



STS. SIMON & JUDE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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July 20, 2010

Dear Parents:

On behalf of the Friars, faculty and staff, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Sts. Simon & Jude for the 2010-2011 school year!

As many of you know, last year SSJ went through the process of accreditation. **It is with a sense of joy, pride and accomplishment that we celebrate receiving official notification of a full 6-year term of accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and the Western Catholic Educational Association (WCEA).** Our success is a wonderful testament to *everyone* who has been an integral part of the SSJ community—dedicated teachers and staff, motivated students, actively involved parents and a highly supportive pastoral staff.

For the past two years, our nation has been confronted with many challenges due to economic uncertainties that have caused all of us to reassess our situations. We have certainly experienced this at SSJ, but will continue to go the “extra mile” in pursuing all reasonable efforts that will ensure that our revenues are maximized, and that our expenditures remain consistent with our mission. We have a dynamic and compelling vision for the future of our school. As we begin this school year with a solid plan of action, a blueprint for operational priorities, and a faculty and staff who are passionate about quality Catholic education, we invite all of our families to join us as we continue to work to strengthen and energize this faith community.

As always, we will continue to rely on our faith in God, trusting Him, seeking His guidance and giving thanks for the many gifts we have received.

SSJ FACULTY CHANGES

After many years of dedicated service, **Mrs. Cathy Angel** has retired from Sts. Simon & Jude School. Mrs. Angel takes with her the accumulated memories of many years as a 3rd grade teacher at SSJ. Her years of service have been filled with learning, laughter, tears, comfort, challenges, friendships and fun. Countless students have benefited from her insight and love. There has been love shared for the legions of students who have passed through her classroom, love for the colleagues who worked by her side, and love for this community and the ministry that is Catholic education. We wish Mrs. Angel lots of happiness, good health and peace in the years to come.

We extend a warm welcome to **Ms. Jeanette Tartaglino** (3B) and **Mrs. Carrie Peralta** (Learning Support) as they join the SSJ faculty! Both of these teachers look forward to sharing their unique talents and gifts in the classroom, and uniting with us in the commitment to uphold the highest academic standards and spiritual formation of our students.

AUGUST OFFICE HOURS

Beginning Monday, August 16, the school office will be open from 9:00 A.M. until 3:00 P.M. Our office personnel and accounting staff will be available to assist you in person or by phone with

any concerns or questions that you might have.

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

The class lists indicating your child's room assignment will be posted outside the school office and on the school website at **NOON** on Friday, August 27. **Please note that it is not the policy of this administration to honor parent or student requests for a particular classroom assignment.**

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

The first day of school is **Tuesday, August 31**. Please bring your children to school no later than **7:45 A.M.** so that we may begin our year together in prayer. School will dismiss at 12:00 noon for all students on that Tuesday.

PARENT COFFEE SOCIAL

On Tuesday morning, August 31, the PFA Hospitality Committee will host a coffee social at 8:00 A.M. in Colman Hall. All of our parents are welcome to attend. Coffee, juice and pastry will be served. This is the perfect time for our new families to meet the "veteran" families of our school community, and for everyone to become reacquainted after the long summer months.

FAMILY ENVELOPES

Beginning August 31, and every Tuesday thereafter, all school communication will be sent home in the **family envelope** with the oldest child enrolled at SSJ. Each time the envelope is sent home, please remove and carefully read all the contents. We ask that you respond to any items that require your attention, sign the envelope, and return it to school with your child the next day.

ANNUAL SCHOOL SUPPLY SALE

School supply packs are scheduled to arrive at the end of August. If you ordered school supplies for your children, please note that they will be delivered directly to the classrooms for distribution on or before the first day of school. The school supply sale for any additional items not included in the packs will be held on Friday, August 27, from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., and on Tuesday, August 31, from 7:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M. in Colman Hall.

Volunteers will be needed to assist us with the sale on both of these days. If you are interested in helping with this task please contact Carrie Negro at 714-849-2030 or by email at cynegro@yahoo.com.

Please refer to the SSJ school website at www.ssj.org for a list of items to be sold, as well as a list of the 2010-2011 required items not included in your pre-ordered school supply kit.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE IN COMPLETE UNIFORM ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 31. Our school uniform company is Vicki Marsha. The company is located at 5292 Production Drive in Huntington Beach.

PE UNIFORMS

All students in grades 1 through 8 are required to wear PE uniforms for physical education classes. The PE uniforms are not available for purchase through Vicki Marsha, but are sold in the school office. Please note that PE uniforms will be available for sale on August 31, during the parent social in Colman Hall.

MEDICATION FORM

If your child will need to take any type of medication during school hours, please have your doctor complete the enclosed "request for medication" form and return it to our health office.

OUR SCHOOL NURSE CANNOT AND WILL NOT DISPENSE MEDICATION OF ANY KIND WITHOUT A PHYSICIAN'S SIGNATURE.

7TH GRADE IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

State law now requires three (3) doses of Hepatitis B (given over a period of six months) and two (2) doses of MMR for entry into the 7th grade. A tetanus booster is strongly recommended if more than five years have passed since the last DTP. All students entering 7th grade **MUST HAVE COMPLETED** three (3) doses of Hepatitis B and a second measles or MMR shot before the first day of school. Please bring your child's immunization record to the health room when you have completed these requirements.

GREEN HOURS FOR BLUE DOLPHIN FAMILIES!

Reduce, reuse and recycle are three more "R's" we want to teach our children at Sts. Simon & Jude School. If you have a daily passion for recycling, join us as we implement a lunchtime recycling program. Parents are needed to share the responsibility of transporting recyclables and to regularly encourage our students to recycle as a way of life. **Students are welcome on this committee as we plan to strongly encourage student leadership in this program.**

Meet Margaret Nolde and Nancy Castillo at the lunch tables at 3:00 P.M. on Wednesday, September 15, or email margaretn63@sbcglobal.net of your interest in helping to develop this worthwhile program. The money raised will be contributed to the parish environment fund.

IMPORTANT ENCLOSURES...

Please take the time to read all of the enclosures in this mailing. There is important information regarding our school's athletic program, the parish sacrament program, our PFA annual auction, the parish festival, the school's annual calendar, the spring/summer edition of our *Spirit* newsletter and a copy of our official accreditation letter.

Enjoy the remainder of your summer, and know that you are always in our prayers.

With faith, pride and spirit,

Crystal A. Smith
Principal