

St. Agnes School Newsletter

3886 Chestnut Ave. Concord, CA 94519



925-689-3990

November 11, 2009

www.stagnesconcord.com

Principal's Corner

Today is Veteran's Day, a day in which we remember all those who have represented our country in times of war and conflict. Today is a day set apart to recognize and celebrate all those who have risked their lives so that you and I can enjoy the freedoms guaranteed under our constitution. May we never take for granted the fact that freedom comes at a tremendous price, it is never free!

As promised last week, I want to share the pearls of wisdom spoken by women. May they be a source of edification and inspiration as you navigate through your week!

Helen Keller once said, "To be blind is bad, but a worse thing would be to have eyes and not see." She also said, "Our worst foes are not belligerent circumstances, but wavering spirits."

Rosemary Haughton is quoted as saying profoundly, "The purpose of a family is the formation of people who are able to love."

St. Elizabeth Seaton, who is credited with the founding of our American Catholic School system, offers this powerful reminder, "The rich must live more simply, that more may simply live."

Chiara Lubich puts things in perspective when she says, "We should live in such a way that in our last hours we will not regret having loved too little."

"Harriet Beecher Stowe once wrote these words, "No one can judge whether a person is rich or

poor by turning to a ledger. It is the heart that makes one rich. A person is rich according to what they are and not what they have."

Dorothy Day, the founder of The Catholic Worker Movement said these words, "No one has the right to sit down and feel hopeless because there is too much work to do." Together, let's work that God's kingdom of peace, hope, love and happiness becomes reality.

Important Dates, Information, and Update

Kindergarten Information Night

While it seems that school has just started we do need to plan ahead for next year. So, if you have a child who will be eligible for Kindergarten next school year, we want to invite you to dinner and an information night next Monday, November 16th. Our evening will begin at 6:30PM with dinner and ends by 8:00PM. Please contact the school office (689-3990) and make a reservation. There are also information flyers in the school office to help. Please inform your friends or neighbors who have children of kindergarten age of this event as well. Thanks!

Lice Check

Last week we had our monthly head check. One case of lice was found and a notification was sent home. Let's not forget, all parents need to be vigilant. No one wants the tremendous inconvenience these lousy things cause. Check your kid's heads often. If they are washing their own heads, check to see if they are doing a good job of rinsing. Dry scalps need attention too.

School Mass

Tomorrow, Thursday, November 12th is our monthly school Mass. All students are expected to arrive at school early (7:45AM). We leave for Church and our in our places by 7:55AM. Please make sure you leave early enough to arrive on time for Mass. All students are expected to be in their formal attire. No shorts! Boys always wear belts too. Thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

Don't Forget the Link

We want to accommodate all those who prefer to receive weekly communications electronically. We have created a link on our home page for all who want to receive the school newsletter via email, on your blackberries, or through your mobile phones etc. To access this feature go to our webpage, enter your email and click on go. Those of you who sent in your email addresses will also have to re-register once by doing this easy step. We apologize for any inconvenience

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and hope that you will find this a convenient way to communicate.

Yearbook Love Lines

The Yearbook editorial staff continues to gather pictures and stories for our yearbook of memories. Love Lines are a popular way of personalizing the Yearbook. Your children look forward to reading your words of affection and encouragement. A "Love Lines" sheet is in our webpage. Directions for its completion are very simple. All "Love Lines" need to be turned into the school office no later than next Thursday, November 19th. Adhering to that deadline assists the editorial staff in their work, so thanks for your cooperation.

School Webpage

Our school's webpage is in a constant state of change. Again, I want to encourage everyone to visit our webpage often. Many pages have been updated. Check out PACE's webpage and Wheel-a-thon's page as well, just to name a few.

Extra Hours

Father Vince has some jobs that he would like completed that are over and above what our work parties can accomplish. If you need extra hours, and can work weekdays, contact Mr. Amaya. You can receive hours for your time. His number is on the first page of the school's directory.

