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September 9, 2015

Letter from the Principal

Dear SJCS Families,

Blessings to everyone as we have had time to rest and relax during the long Labor Day weekend and are now full swing into our school year!

Next week marks ITBS testing for our students in grades 2-8. This standardized test is used as a formative assessment to drive instruction as well as provide additional information about whole class and individual student performance. We ask that you provide your children with a nutritious breakfast each day, a healthy mid-morning snack, and a good night's rest!

We continue to come together as a school family each week to celebrate mass, and we invite parents and school families to join us in this liturgical celebration. As a school community, we ask our students to come forth to receive a blessing in accordance with their faith tradition, or to receive communion. If you have any questions about this tradition, please see your child's teacher for more information.

Blessings, Mrs. Rachel Gonsalves Principal

SCRIP Fundraising Orders

Have you ever wondered what SCRIP is and how it benefits St. John Catholic School?

What?

Scrip is Fundraising While You Shop®, it turns everyday shopping into cash for your organization when families use retail gift cards to pay for everyday purchases (like gas and groceries) instead of the usual credit/debit card or other money.

How?

Profits from your purchases count toward your family's annual \$300 fundraising obligation.

Be sure to pay attention to the percentage that each card earns to accurately calculate your contributions.

Thank you for supporting St. John Catholic School SCRIP program!

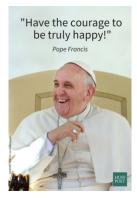
Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast

Please join us for a wonderful pancake breakfast hosted by the Knights of Columbus on Sunday, September 13 after the 7:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. masses. Adults are \$7 and children under 12 are \$5.

SJCS School Calendar

The calendar for this year will be available on our school website, <u>www.stjohncatholicschool.org</u>. Please check it out to stay up-to-date.

Pope Francis' Visit to the United States



from The Catholic Voice (9/7/15) Follow the Pope's Apostolic Visit to the United States and the United Nations Sept. 22-27. He is expected to canonize Father Junipero Serra, and visit Washington, D.C., NewYork, and Philadelphia. To follow the news:

www.facebook.com/TheCatholicVoice www.CatholicVoiceOakland.org www.catholicnews.com www.catholicnewsagency.com www.ewtn.com www.worldmeeting2015.org



St John's Harvest Fall Festival Friday, October 2, and Saturday, October 3, 2015 *Free Entertainment* Live Music!!*Raffle*Great Food!! Come play and have fun!! Pancake Breakfast on Sunday!! For information regarding sponsorship or volunteering please call (510) 688-0669 or sjcsfallfestival@gmail.com Please remember that each family is required to complete at least two (2) of their total required service hours at the festival. Sign up now to secure the date and time that works best for you.

NEW! Fingerprinting for Volunteers

October 8, 2015 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. a representative from the Dioceses of Oakland will be on campus to fingerprint volunteers. The cost is \$34. Sign up information coming soon!

Adults who volunteer at our school, including as chaperones or drivers on field trips, must be fingerprinted. *This is a diocesan mandate*. If you think you might already be fingerprinted, please check with the office staff who have the SJCS report from the diocese. If you have been fingerprinted for another diocesan school, please let the office know so we can transfer your report to St. John. Thank you.



Capital Campaign Magic Show

You are invited to attend the St. John Capital Campaign Magic Show fundraiser, featuring Magician Dan Chan, voted the Bay Area's Magician of the Year, on Sunday, Sept. 13, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. Ticket pricing:

- Premier Reserved: \$30; includes private Meet the Magician wine and cheese reception at 3:30 p.m.
- Regular Open Seating; \$20
- Bleacher Seating: \$10

For tickets, please call Louie Barranco at 510-278-5315.

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 the St. John Catholic School Absence and Tardy policy:

A student who has been absent from school is required upon return to present a written excuse stating the reason for the absence, and the letter must be signed by the student's parent/guardian. These letters are required to be kept on file by each teacher until the end of the school year.

"Excessive absences" is being absent from school for fifteen (15) days per semester, or ten (10) days per trimester, or a total of thirty (30) days per school year. When the student arrives after recess, he/she is one-half (1/2) day absent.

"Excessive tardiness" is being late six (6) times per semester, or four (4) times per trimester, or a total of twelve (12) times per school year. A student is tardy *if he/she arrives after the time fixed by* the school policy for the beginning of the morning, afternoon, or any class session. *In the morning, students who arrive after* 8 a.m. are tardy, and must sign in at the office and receive a tardy slip to present to the student's teacher upon arrival to the classroom. To prevent disruption, parents may not walk their tardy child to their classroom. The only exception is for those students in our Prekindergarten program.

Absences and tardies are part of each student's permanent records. Excessive absences and/or tardies, even if necessary and excused, may be grounds for decreased credit, disciplinary action, mandatory summer school, and not being invited to register for the following school year. Students who are excessively tardy, as defined above, will have a conduct referral, which will result in a parent meeting and consequences for the child, up to and including suspension and expulsion.

Especially for junior high students, a student must attend a full day of school in order to participate in after-school or evening activities, such as student council meetings and events, root dances, etc.



Calendar Reminders

Parent Club Meeting Thursday, Sept. 10, 6:30 p.m.

Capital Campaign Pancake Breakfast/Welcome Principal Sunday, September 13, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

ITBS Testing Sept. 14-18, 2015

8th Grade to Caritas Creek @ CYO September 21-25, 2015



Carnival – 70 Years a Village Celebrate San Lorenzo 1945-2015

Saturday, September 19, 2015 10 a.m to 4 p.m. Hesperian Blvd. between Paseo Grande and Via Mercado