

St. Anthony's School News

5680 North Maroa Avenue
Fresno, California 93704

Where Faith and Learning Grow Hand-in-Hand

P (559) 435-0700
F (559) 435-6749
www.sasfresno.com

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Teens & their Parents in the 21st Century Council of Economic Advisers

a) Teenagers today live far healthier, more prosperous and promising lives than ever before.

Life expectancy for 15-year-olds today is 77 years compared with 62 at the beginning of the century. Such killers as typhoid, cholera, polio, and smallpox now pose only minimal threats to American teens' health. Per capita income has increased eight-fold over the course of the century, and things once considered luxuries such as telephones, televisions, CDs and video games are now staples of teen existence. Girls and minorities now have vastly greater educational and occupational choices open to them than ever before.

b) **Parental involvement is a major influence in helping teens avoid risks such as smoking, drinking, drug use, sexual activity, violence, and suicide attempts, while increasing educational achievement and expected attainment.** For many families, eating dinner together can be an important way for children and parents to maintain connection. Significant differences were noted between teens who eat dinner with their parents at least five times a week and those who do not. Similarly, significant differences were found for teens who reported feeling "close" to their mother and/or father and those who did not. These results persist after taking account of differences in teen's gender, poverty status, and family structure.

c) **Teens and Community Service**

Research shows that 80% of middle schools in the US have students participating in community service activities recognized and/or arranged through school.

Back to School Packet

By this time, all families should have their Back to School packet at home. Math Packets should be completed and brought back on the first day of school **Monday August 20**. Families should be reviewing the Parent Student Handbook and plan to bring the signed contract enclosed at the front of the handbook, back to school. Thank you for helping your child prepare for their first day!

Spanish @ SAS

Grades 4-6 will have Spanish language lessons once per week taught by Sister Teresa.

- Sister at St. Anthony's Church
- 2 years experience teaching Spanish at SAS
- Religious Ed & Spanish Ministries teacher @ Church

Grades 7 & 8 will have Spanish language lessons two times per week taught by Mrs. Vargas.

- Fresno State Student (working towards teaching credential)
- Youth Coordinator: Our Lady of Mount Carmel
- Practicing Catholic

In order to make our Spanish Program as successful as possible, we are asking for parent volunteers to assist teachers during class hours. After instruction, the opportunity for small groups to be formed for practice will be invaluable. Please email Mrs. Cochran if you are interested and available. **Earn Parent Participation Hours!**

Hours Needed:

Monday & Tuesday 1:00-1:30

Wednesday & Thursday 8:30-2:00

Volunteer for 30 minutes or 3 hours, you decide.

Schoolspeak

Each family is assigned a password in order to login into our school communication system. If you forgot your password or need a reminder to login in, please speak with your child's teacher once school begins.

Schoolspeak will make it easy for you to view:

- Daily **Attendance**
- **Grades** and Assignments (Grades 4-8 only)
- Athletic Schedules
- Announcements from Teacher(s)
- Homework assignments
- Discipline reminders/consequences
- and more ...

Using Schoolspeak you are also able to email staff as needed and receive our weekly Tuesday Newsletter and information packet. We welcome suggestions on how Schoolspeak could improve communication @ SAS.