

St. Agnes School Newsletter

3886 Chestnut Ave. Concord, CA 94519



925-689-3990

May 13, 2010

www.stagnesconcord.com

Principal's Corner

This Sunday is the 7th Sunday of the Easter Season. It is called Ascension Sunday, a feast that is meant to be a reminder that Jesus Christ lives now in glory while at the same time living with and in God's people on earth. Before Jesus ascended into heaven he reminded his friends to carry on his work, preach the good news, and baptize those who believe in him. He also promised that He would be with them always and that He would send the Holy Spirit to strengthen and guide them.

Ascension Sunday reminds us to look for Christ in the faces of those around us. We need to see Christ in the hungry and homeless, the lonely, bullied and teased. We need to find God in all those who need our help. And that is only one side of the faces where Christ hides. We need to find Christ in those who love us and care for us, in those who teach, coach, heal, and help us. We need to see the face of Christ in our brothers, sisters, and friends.

The Feast of the Ascension of the Lord reminds us to keep our eyes open. Jesus is risen and He is very close to us.

Some Trivia

Prior to the Second Vatican Council, the feast of the Ascension was always celebrated 40 days after Easter. It always was on a Thursday. The three days prior to Ascension Thursday were called "Rogation Days" days of blessings for seeds, seedlings, sprouts, and blossoms. In many places throughout the world,

people would walk in procession through their gardens and fields praying to God for a blessing on their crops. Spring is important to the life and growth cycle of all plants. Perhaps this week, we can ask our gracious God to bless our gardens during this special time of year, our Easter season.

Important Dates, Information, and Update

Alert! Alert!

Tomorrow's Mass, hosted by the Second grade students, will be at 8:00AM and not 9:00AM. This Mass will be the children's first Eucharist with their school community. We hope that many of you will be able to join us for Mass. All of the children need to be at school by 7:45AM and in their formal uniform.

Thank You

I want to extend thanks to all who joined us to honor Sister Rita on the occasion of her 90th birthday. Thank you for taking the time to come and celebrate her goodness with us. Special thanks to all the parents and staff who helped us organize, decorate, serve, and clean up afterwards. We could not have done it without your many helping hands. Sister Rita was very grateful for all of your kind thoughts and warm wishes.

Ice Cream Social

We hope everyone is ready for the last social event of the school year, our annual Ice Cream Social. This event will be held on Monday, June 7th from 5:30PM to 8:00PM. Come kick off the summer with friends, a BBQ dinner and your own custom made ice cream sundae. Order forms can be found in this week's family envelope. We are only able to accept pre-orders for all the food items so please return your order form no later than Friday, June 4th. We hope our graduates and their families will also join us for the evening.

If you are a volunteer for this event or would like to get a head start on your volunteer hours for next year, we need your help! Join us at our planning meeting this Thursday, May 13th at 7:00PM to 8:00PM in the Church kitchen/Hall. All are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact either Dave Afinowicz at 429-0478, or Renee Seaton at 639-5250.

Accelerated Reading

Week Twenty-nine of our Accelerated Reading report is here. Last week we exceeded our goal of 25000 points and were at 102% of our total goal. This week we eclipsed that figure and are now at 105%. Keep up the great job, readers! Please continue to monitor the bulletin board outside the school office. What will be our final total? How much will it be by year's end?

St. Agnes School Newsletter

3886 Chestnut Ave. Concord, CA 94519



925-689-3990

May 13, 2010

www.stagnesconcord.com

SCRIP Accounting

The final accounting of your SCRIP activity can be found in today's family envelope. This represents the final accounting for this school year. Purchases made after the 30th of April will be credited to next year's commitment. Fees will be forthcoming if you did not participate fully in the SCRIP program as per the contract you signed with the school year began. Please direct any questions to the SCRIP coordinators (Gary and Maricela Veran).

Blue Star Moms

Blue Star moms are parents of young men and women serving in harms way in order to protect our country's interests and the ideals of the American people. Every year at this time of year they begin to collect goodies to send abroad. They package everything and create individual care packages to the troops abroad. Last week you received a flyer with the kinds of items needed. They also have a k-nine unit so doggie treats are also very welcome. Should you wish to make a monetary donation, feel free to write a tax deductible check made out to Contra Costa Blue Star Moms. This is a good cause. We hope everyone will feel the need to bust the morale of our troops this 4th of July. All donations need to be turned in prior to the end of May (21st to be exact!)

Mandatory Parent Meeting

Our annual **MANDATORY** meeting of all parents will be held on Wednesday, May 19TH (next week). The meeting will begin at 7:00PM as we have much to share with all of you. As an incentive, your children will be given three special free dress passes if you are present for the meeting. We also want to thank all of you for volunteering your time and talent in the classroom, on boards, for events, etc., so please come at 6:15 for some wine and snacks prior to the meeting. This will take place in the back portion of the Church.

