



Principal's Thoughts

Catholic Schools Week begins next week and many exciting activities have been planned by our wonderful and energetic Student Council! This is a time set to celebrate catholic education, our partners in faith and the wonderful families whose children attend St. Agnes School. Catholic Schools Week is also a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our mission and most importantly our Catholic Identity. Some people question whether Catholic schools are “still” Catholic. My answer is a resounding YES! While the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet may no longer be physically present at St. Agnes School, their spirit lives on in our wonderful teachers. Our inspirational and devoted teaching staff are following their personal vocation as faith-filled stewards and believers in Catholic Education!

St. Agnes School is fully accredited by the Western Catholic Educational Association (WCEA) and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and Schools (WASC) Part of the WCEA criteria for accreditation is determined by how well we are implementing the eight Catholic Identity Standards: Mission & Philosophy, Prayers & Sacraments, Curriculum, Catechist Certification, Parents as Primary Educators, Service, Signs & Sacramentals, Evangelization. Each year over a 4-year period, we look closely at two of these standards to evaluate current practices and areas for improvement. A plan for implementation is then sent to the Department of Catholic Schools.

Personal testimonies are a power tool to affirm our work and the strength of our community. These testimonials can also give us direction on areas on which to build. So I ask: Why do you have your children enrolled at St. Agnes School? Clearly you have options for other schools so I am grateful that you have chosen our community. I will be sending an email next week to each family with a link to a form that will offer you the opportunity to give your testimony. It doesn't have to be long, but we would love to hear from you! There will be a place for you to indicate if we can share quotes from your responses or if you would rather have this be anonymous or not shared at all. I'm looking forward to all you have to share!

St. Agnes School Mission Statement

St. Agnes School, in partnership with the Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Oakland educate children in the Catholic faith and nurture their minds, bodies, and souls, inspiring them to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ, achieve their highest academic and creative potential, and actively serve and enrich the community.



Exciting New Additions!

The following families have welcomed a new family member into their homes! We wish them many blessings and nights of sleep!

- Michael (8th) & Ricky (K) Gomez welcomed their baby sister, Mila on New Year's Eve!
- Brandon (5th) & Enzo (K) Llanetta welcomed their new baby brother, Kai in January.

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BREAKING NEWS

- **Our annual Scholastic Book Fair Begins Monday, January 31 – February 3!**
 - The Fair will be open to students only, during school hours, from January 31-February 3.
 - The book fair also has an online component that is open from January 24th to February 6th
 - Classes will take turns walking through to preview the fair on Thursday, January 27, and Friday, January 28.
 - Students will be encouraged to create a wish list to share with you at home and you can learn more about the books they want (or you want for them!) at: www.scholastic.com/bf/stagnesch7.
 - Payment methods:
 - You can enclose cash in a sealed envelope, labeled with your child's name and grade OR
 - a pre-signed check also in an envelope (you may want to specify your preset limit in the note field).
 - We'll make sure to provide you with a receipt.
 - Questions? Contact Mrs. Cesca at jcesca@csdo.org.
 - Thank you and HAPPY READING!
 - Teachers have created their own wish lists which can be viewed on their class pages at: <http://www.stagnesconcord.com/students/classes/>.
- **Catholic Schools Week**
 - The Student Council has created a calendar of events that has been included in your envelope.
 - This weekend might be a great time to get all those outfits ready for this very busy week and keep this calendar handy.



TIME SENSITIVE

- **Spread the Word**
 - Enrollment time is upon us!
 - Applications for all prospective students (preschool-5) are posted on our website under the admissions tab.
- **Now Accepting Preschool Applications**
 - Children turning 3 by September 1st and potty trained, are eligible to attend our St. Agnes Preschool!
 - Applications are on our website under the Preschool tab.
- **Kinder Testing Feb. 12th!**
 - Current families don't forget, if your child is turning 5 by September 1st you need to submit an application.

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COVID-19 Updates

- **Day 5 Is Key**
 - If your child tests positive for COVID or is determined to be a close contact, you will receive a letter describing the steps to be taken for your child to quarantine from or remain in school.
 - Regardless of vaccination status, testing needs to be completed on Day 5 (you do not count the day of the test or date of exposure.)
 - Please send an email to Mrs. Kelley or me with a picture of the test showing the results. You must include your child's name and date written **on** the test. Writing this information on the test prior to testing is suggested.
 - Without this proof of testing, your child will need to remain at home for an additional 5 days.
 - Please have spare testing kits on hand should this situation arise.
- **Free Test Kits!**
 - Don't forget to order your free testing materials! Each resident is limited to 4 tests.
 - Here is the link: <https://www.covidtests.gov/>
 - Most insurance companies are also covering the cost associated with purchasing tests as well. Limited to 8 tests/person/month.
- **N95 Masks for Jr. High Students**
 - The Contra Costa County Health Department has given us a 10-day supply of adult N95 masks for each junior high student.
 - If you would like your child to wear this mask at school, please contact Mrs. Kelley and we will send them home to you.
- **Don't Forget**
 - Please send a copy of your child's vaccination card to the school office.
 - This information is necessary to determine the duration of the quarantine period should there be a person on campus that has tested positive for COVID-19.

Pace Board News

- **Dine Out-Rocco's February 2 (noon to close!)**
 - Join us for our monthly Dine Out (Eat in or Dine out!)
 - A flyer with additional details has been included in your family envelope.
 - Don't forget bring this flyer with you so St. Agnes receives credit.
- **New Auction Date!**
 - We remain hopeful of having an in-person event! Please mark your calendars for Saturday, May 21st.
 - The Auction will take place on campus! Volunteer hours will apply to this current school year.


Weekly Student Learning Expectation:

1.5 A faith centered person living the Gospel message who is able to practice forgiveness.

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|  | IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS |
|---|---|
| 1/27 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• School Board Meeting @ 6:30 Via Zoom |
| 1/28 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Progress Reports Go Home |
| 1/30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Lk 4:21-30) |
| 1/31 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Celebrating Community!• College or Career Attire |
| 2/1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Celebrating Students!• Class Color Day! |
| 2/2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Celebrating the Nation!• National Spelling Bee• Yellow & Black Attire• Minimum Day - 12:00 Dismissal |
| 2/3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Celebrating Vocations!• Fr. Johnson Day!• Class Theme Day |
| 2/4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Celebrating Faculty, Staff & Volunteers!• Crazy Hair & Sock Day! |



Catholic Schools
Week 2022
January 30–February 5

www.NCEA.org/csw

#CSW22