

Catholic Schools

Character. Compassion. Values.



February 2, 2006

Dear Families,

Happy Groundhog's Day and Catholic Schools Week! If the groundhog sees his shadow, does that mean we only have six more weeks of school left? Or was that winter?

FREE DRESS – HOT LUNCH

Remember, tomorrow, Friday, is Student Appreciation Day. It is a non-uniform day for the kids and we'll also be supplying a pizza, fruit and milk lunch, free of charge. This lunch will be similar to what we hope to provide on hot lunch days in the coming weeks. Just giving everyone a "taste" of what's to come. We should have enough ordered for everyone. If you'd rather your child NOT have the lunch, make sure to pack a different option for them as usual.

REGISTRATION

Tomorrow is the last day to get your packet in before we open enrollment to new families. So far we have had a great response. Makes us all feel good to be on the right track. My list shows seven PK families that haven't yet either sent in the packet or told Holly officially that you aren't coming back. Of course, we'd love everyone to return, but we know each situation is different. If you DO plan to return, please let us know tomorrow. Whether we add a second K class for next year or not depends upon your answer. I'd hate to have someone left out in the cold. Call Holly at ext. 201.

AUCTION

Less than a month to go until the procurement deadline. Things are starting to heat up. Now is the time for all you procrastinators (like me) to get your forms in. It really helps our input team to do it bit by bit than to have to enter everything at the last minute for the catalog deadline. Need ideas? Give us a call.

Decoration Need of the Week... If you have any silver garland that you haven't packed away yet or need to move to a new home, the decoration committee is a good resource for recycling. Send it in to the office and we'll make sure it makes it to the right place.

Invitations... Invitations to the March 25 Auction went in the mail this week. Every school family should be receiving one. If it missed you, please let us know. Also, if you have other family or friends you want to bring along, you can either add them to your card or we can send them an invitation too. Call Ext. 201. Only 300 spots maximum can fit in for the event. A number are already spoken for. Return those cards ASAP.

150 AND COUNTING

If you were able to be at Mass this weekend, you heard me mention the 150th Jubilee of Catholic schools in western Washington. This week's Progress contained a side bar that shows the first school – Providence Academy in Vancouver – and the most recent, US! Holly has put a photocopy in your packet today. If you are interested in seeing the whole issue devoted to Catholic schools, we have a few copies available in the office.

THANKS

At Mass, you also would have heard Fr. Jim mention the enormous task we face funding our first few years of operation. Since the parish subsidy is only a fraction of where it will be and with tuition resources limited by our beginning enrollment, our biggest source of revenue comes from many generous benefactors - parishioners and beyond – who believe in what we are trying to do. Our goal to make budget this year is over \$300,000 in donations. We are making great progress toward that target. Especially appreciated was a \$50,000 gift we received at Christmas from Archbishop Brunett from his personal discretionary fund. Since the beginning, the Archbishop has been cheering us on. We are deeply grateful for his confidence in us and his generous support.

ALSO THANKS

... to Maria Cervantes (and daughter Laliq) for ordering and delivering coffee and pastries to the school office for Open House last Sunday. The many families who stopped by were very appreciative.

... to Angela Ensminger for braving the rain and the troops to take on noon recess duty for the faculty yesterday and today in order that we might all eat together. A fantastic gift for Teacher Appreciation Day. Thanks, Angela. You are the best!

... and finally, to Karen Walsh, who is leaving St. Madeleine's for greener pastures next week. Karen is part of our maintenance staff; in addition to her many parish responsibilities, she does a great job cleaning the school office and keeping everyone in good spirits. We'll miss you, Karen.

Super Bowl XL Champs!!! Has a nice ring to it. Enjoy the weekend and the game!
Go Hawks!

Dan