



Dear Parents,

Thank you to the 100+ families who attended our Town Hall meeting last Thursday evening. Your presence and support were very much appreciated! For those families who did not attend, the following is a very brief recap of the pertinent information that was shared.

- ❖ **Tuition** for the 2011-2012 school year will increase by 4%, which is approximately an additional \$18 per month. **Registration fees** will increase by \$5.
- ❖ Parents were reminded that our tuition dollars are used to not only enhance our curriculum, but also to **fund and maintain the many support systems** we have for all of our students. A complete list of these systems is available in the handouts.
- ❖ The transition has already begun for our shift to **full-day TYKE and Kindergarten** programs, with extensive structural work being planned for the present Stay Care facility. Sample schedules for both classes are available in the handouts.
- ❖ Additions to our **school uniform** include navy and gray shirts for the boys, and navy, gray or yellow shirts for the girls. All shirts will have the school logo on them. Uniform samples were available at the meeting for parent perusal.
- ❖ Effective the week of March 28, the **weekly communication will only be sent to our school families via e-mail**. We will no longer be utilizing the family envelopes for distribution of our school newsletter and accompanying flyers. To join our email list, simply log on to our school or parish website, click on the **“join our e-mail list”** button, and complete the information required. It's quick and easy. Whatever e-mail address you register is the one that we will be using to send our information to you each week. Both parents can receive the e-mails; all you need to do is sign-up separately. Please note that the student data is needed so that we can send targeted e-mails regarding specific sports announcements, grade level reminders for special events/activities, field trip itineraries, etc. (Please note that personal and confidential information will not be sent through this system.)
- ❖ Copies of our school's **ITBS standardized test scores** were distributed, as well as the test scores for the Diocese of Orange. Additionally, I was able to share (anonymously) another school's test results so that our parents can see just how well our students are achieving. Our students rock!
- ❖ The **Service Hours commitment** for the 2011-2012 school year **will be reduced** from 60 hours, to 40 hours. Single parent families will have their commitment reduced from 30 hours, to 20 hours. This does not mean that we do not need nor welcome your help; quite the opposite! We hope that all of our parents will continue with the same spirit and level of volunteering their time, talent or treasure. Parents who were present at the meeting understand the reasons for the reduction of mandated hours, and my personal feelings about the whole concept.
- ❖ Next year, we will continue with our efforts to create healthy and respectful relationships among our students with the implementation of **“school families.”** This program is designed to take our present “Body Buddies” program to a whole new level. There will be plenty of activities and opportunities available for our students so that they can joyfully live and celebrate what it means to be “community.”

If you were not able to attend the meeting, please know that you were missed. Extra handouts that were not distributed at the meeting are available in the school office for your review. Please feel free to stop by and pick up your copies.

SSJ TYKE/KINDERGARTEN READINESS SCREENING

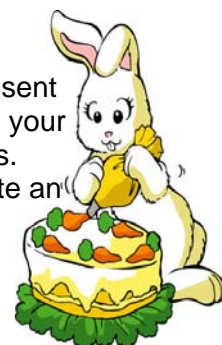
Our screening date for the 2011-2012 student placement in kindergarten will be **THIS Saturday, March 5, beginning at 8:00 A.M.** If you or anyone you know is interested in fall enrollment, please call the school office at 714-962-4451 to request an appointment time for kindergarten screening.

NOON DISMISSAL

School will dismiss at 12:00 noon this Friday, March 5th. Students who are left unattended on campus will be sent to Stay Care.

SEES CANDIES FUNDRAISER

Our annual Sees Candies fundraiser is back! Information packets and order forms will be sent home with the students on Tuesday, March 15th. This is a sweet and delicious way to fulfill your fundraising obligation. Families will be credited with 50% of their total Sees Candies orders. Items are reasonably priced, and families will have the opportunity again this year to donate an item to the children of Thomas House. For questions about the fundraiser or volunteer opportunities please contact Wendy Lotts at 714 488-2555 or send her an e-mail at hblotts@yahoo.com.



