



*Catholic Elementary & Middle School Education  
for the Sonoma Valley*

342 West Napa Street • Sonoma, 95476 • (707) 996-4994

# Weekly Newsletter

September 1, 2011

Dates to  
Remember:

**MONDAY – SEPT. 5**

No School

**TUESDAY – SEPT. 6**

Signed handbook pages  
due to office

**WEDNESDAY – SEPT. 7**

1<sup>st</sup> Pasta Day

**THURSDAY – SEPT. 8**

Back-to-School Night  
LD 5:30-6:00  
All in FRH 6:05-6:20  
UD 6:25 – 7:45

1<sup>st</sup> Pizza Day

**FRIDAY – SEPT. 9**

8:10 A.M. 911 Tribute

**TUESDAY – SEPT. 13**

1<sup>st</sup> Hot Dog Day

**THURSDAY – SEPT. 15**

Picture Day – FULL  
DRESS

**FRIDAY – SEPT 16**

8:30 A.M. Mass, Gr. 7/8

5:00 Family Carnival

Dear Parents,

There are some exciting things happening at Saint Francis Solano School! Thank you to Julie Boles and Edna Needleman for formalizing a new art docent program. These art enthusiasts, who chair the Art Committee for Parents' Club, have purchased a wonderful program for our students. It includes studio lessons and gallery images. We have wonderful docents who will be working with students on a regularly, scheduled basis.

Beginning last spring Mrs. Phillips led the social studies teachers in a search for new social studies books. After spending months looking at core standards, state standards and working with many publishers, Mrs. Phillips and her team chose new books, CD-ROMs and supplemental material. Thank you teachers!

Thanks for the generosity of school parents who contributed to "Fund-A-Need." Mr. Monga was able to purchase fifteen Dell Vostro laptops. They have wireless access and are equipped with Microsoft Office Suite. They will be stored on a cart that can easily be brought to various classrooms to supplement the curricula taught by teachers.

I'd like to extend an invitation to all of our school parents to join us on September 9<sup>th</sup> for our September 11<sup>th</sup> Tribute. Our student council will lead us in a prayerful anniversary tribute. It will begin on our playground at 8:10 A.M. This anniversary tribute does not focus on terrorists, but rather on those who serve. We do not focus on fear; we focus on hope. Our students, most of whom were not even born in 2001, will hear words of praise for those who serve, as Jesus served. This tribute reminds us of the gift of life and our shared belief in the resurrection. We are reminded to help bring peace to the world through our actions and prayer. I hope that you will be able to join us.

On Friday the faculty will be at Saint Eugene's Cathedral enjoying Mass with Bishop Vasa. Following Mass, we will be participating in professional development by attending a workshop presented by a literacy specialist. Enjoy your four-day weekend!

God bless you and your family,  
Debbie Picard

**MONDAY – SEPT. 19**

6:30 P.M. Fundraising  
Brainstorming Meeting  
in Library

**SEPT. 21 – 30**

ITBS Testing Gr. 2-8

**THURSDAY – SEPT. 22**

5:00-7:00 Fingerprinting  
at school

**FRIDAY – SEPT. 23**

8:30 A.M. Mass, Gr.  
3/4/K

**WEDNESDAY – SEPT. 28**

6:30 P.M. Gr. 2  
Mandatory Parent  
Meeting in Library

**FRIDAY – SEPT. 30**

Tostada Day 8<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Fundraiser; \$4

6:30-10:00 Movie Night  
@ St. Francis School

## Official Outerwear Apparel Clarification

This letter is a clarification on which outerwear apparel is accepted on campus. There seems to be some confusion as to what is acceptable this year. We understand this is due to several changes regarding the uniforms in a two-year period. Hopefully, the following information will rectify this. Should you have any further questions, please refer to the school handbook which is available on-line.

We are trying to streamline the uniforms and have consistency as well. The upper division students will continue to have a choice in which sweatshirt style to choose from, which to them is “cool” as we have heard positive comments on campus. The 8<sup>th</sup> graders will remain in choosing their own “Class of 2012, etc.” sweatshirt in accordance with the school uniform policy guidelines.

### **The Outerwear Apparel Policy for the 2011-2012 School Year is as follows:**

#### **SWEATSHIRTS:** (Required)

Former Padre logo, navy blue crew will be allowed for one more year. These are no longer available for purchase.

New school building embroidered logo (with the school building) is for grades K-8<sup>th</sup>. It is the only option for students in grades K-4.

Navy blue hooded collegiate style embroidered logo is an option for Grades 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> ONLY.

#### **SWEATERS:** (Optional)

Navy blue cardigan or v-neck pullover available thru Dennis Uniforms.

#### **SCHOOL JACKETS:** (Optional)

Former Padre logo; nylon or fleece jackets will be allowed on campus for one more year.

New school building logo, fleece or nylon windbreaker styles, are allowed on campus.

The former gray St. Francis athletic sweatshirts or the gray basketball sweatshirts will no longer be allowed on campus.

