

## Principal's Weekly Bulletin December 17, 2009

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Dear Parents,

The natives are restless for their impending 17 days of freedom! Christmas time is such a fun time of year for the kids. I am happy to be here and see this. Having older kids myself and having worked with high school kids for the last 17 years, I have almost forgotten how special this time of year is. The kids are giddy with excitement. I am excited to see my first Christmas pageant tonight! My wife and I will celebrate our anniversary with the pageant and dinner on the square afterward. I have to thank so many people for all of your kind words and gifts, I feel blessed to be a part of this wonderful place. Your kids are so great and cool ! Thank you all for everything !

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Speaking of the pageant, at the conclusion, please grab your kids right after they are finished cleaning up as we need to get the hall cleared out for an event on Friday, and the teachers need to leave their rooms and get down to the Hall. THANK YOU !

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Congratulations to Rochelle Keiser for being our big See's candy sales winner. She did over \$800 in candy sales and has earned a free yearbook and a free pound of See's chocolates of her choice. Good job Rochelle !

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Basketball news: The 8th Grade girls' team claimed the League Championship. The 8th grade boys took third with a winning record (and defeated San Domenico in a season ending match !). The 7th grade girls made it to the tournament but lost in the first round. The 7th grade boys placed third in the league. Great job everyone!

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### St. Francis Solano School's

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Family

Ski/Snowboard Day

January 16<sup>th</sup> thru January 19<sup>th</sup>

Martin Luther King 4-day weekend

@

Heavenly Valley Ski Resort

South Lake Tahoe

(775) 586-7000/ [www.skiheavenly.com](http://www.skiheavenly.com)

- Optional Meet and Greet @ Blue Dog Pizza
- (Sunday Night @ 6:00p.m.)
- Monday January 18<sup>th</sup> Start at California Base Lodge at 9:00 a.m. meet at
- California Base Lodge for lunch and receive mountain gift bags.
- Other activities at Heavenly Resort Include:
- Snow Tubing at Top of Gondola

- Zip Line Heavenly Flyer
- Ice Skating at Base of Gondola
- And much More...

(For more information call Chris Harder @ (707) 939-9381)

Email at [skiharder@aol.com](mailto:skiharder@aol.com)

### **Lodging Information**

**There are many affordable lodging availabilities in the South Lake Tahoe area, here are just a few:**

\* Travel Lodge <Howard Johnsons Express Inn

(530)541-4000

<http://www.travelodge.com/travelodge/control/home>

\*Three Peaks Resort

(530)544-4131

<http://www.lake-tahoe-california-hotels.com/>

Best Western Hotels Station House Inn

(530)541-6722

<http://www.stationhouseinn.com>

\*Harrah's /Harvey's Casino Hotels (775)588-6611

<http://www.harrahs.com/destinations/reno--tahoe/hotelcasinos/market-home.shtm>

\*Mont Bleu Casino Hotel (775)588-3515

<http://www.montbleuresort.com/resort.php>

\*Best Western Hotels, Timber Cove Lodge

(530)541-6722

[www.bestwesternhotels.com](http://www.bestwesternhotels.com)

Check out discount lift tickets and packages available thru Heavenly Valley Resort and various hotels

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On behalf of the teachers and staff, I want to thank all of you room parents, Art Docents, and "Santa's helpers" for all of your hard work, generous donations and artistic flair to make this school an even more special place. All one has to do is walk down the halls and see the awe inspiring art work around the doors, and you are immediately struck by the warmth and color of these entrances! It is hard to explain, but it seems so natural, almost like the art has always been there. It just seems right, somehow. Clearly, a lot of thought went into it by the teachers and the artists. You all should be proud. Thank you !

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A quick update for you regarding Open House on Feb 4th. We will have the usual class projects on display and the event will run from 6:00 – 7:30 P.M. A new feature to the day will be that we will also be hosting prospective families during the school day. The focus will be on prospective middle school transfers and future Kinders. We hope to attract a good number of new families to our school, and this will be one piece to that puzzle. I am asking all of our parents to act as ambassadors in this recruitment process. Word of mouth is the single best form of advertising there is and if we are to continue to offer

small class size, sports for 5th through 8th grade, and a full slate of electives, we will need to infuse the school with new blood. We will jump up our PR efforts in a concerted effort to reach out to the community, but every little thing will help. So, thanks for any good word you can put out there.

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Please read below Father Mike's Christmas message:

## **Christmas Greetings**

From Father Mike

I offer to all our school parents and children the blessings of the Christmas season. Whatever may be our worldly concerns, what we celebrate this week is the certitude that God is with us. So, I think of the people who will come home and welcome them; of friends who are away and love them; of the dear ones who have died and pray for them; of the God who saves and thank Him. On behalf of Fr. Carlos and myself, I offer to all our parishioners and friends the blessings of the Christmas season. May the Gift of God's Love, the Gift of His Peace and the Gift of His Spirit be with you at Christmas and throughout the New Year. At this busy time of seasonal activities, I encourage you to take time out with your children to meditate on the reason for the season... "Jesus the Christ Child." Celebrate the light of the home Advent wreath, the togetherness of the Christmas dinner, the worship of the Christmas Masses, and the place of the crib in our hearts. Come visit the crib at the church, make a firm resolution to respect the world of God's love and forgiveness, and to know His peace. Thus, the Christmas baby will become the Lord of your New Year. I offer a table prayer for Christmas dinner. Pray and enjoy: Rejoice! Emmanuel. Shall come to thee, O Israel!"

I post the parish Christmas day schedule. NOTE... There will be an EXTRA Mass on Christmas Eve at 6:00 p.m. to relieve the crowds at the traditional 4:00 p.m. Family Christmas Mass.

### December 24<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass w/Children's Choir  
6:00 p.m. Family Vigil Mass  
9:30 p.m. Misa en Espanol – Vigilia de Navidad  
11:30 p.m. Christmas Choir

### December 25<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Day

12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass  
7:30 a.m. Christmas Mass at Dawn  
9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass  
11:00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass

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I want to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. I hope all your kids get some rest, get healthy, and live the spirit of Christmas, not only on Dec 25th, but all the days of their lives.....

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Matt Vukicevich  
Principal  
St. Francis Solano School

"Your future is only as bright as your mind is open"