



St Joseph School

An educational ministry of the diocese

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Thank you to our wonderful **Parent Club Officers Amalia Castaneda, Pamela Saltiban, Esmeralda Alberto, Isabel Macias**

& Arturo Ramirez, and their team of efficient helpers for making the Crab Feed & Auction a huge success! We appreciate all you do for our students and for us. We are so blessed to have such supportive and giving families and are able to do so much because of all the help we receive from our wonderful families. We will continue to keep you in our prayers.

As we enter the Season of Lent, we will be supporting the Baby Bottle Project again this year through the Sacramento Life Center. Students will receive a baby bottle to fill with loose change. The program begins March 9th and bottles should be returned on April 15, 2011. The proceeds go to the Sacramento Life Center. Parents and Grandparents are welcome to join us for Stations of the Cross Fridays at 2 pm during Lent.

Math Invitational is this Saturday, March 12th. Students competing in the Math Invitational are selected from 5th, 6th and 7th grades. We are so proud of the students as they prepare to compete in the last of our big competitions of the year at Christian Brothers High School this Saturday. Congratulations to our team members. Please keep our students in your prayers.

We are in need of coaches to coach the "Little Dribblers". Little Dribblers is for the First Grade through 4th grade. We still need coaches for 2nd grade, and 3rd grade. Please see Ms. Rowell for more information on the Little Dribblers.

NEWSLETTER

Principal's Corner

Congratulations to our hard working and diligent ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM!!! We are one of the Top Ten Schools in the competition overall!!! The Team did a great job representing St. Joseph School. **Terise Camasura** placed **2nd** in Religion in the Competition for the Diocese and **Anna Perez** placed **2nd** in Literature in the Competition for the Diocese. We are so proud of the entire team! Congratulations Rickell Kinion, Isabella Jacinto, Angelina Pascual, IxtzelReynoso, Bianca Marteja, Katrina Jacinto, Jizelle Castaneda, Terise Camasura, Anna Perez, Antony Escobar, and Darien Davis. Coaches! A huge Thank you Mrs. Papilla, Mr. Walker, Mr. Grillott, and Sr. Aster for coaching our talented and dedicated team. A very special thanks goes to the wonderful parents of our Decathlon team for driving, feeding and coaching our students to victory.

Registration Packets for next school year 2011-12 went out in the family envelope last week. Please make sure to turn in your applications as soon as possible with the registration payment in order to take advantage of the Early Bird Registration Discount. We are very excited about next school year and need to know who is returning in order to hold our class size at set numbers. We have very limited financial aid available and ask that you turn in your request as soon as possible if you plan on requesting financial aid. Please note: Our process for Financial Aid has changed a little because we are no longer a "Parish" School which means that there are more procedures to follow. We are directly under the Diocese and we are governed by a Board of Directors and an Executive Director. Please turn in your financial aid paperwork promptly so that it can be reviewed and processed.

March 9, 2011

Important Dates to Remember:

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| March 9, Wed | ASH WED, Fasting and Abstinence
Mass: 8:00 AM |
| March 10, Thurs | Parent Cub Officers Meeting |
| March 11, Fri | Stations of the Cross, 2:00 PM |
| March 12, Sat | Math Invitational, CB High, 8:30-12:00 Noon |
| March 15, Wed | Vision Screening |
| March 18, Fri | MINIMUM DAY, Confirmation Retreat |
| March 19, Sat | FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH |
| March 20, SUN | FAMILY MASS and BREAKFAST |
| March 25, Fri | Stations of the Cross, 2:00 PM |
| March 29, Tues | Confirmation Rehearsal, 6:30 PM |

April 1, Fri CONFIRMATION, 7:00 PM

On another very important matter... please make sure you are making your monthly payments each month. (Especially in-house account families) There must be activity on your account every month meaning we must receive a payment from each family every month and it must be applied to your account. We understand a family gets behind on the tuition, once in a while, but activity needs to be seen on the account. Please make sure payments are being made faithfully to your account each month. If you fall behind on a payment please make an appointment to see Sr. Aster or me as soon as possible and we will help you make a plan to get caught up as soon as possible. All families must be making regular payments and there are no exceptions. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

CLASSROOM NEWS
KINDERGARTEN (Ms. Papilla)

Greetings!

