

St. John Vianney Catholic School Newsletter

February, 2010



February

Dates to Remember

- ◆ 02-17-10: Ash
Wednesday
- ◆ 02-20-10:
Father/Daughter Dance
- ◆ 02-22-10: SJV Open
House
- ◆ 02-24-10: SJV Advisory
Board Mtg.
- ◆ 02-26-10: NOON
Dismissal

March

Looking Ahead

- 03-02-10: HAS Ctm.
Mtg.
- 03-05-10: NO
SCHOOL diocesan In-
service Day
- 03-06-10: 8th Grade
Retreat Day
- 03-09-10: SJV
Parent Meeting
- 03-13-10:
Mother/Son HSA
Event

From the Administration...

Dear SJV Families,

Greetings from SJV! Can you believe that we are in the Month of February! This means we have only three months of school left after this month! Time sure does fly when you are having fun! I wanted to take this opportunity to encourage you to keep your expectations high for your children. I am always challenged to speak with children who seem to have a hard time being responsible. This just doesn't happen all of a sudden when they are middle school. This is a result of many years of training or lack of. Please remember that the training will be effective if it begins at home. It starts in preschool. Please help us by challenging your students to be responsible and hold them to their responsibilities. Don't make excuses for your child even though it might be hard at first. In the long run you will not be sorry. I would like to share some tips:

1. Make sure your students are at school on time and stop making excuses for them
2. Make sure that your students are writing all of their homework in their agendas and are punctual in turning them in
3. Assign them age appropriate chores and DO NOT do anything that a child can do for him/herself. This will help them gain confidence and self-sufficiency!

Teacher/Parent Tip:

If you know that your child is struggling academically or has a specialized learning plan, make sure that you provide the school with copies/documentation. We are scheduling services with our local school district to service children with special needs.

Lunches: We are seeing many student lunches which are high in SUGAR.

February 26th NOON Dismissal with NO Aftercare. All SJV Parish/School Staff attend special workshop on "The Preventive System". This goes toward Catechetical training requirement.

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- ◆ 03-14-10: SJV Breakfast Sale
- ◆ 03-17-18-10: SJV Teacher/Parent Conferences
- ◆ 03-23-10: Submit 2nd report of Accreditation Work

*Check Your School
Calendars Regularly*

Accreditation Update:

We have submitted our first draft of preliminary work to our superintendent of Catholic Schools; MaryBeth Mueller and we got a "good start" comment. There are some clear suggestions to add a few more examples of the work done in the various areas such as Catholic Identity or Teacher Development and to elaborate more in some areas. We are excited and continue now with the revisions. There is a particular section which is significant in that it deals with curriculum. That section is due in the Spring but we are already working on it. Part of that section will include the new steps we are taking in the area of READING. We are in the process of installing the ACCELERATED READER program which was one of our goals from the previous year (and thanks to our GALA we could purchase!) and we have also implemented a reading rubric to assess how children read in the primary grades thru third grade. Mrs. Barkasy was instrumental in training our primary teachers this new method. We are now collecting the data and will add this to our report. More to come and we will keep you posted.....

CTODP Results

Thanks to many of you that generously contributed to our CTODP campaign and encouraged your family and friends to contribute as well. We are pleased to report that as of this writing we are less than \$10,000 from last year's results and we had more people contribute. We are pleased with that result given today's economic times and the fact that our message of contributing "something" and not worrying about the maximum contribution was heard.

Remember now through June 30th we have a unique opportunity to let 2010 contributions rec'd by June 30 to be applied to the upcoming 2010-2011 school year. So please continue to spread the word to family and friends. You can also help the CTODP campaign in other ways:

- 1.) Consider scheduling your payment to a credit card or from your checking account to allow smaller, more frequent contributions throughout the year. Visit www.ctodp.org enter the site and click on "Tax & Payment forms. Don't forget to designate your contribution to our school # 164
- 2.) If you know decision makers in Arizona "C" corporations, banks or insurance companies – these organizations can **REDIRECT** the tax they pay to the state much like individuals do. This does not cost these companies any extra money to do this, they are merely telling the state to direct their tax dollars toward Catholic education. If you think you know of some companies that can help, please see Sr. Ignacia or contact Tricia Sidell 623-297-2415 or triciasidell@cox.net
- 3.) If you did make a contribution, check with your employer. They may have a matching gift program. This means your employer may match your contribution because they want to support causes their employees support.

Sister Ignacia's Special Trip to South America!

I have been blessed with an opportunity to experience a pilgrimage of spiritual renewal that will retrace the steps of our first Salesian Missionaries in South America! I was chosen as a representative of my wonderful province of Mary Immaculate. I will leave April 5 thru May 6, 2010. It really means 13 school days! Don't worry as Sr. Roble, Sr. Cynthia, and Sr. Vuong will cover all the bases. Please pray for me so that I can gain many graces and come back with even more fervor and passion for this awesome ministry of service to our children. I will count on your prayers! If you need me for anything or have a question...ask me now before I go!