



Saint John the Baptist School
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--TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2009 MEMO--

TARGET DATES:

Friday, September 18	Elementary Staff Day, No School
Sunday, September 20	Parish Festival 11am in San Pablo yard

Monday, September 21 – Wednesday, September 30 ITBS TESTING (Grades 2 – 8)

Saturday, September 26 - 27	Church Brazilian Festival
Wednesday, September 30	Free Dress for September Birthdays or Earned Pass
Friday, October 2	Blessing of the Animals in the school yard @ 2:15 pm Liturgy in church @ 9:30am
Saturday, October 3	St. John's Church English Tea
Sunday, October 4	School Liturgy in church

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It was wonderful to meet all of you at Back to School Night last Tuesday. The evening was filled with enough energy and enthusiasm to carry us through the entire school year! We are very fortunate to be a part of such an energetic and vibrant community. Overall, the attendance for Back to School Night was outstanding. Everyone should be commended for their excellent commitment to their child's education.

Next week, children in grades 2 through 8 will take the ITBS test. Testing will take place from Monday, September 21st through Wednesday, September 30th. Make up tests for absences can be taken on Thursday, October 1st and Friday, October 2nd. Adhering to the testing schedule is very important. Please schedule all appointments after testing week and make sure your child arrives on time for school, as testing will begin first thing in the morning.

The ITBS (Iowa Test of Basic Skills) test is a test of basic skills and is one way of providing information to support educational decisions we make at our school site. Achievement tests, such as the ITBS, can help teachers identify and focus on the needs of their students and also help in selection of teaching materials that will help improve learning. Achievement tests are only one component of assessment and must be kept in perspective. They do provide some information on the strengths and weaknesses of students in school, but they do not show the entire picture. Evaluation of student progress must also take into account tests, homework assignments, special projects and teacher assessment.

The Diocese of Oakland has chosen to use the ITBS tests to improve learning and assess student strengths and areas for growth. This is the reason the test is given only in the Fall. With test results given at the beginning of the year, teachers can plan appropriate curriculum and teaching strategies to meet the needs of their students. We do not look at the ITBS tests as a grade for the school or the teacher, but as a tool to help us plan the best curriculum for our students.

Your support and involvement in your child's education is also a key element to academic success. Please make sure your child comes to school on time and well rested to take the tests. A good breakfast is also in order, as children need energy to think clearly and perform well on the tests.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us nurture and educate your children.

Sincerely,
Terry Barber, Principal

MUSIC

We are sorry to inform you that our Music Teacher, Mr. JM Mercado has resigned unexpectedly as of September 11. We are currently in the process of finding a replacement. Thank you.

CHILDRENS CHOICE – HOT LUNCHES

Children's Choice is our provider of fresh, homemade lunches. In addition to the entrée, which must be ordered online by 9 am the school day before, the meal comes with cut up fruit, vegetable, snack and drink. Students get to choose from a huge selection of nutritious and healthy items! **There is no ala carte ordering for just a snack, but milk tickets may be purchased online when you want to pack a lunch from home, and have a cold drink ready for your student at school!**

All of the Children's Choice items are trans-fat free, nut free and allergen and nutritional information is available on their website "<http://www.choicelunch.com>". Simply go to "<http://www.choicelunch.com>" and enter 'JohnBaptist' as the registration code. **You can order as little or as much as you want but no cash will be accepted at lunch time, all orders must be placed online.**

Remember Safe Environment for Children

All volunteers in a school must take the on-line Safe Environment for Children course every two years. This year, all new parents and anyone who did not take it last year must take the on-line course before volunteering. Please go to www.shieldthevulnerable.org to complete the course. If you do not have access to the Internet, you may use the computers in the lab. Please call the office at 234-2244 to make an appointment. This must be completed by October 31, 2009. Thank you for your cooperation.

TUESDAY MEMO AND ENVELOPE

Every Tuesday the oldest child of the family attending St. John's will receive a Tuesday Envelope. Inside will contain the latest Tuesday Memo and any other flyers or information that you as parents should be kept up to date on. The Day Care bill is an example. It is very important that the contents be removed, the envelope signed and returned with your child to school as soon as possible as this envelope is used for the whole school year. This is the main source of school information for you as parents. If the envelope is lost there will be a \$5.00 charge to replace it and there are always extra copies of all papers in the office.