March 8, 2011

Dear Parents,

Greetings!

Ash Wednesday is March 9th. We will join the Parish community at the 8:00 AM Mass. If you arrive after 7:55 AM, please proceed to the Church. The school will have Stations of the Cross every Friday at 2:00 PM. You are welcome to join us. We are in-charge of daily morning prayers during the month of May. We are reciting these prayers in class and will be practicing them daily. For the next 2 weeks, help your child review the Morning Offering Prayer. We are sponsoring the Family Mass in May. I will start practicing with the readings.

This week in Religion we will talk about the season of Lent. We are going to make our own Stations of the Cross booklet. We will pray one station daily. In Math, we will discuss ABB patterns, dividing by sharing and exploring Tangrams. In Science, we will talk about matter. In Language Arts, we will review the sounds. We have been blending one syllable words. We will also discuss the kinds of sentences and end marks. This week we will read Decodable Book 6 and 7. Reading is part of daily homework. Listen to your child read the Decodable Books. Review the Sight Words with your child. It is important to master sight words to help in the reading process. Sight Words this week: my, get, your, by, or

Thank you.

FIRST GRADE (Mrs. Rowell)

Greetings of Peace! Thank you to all of the parents for your help and support at our Crab Feed. It was a great event and enjoyed by all! I appreciate your help and support. Our class is in need of copy paper, handy wipes, and each student needs glue sticks. Thank you!

Curriculum updates for this week:

Language Arts: We will review long vowel spelling. We will identify words that make up contractions, reteach comprehension strategies, reteach cause/effect, vocabulary practice and concept, and continue to work on penmanship.

Math: We are subtracting a number from 10, measuring using feet, addition facts adding 10, identifying halves, thirds, fourths, estimating and measuring the capacity of a container, using symbols <, >, and =, and comparing two numbers.

Religion: We will begin to learn about the Season of Lent.

Science: We will begin our Unit on Matter, solids, liquids, and gases.

Family Mass: Our class will be in charge of the Family Mass on Sunday, March 20th at 9:00 a.m. Each student in 1st grade will participate. Please have your child in Church by 8:40am in complete uniform. Thank you!

Have a blessed week!

Ms. Rowell

SECOND GRADE (Sister Josie)

Dear Second Grade Families,
Blessings to you!

Thank you so much for your continued support by your generosity of contributing some items for our Spaghetti Dinner Basket, the auction for Crab Feed. Congratulations also to our children who made the Principal and Honor Roll, Perfect Attendance and Christian Citizenship Awards.

Important dates to remember to those children who are receiving First Communion:

March 25, Friday @ 6:00 to 8:00 pm- Parents Workshop and Meeting on the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist

April 16, Saturday @ 1:30 pm – First Confession/ Reconciliation, St. Joseph Church

May 14, Saturday @ 10:00 am – First Communion,
St. Joseph Church

Curriculum updates on this week:
March 7-11, 2011

Religion – Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the season of Lent

We learn about the importance of Ash Wednesday and why Catholics are marked with blessed ashes. The ashes are used to make a cross on our foreheads. We discuss the Lenten practices like fasting and prayer, penance and almsgiving and the road to follow Jesus to Calvary through the Way of the Cross.

Mathematics – Review Multiplication and Simple Division, Geometry – Solid Shapes. We identify the shapes of common objects and identify faces, corners, and edges of solid shapes; sort solid objects by faces, edges, and vertices.
Problem Solving.

Science – Forces and Change

We infer that a magnet has a space around it that attracts objects. We observe a magnet's pulling space and how magnets pull through things. Explore Activity: How a change in force changes the way an object moves?

Social Studies – Making a Difference

We explore how an individual can make a difference in the world by using his or her talents or interests. They recognize their talents and interests that could be used to make a difference in the community and the world.

Handwriting – Manuscript

Lesson 16-20 They learn the stroke on how to write letters and numbers. They are working on different level according to their skills to write manuscript. They are writing scriptural verses in manuscript.