Accelerated Reading

Week Nine of our Accelerated Reading reporting is here. I am pleased to announce that this week we increased our score by 648 points. Our total is now 8672 points earned towards our goal of 25000 points by year's end. Please continue to monitor the bulletin board outside the school office. It is being updated weekly. Stay tuned and watch us read! Way to go kids!

Bingo Update

The first St. Agnes Bingo night takes place this Friday, November 13th. If you've joined us before you know they are always lots of fun, and for many of us, quite profitable. This is your last chance. The double-sided flyer is a reservation form and a menu/drink form should you desire to have dinner prior to or during Bingo. If you are bringing your children for baby-sitting you can also order dinner for them. If you are planning to attend, reserve your spot in advance. Fill out the form and return it to the office ASAP.

Breakfast with Santa

Christmas will be here before we know it. Our Breakfast with Santa celebration is just a few weeks away. A bright red flyer is in the family envelope with all the details.

Save the Date:

Saturday, December 5th
9:00AM to 1:00PM
Cauchi Hall

Please, fill out the bottom portion of the red form and return it to the office ASAP.

Winter Raffle

Your first \$50.00 of raffle tickets came home a couple of weeks ago. These tickets can be taken to work, sold to family and friends etc. As was announced this is the Auction raffle with a new twist. We want to help with your Christmas shopping. There will be four lucky winners of \$500.00 each. The drawing takes place after our Christmas Concert in December.

Contacts

Each month, a representative from PACE and School Board will make themselves available to speak with you regarding any concerns, compliments, ideas, suggestions etc. you might have. For the month of November, Nancy Wentworth will be the PACE Representative. She can be reached at 676-3365. Eileen DeMaria will be the School Board Representative and she can be reached at 408-8321. Please give either of them a call if you would like something to be shared. Thanks!

Reminder

In order to avoid any questions our Thanksgiving Vacation dates are as follows: Thanksgiving week is two days long. The children will be in school on Monday 11/23 (full day schedule) Tuesday 11/24, 1/2 day, 12:30 dismissal).

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There will be no school on Wednesday 11/25, Thursday 11/26, or Friday 11/27.

Prayers Please

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of Sister Rita's niece Linda and Haley (8th) and Abby (6th) Cappa's grandfather who died this past week. Please hold their respective families in your thoughts and prayers as well.

Rules of the Road

Whether someone is standing there to enforce the rule or not, there is no turning to the left as one exits the front gate of the school in the morning. There are two practical reasons for this policy. One is that it holds up the traffic so that families are unable to enter and drop off their children in a timely manner and the other is one of safety. Traffic is flowing both ways and we are not the only school in the area. It is difficult for people to cross the traffic and make a sharp left turn if someone is in the middle of the narrow driveway. Please honor this rule so that everyone can move safely in and out of school.

Spirit Shirts

There are still some spirit shirts available for both adults and children. There are no more smalls for children and there are only a few small adults shirts left. All of the other sizes are available. If you have purchased your shirts already, thank you for supporting this fundraiser. If

you haven't got your yet, there is still time. The kids are enjoying these shirts each Tuesday with their jeans.

Gift Wrap and Cookie/Dessert Order

Next Wednesday November 18th you or a friend must pick up your gift-wrap and cookie/dessert orders after school on the patio area in front of the Church Hall. If your child will be in Kid's Club please inform Mrs. Jennifer Groth at 672-8462 or email her at JRGroth@comcast.net. Your order will then be brought to Kid's Club.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday, November 11th

Development meeting at 6:30PM
6th grade classroom

Thursday, November 12th

8:00AM Mass (early arrival
7:45AM) formal dress
School Board Meeting at 6:30PM
Ministry Center

Friday, November 13th

Bingo Night in Cauchi Hall
Dine at 6:00ish and play at 7:00PM

Saturday, November 14th

Work party
9:00AM to 1:00PM

Monday, November 16th

Magic of Kindergarten
6:30PM dinner in Cauchi Hall
Information to follow in classroom