



ST. MONICA SCHOOL

Where Students Are Loved and Challenged

The Principal's Weekly Newsletter



Go Bulldogs!

2008 - 2009, Number 20
Mr. Vincent Sweeters, Principal

Wednesday, January 21st
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Catholic Schools Week 2009

**Theme: "Catholic Schools Celebrate Service"
January 25th - 31st**

Next week, Catholic Schools across the United States will join together and celebrate Catholic Schools week, which always begins on the last Sunday in January. Each year, a different theme is celebrated. This year, the message is "Catholic Schools Celebrate Service." This theme recognizes that putting faith into action is not optional for Catholics, but is integral to our faith. The recent gift of two million community service hours in honor of Pope Benedict's birthday is evidence of our faith's strong tradition of engaging in the world - to help others and to help build the kingdom of God. If you would like to read more info on Catholic Schools Week info, I invite you to peruse the National Catholic Educational Association website: www.ncea.org.

Student Life Highlights...

Yesterday, January 20th, all of the classrooms - teachers, students, and some visiting parents - were all tuned in to the Inauguration and events in Washington D.C. via the television. What an awesome tool live television broadcasts can be! This morning, I spoke to our students about the messages in President Obama's Inaugural Address, especially the call to personal responsibility and service for our local communities.

Reminder...

As this Thursday, Jan. 22nd and Friday, Jan. 23rd are 12:30 p.m. dismissal days, the Independent Contractor After School activities will not meet. If you are enrolled in after school group Piano, Guitar, or Dance classes, please plan on no class meetings this week. Thank you.

School & Community Events...

Report Cards Distributed, Jan. 22nd and 23rd
All student report cards will be distributed either at scheduled Parent/Teacher Conferences this Thursday and Friday or at the end of the day on Friday, if no Parent/Teacher Conference was scheduled.

Walk For Life West Coast - San Francisco

The 4th annual Walk for Life West Coast is scheduled for Saturday, January 24 in San Francisco. The march

begins with speakers at 11:00 AM in Justin Herman Plaza. For directions and more information on the event, check the website: www.walkforlifewc.com

Chinese New Year Celebration, Jan. 31st (A reminder - our Chairperson is seeking help)

The Year of the Ox is coming! Please note the fliers included in today's envelope. Volunteers are needed to help set up, decorate the hall, purchase and pick up supplies, be cashiers, serve food, and clean up. Above all, I would like to encourage families to participate in this fun annual event in the St. Monica Church Hall. The students of our After School Chinese Language Program give cultural performances, and the Martial Arts performance and Lion Dance are not to be missed!

Thank You...Thank You...

My thanks to the members of our Parent Club Fundraising Committee, especially Paige Scott, Janice Kam, and Betty Gon for putting together a superbly done professional package of information for the upcoming Auction Dinner on March 14th. All of the info can be found and downloaded from our website, www.stmonicasf.org. I call upon all families to get involved at some level - each in your own way - as this is the biggest fundraising event of the school year

Upcoming Events...

- Jan. 22nd & 23rd: 12:30 p.m. Dismissal to accommodate Parent/Teacher Conferences.
- Jan. 25th: Our Student Choir sings at the 10:30 a.m. Mass followed by Friendship Sunday.
- Jan. 26th: Lunar New Year: Welcome the Ox!
- Jan. 26th: 12:30 p.m. Student Dismissal for S.F. Archdiocese Professional Development In-service, "Step Up to Writing," session #2 of 3.
- Jan. 28th: School Advisory Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory (Rescheduled from Jan. 22).
- **Jan. 29th: 2nd Quarter Academic Award Ceremony, 2:00 p.m. in St. Monica Church.**
- Jan. 29th: School Finance Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory.
- Jan. 31st: Annual Chinese New Year Celebration - dinner and entertainment, 6:30 p.m. in the Large Hall. Come one and all!