Language Arts 2 (Ms. Nicholas)

Reading: We will be reading the story *The Three Little Pigs* to work on sequencing. We will also be reading "*Akiak: A Tale from the Iditarod*" picking out key words that indicate sequencing.

Phonics and Spelling: We are focusing on the words with /oi/ sounds spelled *oy*, and *oi*.

Grammar: We are identifying conjunctions in sentences. Students will watch the Veggie Tales Movie: *Conjunction Junction What's Your Function?*

Writing: We will be finishing up our good copies of fantasy writing. We will also use storyboards to create the sequence of events from each story we read.

Second Grade Spanish (Mrs. Reynoso)

Students will review singular and plural nouns. In Spanish, there are four ways to say "the" *el, la, los, las*. They will also learn definite articles and indefinite articles (*un, una, unas, unos*). We will read a story "*Jorge el Curioso*" *Curious George*. Thank you for all your support at home.

THIRD GRADE (Ms. Nicholas)

Hello 3rd Grade families!

I hope you all had a wonderful and relaxing weekend! Thank you for your donation to our class auction. The Crab Feed was a huge success! I would like to ask all of you who have taken pictures of the numerous class events throughout the year to please bring in copies for the yearbook. I am in the process of putting together our 3rd grade page, and I would love to use any and all of the pictures that have been taken. The deadline for this is March 15th, so please drop by the classroom or send them in with your child as soon as possible! Thank you for your help!

Here is a look at what is going on in the classroom.

Language Arts- Reading: We are introducing point of view. Students will be reading *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* and other stories to understand point of view.

Phonics and Spelling: We are working with suffixes and how they change the meanings of words.

Grammar: We are working on superlative and comparative adjectives. Students will be using white boards as well as classroom games to master these concepts.

Writing: We will be writing from the point of view of a bird. To coincide with our reading, students will be answering the question, "What if I saw the world from a birds eye?"

Science- We will continue our unit on matter. Students are "detectives in training" and exploring

matter around them. We have been identifying elements and looking over the Periodic Table.

Religion 3 (Sister Josie)

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of **Lent**.

We discuss the Church Year in the season of Lent, and the practices Catholics for forty days of fasting and prayer, penance and sacrifice, and almsgiving. We follow the road on the way to Calvary through the Station of the Cross. We discuss and illustrate the Station of the Cross and act it out.

Mathematics 3 (Sister Josie)

Measurement

We learn converting units of length in inches, feet and yards. We estimate and measure length to the nearest centimeters and meters. We add to find the perimeter of objects and shapes in inches.

Social Studies3 (Sister Josie)

The Settlers Beyond the Appalachians

We discuss the need of the settlers to take the route through the Appalachian Mountains to Kentucky.

We describe and draw a close up sketch the travel condition on the Wilderness Road. Graphic

Overview

Handwriting 3 (Sister Josie)

Cursive

The 3rd graders are working on different level according to their skills in cursive writing. They are encouraged to write sentences and scriptural verses in cursive.

Third Grade Spanish (Mrs. Reynoso)

Students will review singular and plural nouns. In Spanish, there are four ways to say “the” el, la, los, las. They will also learn definite articles and indefinite articles (un, una, unas, unos). We will read a story “Jorge el Curioso” Curious George. Thank you for all your support at home.

FOURTH GRADE (Mrs. Benson)

Greetings in Christ 4th grade families;

First I want to say THANK YOU to all the parents who donated to help us make our Crab Feed basket. A big thank you to Ms. Zabala for the gift card to Barnes and Nobles, Ms. Descallar for the coffee, tea and tea pot, and the Mison family for helping to purchase the remaining supplies and

putting together the basket. I appreciate all your support! Coming up soon we will have our all-day field trip to Mission San Francisco Solano. The students are very excited for this day. I still need drivers so please let me know as soon as possible if you are available.

In our studies we continue to stay very busy. In **Reading** we are continuing to work on our science themed stories. We will be reading a story called “Magnetism,” which is also what we are learning in Science. We continue to work on fluency and finding answers stated in the text of what we are reading. In **Language Arts** we are working a comparison essay and remembering subject-verb agreement. In **Social Studies** we are learning about agricultural advancements in California. In **Science** we are starting a unit on electricity and magnetism. This will be a very fun and hands on unit.

