

St. Agnes School Newsletter

3886 Chestnut Ave. Concord, CA 94519



925-689-3990

April 21, 2010

www.stagnesconcord.com

Principal's Corner

St. John, one of the four Gospel writers, also wrote letters that can be found in the back of the Bible. In his first letter (1 John 3:17), we are reminded: "If someone rich enough in this world's goods saw someone in need, but closed his/her heart to them, how could the love of God be living in them?"

The famous Russian writer, Leo Tolstoy, tells of a time when he was walking down the street and passed a homeless person begging. Tolstoy reached into his pocket to give the person some money, but his pocket was empty. Tolstoy turned to the man and said, "I'm sorry, my brother, but I have no money to give you today."

The poor person brightened and said, "You have given me more than I asked for -- you have called me brother."

St. Paul in his letter to the Corinthians (4:5) we hear the words, "God will praise each one of them." Nothing escapes God's notice. Not "the best of them" not "a few of them" nor "the achievers among them." but "God will praise each one of them." No one will be left out. God will see to that. So, when it comes to giving recognition, our God will not delegate the job. God will do the honors, and the praise will be persona." Awards will not be given a nation at a time, a church at a time, or a generation at a time. The crowns for goodness will be given one at a time.

What message are we to take from Saints John and Paul? We are

to find God in one another. To those who are loved, a word of affection is as a morsel, but to the love-starved, a word of affection can be a feast. In the end, we all want to hear God say, "well done, good and faithful servant, come and join in your master's happiness!"

Important Dates, Information, and Update

You're Invited

Sister Rita turns 90 on Mother's Day, May 9th. We want to honor her on this wonderful occasion and thank her for all she has done these many years for so many. Mark your calendars and join us at the 9:00AM Mass on Sunday, May 9th followed by a reception in Cauchi Hall. So that we can be prepared, please fill out the invitation in the family envelope and return it to school. Then come and enjoy the moment.

Volunteer Hours

The final accounting of all Volunteer Hours takes place on the last day of April (April 30th). What does that mean? If you have not served all your hours, including maintenance hours, by that April 30th date you will be billed accordingly (\$40.00 per un-served hour).

If you have any completed volunteer vouchers, please get them into the Volunteer Coordinator, Annette Anderson ASAP. And, if

you have your 40+ hours done and no maintenance hours served you have only one more work party in which to get that done or be billed. We want everyone to get credit for all hours served.

SCRIP Commitment

Every family needs to participate in the school's SCRIP program by using SCRIP in such a manner that a minimum profit to the school of \$250.00 is reached. This goal is accomplished in two ways—e-SCRIP or hard SCRIP/gift cards. While e-SCRIP is very easy and convenient, it's accounting of purchases made lags about 2 to 3 months behind. Hard SCRIP gift cards are accounted for immediately and are applied to the goal of \$250.00 when purchased. An up-to-date accounting can be found in your family envelope. The following fees will be assessed if one does not reach the minimum goal of \$250.00 profit – the difference plus 10%.

Accelerated Reading

Week Twenty-six of our Accelerated Reading reporting is here. I am pleased to announce that we increased our score to 23,647 points earned towards our goal of 25000 points by year's end. We are at 94.6% of our total goal. Continue supporting your children enjoy reading. Monitor the bulletin board outside the school office. It is updated on a weekly basis.

Survey

St. Agnes School Newsletter

3886 Chestnut Ave. Concord, CA 94519



925-689-3990

April 21, 2010

www.stagnesconcord.com

As was announced last week, the Diocese of Oakland has begun a process of planning for the future of Catholic education. An on-Line survey has been developed and I strongly encourage everyone to go to the following website to access the survey and complete it. Your thoughts, hopes, dreams, and concerns need to be expressed. The survey is available in English and Spanish. For English go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/dioceseofOaklandCatholicSchools>. For Spanish go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/dioceseofOaklandCatholicSchoolsSpanish>. Everyone is busy but it is important to join others in working towards the creation of an instructional system that is viable, relevant, and "Catholic". So, please share your ideas. It will only take a few minutes of your time, and it can and will affect future generations to come! All responses need to be completed by Friday, April 30th. The survey can also be accessed on the webpage of the Diocese by going to (www.oakdiocese.org)

Father Daughter Dance

Have you decided to take your daughter/s to the Dance? It's this Saturday, April 24, 2010, at St. Bonaventure's Large Hall. Remember your "daughter may out grow your lap, but she will never out grow your heart." And, the 8th grade dads and daughters are guests. It is still not too late. Go to the website for forms and details.

