

March 9, 2006

Dear Families,

Getting teased with some delightful sunshine makes it easy to forget that we still have two weeks of winter ahead. If, and that is a monumental IF, we should get any snow, be sure to tune into KOMO TV and radio to hear if we have any schedule changes. Stranger things have happened!



#### DIOCESAN INSERVICE

A reminder that next Friday, the Feast of St. Patrick (March 17), the faculty will be attending the annual archdiocesan staff development day at Kennedy High School. No school will be held that day. This year's theme is "differentiated instruction," a fancy way of saying how we as teachers can meet each child's needs in the classroom. A very special treat will be a keynote from the legendary Sr. Claire Fitzgerald, professor emeritus from Boston College. Clair has made it her life's vocation to help bridge the transition of our schools from staffs of women religious to lay leaders. Being from Boston, and part of the Kennedy family, you can imagine both her accent and her ability to deliver an address. We look forward to this special time with her and with the workshops designed to help us in the classroom. Thank you for your understanding and support.

#### REGISTRATION ACCEPTANCES

New families have been sent acceptance letters for their children as registrations occur. Returning families have a letter in today's packet indicating that we have your information and verifying what we have listed for your tuition and payment schedule. For families who meet the income guidelines, we have included a grant application for tuition assistance from the archdiocese. Please complete and return the application as soon as possible as we need to get it back to their offices by 3/16.

In the meantime, rest assured that everything is in order for the coming year. As always, if you have any questions at all, give us a call at extension 201 or 202. If, for any reason, you do not receive this information and are still planning on returning, call Holly immediately so we can get this rectified. (Ext. 201)

#### TRIMESTER REPORTS

Tomorrow marks the end of the second trimester. Wow! Two thirds of the way through our first year. We intend to have reports out to you in the family packet on Thursday, March 23. If there is any delay, we'll be sure to let you know.

#### AUCTION

March 25<sup>th</sup>! Need I say more? The live items look stupendous and we have some fantastic opportunities in the silent as well. Only 60 seats remain. Get your reservations in today.

Also, check today's packet for additional volunteer opportunities for that evening. Don't forget that while we never specify a total number of volunteer hours committed as part of the registration obligation, we do state that a portion of those must be in conjunction with the auction. Plenty of things are left to do before, during and after the event – either here on site or at home. Keep an eye out for a listing of these opportunities.

Special note... In order to accommodate those wishing to attend Mass and also support the auction, Fr. Jim has moved the regular Saturday Mass time for March 25<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. With the auction committee adding an early registration table at 4:00 p.m., you can come early, register for the auction, attend Mass, and avoid the rush at 5:30 p.m. when the doors open for the event. How cool is that?

#### SUPPORTING THE SCHOOL

As you explore the new school web site ([www.smsbellevue.org](http://www.smsbellevue.org)) not only will you find some great shots of the kids, but also a page that lists many of the ways to conveniently help fund our programs. Info on WaMoola, Target's TCOE program, eSCRIP, donating your vehicle, and many more can all be found on the "Fundraising" page. This is just the beginning. The list will grow as we set up more associations with particular groups.

#### FAMILY HANDBOOK

Please add the following information for new student Satchel Becker to your handbook:

Sarah Becker  
1613 – 153<sup>rd</sup> Ave SE  
Bellevue 98007

206-947-5392

Satchel  
1<sup>st</sup> grade

Here's hoping your weekend is grand. Selection Sunday and March Madness is here!

Dan