OFFICE REMINDER

The office still has not received all registration papers. These papers need to be filled out every year. If you received a second set of papers, please fill them out and return **ASAP** to the office. Thank you for your quick attention to this matter.

KEARNEY STREET YARD

After the morning assembly, please remember to move your cars off of the Kearney street yard. P.E. starts soon after and the yard needs to be used for the morning P.E. classes. Thank you.

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

HELP NEEDED

I need to find a volunteer to do hot lunches on Tuesday and Wednesdays for 1 hour 11:45 am - 12:30 pm. Through children's choice you will receive a credit of \$25 dollars on you account every time you do lunch and that basically gives your child 2 weeks of lunch for free. Through the school, you will receive 1 hour of PPP hrs. I need to have someone who can commit to this hour until the end of the school year. It is sometime very hard for me to leave my desk during lunch to cover the lunches because I need to be available in the office. I know sometimes things happen and I will need to cover the lunches but I would need someone who can make this commitment and stick to it. Multiple volunteers would be appreciated so I would have ample backup. Please contact the office as soon as possible if you are interested. Thank You, Mrs. Brown

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, ENGLISH TEA, OCTOBER 3

The sixth annual St. John's *English Tea* will be Saturday, October 3 at 1:30 p.m. in the courtyard between the church and school auditorium. Don't miss this special, elegant event featuring homemade traditional tea sandwiches, scones and assorted sweets. Donation is \$20 for adults, \$10 for children 12 and under. Contact Roberta Montgomery at (510) 237-5293 or rjm2343@sbcglobal.net for your reservations by September 30. No reservations will be available on the day of the tea. Money obtained helps support St. John's parish and its sister parish in Haiti. Flyers are available on the table across from the school office. Wear your best hat (we cannot guarantee shade) and you may win a prize!

BOX TOPS & CAMPBELL'S SOUP LABELS

Please save the Box Tops for Education coupon & Campbell's soup labels throughout the school year. Enclosed in Tuesday envelope are flyers that show the eligible products. Results will be posted monthly in the Tuesday memo on how much has been turned in. Any questions please call Catherine Zaragoza 510-222-4925

SAFeway'S 10% BACK TO SCHOOL

Safeway will be donating 10% of your grocery purchases of participating products to our school every time you shop **August 12th through September 15th**.

A) Look for the Yellow School Bus and purchase participating products.

B) 10% of the purchase price can support our school when you use your Safeway Club Card August 12th through September 15th.

C) Ask the cashier for your Register Receipt from September 18th through October 9th.

D) Please send the receipt to the school office so they can be redeemed. Any questions please call Catherine Zaragoza 510-222-4925.

Renewal of Safeway Cards

We are asking everyone who has Safeway Club cards to register them @ escr.com. By registering your card the school will get additional funds throughout the school. If you register your card last year you will still need to renew your card. The deadline to renew is NOV. 1st. Any question please call Catherine Zaragoza 510-222-4925

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST YOUTH CHOIR

Do you go to mass every Sunday? Do you want to be involved during the mass? Do you like to sing and want to join a choir? Well join the Youth Choir, we sing for the 9:30 mass every Sunday. Come try it out and see how you feel. If you play an instrument and want to be involved at mass you are also invited to join.

The Youth Choir practices are on Thursdays at 7:30pm in the Church. Anyone is welcome to join the choir if you are interested come to the rehearsals or contact Andy Gutierrez by email at ag_723@yahoo.com Hope to see you there!!! Andy Gutierrez

Blessing of the Animals

In honor of the feast of St. Francis, we will have a blessing of the animals ceremony on Friday, October 2nd. You may bring your animals to be blessed. Children may bring small pets to school only if they are in a cage and do not make any noise. Parents can bring larger animals, such as dogs or cats, to school at 2:15 p.m. Please have all cats in cages or boxes and all dogs on leashes. The blessing of the animals ceremony will take place at 2:15 p.m. After the ceremony, parents may take their pets and children home.

ALTAR SERVICES FOR NEXT WEEKEND ARE:

Saturday, September 19

5:00 PM Mass ~ Darion Sales / Mike Jerez

Sunday, September 20

8:00 AM Mass ~ Shawna Barrios

9:30 AM Mass ~ Gabrielle DeLa Torre

11:00 AM Mass ~ Jordan Phan / Madison Phan

12:30 PM Mass ~ Karl Moore / Juliane Corpus

If you cannot serve, please find substitute