



ST. MONICA SCHOOL

Where Students Are Loved and Challenged

The Principal's Weekly Newsletter



Go Bulldogs!

2008 - 2009, Number 25
Mr. Vincent Sweeters, Principal

Wednesday, February 25th
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Ash Wednesday - Lent Begins

Yesterday, we partook in the revelry that is Mardi Gras. Many of us were wearing the colors of purple, symbolizing justice; green, symbolizing faith; and/or gold, symbolizing power. At Morning Assembly, I explained to the students that the purpose of Mardi Gras is to highlight the beginning of Lent, which arrives the following day. Ash Wednesday is today. As Lent is now here, we begin our symbolic journey of 40 days preparation toward the joy of Easter. At Mass today, participants will be given ashes to symbolize both our individual mortality and the beginning of this journey.

Community Events...

St. Monica Spirit Week and Sport-O-Rama

This week, Feb. 23rd - 27th, is our annual "Sprit Week." Please note the events promoted by our Student Council, published via flier last Friday. The events of the week culminate on Saturday with "Sport-O-Rama. Please note the schedule of the day included in today's envelope. "Bulldog Spirit" Caps and T-Shirts are now available in the school office for Friday's St. Monica Logo wear day. See enclosed flier.

Annual Auction Dinner - March 14th

The "Emerald Ball" is coming closer! Yes, the event we have been promoting is now just a little over two weeks away. I do ask all of you to earnestly look over the fliers presented in today's envelope once again in regard to the preparation and promotion of the Emerald Ball. I call upon all families to get involved in this effort - the proceeds benefit every student! Help is needed, support is appreciated. to volunteer, please contact either Michele Duffy, 415-994-6024, meduffy@sbcglobal.net or Stephen Chan, schan62@comcast.net. One specific area that is needed to grow is the sales of the Parish/School Raffle.

Incentive Prizes for Raffle Sales:

1. An ice cream party will be given to the class that sells the most cumulative amount of tickets.
2. An ice skating field trip will be awarded to each class that achieves 100% participation - every family in the class must sell at least 2 books of raffle tickets to qualify. (Every class that reaches the mark gets to attend!)
3. For every 10 books sold, a family is entered into a drawing which gives the winner a free registration payment next year.

School Community Updates...

After School Spanish Class

The after school enrichment Spanish Class, brought to us by the IES Language Foundation, begins today. For those students who wish to participate in this 3:10 p.m. - 4:10 p.m. class, sign ups are handled directly through IES. Brochures are available in the school office or via the website: www.ieslanguages.org.

Student Life Highlights...

"Box Tops Collection Contest"

I thank our Parent Club School Support Committee for promotion the collection of "Box Tops" for our school! Our current contest: the boys vs. girls schoolwide free dress showdown - runs from Feb. 17th until Feb. 27th. The winners will earn a free dress day for their gender. The display and voter collection boxes are located in the hallway outside of the Main Office.

Thank You...Thank You...

My thanks to the members of our School Finance Committee for the analysis and discussion work they have been offering to our school in these past couple of weeks. All of our members, working along with our pastor, Fr. Greene, our bookkeeper, and myself - are committed to financially promoting the well-being of our school. In these tough economic conditions, we are working more diligently than ever to offer our families an excellent educational experience for all our children at an affordable price. I want to let the larger school community know that you are in good hands - the members all demonstrate a smart approach to finances and a loving commitment to our school.

Upcoming Events...

- Feb. 26th: School Finance Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory Dining Room.
- Feb. 27th: 3rd Quarter Progress Reports distributed to all students.
- Feb. 28th: Annual Sport-O-Rama Tournament.
- Mar. 11th: Sacrament of 1st Reconciliation, 7:00 p.m. in St. Monica Church.
- Mar. 12th: Parent club meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 14th: Annual Auction Dinner, "Emerald Ball," 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.
- **Apr. 22nd: 4th grade Pot Luck** (date change)