

St. Agnes School Newsletter

3886 Chestnut Ave. Concord, CA 94519



925-689-3990

February 17, 2010

www.stagnesconcord.com

Principal's Corner

Yesterday was "Fat Tuesday" or Mardi Gras. The children enjoyed special treats. At morning recess they had "King Cakes" to eat. Every child in the class had a portion to eat and one child got a piece with a small doll in it. The children who got those dolls became the 'Court' from which a king and queen are selected to lead the parade. At lunch we had hot dogs and hamburgers to eat. And, lunch was followed by a lively parade. All sorts of fun activities were enjoyed in preparation for the somberness of today -- Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent.

At Mass this morning, we were reminded that our God calls us to be "patient and kind". Our foreheads were marked with ashes in the form of a cross, the symbol of how much we are loved by our God and the cost of our discipleship. The first reading was taken from the book of Joel *"Return to the Lord your God who is Gracious and merciful, slow to anger and rich in kindness."*

This Lenten season do things differently. Instead of giving up things, do something from the heart instead. As Lent begins, God wants us to practice -- kindness. Simple, random acts of kindness need to be practiced every day, all day. Consider this: in all your dealings with others be gentle and rich in kindness. Treat others the way you would want them to treat you. Doing something positive every day of Lent is often much harder than

giving something up for the entire period of Lent.

Important Dates, Information, and Update

Soles 4 Souls

In last week's family newsletter, it was announced that we would be collecting shoes for the people of Haiti. There is a flyer in this week's envelope announcing the particulars. The Shoe Drive begins tomorrow February 18th and ends on March 18th. You have one month to clean out your closets and donate shoes you are not wearing to a very good cause. As the flyer says, your extra pair of shoes could be their only pair.

Summer School

If you want your child to have a more formal learning experience this summer, contact Queen of All Saints for a summer school application. With all the budget cuts, there probably will not be public summer school programs. QAS will have a full day experience with academics in the AM and enrichment in the PM. Extended care will operate until 5:45PM too. If interested contact them at 685-8700 for more information.

CYO Party

If your son or daughter participated in CYO basketball, you are being invited to join in a party/fundraiser being hosted at the 1515 Restaurant and Lounge on next Thursday, February 25th from 6:00PM to 10:00PM. The restaurant will be giving back to CYO a portion of the income for the night so you are asked to bring the flyer that is in the family envelope with you should you desire to attend this event. Come and support St. Agnes CYO!

Finger Printing

Any parents who will be supervising children on an overnight event must be finger printed. This is not our requirement but a Diocesan requirement and we must be in compliance. In order to facilitate the process, the Diocese is sending out personnel to assist in this effort.

Date: is Wednesday, February 24th

Time: is 3:00 – 7:00PM

Place: is The School Reading Room

To the question, who needs finger printing? The answer is, any parent/adult supervising over night any children who attend St. Agnes School or Faith Formation programs or parish sponsored activity. That includes all scouting activities as well as school activities. No exceptions will be made. If you elect not to be finger printed you will not be allowed to supervise an activity that is scheduled for overnight. The cost is \$25.00 if the Diocese does the fingerprinting and \$85.00 if the Concord Police Department does the check. Please

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make all checks payable to St. Agnes School. We will then be billed by the Diocese for this service.

And finally, when you come you must present your valid California Driver's License and complete a form for the state.

Father Daughter Dance

We will have our Father Daughter Dance thanks to some of our dads. In order to get things organized a meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, February 24th at 7:00PM in Cauchi Hall. We need all the dads who can help to attend. Many hands make light work so come to the meeting. Contact Dennis Meyer at 818-3570 if you have any questions or would like to help but cannot attend the meeting.

Mexico Youth Trip

The youth of the Concord Deanery travel to Baja California every year at Easter time to build small dwellings for the poor. As a part of this program, they also offer a Bible Camp experience the local children. All supplies need to be furnished so we come to ask for your help. If you would like to help these youth bring God to the poor, please consider donating any of the following items:

Crayons, markers, stickers, buttons, yarn, plastic beads, fun foam sheets, fun foam stickers, etc. Anything that you can give will be greatly appreciated by all those who will be working down there for the week.