If you have any questions, please let me know!
Mrs. Benson

4th Grade Religion (Mrs. Elisa Cariaga)

In Chapter 20, we will be learning about Lent which begins on Ash Wednesday (March 9) and will last forty days. Lent is a season of simple living. We make a special effort to Pray, to do Penance, and to do Good Work.

In Chapter 21, we will be discussing the Easter Triduum, the veneration of the cross, and celebrate the three great days.

4th Grade Mathematics (Mrs.Cariaga)

We will be learning the basic concept of Statistics like interpreting data using a pictograph, line graph, or circle graph. They will describe the relationship between sets of data and determine how to get mode, median, range, outlier, population, line plot, survey, and sample of a survey.

4th Grade Spanish (Mrs. Reynoso)

Students will review the months of the year and seasons. They will also learn the rules for determining the gender of nouns (masculine or feminine). They will also practice reciting their own addresses and phone numbers in Spanish. We will read aloud the story, “Tu mama es una Llama?” Thank you for all your support at home.

Upper Grades (Departmentalized)

FIFTH GRADE (Mr. Walker)

Special Events

As you know, St. Joseph recently held our Annual Crab Feed and Auction. It was a great success! The food was good, the company was great and the event was fantastic. Thanks goes out to all of you parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and friends who made this event a memorable one. Special thanks go out to all of you who worked so hard to make it so. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Holt for getting the 5th Grade Project. For all you parents and guardians who put in hours, please remember to come see me so I can enter them for you.

God Bless,
Jim Walker

5th Grade Religion

This Week in Religion, we will finish up our study of The Anointing of the Sick. We have been examining this Sacrament and learning why it is so important. Next, this week, we will begin to examine the Season of Lent and how this is a time for us all to begin to prepare ourselves for Easter.

5th Grade Literature

This week we will be reading a piece of historical fiction. It is all about a young Chinese immigrant during the Gold Rush in California. We will focus on sequence, symbolism, and figurative language.

It should be very interesting.

5th Grade Language Arts

This week we will be examining sentence structure and the correct punctuation for different kinds of sentences. Then for the second half of the week, we will learn how to use a new kind of graphic organizer to help us with our writing skills. The "Event Chart" will help us to write a plot summary of the books the students have been reading. We will hold a Writers' Workshop at the end of the week to monitor our progress.

5th Grade Social Studies

This week we are studying the Revolutionary War. We will evaluate the strengths and

weaknesses of the British and American Armies. Then, we will compare and contrast the different strategies. Next we will examine the main points of the Treaty of Paris. Finally, we will examine the effects of the war on the role of colonial women.

5th Grade Science (General Science) Ms. Lao

We are on the subject of chemical properties. We will learn about the "law of conservation of matter." We will also be doing a laboratory activity this week on "How Matter React Chemically."

Computer Lab 5-8 (Ms. Quedado)

Upper grade students will be doing slideshow presentations using PowerPoint. They are learning how to design a slide and put animations on their pictures and words.

Spanish Grade 5 (Mrs. Reynoso)

Students will review possessive adjectives and occupations in Spanish. They will write sentences about occupations. We will also study vocabulary related to clothing. Please, review spelling words every day for spelling test. Thank you for all your support at home.

Math Grade 5 (Mrs. Cariaga)

In lesson 59-60 we learned about the concept of adding and subtracting decimals and added lessons was to explore about money using multiplication and division.

In investigation # 6 we will learn the importance, definitions, and use a Coordinate Plane.

6th Grade (Ms. Cariaga)

To my Dear 6th Grade Parents,

I would like to extend my warmest gratitude to Mrs. Alberto and Mrs. Dahilig for giving us the idea, preparing, and creating a unique creative work of art for our Crab Feed Basket. To all my 6th grade parents for supporting our project by donating gift cards and to those who helped in the preparation, during, and after the event itself. For the time and treasure you've shared specially Mr. Arturo Ramirez. Thank you very much.

I would like to inform you that this coming March 20 we will be in-charge of the Sunday Breakfast. For the details, we are still in the process of

planning of what to serve that day. Please contact Mrs. Alberto or Mrs. Cariaga for details.

