

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT MEMO "SAM"
Everything You Wanted To Know
Week of December 7, 2009

The weather outside is frightfully cold...good thing we are warm inside our school! We are trying our best to keep things warm inside and we all enjoyed our hot lunch staff treating us to hot chocolate on Tuesday to take the edge off this unusual cold spell. Thanks for sending your children with warm clothing as we still send them out to recess to get the fresh air! I have never seen so many jackets and pants. ☺

Hot off the press comes our auction results! Diane Voeller and her extensive team of volunteers organized an event that grossed a record \$182,994! Once we take out the expenses and restricted gifts (a record \$16,000 for tuition assistance!), the total net profit from the auction was almost 100,000! Thank you so much for participating! Your support through raffle ticket sales, auction donations, event volunteering, attending the evening event and post auction events with easel parties was a great testament to the dedication and commitment to our wonderful school. Your money will be spent wisely for our next year's school budget!

Standardized test results will be coming home today with your oldest child for students in grades 3-8. Overall, we did a fabulous job! Our students in general are performing above average on the reading, language, math concepts, problem solving, social studies, science and sources of information subtests. Although it was still average, our lowest testing category came from the math computation subtest. Our faculty will be working on helping students improve their performance in computation. As a parent, some suggestions you can do to assist your child with improving their math computation is to practice their math facts so they increase their "automaticity." This means that students can solve math problems automatically without having to figure out the math facts associated with the problem. Students should be as fluent with their math facts as they are with reading a story. If you have any questions related to the standardized exam scores, don't hesitate to contact myself or your child's teacher.

As we get ready for the final week before Christmas break, I hope to see you all at our Christmas program on Wednesday, December 16th at 7pm in the cafeteria. You won't want to miss this seasonal celebration by our K-5 music and 4-8 band students as they welcome the holiday with song. See you there!

CALENDAR REMINDERS:

Mon. Dec. 14th – Gr. K-8 Advent Prayer Service/8:20 a.m. (cafeteria)
Mon. Dec. 14th – SAC Mtg/5:30 p.m. (conference room)
Tue. Dec. 15th – SJF Parish Reconciliation service/7:00 p.m. (church)
Wed. Dec. 16th – Gr. K-8 Children's Liturgy/9:00 a.m. (led by Gr. 5)
Wed. Dec. 16th – Gr. K-5/4-8 Band Concert/7:00 p.m. (cafeteria)
Thur. Dec. 17th – NO HOT LUNCH!
Thur. Dec. 17th – FT/Gr. 3 West Hills Village – 1:00-1:45 p.m.
Thur. Dec. 17th – Gr. 3 Confessions/10:00 a.m. (church)
Fri. Dec. 18th – NO HOT LUNCH!
Fri. Dec. 18th – Gr. K-8 Class of Month Assembly/11:00 (gym)
Sat. Dec. 19th – Happy Birthday, Ms. Benner!
Sun. Dec. 20th – January Hot Lunch Orders due to www.orderlunches.com
Mon. Dec. 21st – Jan. 3rd – No School - Christmas vacation!
Mon. Jan. 4th – 2010-2011 Registration begins!

PLAYGROUND DUTY SCHEDULE/11:30 a.m.-12:40 p.m.

Mon. Dec. 14th - Lairson

Tue. Dec. 15th - Fryer
Wed. Dec. 16th - Crise
Thur. Dec. 17th - Zerr
Fri. Dec. 18th - Schafer

If you have a conflict with your scheduled duty, please contact Renee Huglin @ 503-244-2258.

LOOKING FOR ALL 2010-2011 KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS

If you will have a child entering kindergarten next fall and haven't already notified the school office, please contact Chris Vancil @ chrsv@sjschool.org or 503-246-3234 ex. 10. Thank you!

RECONCILIATION SERVICE

The parish reconciliation service is scheduled for Tuesday, December 15th @ 7:00 p.m. Come and receive this beautiful sacrament of grace as we prepare for Christmas. Students in grade 5-8 did not receive the sacrament as part of their religion class this year so, please encourage your children to attend this parish-wide service.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT INFO.

Mark your calendar for the Gr. K-5 & 4-8 Band Christmas concert scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 16th @ 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. Students need to meet in their classroom no later than 6:45 p.m. The program will start with the SJF MUSE Band @ 7:00 p.m.

What to wear: Please contact Ms. Bjore with any questions. cynthiab@sjschool.org

Kindergarten - please wear nice holiday clothes (Stars)

1st - please wear white on top (Angels)

2nd - please wear either a barn animal costume (home made is great) or nice holiday clothes. I will provide an animal face if they need one. (Barn Animals)

3rd - please wear either camouflage or black, tan, green or brown. (Jungle Shepherds)

4th - please wear a bath robe or "wise man" style robe. (the Wise Guys)

5th - please wear black or nice holiday clothes. (Props)

All Classes, no jeans, no shorts, no sleeveless shirts.

2010-2011 TUITION ASSISTANCE TIMELINE

FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment will be conducting the financial need analysis for St. John Fisher School for the upcoming 2010-11 school year. Families applying for financial aid will need to complete an application and submit the necessary supporting documentation to FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment at www.factstuitionaid.com. The following information is required in order for FACTS to process your application:

1. Completed online application
2. Payment of the \$20 application fee
3. Copies of your 2009 tax return including all schedules
4. Copies of your 2009 W-2's for you and your spouse
5. Copies of supporting documentation for Social Security, Income, Welfare, Child Support, Food Stamps, Workers' Compensation and TANF

The deadline for submitting your online application with FACTS is March 26th.

Please look for the following information that is included in today's electronic email:

*SAM – Week of December 7th
FACTS Grant & Aid Information
Subway January Order Form
Family Volunteer Hour "Blind List"*

NOTE: All January Hot Lunch Orders are due to www.orderlunches.com no later than Sunday, Dec. 20th!