As always, God blesses us for our generous hearts in ways we cannot possibly imagine. Thank you for trying to make a difference in the lives of people you will never meet.

Contact Rose Wright at rosemaryol@comcast.net if you can donate items or if you have questions.

Accelerated Reading

Week Nineteen of our Accelerated Reading reporting is here. I am pleased to announce that we increased our score to 16,659 points earned towards our goal of 25000 points by year's end. We are at almost 67% of our total goal. Please continue to monitor the bulletin board outside the school office. It is being updated weekly.

Six Flags

Last chance! The deadline for those wishing to earn free admittance into Six Flags in Vallejo is next Tuesday, February 23rd. Students in grades Kindergarten through 6th grade are eligible to participate. All they do is read a total of six hours before Tuesday. No late forms will be accepted.

After School Dance

We have the opportunity to offer creative dance/movement after school on Tuesdays here at St. Agnes for Kindergarteners and first graders. A flyer/registration form for the Kindergarteners and 1st grade children can be found in this week's family envelope. If you are interested in allowing your children

to experience this, please contact Susan Pugh at 672-3681 (home) 381-7840 (cell) or via email at suzepugh@comcast.net. I know her personally and she has been doing this for years at other places so I thought it might be good for us to do too.

Last Chance

If you want to get a Spirit t-shirt you will need to do it now. Last chance purchase – the remaining inventory will be sent to Haiti for children to wear. You have until the end of February to get your shirts. The cost is \$15.00 each. Spirit shirts can be worn every Tuesday with jeans through the end of the school year.

Raffle Tickets

If you purchased your raffle tickets by the early deadline you will find a free dress pass for your child/children to use on Wednesday, February 24th.

Volunteers Needed

The work party needs help. We especially need the services of an electrician. Earn double the hours of work. Contact Carlos if you can be of assistance.

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Golf for Kids

Don't forget about the after school golf opportunity. If you have a son or daughter interested in playing golf on the first ever St. Agnes golf team, contact Harry Anicama at 673-8933 or harrya77@yahoo.com. The Golf season is about to begin and will continue through May with official matches beginning in March. We will compete against neighboring schools and play matches at different golf courses in the Contra Costa area. Most matches will be 9 holes and will take place on weekdays after school. If you are interested in joining the team, or for more information, please contact Harry Anicama.

See's Candy

PACE will be selling See's Candy for Easter. The sale will begin next Wednesday. A notice will be in next week's family envelope so stay tuned for more information.

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 February, Christina Pauline will be the PACE Representative. She can be reached at 672-7781. Lorie Johnson will be the School Board Representative and she can be reached at 787-4450. Please give either of them a call if you would

like something to be shared.
Thanks!

Prayers Please

Please remember in your prayers Joel Dawson, the little 7-year-old boy we have been praying for this past year. Joel died from cancer and was buried yesterday. Please keep his mom and dad (Tracy and Sean) in your prayers. Joel has two siblings a sister Sophie (5) and a brother Andrew (3 ½).

Special Thanks

I want to take this opportunity to thank all those who assisted us in caring for the Dawson family this past week. Death is always very difficult, but the death of a young child is even more tragic. I want to especially acknowledge the 1st grade parents who adopted this family and have taken care of them from the beginning of the school year. I know they will continue to do what they can to be there for this family. Last night's reception following the funeral was hosted by them. I know your generosity meant a lot to the family. So, thank you one and all for being the hands and heart of Christ to the Dawson family.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, February 19th

7th grade Dance at Christ the King
7:00PM – 9:00PM

Saturday, February 20th

Work Party
9:00AM to 1:00PM

Tuesday, February 23rd

School Art and Science Fair
6:30PM in Church Hall

Wednesday, February 24th

Life Scan Finger printing
3:00PM to 7:00PM
Reading Room
See's Candy Sale begins