms, or anything associated with St. Veronica Catholic School on the internet. Faculty and staff members may not be named either directly or indirectly.
- The school and families are partners in the education of our students.
- If, in the opinion of the administration, that partnership is no longer viable, the school reserves the right to require the family to withdraw their student(s) from the school.

Use of School Grounds

- When the bell rings or a whistle blows, students should freeze.
- Students should walk to line silently.
- Students should respond promptly and positively to yard duty supervisors.
- Students should not leave the yard without permission.
- Students should help maintain clean school grounds. They should use compost, recycling, and garbage receptacles accordingly.

- Students should stay out of all landscaped areas.
- Students should walk on the sidewalks.
- Chewing gum is never permitted on school premises, at any time, or at any school-sponsored function.
- Students should be quiet in the library, breezeway, and bathrooms.
- Students may not be in the classroom or library before school, after school, during recess, or during lunch unless supervised by a teacher.
- Monetary reimbursement may be required in the event of damage to parish, school, or personal property.
- If a student pulls the fire alarm without due cause, the student will be placed on automatic probation and the family will be charged the fee for resetting the alarms and the fee charged to the school by the South San Francisco Fire Department for a false alarm.

Visitors

For the safety of our school community, we will not have visitors, including parents and guardians, in the school buildings.

Volunteers

For the safety of our school community, we will not have volunteers, including parents and guardians, in the school buildings or working with students.

Right to Amend

All parish and Archdiocesan school programs are governed by the policies and regulations of the Department of Catholic Schools as set down in the Administrative Handbook for Elementary and Secondary Schools, Archdiocese of San Francisco and in interim communications. These regulations have the same purpose and binding force as all other directives and enactments of the Ordinary (Statutes 147 – see #2121 Administrative Handbook, #2113)

St. Veronica Catholic School, embodied in the principal, faculty, and staff, retains the right to amend this handbook as the need arises. Families will be notified of changes.

Your signature on the *Parent-Student Handbook Contract* indicates that you agree to support, uphold, and be governed by these policies and procedures as stated in the *St. Veronica Catholic School Parent-Student Handbook*.