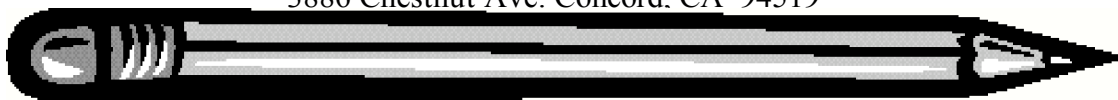


St. Agnes School Newsletter

3886 Chestnut Ave. Concord, CA 94519



925-689-3990

September 23, 2009

www.stagnesconcord.com

Principal's Corner

As the easy days of summer fade into our memories, many families return to a very busy and sometimes almost unbearable schedule. It helps to create a carefully crafted plan that provides a family atmosphere that is less hectic and infinitely more life giving.

Some ideas that might help are:

- 1.) Create routines for your child/ren including a regular time and quiet place for homework; regular physical activity (free play), healthy meals and a regular bedtime that ensures enough sleep.
- 2.) Don't feel pressured by others to provide material things for your kids. What your kids really need is a loving parent.
- 3.) Never underestimate the power of the family meal. Try to eat as many meals together as a family as you can as important conversations take place that are quite insightful.
- 4.) Make time to sit down with your child and listen to what your child is saying.
- 5.) Be selective with extracurricular activities. Children can become exhausted and overwhelmed if they are "Booked" every minute of the day. Cutting back can ease that feeling of always being rushed.

Thoughts for the Week

Two quotes from St. Elizabeth Seaton, "the rich must live more simply, that more may simply live". And, "the most important thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother." Happy week!

Important Dates, Information, and Update

Thank You

Everyone enjoyed a wonderful Wheel-a-thon. There were no accidents to speak of and a delicious lunch was provided for all. On behalf of the children and staff I want to thank again the Kren's for their outstanding leadership. Lots of hours and much creative energy go into making this event so successful. So, thank you Mike and Jeanette and your entire committee of volunteers for a job well done. Thanks also to Tim Ouimet and Diablo Foods for the bar-b-que luncheon. It was delicious. Get your donations in now so that field trips can be enjoyed.

Conferences

Our parent/teacher conferences will take place on Wednesday, October 7th and Thursday, October 8th between the hours of 1:30PM – 8:00 PM both days. Conference schedules will be on the table outside of the school office beginning tomorrow, Thursday, September 24th. Signups for conferences are on a first come first serve basis. Every parent needs to sign up for a conference time. If you need to see any of the special teachers there are conference schedules for them as well. Thank you for your prompt attention in this matter.

Coupon Books

Our Coupon book sale has ended and we want to thank all who supported this fundraiser by purchasing a book. If you purchased coupon books they will be sent home in your family envelope next Wednesday, September 30th. Again, thank you for your support. Please direct any questions regarding these books to either Jennifer Groth at 672-8462 or Nancy Wentworth at 676-3365.

Wheel-a-thon News

The Kren's our co-chairs of the Wheel-a-ton wish to share the following with all of you.

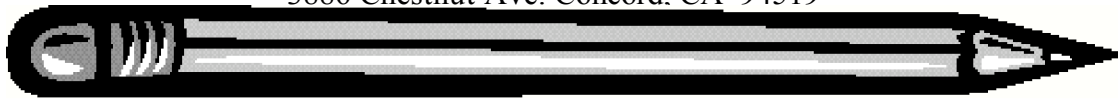
The Wheel-a-thon went well on Thursday the 17th of September. We are happy to report that there were no serious injuries. We were once again blessed with beautiful weather for the event, and the students had a good time out in the fresh air. Your child's pledge sheet will be returned to them shortly so you may begin to collect all the money owed. Thank you to all who helped this event run so smoothly. It would not be possible without all the co-operation from the families and faculty of St. Agnes School.

Used Crocs

Please don't forget to support the St. Agnes School's 6th grade Girl Scout Cadets who are working on collecting used Croc shoes. Please check you closets and bring them to school placing them into the decorated buckets located on each

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side of the main school building. All the used Crocs will be sent to "Soles United". The shoes will be melted down and made into new Crocs that will be sent to children around the world who have no shoes to wear. Thank you for helping these young ladies make a difference in the lives of other children they will never meet.

Head Lice

Please continue to be vigilant regarding lice. Check your children's heads often especially when they are returning from the movies, a party, or an outdoor experience with other families. Head Lice are a problem no family wants to deal with.