Special Sale

One of our wonderful families will be relocating to New York after our school year ends. Perhaps you know the Needham family. The home they will be moving to is smaller and they need to down size. They are having a special sale of household items and furniture. They have sofas, beds, appliances, tables etc., that they will not be able to move and would like them to go to good homes. Therefore, you are being invited to attend a sale this Saturday, May 15th, from 8:00 AM to 1:00PM. You can locate their address by checking in the family directory.

CYO Track

We want to extend our congratulations to the students from St Agnes' CYO Track team who competed this weekend at our Diocesan Championships. A Hip,

hip hooray to Gabe Thompson who took 6th place in the 6th grade Shot Put, Maddie Thompson who took 4th place in the 3rd grade and under 50 meter race, Sinjin Speer who took 3rd place in the 3rd grade 4 x 100 Relay race and 5th place in the 3rd grade 800 meter race and Wyatt Seaton who took 1st place in the 5th grade Shot Put. Way to go athletes!

Volunteers

The recorded number of hours spent in volunteering here at St. Agnes School this year was 15,475 hours of service. We know we had lots more but when many of you finished your hours you also stopped recording them and turning them in. We are grateful to all of you who shared so abundantly of your time and talent. What happens here at school could not happen without the many gracious hands of all of you our wonderful volunteers. Thank you for making a difference!

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 May, Tim Canevascini will be the PACE Representative. He can be reached at 672-7478. Jeanette Ward will be the School Board Representative and she can be reached at 360-9657. Please give either of them a call if you would like something to be shared. Thanks!

St. Agnes School Newsletter

3886 Chestnut Ave. Concord, CA 94519



925-689-3990

May 13, 2010

www.stagnesconcord.com

Be Inspired

As you navigate through your week, I thought I would share some words of wisdom spoken by prominent people. Nathaniel Hawthorne once said, "Our Creator would never have made such lovely days and given us the deep hearts to enjoy them, unless we were meant to be immortal." Confucius wrote, "Happiness does not consist in having what you want, but in wanting what you have." The Reverend Jesse Jackson said, "We have allowed death to change its name from Southern rope to Northern dope. Too many of our youth have been victimized by pushing dope into their veins instead of hope into their brains." From the mouth of an anonymous person comes this advice, "When wealth is lost, nothing is lost; When health is lost, something is lost; When character is lost, all is lost!" And finally, from the lips of God, "Look to God and you shall radiate joy." Enough advice for the week! Maya God bless you with a happy week!

Young Writers

Some of our students participated in the 2010 California Writers Club Young Writers Contest. We want to applaud the efforts of each of them and call special attention to Katie Molyneux (8th grade) who wrote a story entitled "How It Feels To Be Tall Me". There were over 500 entries in this contest and Katie won an Honorable Mention Award for her writing. Way to go Katie!

4th Grade Lollipop Sale

Come out and support the 4th grade's lollipop sale. This Thursday and Friday, the 4th grade will be selling lollipops for \$1.00. All proceeds will go to the "Get On The Bus" program. This program, sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph, provides transportation and care packages for children so they can visit their parents who are incarcerated in jail. The "Get On The Bus" program takes place only twice a year – Mother's Day in May and Father's day in June. We thank you for your support.

Tuition Statements

Mrs. Fitzpatrick has prepared a revised Tuition statement for every family with balances owed. Please check your family envelope. If you have any balance, this statement indicates the amount owed. Please note, that your statements include fees for un-served hours, auction fines and SCRIP fees if you did not meet the \$250.profit goal. Again, direct questions about your hours to the Volunteer Coordinator, Annette Anderson, Auction questions to the Auction Chairs, Beth Stagner and Angie Blackmon and SCRIP questions to the Veran's. All balances need to be remitted by May 15th. And, to bring your account to a zero balance, you may use a credit card (Visa, MasterCard or debit cards)

Field Day

If you signed up to be involved with Field Day activities, your assignment can be found in this week's family envelope. The day begins at 8:05 and Mrs. Timms would like all volunteers to be here by 7:30 AM. Lunch and snack will be served to everyone. Please remit a check for lunch/snack (\$3.00 per person). Dismissal will take place at 12:30PM

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, May 13th

School Mass at 8:00AM in the Church
Students drop off time is 7:35AM

Saturday, May 15th

Work Party
9:00AM to 1:00PM

Tuesday, May 18th

8th grade retreat in Lafayette

Wednesday, May 19th

6:15PM Volunteer Thank You Reception (Church Hall)
7:00PM Mandatory Parent meeting in the Church