Math Grade 6 (Mrs. Cariaga)

We are learning how to graph a linear equation using “T-table” or finding the value of y to a given value of x. They will learn also how to plot points on the coordinate plane and determine what geometric figure is being drawn in the coordinate plane.

Social Studies 6 (Mr. Walker)

This week we are exploring the world of the Ancient Hebrews. First, we are going to examine the significance of the Bible as a historical source as well as the Word of God. We will examine how the Jews survived defeat and exile. We will also trace the history of the kingship in Israel. Finally, we will examine the role of the Prophets.



6TH GRADE RELIGION (Ms. Papilla)

The class started Chapter 16. In this chapter the students will learn about the story of King Solomon’s divided Kingdom. We will talk about the Southern Kingdom.

6th Grade Science (Earth Science) Ms. Lao

We are on Cycles of Life and we are discussing the water, carbon, and nitrogen cycles. We are also learning about ways that humans pollute our environment and ecosystems. We will also discuss the importance of recycling both renewable and nonrenewable resources.

6th Grade Literature (Mr. Walker)

This week we are reading a piece of expository writing about volcanoes. This week, we will focus on different ways an author can present information in a text to make it easier to understand. We will also examine how the use of literary devices such as simile and personification can make events and ideas more accessible.

Language Arts 6 (Mr. Walker)

This week, we will examine four sentence types and how they are constructed. Then, we will identify the different types from various examples. Finally, the students will write several examples of each type on their own. Towards the end of the week,

we will examine two different types of graphic organizers to help the students with their writing. Then, we will compare the two. The students will then choose which one they would like to use for a plot summary of the novel they have finished

Spanish Grade 6 (Mrs. Reynoso)

Students will learn vocabulary related to feelings, expressing likes or dislikes in Spanish. They will complete story “Me Siento Bien” I feel good. They will take spelling test this Thursday. We will complete story read aloud, “El Gran Capuquero” by Lynne Cherry.

SEVENTH GRADE (Mr. Grillot)

Dear 7th Grade Families,

I want to extend huge congratulations to the undefeated boys’ basketball team and to the academic decathlon team. Two people from 7th grade: Anna Perez and Terise Camasura took 2nd place in their individual competitions in Literature and Religion, respectively. The whole academic decathlon team did a great job. I am very proud of both teams.

We are preparing for the year book, so if you have any pictures of 7th graders please bring them in so we can use them in our collage.

Math 7 PRE-ALGEBRA: (Mrs. Cariaga)

In Chapter 6.2 we are learning how to solve proportion and use real life problems involving proportion.

In chapter 6.3 we will explore similar figures and scale drawing to understand more the concepts of proportion.

Literature 7 (Mr. Grillot)

Last week, we continued reading The Outsiders with attention to how environmental factors influenced characters’ identities. Students are now able to differentiate between static and dynamic characters and describe how character identities are created. During this week, we will discuss the difference between environmental factors and personal decisions. We will also complete the novel and have a test on Thursday, March 10th.

Language Arts 7 (Mr. Grillot)

Last week, we completed and presented descriptive essays using precise language, sensory details, and a

metaphor or simile. This week we will develop an opinion essay linked with our novel, The Outsiders. Students will work to create a thesis and find support for their opinion from referencing the text.

Social Studies 7 (Mr. Grillot)

Last week, concluded our study of feudalism with a test over Western Europe and began Chapter 11 on the intertwining of religion and government in Europe during the Medieval Period. Students will be able to compare and contrast the Western and Eastern Church and summarize the events that led to the disruption of the Byzantine Empire.

7th GRADE RELIGION (Ms. Papilla)

The class is preparing for their Confirmation on April 1, 2011 at 6:30PM

7th Grade (Life Science) Ms. Lao

First of all, on behalf of the 7th graders, I would like to thank **Mrs. Amalia Castaneda** for providing us with our materials for our “Blood Testing” as well as our “Dissection” materials. It is a wonderful tool for the students to do all these hands-on activities. This week we will have our chapter test for the “Circulatory System.” We will then start with a new chapter on the “Nervous and the Endocrine System.” We will begin this chapter by describing a basic neuron and how an impulse travels.

