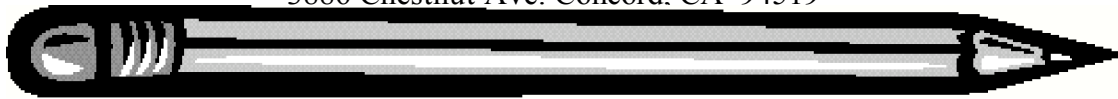


St. Agnes School Newsletter

3886 Chestnut Ave. Concord, CA 94519



925-689-3990

September 30, 2009

www.stagnesconcord.com

Principal's Corner

This week I have chosen to share with each of you some notable quotes. I hope they will contain words that inspire you to navigate differently through the coming week.

We are Catholics. Hopefully, we are here at this school because we believe in a God of love who has no other hands or hearts than ours. Each of you have chosen to send your children to an environment that wraps these innocent ones in the love of Christ every day. In return, as parents and guardians, we need to envelop them into the arms of the village which we call the Church and gather each Sunday in the great prayer of the Church—the Mass. If you are not doing that on a weekly basis, please start. And now, consider these words of wisdom: “Every day is a messenger of God” (Russian Proverb)
“The most beautiful gift we can give each other is the truth.” (anonymous)
“They give little who give much with a frown: rather one gives much who gives even a little with a smile.” (Hebrew Proverb)
“Stay always within the boundaries where God’s love can reach and bless you”. (Jude 21)
“I believe as I did as a child, that life has meaning, direction, and value: that no suffering is lost, that every tear counts, and the secret of living in today’s troubled world is found in the simple phrase of St. John, ‘Deus caritas est’ –God is love!” (Francois Mauriac)

“The most tragic of all, in the long run, is the ultimate attitude, “It doesn’t matter.” (Rollo May)
And finally, “It is not so important to be serious as it is to be serious about important things.” (Robert Hutchins)

Important Dates, Information, and Update

Disaster Drill

This Friday, October 2nd, we again will practice our disaster drill so that everyone knows what to do in the event of any a natural disaster.

Please remember that only the names of the individuals 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 Friday’s drill. Please be advised that we will not give your child/ren to anyone who is not listed on the yellow card.

Our disaster drill works like this:

- 1) Enter only through 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.

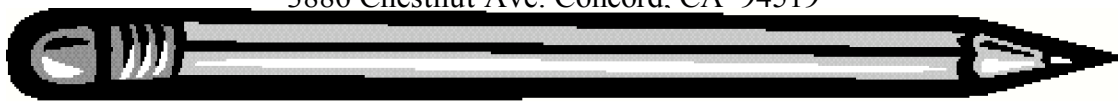
Students are encouraged to bring a lunch/snack to eat and a book or cards to play with while they await pickup.

Addendum

Enclosed in your family envelope a two sided one page that needs to be placed in your Family Handbook. One of the topics deals with Plagiarism and the other with Cyber-bullying. Please read and discuss these issues with your children especially, those who are a part of the Junior High program.

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Blessing of the Animals

This next Monday, October 5th is the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals. All of the students are encouraged to bring their pets to school to participate in a prayer service and blessing. The 1st grade class prepares this prayer service and they want each family to know how special it would be if everyone brought their pet to school. Dogs need to be on leashes, cats should be in containers and all other animals need to be under the control of an adult. Children may bring their favorite stuffed animal also. The stuffed animals can stay at school but the live ones need to go home after the service. I hope you will make the effort to support these little ones in their first prayer service.

LICE Check

It is that time of the month again and we will be checking all heads tomorrow. Please make sure that your child/ren come to school without hairsprays or gels on their hair. If your daughter has long hair please put it in a ponytail instead of braids as that helps the patrol.

Parent Workshop

Everyone needs "faith" refreshers so I want to encourage any and all of you to avail yourself of this workshop tailored to you the parent. It will take place next Wednesday, October 7th at 8:00AM until 9:00AM in the Gathering Place of the Ministry Center. There will

be three sessions and you may participate in one, two or all three of them. Catholicism 101's first session is "The 10 Commandments for the Modern World". I hope you will consider attending, as it will be time well spent.

Conferences

Our parent/teacher conferences take place next Wednesday, October 7th and Thursday, October 8th between 1:30PM – 8:00 PM on both days. Conference schedules have been on the table outside of the school office. Signups for conferences are on a first come first serve basis. Every parent needs to sign up for a conference time by tomorrow evening (Thursday, October 1st). If you need to see any of the special teachers there are conference schedules for them as well. If you do not schedule one by tomorrow, Mrs. Kelley will be contacting you and providing with whatever time is available for conferencing with the teachers. Thank you for your prompt attention in this matter.

