



Saint John the Baptist School  
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StJohnEC.org

## --TUESDAY , JANUARY 5, 2010 MEMO--

### **TARGET DATES:**

Tuesday, January 5	PTG Meeting 6 PM
Wednesday, January 6	2PM Dismissal, Free Dress for everyone, School Board Meeting 7 PM Athletic Club Meeting 7 PM (Science Rm)
Thursday, January 7	8th Grade Grad Pictures 9 AM
Tuesday, January 12	Hearing Testing
Friday, January 15	12 Noon Dismissal, Teacher Root Share Day, Free Dress w/purchased Pass Hearing Testing
Monday, January 18	No School, Martin Luther King Holiday

### **FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back and Happy New Year to you and your families. I hope everyone has had a safe and restful vacation and are as excited as we are to start the new year. As Catholics, we know that Christmas is not just a one-day event. It is a season of almost three weeks after December 25<sup>th</sup>. Many good days come during Christmastime: the Feast of the Holy Family, St. John's Day, the Feast of the Holy Innocents, the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, the Feast of the Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord. During Christmastime we continue to hear the good news of the birth of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ.

January is the first month of the year. The word January comes from a Latin word, janua, which means "doorway". January symbolizes the year's doorway and entrance into a bright new beginning. On the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6<sup>th</sup>, it is an old custom to bless homes and doorways. As part of the blessing, the doorways are marked with chalk with the numbers and letters: 20 + C + M+ B + 10. The letters C, M, B stand for the traditional names of the wise men: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. The numbers 20 and 09 stand for the year we are beginning. We bless our homes and the entrance of our doorways so that our homes and rooms will be a haven of kindness and respect for all who enter. In honor of the New Year and our commitment as a community to celebrate diversity with respect for all people, we will bless the doorways of our school and classrooms with 20+C+M+B+10 as a sign that all who pass through will be welcomed and treated with respect.

Blessings and best wishes to all of you as we begin a new year together.

Sincerely,  
Terry Barber, Principal

### **Intent to return Forms**

Please take the time to fill out the "Intent to return form" included in today's Tuesday envelope and return it to the office as soon as possible. If you even think you may not be returning next year, please indicate this on the form. We need to get an idea of how many openings per grade we will have next year. If you have any questions, please contact the office. Thank You.

## **TARDIES**

We have been experiencing a major problem with a large number of children arriving late to school and ask your cooperation in helping us alleviate this problem. Our third Student Learning Expectation is to be a "Responsible Citizen" who meets deadlines and arrives on time. Making punctuality a priority teaches children to be organized and responsible and is as important as good study habits. Helping students meet deadlines and arrive on time to school are important contributing factors for being a successful student. Habitual tardies reinforce bad habits that are unacceptable in higher education and the work place.

Please be aware that tardies cause compound problems for our staff and students. The traffic patrol students and their moderator have been losing 10 to 15 minutes of school time directing traffic for the latecomers. In addition, students who are tardy miss valuable classroom instruction and disrupt the learning environment trying to settle in and catch up with the rest of their classmates.

Please realize that school begins promptly at 8:00 a.m. and morning prayer assembly is as much a part of the school day as other school subjects and activities. More than five tardies during a report card period is considered excessive. Your cooperation in this matter is very important. Please schedule and organize your morning routines to allow enough time for your child/ren to arrive at school at least five minutes before the 8:00 o'clock bell. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

## **ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL CRAB FEED**

The St. John School Crab Feed, sponsored by the St. John's Parent Teacher Group, is coming Saturday, February 6, 2010. Please watch for more details after New Year.

## **SAFE ENVIRONMENT**

TO ALL PARENTS, YOU MUST HAVE A CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION FROM SHEILD THE VULNERABLE, **IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO VOLUNTEER IN THE SCHOOL AT ANY CAPACITY.** THIS INCLUDES FIELD TRIPS, CLASS PARTIES AND PROJECTS, AND COACHING. THE CERTIFICATE MUST BE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE. TO COMPLETE THE CERTIFICATE GO TO [WWW.SHIELDTHEVULNERABLE.ORG](http://WWW.SHIELDTHEVULNERABLE.ORG).

**!!!!!!VERY IMPORTANT VERY IMPORTANT VERY IMPORTANT!!!!!!**

## **A FRIENDLY REMINDER**

If there is anything that you want to go in the weekly Tuesday memo, it must be E-mailed or given to the office no later than the Friday before. If given later than that it will not go out until the following Tuesday memo. If you have any questions, Please call the Secretary, Karen Brown @ (510) 234-2244

## **PPP HOURS NEEDED? WE NEED YOUR HELP**

On January 12, 15, 20 and 27th we will be having the hearing and vision testing of the students at the school. I am in need of 3 volunteers for each date to help our coordinator Kim Chew with the students. You will earn PPP hrs for the time worked. If you are interested and need PPP hours, please contact Mrs. Brown in the office (510) 234-2244. Thank you.