



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

A Jesuit school forming Kids for Others
Preschool - 8th Grade

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are excited to announce that as part of our 7th-grade science curriculum, students will have the incredible opportunity to participate in a hands-on learning experience at the **Catalina Island Marine Institute (CIMI)** off the coast of California. This trip is a **capstone experience** that will complement our studies in ecology, allowing students to explore marine life and environmental science in an immersive setting.

During this trip, students will engage in a variety of activities designed to enhance their understanding of marine ecosystems. These experiences will include:

- Snorkeling to observe ocean life firsthand
- Using microscopes to examine marine organisms
- Dissecting squid to learn about anatomy
- Touching and interacting with live sea creatures
- Growing as independent young learners and strengthening class bonds

Trip Details:

Dates: September 2nd – September 5th, 2025 (*updated for optimal weather conditions*)

Location: Catalina Island Marine Institute (CIMI)

Who Attends: All 7th-grade students

Important Update on Cost

Please note that **there has been a \$150 increase in the trip cost** due to a change in the ferry's departure location. The new location requires an additional bus transfer to reach the ferry, which has resulted in higher transportation costs and a change in lodging for the night of September 2nd.

To ensure we have accurate travel information, we kindly ask that you **register your child with Educational Travel Adventures (ETA) by March 15th, 2025** by following the instructions below:

How to Register:

1. Visit <https://www.etadventures.com> and click “Login” (green text at the top of the screen).
2. Enter the trip code: **stfrancisca25**
3. Choose “Access Account” and create an account using your email or Google account.
4. If you have an existing ETA account, simply sign in.
5. Once logged in, select “Add a New Trip” and enter **stfrancisca25** again.
6. You will see the trip details—select “Make a New Reservation” and complete all required fields.
7. A **\$150 registration deposit** is required. Please contact **Aundrea Yabo Ramirez** should you need an extension in making this payment.

ETA has provided a link to their scholarship application should you wish to apply: [ETA Scholarship Application](#)

This trip is an essential part of our curriculum, and we are confident it will be an unforgettable learning experience for all students. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

Thank you for your support in making this adventure possible for our students!

Best regards,

Cari Sheedy

7th Grade Science

St. Francis Xavier School