

Dear Parents,

What a week ! The St Francis three ring circus continues at break-neck speed. (Wasn't it just February?) Don't blink, or you will miss something....Yesterday we were treated to the 2010 version of the **Spring Concert** ! Each class did a song and or a patriotic reading that was in line with the **Red, White and Blue** dress day that we had as a theme. It was a sight indeed to see everyone in their Patriotic garb. I felt like it was 4th of July! I was particularly impressed with the Handbell group, as they were on top of their game. The first graders seemed to be the loudest singers of the school. Good job to everyone ! Thanks to **Vicki Swing** for getting this show off the ground with her musical coaching. Nice work ! And I would be remiss in my town crier duties if I failed to throw a shout out to Mr Pickles, Mr Monga, and Senor Ligotti for their set-up skills in the Hall for the concert. Muchas Gracias!

As a beautiful backdrop for the Concert was our annual **ART SHOW**. Wow, what an awesome display of art projects from all of the classes! All of the parents were impressed with the high quality of art that comes forth from our students. **The Teachers and the Art Docents** have done a remarkable job helping the kids get ready for this show. There is a lot of talent out there and only good teaching can bring it out. Good job everyone !!

Next week, our very own **Grace Cutting** will compete in the **State Spelling Bee** !! If you are interested in attending, the information is listed here below:

Saturday May 15 at 9A.M. (Introduction of spellers and reading of rules) Competition goes until about 1P.M.

Sonoma State University
Evert B. Person Theatre
1801 East Cotati Avenue, Rohnert Park
Go Grace !!

Last week, we celebrated **Earth Day** ! The Student Council did a brilliant job putting together the program with the help of Mr Monga. Aside from learning all sorts of ways to protect this planet's environment, they got to set up the beautiful new **Planter Box** that was built and painted by the first grade class, and donated from the Auction by the **Cline family**. Mr Guevara brought in a bunch of dirt, and off we go! More planters are in the planning stages, and Gabriel's Garden will soon become a reality...

There is a little special change to the usual Mass schedule as far as our school goes....**The Kinder-4th grade Mass will be this Sunday** instead of next Sunday due to Mother's Day falling next Sunday. This is a departure from the norm as we usually do it after the First Friday all-School Mass.

This Saturday is the **2nd graders First Holy Communion!** This is a special day for not only the kids, but for their entire class, and of course their families (who it is most special for). I am looking forward to being in Church with them next Friday for our all-school Mass and getting to watch the 2nd graders get communion like the big people!

I guess we can compete! I am amazed at the success of our kids this year, winning contests left and right (or right and left, depending on your orientation). The latest greatest is our own **Shannon Walsh**, who won the **Native Sons of the Golden West Essay Contest!** This was a Sonoma Valley contest and now she will move on (or should I say, her essay will move on) to the county wide competition. Good job Shannon ! And good luck !

Some belated congrats go out to **Olivia Herrick and Hallie Stava** for their runner-up awards for the La Luz Cinco de Mayo Art contest! They will be presented this Sunday with their awards on the Plaza! Good Job you guys ! Honorable mention awards were also given to Quinn Cordero, Hanna Maillard, and Abigail Craig. The art world awaits your talents....

Movie night is May 21.....It is coming ! Get your blankets and beach chairs ready..... Pray for a nice warm, windless evening!

I want to draw your attention to our new "**Green Ideas**" **page under the community tab on our website**. On the page are features on St. Francis family businesses that have a green focus, as well as links to green idea pages, and also features on the school's work we are doing to make our campus more green. Check it out. If you have other knowledge or feature ideas for this page, please email Mr Monga.

St Francis will have another **Walk and Roll to School / Work day** coming up on the **13th of May** and that Monday will also be a **No Trash day. Free Dress** for all who walk or ride to school. I will again meet a group at the Park on Arnold Drive in the morning (hopefully it will be warmer than last time !) It was suggested by a few 8th graders that we could have more success with our No Trash days if we would announce it better. So here it is....

We all were treated today to the **4th Grader's rendition of the Gold Rush Days** in Father Roberts Hall! It was fun to hear the students talk about their special topics to interested peers from the other classes. This is a cool exercise, not only for the project work and board mock-up, but for the kid's public speaking skills. This a great thing we do at this school. Someday, the kids will thank us when they have to do that stuff in High School !

When shopping for a gift for your mom for Mother's Day, you may want to stop by the school office to pick up gift cards to mom's favorite store such as Kohl's, Macy's, CVS, Payless Shoes, Starbucks, See's Candies, Chevron and Shell, just to mention a few.

Well, I think that is enough for now....Hopefully you made it this far! Have a great warm weekend everyone, and may God continue to Bless all of our families !

Matt Vukicevich
Principal
Saint Francis Solano School

"I want to know God's thoughts, the rest are details." Albert Einstein