No outside sweatshirts (non-uniform) are allowed on campus. If your child wears a non-uniform jacket for the winter, they will not be allowed to wear them in the classroom, church, or school buildings.

\* Please remember school uniform sweatshirts, sweaters, and jackets are allowed in the classrooms and school buildings. **ONLY** school sweaters will be allowed in church.

Sincerely,  
The Uniform Committee

## Hot Lunch Updates

### PASTA DAY

Pasta will be served beginning September 7. There will be no pasta day on October 26 due to a minimum day for parent/teacher conferences. Two additional days have been added on November 30 and February 29.

### PIZZA DAY

Pizza will be served beginning September 8.

### HOT DOG DAY

The first hot dog day will be September 13. Below is the price list so parents can determine how much money they wish to put on account for their students use on hot dog day. Students may also bring cash with them on Tuesday.

\$3.00	Dog/chips/drink combo
4.00	Nitrate free dog/chips/drink combo
1.75	Hot dog
2.75	Nitrate free dog
2.00	Chili dog
1.00	Chicken noodle soup
.75	Chips
.75	Drinks
1.50	Chili
1.25	Nachos
2.00	Nachos with chili
1.00	Baked potato
1.50	Small salad
2:00	Large salad
1.75	Fruit salad
1.00	Yogurt
.50	Go-Gurt
.50	String Cheese

## Fundraising Brainstorming Meeting

All parents are invited to join us for a "Fundraising Brainstorming" session on September 19th at 6:30 in the school library. Several parents have come forth with fantastic new ideas to raise the money needed to meet the Parents' Club stipend. Seems like two or three smaller fundraisers may be the way to go. If the idea of chairing a Gala is too daunting, and you'd like to listen to or contribute some fundraising ideas, come join us September 19th!

## Parent/Student Handbook Forms

Don't forget to view the Parent/Student Handbook that is posted on the school's website [www.saintfrancissolano.org](http://www.saintfrancissolano.org) and print and sign the verification form. Both parents and students need to sign the honor code. These signed forms must be submitted to the school office no later than Tuesday, September 6; otherwise, students will not be admitted to class until the forms are received.

## **Church Mouse**

Church Mouse is looking for immediate volunteers to do ironing. Please call Maria at the Thrift Center, 996-5115. Iron 28 pieces and get 4 hours credit.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Yosemite Fundraiser**

On Friday, September 30th, 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents, spear headed by Diane Klauber, will be offering a "build your own tostada" day. Help the class raise money to offset some of the cost for their Yosemite trip and treat your child to a delicious lunch at the same time. Students have a choice of the following toppings, all for \$4.00:

Chicken, beans, cilantro rice, lettuce, tomatoes, cheese, sour cream, cilantro, onions, salsa. Beverage choices are: Water, apple juice or lemonade.

A reservation card will be sent home soon in students' backpacks and must be returned by September 16.

## **Pets Lifeline Fundraiser**

Pets Lifeline is offering 20% off to Sonoma Valley school children and their parents to see the amazing, Le Petit CiRqUe. This world-class children's troupe of aerialists and acrobats will perform a special Saturday, September, 17 matinee as part of the Pets Lifeline Black Cat Cabaret Weekend. Please download the informative flyer to learn how to purchase the discounted tickets.

## **Modes of Transportation**

If your children ride bicycles, scooters, skateboards, etc. to school, they will need to lock them to the bike rack on the playground. They cannot be secured in the school office or in classrooms. The school is not responsible for this property.

Students arriving early to school must observe good traffic safety and not ride these modes of transportation in the street.

## **School's Website**

Be sure to visit the school's website on a regular basis, especially the school calendar. The information is updated nearly daily. [www.saintfrancissolano.org](http://www.saintfrancissolano.org). In addition to the school calendar, you have access to the Parent/Student Handbook, teachers' email address, students and classroom accomplishments, weekly newsletters and flyers, photos of school events, etc.

## **Stop Play Rule**

Have you walked through the playground during recess and wondered why the children froze until you reached the office? When any visitor or parent walks onto the playground during recess, a yard duty teacher blows a whistle alerting students to stop playing until the visitor/parent reaches his/her destination. We want to make your visit a safe one. To avoid having the students freeze, feel free to walk along the perimeter of the playground along the picnic tables.

## **Movie Night Under the Stars at St. Francis Solano School**

Mark your calendars for a fun movie night under the stars here at school on Friday, September 30. Watch for details and the movie ballot in next week's newsletter.

### **Community Event**

#### **United Nations International Day of Peace – September 21, 2011**

Friday Peace Vigils on the Plaza from 5:00-6:00 P.M.

Tuesday, Farmers' Markets 5:30 P.M. at SV Peace & Justice Table.

Kids can come to the "peace pole", create "peace flags", poems Poetry, Singing & Art Exhibit

Readers' Books, 130 E. Napa Street

Wednesday, September 21 from 5:00-7:00 P.M.

Free event sponsored by Sonoma Valley Peace & Justice and Readers' Books