End of Summer

Just want to remind everyone that the Fall Fest/End of Summer Event has been canceled for this year. PACE was trying to put together a smaller event but felt unable to accomplish it for various reasons (economy, volunteer pool, time constraints, available cash flow for PACE and families, Wheel-a-thon expenses, etc.). Last week, it was decided the event should be canceled and perhaps the Board would reschedule something to take place during our Catholic School's week. Stay tuned!

Accelerated Reading

As was announced in the last newsletter, we're going to inform everyone weekly of our reading progress as a school. The 2nd through 8th children read books for which they receive points. This year, our school goal is 25,000 points. As of today, we have amassed 3,314 points (an increase of 582 points). Watch the bulletin board outside the school office. It will be updated weekly. Stay tuned and watch us read!

Treats

Beginning today, Wednesday, September 23rd, after school treats await you and your children. Ice cream will be sold today and Friday after school in front of Cauchi Hall for \$1.00 each. The proceeds from this fundraiser will go towards the 125,000 dollars that PACE donates yearly to the school to defray everyone's overall tuition expenses. We will try this fundraiser for one month to determine if this seems to be of interest to you and your children. Ice cream is also a nice incentive/reward for outstanding performance, behavior, and grades/reports. Enjoy the treat especially during these warm days.

Work Party

There is a work party this Saturday, September 26th between the hours of 9:00AM and 1:00PM. Since many hands lighten the load, I encourage you to come and work. It is a great way of getting to know

each other. Remember that every family is expected to work at least one work party shift.

Contacts

Each month, representatives from PACE and School Board will be available to speak with you regarding any concerns, compliments, ideas, suggestions etc. For the month of September, Michelle Martinez will represent PACE. She can be reached at 787-7884. Lisa Karmann will represent the School Board and she can be reached at 586-7647. Please give either of them a call if you wish something of importance to be shared. Thanks!

Box Tops

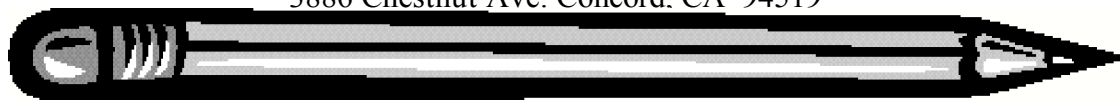
The school is always collecting the box tops. We ask you to cut them out and send them in either a plastic baggie or envelope to school. Redeeming these box tops is an easy fundraiser for the school. I encourage your participation in this project. There are thousands of manufacturers who participate in this program.

Financial Statements

In your family envelope today you will find a current financial statement that reflects all the payments that have been received to date. Mrs. Fitzpatrick asks that you check the statement to make sure everything has been recorded correctly especially parish registration information.

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Disaster Drill

Every year we are required to practice what to do in the event of a natural disaster. On Friday, October 2nd, we will practice our drill so that everyone knows what to do in the event of any type of natural disaster.

Please remember that only the names of individuals that you have indicated on the yellow card will be able to pick up your children.

If you can't remember the names you listed, please check with the school office prior to the drill. We will not give your child/ren to anyone who is not listed on that card.

Our disaster drill works like this:

- 1) Enter only by the gate nearest the front of the school.
- 2) Stay in your vehicle. Do not come onto the grounds on foot.
- 3) Stagger your arrival time as in a disaster, as we will not all arrive at the same time.
- 4) When you get to the table, give the names of all the children you are picking up.
- 5) The staff at the table then gives the names by walkie-talkie to an adult on the grassy area. Your children will then be escorted by an adult to your car.
- 6) When your children are in your vehicle, you will sign off on the yellow form that the school retains and exit the area via the far gate when directed to do so.

- 7) For this year's disaster drill, if your last name begins with the following letters you should arrive at the time listed below:

12:30 – 12:45PM	MNOP
12:45 – 1:00PM	IJKL
1:00 – 1:15PM	QRST
1:15 – 1:30PM	EFGH
1:30 – 1:45PM	UVW
1:45 – 2:00PM	ABCD
2:00 – 2:15PM	XYZ

All students should be picked up by 2:30PM at the latest. There is no Day Care on this date.

Students are encouraged to bring a lunch/snack to eat and a book or cards to play with while they await pickup.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, September 25th

Ice Cream Sale after school
Bring your \$1.00

Saturday, September 26th

Work party
9:00 to 1:00 PM

Wednesday, September 30th

Coupon books will come home in the family envelope