



Principal's Thoughts

As we attempt to process the events that took place Tuesday in Texas, we must remind ourselves to remain calm and above all pray for those directly involved. To try and understand the pain and devastation of those families who have lost loved-ones, is impossible. As parents our immediate response is to protect our children. We must remain as rational as we can and never forget we already are their safe haven. Your children will look to you to see how you are reacting, to gauge whether they should be concerned or afraid. Shielding the little ones from the media reports and adult conversations is sometimes the best course of action. Young children are not able to process information in the same manner as adults, so the best strategy right now is to assure them that you do everything possible to keep them safe. Teenagers have a great deal of access to social media, so you will probably need to have a conversation about this with them to give perspective and support. Here is a link from Common Sense Media about talking to your children when such tragedies occur: [How to Talk to Kids About a Tragedy](#). Please know our protocols are in place to protect your children. In order to create this plan, we enlisted the help of members of the Concord Police Department and I attended a two day seminar on the topic of school shootings. A letter from Dr. Currier, our Superintendent, has been included in your family envelope today.

Please join me in prayer for the children lost, the families in mourning, a community devastated and country bewildered and angry. We must also pray for the individual that committed this act of violence as well as his family and all those suffering from mental and emotional illness. Ultimately, we need to give this all up to God, otherwise it is too overwhelming and fear will take over. Lean on one another for comfort and most importantly give your children an extra hug and tell them how much you love them!

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.

COVID-19 Updates

- **Numbers Rise**
 - We continue to see a rise in positive COVID numbers in our St. Agnes Community. During this allergy season please be even more vigilant in monitoring for COVID-19. The symptoms are similar, so please err on the side of caution and test your children.
- **Free Testing Kits Available**
 - If you need testing kits, here is a link to place your order: <https://special.usps.com/testkits>
- **Flexibility is Key!**
 - **All upcoming events are subject to change and masks maybe required.**

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BREAKING NEWS

- **Field Day is this Friday!**
 - The weather promises to be perfect for this much loved tradition!
 - **Please be sure to apply sunscreen before coming to school.**
 - A snack will be provided to each child and many fun games have been planned.
 - A flyer with details for non-uniform dress has been included in your envelope.
 - Unfortunately, due to the rise in cases, we will not have spectators this year.
- **Funeral Mass**
 - This Friday, during Field Day a Memorial Mass will be taking place in the church.
 - Please be gracious during pickup toward any attendees that might be walking to their cars or needing to back out. They will not know our routine so please be patient and kind.
- **Parent Survey**
 - Your thoughts matter! Please give us feedback by completing the following parent survey.
 - One hour toward your parent volunteer commitment will be credited to you.
 - **Click on this link [Parent Survey](#) or type <https://forms.gle/UZnNgL2Rq8WaqFx66>.**
- **Safe Environment Training Due?**
 - Any volunteers or field trip chaperones need proof of current training.
 - Has your training expired? Please check the Virtus site for the date of the most recent training you have completed. Certificates expire after 3 years.
 - Summer will be a great time to complete this task!
- **COME HAVE A MONUMENTAL TIME!**
 - Vacation Bible Camp at St. Bonaventure is 3 weeks away and they are in desperate need of adult leaders.
 - Camp is the week of June 13-17 and will be the first in-person camp since 2019!
 - If you are available that week, please email Eileen Limberg at St. Bonaventure.
 - These hours would be counted as parish hours on the Parent Volunteer Signup Genius.
- **St. Agnes CYO Basketball needs you!**
 - We're seeking three (or more) volunteers for open roles: Game Day/Gym Monitor coordinator, Secretary (manage meeting agendas/minutes, administration), & Webmaster (SportsEngine)
 - This is a great way to earn volunteer hours while supporting our parish youth basketball program
 - Interested? Please email JP Zingmark/AD: jpzingmark@gmail.com or text 415.504.2579 to sign-up or for any questions!

Weekly Student Learning Expectation 1.4: A faith centered person living the Gospel message who is able to express compassion for others, locally and globally, through gifts of time, talent and treasure.

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TIME SENSITIVE

- **End of Year Accounting**
 - All monies owed (except volunteer non-fulfillment fees) are due and payable by June 1st in order for your child to receive their report card.
- **Volunteer Hours Deadline**
 - The family commitment for volunteer hours must be completed by June 1st in order to avoid a non-participation fee of \$50/hour.
 - Your participation is vital in keeping our campus in good working order and our events possible.

Staff Update 2022-2023

Each year our staff members reflect on the year and decide what the following year will have in store for them. We rejoice for those that have decided to stay but are sad to say good-bye to some that are creating a new chapter in their lives. I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the following people that have shared their talents, time and caring spirit with us for the benefit of our children. We will miss them and are excited for what lies ahead for each of them. We will honor our friends at the End of the Year Prayer Service.

- Mrs. Navarro (K) will be joining the Mt. Diablo Unified School District to teach 5th grade at Shore Acres Elementary School! Blessings!
- Ms. Johnston (1st grade) will be moving to San Francisco to join the faculty of the Stratford School teaching 1st grade. Kudos!
- Mr. Volenec has been teaching math in the junior high for ??? years. He has created one of the best math programs in the Diocese and we are thankful for this dedication! We will miss his neckties, quiet sense of humor and the dignity and respect he afforded each student!
- Mrs. Fitzpatrick is retiring as our bookkeeper after 36 years! She will be dearly missed, not only for her knowledge of the history of our school and alumni families but for keeping us financially strong each and every year! We will miss her stories and loving care.

There is a well-known saying: as one door closes another one opens. That is true for St Agnes School, so I hope you will join me in welcoming our new staff members for the 2022-2023 school year. You will have the opportunity to meet them at Back to School Night in August.

- Ms. Antoinette Miyamoto (K) is coming to us from the Dublin School District and is an alumni parent of St Raymond's School. She cannot wait to meet her "tiny humans!"
- Ms. April Mullare (1st grade) moved to the Bay Area this past year and brings with her vast experience teaching in the Catholic schools' system.
- Ms. Paula Papetti-a.k.a. Traynor (Junior High ELA.) Paula returns to us after working in the

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Pittsburg Unified School District. She is a much loved and revered teacher of many alumni.

- Senora Reyes (Spanish K-8) comes from Madrid and joins us after teaching at Christ the King School in Pleasant Hill. She recently substituted for Mr. Hamerson and is excited to join our community.
- Ms. Mercado & Mrs. DeMaria will continue to be our dynamic duo teaching math to the junior high student in 6-8 grades.
- Mrs. McDonald will teach the 8th Grade accelerated math group, first period (8:10am) so we will no longer need a zero period!!!!

AUCTION NEWS!



- **Thank you for a GREAT event!**
 - All the planets aligned on Saturday night for a perfect evening to hold our Auction.
 - Our wonderful PACE Board provided an evening overflowing with fun, food, friendship and generosity!
 - A big thank you to Parma Deli for providing such yummy food!
 - Kudos to the many families that attended the event, many in Greek attire, and those unable to attend but did their bidding online, you made the evening a huge success!

	IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS
5/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field Day!!!! • Minimum Day-12:00 Dismissal
5/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7th Sunday of Easter-The Ascension (Lk24: 46-53)
5/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memorial Day-No School
5/31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spirit T-Shirt Tuesday
6/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8th Grade Graduation Mass 9:00 (school will view remotely.) Graduates' Breakfast to follow.
6/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8th Grade Graduation 6:30 & Reception to Follow
6/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Party 9-1



<http://www.clipartbest.com/clipart-xTgo8GXqc>