



"Children-Our Most Important Asset & Future Investments"

5680 North Maroa Avenue ♦ Fresno, California 93704

(559)435-0700 ♦ Fax (559)435-6749

www.sasfresno.com

December 15, 2009

Dear Families,

Christmas Program Schedule – Don't forget that tonight starts our wonderful and beautiful school Christmas Programs. Don't forget to put these dates on your calendar!

Grades 2, 4, 6 & 8

Tuesday, Dec. 15th @ 7:00pm

Grades 3, 5, 7, & 8

Thursday, Dec. 17th @ 7:00pm

Grades K & 1

Friday, Dec. 18th @ 11:00am

All of these beautiful programs will be held in the New Gym. Please be aware that you are in bleachers and therefore, may want to bring a cushion. The doors will open at 6:30 pm. Although we are in the school gym, we would follow the same protocol as in church. Please respect the performers by not using loud voices or allowing little ones to run around in the gym. Thank you!

Christmas vacation officially begins at **12:30 on Friday, December 18th**. **Please remember that there will not be any afterschool care on that day as the staff is off to their Christmas luncheon. School will resume on Tuesday, January 5, 2010. (Remember there is no school Monday, January 4th as this day will be used for Math and Language Arts curriculum development.**

After School Enrichment Program News - It is with sadness to inform you that Ms. Sherman's last day in the after school care program will be Thursday, December 17th. She will be returning to Massachusetts to care for her mother. Please see flyer in today's packet.

Nativity Raffle – Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets! We raised **\$1,914.00** and have added it to our recycle money. Our total is **\$2,775.34**. The winners of the raffle were **Mac Dalena (2G), Matt MonPere (K2), Noelle Andrade-Stone (4P), Grace Harrison-Baker (2G), Betsy Lucido (Grace's grandmother) Claire Singer (3V), Gigi Gonzales (4P), Marco Ferdinandi (6S), Jennifer Kim (4S), Tania Turner (2G), and Sandy Cetti**. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you all for your continued support to our project. Merry Christmas and God bless all of you!!!

Talent Show – It's hard to believe, but the St. Anthony's Talent Show is just around the corner. Please note that if you would like to participate in the show you must return the bright orange form including the lyrics for your music by **Friday, December 18th**. More forms are available in the school office. **These forms will not be accepted in January.** Beginning **Tuesday, January 5th** (the day we return to school after Christmas vacation) students participating in the Talent Show will perform their skits to ensure that all acts are appropriate for our school. The schedule is as follows:

Tuesday	Jan. 5th	K-1
Wednesday	Jan. 6th	2nd-3rd
Thursday	Jan. 7th	4th-5th
Friday	Jan. 8th	6th-8th

If you are performing with someone in a different grade, choose either your day or your partners' day for your practice time. **Time for performing will be at 3:10pm in Room 7 each day after school.** The actual day of the **Talent Show is Friday, January 22nd**. Please mark your calendar so you don't miss out on this great annual event.

Honor Roll– Try as we may, sometimes mistakes happen! Our Honor Roll list last week failed to include **Caroline Ball (8S) and Valerie Moore (8S)**. We are very sorry.....but very proud of your accomplishment! Please see the updated lists of Honor Roll in today's packet.

Power Outage - There is a planned power outage at the Church and Rectory from 8:30am-3:30pm next **Wednesday, December 16th**. If there is a power outage there will not be access to the church or parish offices. This outage will cause the phone system to be down at the church and may affect our phones as well.

Yearbook Page Reminder – If you are planning on putting in an Ad/Page for your 8th grade student in the yearbook please remember that the payment is due by this **Friday, December 18th**. The actual Ad is due no later than **Wednesday, January 13th** in the school office.

Hot Lunch Reminder – Just a reminder that last week the form for the M-T-W Hot Lunch as well as the Thursday-Friday Hot Lunch forms were put on the website. Please be sure to turn in your forms by the deadline which is tomorrow, **Wednesday, December 16th**.

New School Motto - When we return in January we will be voting on a new school motto. We are in the process of changing our School Motto to a more enhanced and current motto inspired by and reflective of our School Mission. In so doing, we believe that there is no better way than to get the involvement of everyone comprising our school – teachers, staff, student government, students & the entire parental body, to instill a sense of true ownership and pride in our school and its motto.

Library News – Good news for the fans of children’s author and illustrator **Leo Politi!** The **J. Paul Getty Museum** has reissued four of Mr. Politi’s books and our library is the proud owner of these books thanks to a generous donation from **Mr. and Mrs. Neil Angelillo**, parents of **Zach (4P) and Mark (K1)**. Now our students will come to enjoy the “gentle humor and sense of magic that have made his books beloved by generations of readers in California and around the world.” Linda Scambray, President of the Friends of the Politi Library believes the reissue of so many of Mr. Politi’s books is a chance to get his books back into local libraries and schools and the legacy of this famous Italian-American author will not be forgotten. On behalf of the students at St. Anthony’s we would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Angelillo. If you would like to assist with a donation of Mr. Politi’s books, please contact Linda Scambray to help preserve the work of this wonderful, Italian-American writer. Linda can be reached by email: scam4@comcast.net

Book Alert – This is just a reminder that all library books are due this **Thursday, December 17th**. If there are any fines involved, please take care of them and any lost books before vacation begins. The library appreciates your help in this matter.