Accelerated Reading

Week Three of our Accelerated Reading reporting is here. I am pleased to announce that this week alone, we increased our score by 1,173 points. Our total is now 4,487 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!

Wheel-a-thon

In your family envelope is a Wheel-a-thon pledge envelope. This envelope indicates the number of laps and the total amount pledged. Please begin to collect all money owed and return the envelope with the money by Friday October 16th.

Directory

This year's School Directory can be found in the family envelope. Every family receives one copy free. If you wish to have another copy the cost is \$5.00 each. Contact the office if you wish to order additional copies.

Volunteer Statements

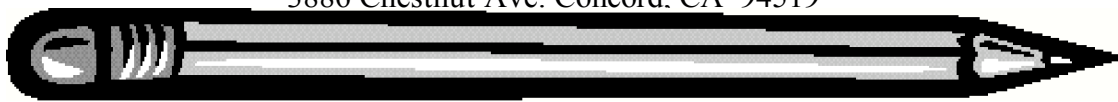
Periodically, you will be receiving an accounting of the hours you have served. One such accounting can be found in this week's family envelope. Please make sure to turn in your volunteer vouchers so that hours served can be properly recorded. Direct all questions to Annette Anderson at 525-9633.

Ice Cream

Our Ice Cream sales continue. Children may purchase ice creams after school today and on Friday for \$1.00 each. Ice Cream is being sold on the patio area of Cauchi Hall.

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Coupon Books

If you purchased the “You’re Invited Coupon books you will find them enclosed in your family envelope this week. They are good through the 2010 calendar year. We hope you will enjoy going out and enjoying the savings in the Coupon book.

E-Waste

Because there are now so many places available, we will no longer be re-cycling e waste materials. Please do not bring any toner cartridges, batteries, cell phones etc. for recycling here to school. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

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 your closets and bring them to school placing them into the decorated buckets located on each 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.

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.

PeaceBuilder Rewards

As you are aware, we are a PeaceBuilder school. Daily, we work to create a culture of peace for your children in the hopes that they will live their own personal life permeated with a peace that follows in the footsteps of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. When you look in your family envelope you will find a paper asking for your help. Whenever you observe your child praising others, encouraging others or doing some act that brings with it peace, please write it down on one of the slips, and return the slip to school. We will be drawing slips to honor the children and we want one of those children to be yours.

EFT Packets

More and more our parishes are moving towards the electronic transfer of funds. This practice ensures a steady flow of funds so that the parish can provide ministries to all of God’s people. In this week’s envelope you will notice a packet of information that is meant to encourage you to consider the

EFT method of donating to the work of the parish. Please read it carefully and remember that all we have is a gift from a generous God who delights in a return of our own generosity.

Children’s Tylenol

Did you know that certain lots of Children’s and Infants’ Tylenol is being recalled? Check your medicine cabinets and go to www.tylenolprofessional.com/assets/TYLENOL_letter_091809.pdf for information on all the items being recalled.

H1N1

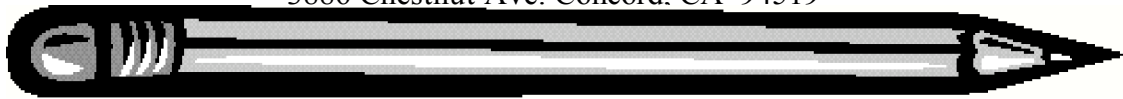
In your family envelope I have included a letter written, on our letterhead, from the Diocese because we were notified that one of our students who was exposed to the H1N1 was sick with flu like symptoms. The student was not seen by a doctor but could have had it. We thought it better to be pro-active when it comes to this strain of the flu, thus the letter. Please understand how very important it is that the school is notified if and when your child/ren become ill with the H1N1 virus.

NOTE

Turn this page over for the calendar dates/information on the back of the page.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, October 1st

Head Check for Lice no gels or sprays
School Board Meeting at 6:30PM in the Ministry Center

Friday, October 2nd

Disaster Drill begins at 12:30 and concludes @ 2:30PM

Saturday, October 3rd

Work Party
9:00AM to 1:00PM

Monday, October 5th

Feast of St. Francis
Blessing of the Animals
8:30AM in the yard between the school and the Church.

Tuesday, October 6th

Progress reports go home today

Wednesday, October 7th

12:30 dismissal
Parent/Teacher Conferences
1:30PM to 8:00PM

Thursday, October 8th

12:30 dismissal
Parent/Teacher Conferences
1:30PM to 8:00PM

Friday, October 9th

12:30 dismissal

Monday, October 12th

Columbus Day
School holiday — no school