Golf Tournament

We still need you to golf! Our tournament is this Friday, April 23rd at Boundary Oaks Golf Club. Flyers were sent home several weeks ago but you can access all the information on line by going onto the school's website. Please join us for a round of golf – it benefits every child here.

Book Swap

Last week, we participated in our annual Book Sway. It was a great way to recycle used books. I want to acknowledge all the work and organization that went into the event and to thank Sharon Jenkins (Nathan and Michael's mom) for all she did to put this Swap together. I also want to thank all who brought in their gently used books for others to enjoy!

Rocco's Pizza

Next Wednesday, April 28th is our annual Rocco's Pizza Day. Since it is a minimum day, you can take the kids there for lunch and then join us for dinner too. This is a social/fundraiser so tell your waiter or waitress that you are from St. Agnes School so that the school receives credit for your purchases. Consult the flyer that is attached for all the details. Happy Wednesday Eating!

Spirit Shirts

We are gearing up for next year's Spirit t-Shirt and Jean day every Tuesday. Would you or your company be interested in having your name on the back of the t-shirts? Enclosed in the family envelope is a Spirit t-Shirt Sponsorship flyer. Please take a moment to consider becoming a sponsor because this can't happen without your help. We would like to have the shirts available for purchase the first day of school next year, so if you are interested please get your money and form in. Thank you for your support.

Shoes for Kids

Many of you have spotted the bright blue container near the first grade side of the building. This container is for shoes for Afghan children. Put shoes inside the container and they will be sent to Afghanistan. Your donation will honor the memory of Captain John Hallett, a former student of our school, who was killed 8 months ago by a roadside bomb. I encourage you to support his family's effort. And, knowing John, I know John would welcome this being done in his memory too.

Progress Reports

How quickly time flies! It is that time of the year again. We are in the middle of the last trimester and your son or daughters progress report goes home next Wednesday, April 28th. Your son or daughter will be given their own progress reports. Please look for those reports and

St. Agnes School Newsletter

3886 Chestnut Ave. Concord, CA 94519



925-689-3990

April 21, 2010

www.stagnesconcord.com

discuss the progress to date (or lack thereof) with your child. If your child is doing poorly, you might want to schedule a quick meeting with the teacher to learn how to better support their learning.

Words to Inspire!

I am certain you have heard this quote before. I do not know who said it first but it is worthy of reflection. "What you are is God's gift to you. What you make of yourself is your gift to God." The author, Charles Dickens once said, "Reflect upon your present blessings, of which everyone has many – not on your past misfortunes, of which all have some." And Pope John XXIII said, "Whoever has a heart full of love always has something to give." I hope you have a week that is both blessed and a blessing to others.

Kids Fest

Over the Memorial Day weekend, the City of Concord sponsors a special Kid's Fest. This year is their 21st annual event. I encourage you to go on line at www.kidsfestconcord.com and check out all the wonderful things the kids will have the opportunity to experience. Mark your calendar and spend sometime at Kid's Fest over that long weekend.

Auction Items

There is still time to purchase some of the special touches of this

past Auction. The entire staff here at school, created lots of goodies and collectables that you can still purchase. Come to the office and take a look. For \$10.00 you can buy a CD/DVD of your child and their class in living color. They make darling keepsakes. Or you can take a look at single picture proofs of your child/children. You can special order a 4x6 glossy for \$5.00, a 5x7 glossy for \$8.00 or an 8x10 glossy for \$10.00. These shots will bring smiles to your face for years to come.

Tuition Statements

If you have any outstanding balances in tuition payments, you will find an accounting in the family envelope. Mrs. Fitzpatrick wants everyone to know that all outstanding balances must be made current by May 15th. Please contact Mrs. Fitzpatrick with any questions.

Contacts

Each month, a representative from PACE and School Board make themselves available to speak with you regarding any concerns, ideas, compliments, suggestions etc., you might have. For the month of April, Sylvia Arnold will be the PACE Representative. She can be reached at 383-0320. Bruce O'Brien will be the School Board Representative and he can be reached at 689-4870. Please give either of them a call if you would like something to be shared. Thanks!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday, April 21st

3rd grade leaves for Camp Monte Toyon in Santa Cruz

Friday, April 23rd

3rd grade returns from camp
Golf Tournament at Boundary Oaks

Saturday, April 24th

Child/Parent First Eucharist Retreat
Cauchi Hall from 9:30 to 12:30PM
Father/Daughter Dance at St.
Bonaventure's at 6:30PM

Monday, April 26th

5th grade goes to Camp Caritas

Wednesday, April 28th

Minimum Day 12:30 dismissal for
Staff/teacher articulation
Rocco's Pizza Day/Night (lunch and
dinner)
Progress Reports go home today

Friday, April 30th

5th grade returns home from Camp