Yearbook Orders – All orders are due this **Friday, December 18th**. The cost of a yearbook is \$30.00 if ordered by this date; if your order is placed after this date the cost will be \$40.00. All orders need to be placed through our school website. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Stone in the school office.

Christmas Vacation Office Hours – Please remember our office hours during the Christmas vacation:

Tuesday, December 22nd 9:00 – 1:00 Last minute Scrip Shopping
Wednesday, December 30th 9:00 – 1:00 New Year’s shopping! Buy Scrip!

Th-F Hot Lunch Orders- Since we have started the monthly hot lunch orders for Thursday and Friday we have come across several times in which a family has “double ordered” (orders were placed on a monthly order form and then an additional order was placed on the weekly form). Up until now we have been returning the money and/or check to the family with their extra order. However, this takes a great deal of time and manpower..... so.... Starting in January when we receive “double orders” we will be giving your oldest child doubles for that lunch. This will simplify the procedure. We thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Direct Deposit/Automatic Debit – We have had many requests for automatic withdrawal from your account to pay tuition (similar to SJM). In this packet you will find the form to set that up if you are interested. The bank we use is Central Valley Community Bank. You have several options to organize the deposit and you can set-up the day(s) you want the funds to come out. We want to offer you the easiest and most convenient way to pay your tuition. What could be easier than not having to worry about paying your tuition each month especially during the summer months when we are all in vacation mode. Please call the office and talk to **Mrs. Reynolds** and let her know if you are interested in this program or if you have any questions.

Cross Country....Last week we inadvertently left off two students from the list of athletes who recently completed at the Regional Cross Country Championships at Woodward Park. **Adam Salinas and Alex Fusselman** completed Regional Championships and qualified for the City Championships that took place last Thursday. Great Job boys! And congratulations to our cross country team for its’ showing at the City Championships. Our 3rd grade boys took 2nd place overall! The team consisted of **Keegan Tingey, Peter Farrow, Nick Leech, Wayne Rutledge and John Fourchy**. We also had 3 runners place in the top 3 of their divisions: **Keegan Tingey (3V) 2nd place, Logan Tingey (5H) 3rd place, Miles Orme (6S) 3rd place.** It was a great day out at Woodward Park for all our St. Anthony’s Cross Country team. Run Raiders Run!!!

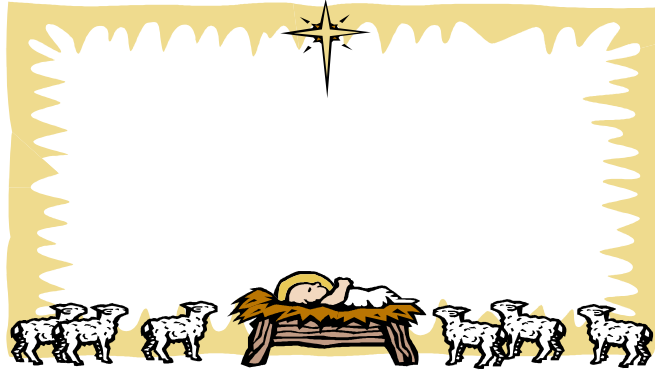
Used Shoe Drive – Thank you for the many coats, jackets, or heavy sweatshirts donated during the past two weeks. The SAINTS club (Saint Anthony’s In to Service) is continuing the collection of **Shoes for the Needy**. Please bring shoes through this **Friday, December 18th**. Thanks for being *Faithfilled Catholics who respond compassionately to the needs of others*. See flier in this packet for information on the Shoe Drive.

Scrip – Please remember to purchase Scrip for all of your Christmas shopping needs. We have plenty in stock of hundreds of stores and restaurants. Remember that the office will be open on **Tuesday, December 22nd** for all of your last minute shopping needs. Give the gift of Scrip.....one size fits all!

Always in Christ,


Tim McConnico
Principal

<p>School Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 8:00 to 4:00 Wednesday & Friday 8:00 to 3:30 Minimum Days 8:00 to 2:00</p>
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"For today in the City of David a Savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this shall be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." Luke 2:11-12

Dear Parents and Students,

I am writing this Christmas season on behalf of the entire staff of St. Anthony's School. We have been so blessed this school year by your unending generosity and support. I am continuously amazed and thankful for how our families have stepped forward in times of need. Our faith, hope and love in the Lord and one another is how we continue on this journey of life.

During this Christmas season, we will celebrate the coming of our Savior in so many wonderful ways. I ask you to please remember in prayer the families in our own school community who are struggling with illness, death, loss of jobs or financial difficulties.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for giving me and the entire staff the gift of children. You share with us God's greatest gift...a child! For that, we are truly blessed.

I hope and pray that this Advent season and the New Year is full of wonder, splendor and peace for you and your families.

May Christ our Savior bless you,

***MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR!***