



St. John Catholic School

Educational Ministry of St. John Parish

270 E. Lewelling Boulevard, San Lorenzo, California 94580
(510) 276-6632 Fax: (510) 276-5645 www.stjohncatholicsschool.org

October 14, 2015

Letter from the Principal

Dear SJCS Families,

We welcome you all to St. John Catholic School this week as you meet with your child's teacher during Parent-Teacher conferences. Our faculty and staff have the same goal – to ensure that you and your family are aware of your student's progress and that we are working together to ensure each child is working to his/her potential.

Remember that students in grades 4-8 are *required* to attend their student-parent-teacher conference. The students have a critical role in setting academic goals. You will be asked to reschedule your conference if your child is not present.

Please remember to visit our Scholastic Book Fair! This is a great time to pick up new books to support independent reading! We look forward to seeing you.

Blessings,
Mrs. Rachel Gonsalves
Principal



URGENT! Call for Morning Traffic Volunteers

St. John Catholic School is recruiting for a minimum of two parent volunteers to help direct drop-off traffic in the morning.

For example, it is getting increasingly difficult to manage “cut through” vehicles that are frustrated by traffic on E. Lewelling Blvd. This leads to safety issues for our parents and children. We need more hands on deck to help keep everyone safe during morning drop off.

Here are the details:

Volunteers work from 7:40-8 a.m. to set up cones and direct traffic to ensure student safety in the morning. That's only 20 minutes a day to serve your child's school in this important safety role.

Daily volunteers will receive the full 20 service hour credits for this position.

Can you spare 20 minutes each morning before work to help? Please contact our school administrative assistant, Ms. Darlina Serrano, at dserrano@csdo.org or by calling 510-276-6632 to sign up. Thank you for accepting this call to action!

Family Service Hour Program

A huge thank you to all of our school families who participated in our Fall Festival! This was a great way to begin – or to continue – your support of your child’s school through our Family Service Hour Program.

Families received a copy of the complete policy with the student registration packet, and it’s also available on our school website for your reference.

Here are a couple of reminders as you find ways to become involved at St. John Catholic School:

- Service hours for the 2015-2016 school year begin May 1, 2015 and must be completed by May 1, 2016.
- Each family is required to complete 20 service hours during this period.
- Service hours are valued at \$25/hour.
- The following do not count toward service hour requirements: parent-teacher conferences, sacramental preparation meetings, and attendance at CYO events or school production/performance events.
- Service hours are non-transferrable and cannot be carried over to the following year.

Studies show that students are more engaged and are more successful in school when parents are involved. Your support of St. John Catholic School not only helps us together achieve our mission, but it directly impacts your child’s success in school. Thank you for all you do!

SCRIPT Orders

It’s not too early to start thinking about Halloween candy and treats, Thanksgiving grocery shopping, and Christmas gift giving!

Order forms are available in the school office. Don’t delay! Place your holiday orders now!

Fundraising ... What’s the difference?

St. John Catholic School relies on fundraising efforts to cover operating expenses not covered by tuition alone. Tuition and fees pay for only 80% of our annual expenses, which include insurance, facility maintenance, utilities, curriculum, salaries and benefits, etc.

Each family is committed to participate in our school’s fundraising efforts to raise \$300 in profit for the year. This is accomplished by participating in SCRIPT, Fall Fundraiser, and our Fun Run this spring, for example. Any funds not raised by the May 1 deadline will be rolled over to FACTS.

In addition to the school’s efforts, many of our classes also fundraise to offset the cost of science camps, Caritas, and graduation fees. *These expenses are not part of the school’s operating budget, and participation in class-sponsored fundraisers does not apply to the school’s \$300 annual commitment per family.*

St. John Catholic School appreciates your support for both the school and individual class fundraising efforts.

Student Learning Expectation #2:

An Effective Communicator

In the coming weeks, teachers and staff will be looking for students who demonstrate the skills and characteristics of a student who is an effective communicator:

- Listens critically and compassionately to the ideas of others
- Accepts constructive criticism
- Utilizes both written and oral expression, provides examples of organization, proper grammar, mechanics, and form
- Uses current technology to acquire and disseminate information
- Speaks comfortably and with poise to a variety of audiences

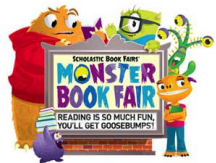
These Student Learning Expectations are skills and habits that we expect each student to master by the time they graduate from St. John Catholic School. Periodically during

the school year, students complete self-assessments and teachers assess student performance in these areas.

Handbook Reminder of the Week

Each week, look for a gentle reminder from our 2015-2016 Parent/Student Handbook. This week we will focus on an excerpt from the St. John Catholic School **Appearance Code: Belts:**

Belts must be worn with uniform shorts and pants with belt loops. Belts must be solid color brown or black. Students in Grades PreK and Kindergarten may adjust this requirement as needed, and will be determined by the classroom teacher.



SJCS Monster Book Fair

Please see the enclosed flyer for dates and times for our Scholastic Monster Book Fair beginning October 13.

If you cannot attend in person, you can visit our on-line Book Fair at scholastic.com/fair. Our online fair runs from October 1-21.

SJCS School Calendar

Our full school calendar is available on our school website. Please check it out to stay up-to-date! www.stjohncatholicschool.org.



Calendar Reminders

Parent-Teacher Conferences

October 14-16, 2015

Noon dismissal for students

MUSE Band Lesson

October 14, 12:30 p.m.

Scholastic Book Fair

October 13-16, 2015

Fall Fundraiser – Fundraisers.org

October 19 - kickoff

Red Ribbon Week

October 19-24, 2015

Picture Make Up Day

October 29

San Lorenzo Village Halloween Party

October 31, 2015, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Red Ribbon Week is Next Week!

This is the schedule for the week of October 19th through the 23rd.

Monday: “Band together against drugs” –

Student Council will pass out red bracelets for the students to wear all week.

Tuesday: “Being drug free is no sweat” –

Wear uniform clothes but free dress sweatshirt or sweat jacket.

Wednesday: “Put down drugs and give

everyone a hug” – Give hugs to everyone.

Thursday: “Run away from drugs” – Wear

uniform clothes but free dress athletic shoes.

Friday: “We all have the power to stop

drugs” – Dress as your favorite superhero.

