



# St. Anthony's School Community

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November 30, 2004

Dear Families,

I hope you enjoyed your Thanksgiving vacation with your families. We now enter the season of Advent and look forward to preparing our children for this holy season.

**Thank You** - I'd like to thank our parents and students for their generosity in donating so many food items to the Poverello House. Mr. Neumeier along with student government representatives Bryce Bakman, Samantha Pistorosi, and Taylor Garry delivered six trucks full of donated food last week. I'd also like to thank all of our students who helped our church staff with their seasonal parish mailing last week. Msgr. John really appreciated it.

**Soccer Ball Donation** – Our soccer ball donation drive is going well. As of this morning, forty soccer balls had been donated. We'll continue that drive through Thursday of this week. Let's see if we can double the amount and send eighty soccer balls to programs serving low-income and disadvantaged children in the Fresno region. Our donation box is located in front of our office. For more info on this project you may contact **Chris Fiorentino at 278-8848** or via e-mail at [chrisf@csufresno.edu](mailto:chrisf@csufresno.edu).

**Training Completed** - Our staff received excellent CPR and First Aid Training yesterday. I thank Mr. Figueroa for volunteering his expertise in training our staff. I feel our staff is very well prepared to handle any emergency on campus and that we are providing a very safe school environment.

**Great news!** - Thanks, in no small part to parents like you who contacted their congressional members, Title V has been funded again. Thank you for your diligence in getting the word out to our representatives. Title V is federal funding that supports innovative instruction. Each year we purchase supplemental materials to enrich the curriculum with these funds. Now may be the time to send a thank you to our representatives in Washington. The easiest way to do this is to use the CAPE website <http://www.capenet.org/new.html> and go to CAPE's Legislative Action Center at the bottom of this web page.

**More Great News!** - I'm very happy to announce that Mr. James Healy, President of Trust Funds Incorporated in San Francisco, shared with me last week that St. Anthony's is the recipient of their \$10,000 grant to support our junior high laptop learning program. Beyond the financial reward, I was especially excited that a foundation in the Bay area reviewed our program and recognized St. Anthony's as a leader in educational technology. Mr. and Mrs. Healy visited our us recently and praised our school for the excellent Catholic environment that we provide. They

especially recognized our quality teaching, well mannered and enthusiastic students, and supportive parents. They felt that we are a school community working together for the good of our children and I agree. I also thank Mrs. Mary Aquirre who we hired as a grant writer this summer for her successful grant writing. Finally, I compliment our staff and Mr. Olson for effectively integrating technology into the curriculum. I feel we are one of the leading schools in the area and most importantly that our students are engaged and using technology as a tool to learn more than ever.

**Meetings Cancelled** - We understand how busy our families are during the Christmas season. As a result, all school organization meetings have been cancelled for the month of December. This includes our Parent Teacher Organization, our Advisory School Board, and our Education Committee. We will resume our monthly meetings in January.

**Yard Duty** - I would like to extend my appreciation to all of the wonderful parent volunteers who supervise our children during the lunch hour. Also, we are always looking for new parents to join our tremendous team. Please call Mrs. Sarkisian at 432-6768 if interested.

**Campus Care** – There will be no Campus Care after school on Friday, **December 17**. Also, please pick up your students promptly at 12:30 p.m. dismissal. Our staff wants to get away quickly for our Christmas get together.

**Scrip Notes** – As the holiday near, why stress over running all over town when you can do your shopping right here at school and save on tuition at the same time! Our Scrip Order Form has many, many stores and restaurants to choose from. We've just added **Honey Baked Ham** and **Marie Callendar's** to help with your holiday meals. You can download the form from the school website or pick one up in the office. Also, you can fax in your order and pay for it when you pick it up. It's as easy as PIE!

**Calling All Sonora Field Trip Volunteers** - If you are signed up to travel with our sixth graders on their three day Sonora science field trip, please stop by the office to begin the fingerprinting process. Diocesan policy states that all overnight chaperones must be fingerprinted before the trip. Thank you for your effort.

**Basketball Notice** - Mr. McConnico is reminding all basketball players to purchase their St. Anthony's gold jerseys before our first PAL game this Saturday. Also, in an attempt to provide our teams with a uniform look, we are asking our players in grades 5 and 6 to wear navy blue shorts with their gold jersey if possible. If you already have a pair of basketball shorts, please do not feel that you have to purchase new ones. Mr. McConnico has limited sizes of navy shorts available. The gold jersey and shorts both sell for \$10. Or if you prefer, the same shorts can be purchased at First String Sports on Blackstone Ave. We will distribute basketball schedules as soon as they are available. Good Luck!

Sincerely in Christ,

Shawn Carey  
Principal

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