

Dear Saints Simon and Jude School families,

Welcome to the 2005-2006 school year. eScrip is continuing it's commitment to provide a program that offers fundraising opportunities with everyday purchases. In addition to the Vons/Pavilions/Safeway and direct eScrip merchants, there are a variety of extra programs that eScrip continues to offer us. These include Macy's "Shop for Education" program thru use of their store credit card or their VISA, "Online Mall", eScrip VISA and the Rewards Network. By accessing the icon on the eScrip website you may shop at over 700 eScrip Online Mall merchants and automatically receive eScrip contributions. The Rewards Network was a new partner during the last school year and is continuing successfully. When you use your registered debit/credit cards at any of the participating dining and premier hotel merchants, you will receive contributions thru eScrip. (Many families have participated in this program unaware that they were receiving eScrip credit.) There are also a few new direct eScrip merchants. The sales department is continually pursuing large corporations as well as the small local merchant to commit to the eScrip program

Our school currently has 337 families registered in the program including those extended family members and friends that have so graciously offered their contributions to our organization. Your participation in the eScrip program offers our school, fundraising income that is so important to our children and offers your family, an ongoing opportunity to earn your fundraising commitment with ease. If you are new to SSJ or new to eScrip go to www.escrip.com to register.

Many of these additional programs may appear to be a lot to keep track of. The simplicity of this fundraising program is that you only need to register for eScrip one time. Annually it is required that you RENEW your commitment to Vons/Safeway Corporation between August 1st and October 31st in order to continue to receive their contribution. Vons requires this because they have donated millions of dollars to schools and organizations throughout the U.S. and they would like the recognition for doing so. During RENEWAL it is a great time for you as a participant to do some ACCOUNT MAINTENANCE. This process requires about 5 minutes of your time. To do so, go to www.escrip.com, and sign-in to "My eScrip". (If you have forgotten your password, they will e-mail it to your registered e-mail address. If you have a different e-mail address, then it will be sent by mail upon your request from the website. Your home page will welcome you by name and say "Your Vons account is up for RENEWAL." Click the box and click on "update your Account". Your renewal for this school year is complete. From there, go to "Account Administration" and then "Verify Personal Information" and "Update My Credit and Debit Cards". Review your credit and debit cards that you have listed, for current expiration dates as well as the correct card numbers. Add any new cards at this time.

Delete those you do not have anymore. Go to "Grocery and Store Cards" to review your Vons card. If you have replaced your Vons card be certain you have the correct number listed. To register your Macy's credit card go to "Update My Retail Cards" and add it there. Be sure to click "update" after you have made any necessary changes and sign-off.

We encourage school families to register as many family members, friends and neighbors in the eScrip program as you would like. They register the same way, online at www.escrip.com or with the eScrip registration form available in the school office. They indicate when registering that they would like their contributions to go to Saints Simon and Jude School. eScrip downloads a monthly statement to the school with all of the family names and their individual contribution amounts. Please fill out a "Family and Friends" Supporter Information form so we know to attach the families you have registered to your families' account #. These forms are available from the school website under the eScrip heading. Please return these forms to the accounting office.

Our eScrip calendar year is February 1st-January 31st. Your purchases thru the end of January will be included in this school year's fundraising commitment. February 1st, your purchases begin for the 2006-2007 school year. If you need assistance with registration or have any questions or concerns, please send an e-mail via the eScrip e-mail link at www.ssj.org or call me at 714/964-5188.

Looking forward to a great fundraising year,

Lori Mullins
eScrip Coordinator