SSJ FISH FRY: SAVE THE DATES & HELP NEEDED

Looking for a fun way to earn those remaining service hours before the April 30th deadline? Join us at the annual SSJ Fish Fry which begins Friday, March 11, 2011, and continues each Friday through April 15, 2011. Earn bonus service hours by working all six weeks! There are many jobs available; no experience is necessary. This year, we're using **VolunteerSpot** (an online sign-up and reminder tool) to schedule our volunteers. Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

- 1) Click this link to go to our invitation page <http://tinyurl.com/fish2011>.
- 2) Enter your e-mail address. VolunteerSpot will then send you a personal sign-up invitation coded to your e-mail address. (No registration is required) Please note: VolunteerSpot does not share your e-mail address with anyone or send spam e-mails.
- 3) Go to your e-mail inbox and open the invitation from VolunteerSpot – click "Sign Up Now/Learn More" to choose your spots. Note: If you have trouble accessing the site or prefer not to enter your e-mail address, please e-mail Joyce Peterson at hbpetes@verizon.net and she will sign you up manually. (Please don't share your personal sign-up invitation as the link is unique to your e-mail address. If you delete your personal e-mail invitation, please go to www.VolunteerSpot.com and click "Find My Activity Links" to get a new e-mail with links to all your activities).

Please contact Joyce Peterson at 714-747-7383 if you would like more information, or if you are interested in helping us with this great community-building event.

SSJ RECYCLE DRIVE

Do you realize that there are only two months left in the school year to satisfy your service hours requirement? If you cannot be here during the week, there's always the weekend. The next recycle drive is scheduled for the weekend of March 12th and 13th. Please call Marcelle Capps at 714-421-2976, or send her an e-mail at mcapps2338@aol.com if you would like to volunteer. Marcelle is also looking for a dedicated family to assume the responsibilities for the recycle drive since this is her family's final year at SSJ. This is a great way to meet other SSJ families throughout the year. If you are interested, please contact Marcelle at your earliest convenience.



SSJ SPORTS NEWS

NEED VOLUNTEER HOURS? Anyone interested is welcome to help us with softball field maintenance on Saturday, March 5, beginning at 8:00 A.M. Bring a rake and shovel if you have one; we'll have extras if you don't!

TRACK MEET – Save the date, get out your tennis shoes; we'll be running before you realize it! The annual track meet will be held on Saturday, May 21, for grades 1 through 4; and Sunday, May 22, for grades 5 through 8.

WINDSHIELD ALERT – Softball season is underway, and we'd like to remind you that we are not responsible for dings/dents in your car if you choose to park near the softball field. The teams will be outstanding, but errors do happen! When games begin, a significant number of parking spaces along the field will be coned-off for safety reasons. Please do not move those cones to create a parking space for yourself. Thank you!

ST. MICHAEL'S OPEN HOUSE/HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE TEST

St. Michael's Prep School, ranked as one of the best 50 Catholic high schools in the United States, is hosting an Open House on Sunday, March 13th at 3:30 P.M. in our school library. Their High School Entrance Test will be held on Saturday, April 30th. St. Michael's serves young men of moral commitment and academic potential in a Catholic, five-day boarding school setting. Pre-registration is required for the entrance test. For more information go to www.stmichaelsprep.org, or call Mrs. Christian at 949-858-0222 extension 237.

WOMEN CREATING COMMUNITY

Reflections on My Pilgrimage to India is the title of the presentation which will be given by Sr. Eymard this Wednesday, March 2, from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. in the Franciscan rooms. Come and be awed by Sister's wisdom and entertained by her humor. She will challenge us to follow Jesus' call on our spiritual journey of bringing peace, joy, hope, compassion, forgiveness and comfort to all God's people. Everyone is welcome, and you are encouraged to bring a friend

In faith, pride and spirit,

Crystal Smith & Faculty

