



ST. MONICA SCHOOL

Where Students Are Loved and Challenged

The Principal's Weekly Newsletter



Go Bulldogs!

2008 - 2009, Number 15
Mr. Vincent Sweeters, Principal

Wednesday, December 3rd
sweeters@stmonicasf.org

The Season of Advent

This past Sunday, November 30th, marked the 1st Sunday of Advent. The Season of Advent is a four week long preparation time in which we reflect on the meaning of Jesus being born to us on Christmas Day and the hope that his birth brought into the world. To celebrate the Advent Season, we will present special Bible readings representing stories and symbols outlining the lineage of Jesus. This activity is called the "Jesse Tree." Beginning today at Morning Assemblies, our Student Council members and guest readers from every grade will present these readings and hang the symbols upon our Jesse Tree in the School Library. We will have two readers per day until we dismiss for Christmas vacation on December 19th. All are welcome to participate in Morning Assembly and visit our tree.

School Notes...

Independent Contractors - Extra-Curriculars

I want to remind all families that our Independent Contractors who offer After school enrichment activities each have their own renewal cycles during the school year. We offer Science Adventures, Group Guitar, Group Piano, and Dance & Fitness. I encourage students to participate in an activity that they find interesting. The cycle for Piano is renewing now. Our teacher from Keyboard Educators, Roanne, has returned to St. Monica School after being away last year is doing a very nice job with our students.

Annual Superbowl Pool

The grid is up in the school office! Please note the fliers for our annual superbowl pool and get your squares when you can. First come, first served on choices.

Fire Department Christmas Toy Drive

Today, we launch the annual toy drive sponsored by the San Francisco Fire Department. We have been given a barrel for collection that will be here until Dec. 18th.

Bulldog Spirit T-Shirts (December Reminder)

Need a new navy blue T-shirt for P.E.? We have Bulldog Spirit T-shirts (child and adult sizes) available in the school office. Please see Mrs. Dillon for an order form if you are interested.

Thank You...Thank You...

...and the winner is: Chantal Nguyen, our Student Body President, for having the most Box Tops deposited in her name! Our students have spoken, and collectively, they have wished to collect a double lunch period redeemable during Catholic Schools Week next January. My great thanks to Michele Duffy and Nancy Whitney for creating and facilitating the "Box Top Election" as a way to help promote the collection of Box Tops for St. Monica School. It was a very fun experience for the students. I do ask that all families continue to bring in your box tops to the school office even though this fun competition is completed.

Your Generosity is Appreciated...

Thank you for all of your kindness in the donations collected for the Holy Childhood Association. During our October collection period, we raised \$512.99.

Annual Student Thanksgiving Food Drive

I am pleased to give a glowing report regarding the success of our Thanksgiving food drive this year! All but two of our classes reached 100% participation. I would like to thank the Student Council and Jr. High Service Club for helping to promote the drive and organize the items. My special thanks to all of the families who rallied to deliver the items from both St. Monica Church and School to the Missionaries of Charity. Finally, a big thank you to the Duffy family for sponsoring the family football game in the park.

Upcoming Events...

- Dec. 3rd: Parent Club Fundraising Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the School Library.
- Dec. 4th: School Advisory Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory Dining Room.
- Dec. 5th: Progress Reports distributed.
- Dec. 8th: Student Mass, presented by Gr. 2, 11:00 a.m. in St. Monica Church.
- Dec. 8th: 12:30 p.m. Dismissal for all students due to Faculty Meeting.
- Dec. 11th: Parent Club Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 13th: Incoming Kindergarten Testing, by appointment, beginning at 9:00 a.m.
- Dec. 14th: Our Student Choir sings at the 10:30 a.m. Mass followed by Friendship Sunday.