7th Grade Spanish (Mrs. Reynoso)

Students will learn vocabulary related to occupations and write sentences using vocabulary. They will conjugate the verb “ir” to go and complete sentences. Please, study vocabulary for spelling test.

EIGHTH GRADE (MS. LAO)

Dear 8th Grade Parents,
We have officially started the last leg of the school year, the 3rd trimester. Please constantly remind your child to be diligent and to keep up the good work. They are almost there. In fact, they’ve been starting a countdown to Graduation Day!
I will be sending out reminders to parents who still need to accomplish parent hours. Accomplishing parent hours is a requirement for your child to be cleared for graduation. If you cannot be available to help out in school activities, we are accepting donations of office or classroom supplies. Please

provide a receipt so I can staple it in your parent hour log.

Thank you for your continued support to SJS!

Ms. Lao

Science Grade 8 (Physical Science) Ms. Lao

Our lesson this week is on Interactions of Matter. We are discussing about the different solubility of different kinds of matter and what affects it. We will also be comparing and contrasting solutions that are saturated, unsaturated, and supersaturated. We conclude the week by discussing how solutes and solvents affect the freezing and boiling points of solutions.

Math 8 ALGEBRA (Mrs. Cariaga)

In chapter 6-8 up to 6-10 we are exploring the process of solving equations by factoring. And in chapter 7 we will be learning and discussing the process of graphing different kinds of equation.



8th Grade Spanish (Mrs. Reynoso)

Students will learn vocabulary related to occupations and write sentences using vocabulary. They will conjugate the verb “ir” to go and complete sentences. Please, study vocabulary for spelling test.

Literature 8 (Mr. Grillot)

During the past week, we compared characterizations of one character in two different kinds of writing. We also compared point by point with block format comparisons and identified a common theme across two genres. In the coming week, we will strength our skills in grammar by using a semi-colon accurately. We will also compare and contrast the themes of two stories and speeches from different historical periods.

Language Arts 8 (Mr. Grillot)

During the past week, we summarized a technical document. We also compared and contrasted different owner’s manuals to find criteria for creating our own. Students presented their evaluations. This week we will analyze all factors and variables that need to be considered for use of a

tool, learn how to format a technical document, and compose a discovery draft of a technical document.

Social Studies 8 (Mr. Grillot)

During last week, we explained the relationship between industrialization and transportation in the early 1800s. Students correlated the growth of city population with the need for new housing and municipal services and explained the widening gap of social classes in northern cities. This week students will explain the role key people played in reform movements and describe the belief of a utopian community. We will test over Chapter 9 on Thursday and then begin our study on the South pre-Civil War.

8TH GRADE RELIGION (Ms. Papilla)

The 8th Graders will start reporting on Chapter 11. They will discuss the spiritual philosophies of various churches. They will talk about why celebrating Mass on Sunday is essential

Sports (Mrs. Rowell)

Our Sports Program is growing each year. We had a total of four teams this year. The Varsity Boys ended the season with a Bang! They finished the season **undefeated**. The last game was nerve racking. **CONGRATULATIONS!** Thank you to all of the students who participated and represented St. Joseph School so well. A huge thank you to our coaches. It would not have been possible without your help.

We're starting our Little Dribblers season and we are need of coaches. If you can volunteer, please see Ms. Rowell.

We will hold a couple of sports clinics during the summer. Updates will follow.

Altar Servers: No updates at this time.

Preschool News

March 4, 2011

Dear Parents,

We have been working with the letter "Bb" and counting as many objects as we could get our hands on! We read "What Begins with the Letter B". We have been talking about what to do in an emergency, when the adult with them cannot use the phone. Almost everyone knows to dial 9-1-1, but some still need practice finding the numbers on the phone. Please practice fire drills with your son/daughter, so he/she knows to get out of the house and which neighbor he/she should go to and wait for you.

Our crab feed was very successful, a special thank you to all of the parents who donated to our basket. Thank you to Addy Velasco's parents for all the books, our beautiful new prayer table, cabinet, tables, and chairs.

Ms. Judy

