

Dear Parents,

What a year ! I is hard for me to express in words what I feel in my heart for this community. The open acceptance right out of the blocks and the true sympathy during some very difficult times in my life will not soon be forgotten. I assure you all. Every day when I meet all of your kids, I get a renewed sense of satisfaction that I did the right thing in coming here. I love these guys and their unbridled enthusiasm for life and learning. I wish that the innocence they possess would become a huge virus and "infect" the rest of the world, at a time when when it is sorely needed. Thank you all for having these kids, and in turn, sending them to St Francis to begin their education. It is only the beginning, but I think we get them off on the right foot. We have wonderful teachers and staff here, and all are involved in their education. Together with you parents, we will continue to be the village that raises the child....

Last night, the 7th Grade parents and students, led by **Sara Craig, Laura Lanzafame, Tish Lehane, and Elizabeth Clerou** put on a wonderful dinner dance for the 8th Graders and their parents. The Hall was beautifully decorated in an international theme, and the food was catered by Jacuzzi Winery (Thanks, Cline family!). A huge thanks goes to **Martin Howard** for all his hard work setting up, and so promptly cleaning up after the event. We had a DJ out there teaching the kids and their parent new dances. Very entertaining. But the highlight of the evening was a **video produced by Pete Monga**. Everyone was touched by the pictures and videos of the "old days" and the words expressed by various teachers about he graduates. Complimenti, Pete!

Today we are off to the Church to attend a **Baccalaureate Mass** in honor of the 8th Graders. I am looking forward to seeing the kids in their graduation robes. I can tell you now what I am going to say to the graduates: 1) Always remember what it was like to be a Kinder, and always keep growing, keep learning. 2) Always acknowledge the spark of the Divine in others and in yourself and ACT on it ! 3) Always be looking for your true place on this planet, what your roll is. You will be most happy if you do what is true for you and are in some service to humanity. 4) Thank your teachers. 5) Thank your parents!!

This past Monday, we had a dedication of a plaque to honor the **Ladies of the Church Mouse, Evelyn, Ellsmere and Adele**. We had our new Student Council and the entire school out in front of the school near the Mary Statue for the ceremony. The ladies were touched and we were happy to honor their life's work with a plaque that is in plain view of everyone walking from the "parking lot" to church. We are truly lucky to have had these "Angels" in our corner all these

years. And I wish the New Church Mouse Board all the success of their predecessors ! I want to also thank **Mark Castellucci** for his efforts to get the plaque installed in cement over the weekend. And of course to **Arlene Hilliard** for getting the Plaque made ! Great work everyone!

We have made some small changes to the dress code for next year, the details will be sent home soon (most likely with the June packet). The biggest thing is of course, the addition of the gray polo as an option for every day wear. We are going to phase out a couple things and strive to achieve a nice sharp looking uniform that looks clean and classy over the next year or two. We are trying not to change too much at once and incur big costs right away. The bottom line is that we want kids here to look good and look like they go here. Make a statement. A St Francis "look." Thanks in advance, we hope to get everyone's support on this.

Remember to keep bringing in your uniforms that are not needed any longer and we will recycle them! Basket is by front entrance....

Be sure to bring a water bottle and sun screen to Field Day on Tuesday, especially with the arrival of warm weather.

I am off to my son Eric's Graduation from Cal Poly after Baccalaureate today...Have a great weekend everyone !

Congratulations all of you 8th Graders on you graduation tomorrow. I would have liked to be there, but you are probably tired of me.....I will never forget all of you, though, as my first 8th Grade class! Good Luck to all of you, I know you will be stars in the world... Stop by sometime...God Speed !

Matt

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Matt Vukicevich
Principal
Saint Francis Solano School

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

