



**"Children-Our Most Important Asset & Future Investments"**

**5680 North Maroa Avenue ♦ Fresno, California 93704**

**(559)435-0700 ♦ Fax (559)435-6749**

**www.sasfresno.com**

Dear Families,

February 20, 2007

I hope that everyone enjoyed another long weekend and is refreshed and ready to get back to work (and some fun too!). I'd like to congratulate our basketball teams and their coaches for their tremendous effort at the PAL Basketball Tournament this weekend. They spent all day Saturday and Sunday at the San Joaquin Memorial High School Gym participating in a 30 team tournament of mostly Catholic Schools from as far south as Bakersfield and as far north as Los Banos. I not only enjoyed some very exciting basketball but also saw a wonderful display of school spirit and good sportsmanship as our four teams cheered for each other. Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys coached by Mr. Gilio, Justin Gilio and Mr. Hickman placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in a very exciting championship game and our 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls coached by Mr. Neumeier and managed by Taylor Harris placed first. Mr. Neumeier's team included: Andie Arellano, Jordan Batti, Robin Draper, Katie Durkin, Jessica Gosten, Rachel Hall, Karley Kemble, Betsy Lauritzen, Genevieve Johnson, Lauren Parrish, Marissa Pische, Alexis Quintana, Jessica Sailor, Isabelle Sico, Mary Smith, Stefani Soto, Kristen Trenberth, and Tracie Umali. Selected to the All Tournament team were Nick Ball, Lizzie Fisher, Jessica Gosten, Stefani Soto, Kevin Gilio, Dylan Olson and Most Valuable Player of the Tournament - our very own Robin Draper. I'd also like to recognize Mr. McConnico for his dedication as our Athletic Director and for spending all weekend at SJM with Coach Draper and Coach Roblee and their SJM Panthers high school team.

**First Reconciliation** – I'd like to congratulate **Mrs. Gennock's** and **Miss Ostdiek's 2<sup>nd</sup> graders** for receiving their First Reconciliation last week. I'd also like to thank our priests for providing such a quality service. Our children are well on their way in their Sacramental journey and will receive their First Holy Communion on **April 21<sup>st</sup>**.

**1<sup>st</sup> Communion Meeting** - Reminder that there is First Communion Parent Meeting this **Thursday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm in Mrs. Gennock's room (Room10)**.

**WASC Surveys Coming Home** - Please look for parent surveys and return no later than Wednesday, February 28 to your child's teacher via the Tuesday packet folder We value your input and will use your survey to help evaluate our educational program.

**PTO Italian Dinner** – *Mamma Mia now that's Italian!* Don't forget to send in your reservation for the famous St. Anthony's Italian Dinner coming up this **Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>**. The food is always fantastic and it is also available for takeout. Tickets are \$7.50 for adults and \$5.50 for children (12 and under). Tickets will also be available at the door. See the enclosed flier to make your reservations. Enjoy a night off from cooking and have some great Italian food! *Buon Appetito!*

**A Reminder** - A reminder that next week is a rare week in that our students will only attend school on Monday and Wednesday. This is due to our teachers attending an all day workshop on "Effective Assessment" on Tuesday and travel for the beginning of a three day Religious Education Conference in Anaheim on Thursday and Friday. We believe these will be very beneficial days for our staff but I do apologize for any inconvenience.

**Sheriff's Car** - Please note that Officer Willow from the Fresno County Sheriff's Department will give a presentation to our All Day Kindergarten tomorrow. So, don't be alarmed if you see the lights of a police car in our parking lot.

**SPRING PICTURES and MORE!** – We will be taking spring pictures on **Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>**. These pictures are for your family so the students may wear the outfit of your choice as long as it complies with the school's policy on free dress. Please avoid anything that that is too short or too baggy. (Please refer to pg. 33 of handbook). We will also be taking **sport photos** so please bring your gold shirts or team shirts. We will also be taking photos of all the **Class Reps and Altar Servers**. Please come prepared for all of these photos and pay attention to all announcements.

**Ash Wednesday** – Please join us tomorrow, **February 21st** at our Ash Wednesday prayer service **at 9:15 in the main church**. Please be aware that due to the 8:00am Mass' large attendance and longer length, you may want to practice your "Lenten Patience" in the school parking lot or arrive a little earlier. Also, as this is the beginning of our Lenten Season let us ask the Lord to help us appreciate the people in our lives more, especially our sons and daughters. Help us to truly become a community of love and faith, living in God's presence.

**Announcing the Spring Class Reps** – And the results are in! We would like to announce the newest Spring Class Reps: **4M – Ben Callahan, Philip Rontell, 4P -Matt Harris & Blake Petrucci & Troy Wilson, 5A - Gina DeYoung & Brennen Martinez, 5H - Jimmy Benschmidt & Julia Zuniga, 6G - Chad Cardell & Hayley Goebel, 6S - Claire Baradat & Patrick O'Rourke, 8B - Cortney Chatoian & Robin Draper, 8Y- Paige Collins & Genevieve Johnson**

**Kids and Community Service** – Yes, our kids are at it again! It seems that our students think of others all the time as they enter into various community service projects. **Chandler Ward, Kurtie Kellner and Mikaela Harris** are asking our school community to donate to the "Help Out" project which will help a no-kill animal shelter called "Roof". They are asking for the following items to be brought to your student's classroom this week: old towels, dog treats, leashes, collars and dog food. Thank you in advance for your support.

**Valley Freeze Victims Fundraiser** – This fundraiser held by **Mrs. Asparuhov's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class** last week was a great success! A big thank you to all of the **5A** students and parent volunteers that were involved! Many participated with their time and talents and many gave generously. The sale made almost \$600 thanks to our community's generosity. If you would still like to donate to this very worthwhile cause you may do so by leaving a check made out to Catholic Charities and put it in the "**5A Fundraiser**" envelope in the school office.

**How Do You Spell That?** - The following students, **Richard Boone (4P), Maurice Frediere (4M), Demetria Lion (5H), Mallorie Manimtim (5A), Claire Baradat (6S), Noelle Diener (6G), Jimmy Cameron (7M), Nick Janigian (7W)** will be participating in the **Non Public School Spelling Bee** being held on **Saturday, Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>** from 8:30 am to Noon at Fresno Christian School. Congratulations and we wish you the best of luck!

**Report Cards** – This week concludes our second trimester of school. Look for report cards to come home next **Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**.

**Bon Voyage 6<sup>th</sup> Graders** – Say good luck and goodbye to our 6<sup>th</sup> graders as they and their wonderful teachers, **Mrs. Garrett and Mrs. Silverio**, travel to Sonora to visit the *Regional Learning Center* to "camp" and learn all about science for three days and two nights amidst the stars and nature. They will be heading out February 26, 27, and 28th. Wish them luck and lots of learning! I'm sure they will bring back some great stories!

**Will the Fresno Jr. Falcon Please Stand Up!** – If you are a Fresno Falcons fan and will be attending the game next **Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>**, please look for our very own **Samuel Einhorn (K2)** on the ice as a Fresno Jr. Falcon! Way to go Samuel!

*"Lord, may this lent be time which I see the riches you have placed in those around me. Help me to see the blessings that they are. Give me your spirit to bless them in return."*

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Shawn Carey/Principal