



St. Francis of Assisi

Elementary School - Sacramento, California

Visit us at www.stfranciselem.org

GUBBIO GAZETTE

September 23, 2009

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Elementary School is dedicated to living the Gospel values. Our Franciscan, academically challenging curriculum teaches and supports students in becoming contributing members of their communities.

St. Francis of Assisi Schoolwide Learning Expectations

A St. Francis of Assisi Student is:

- A) **Spiritual** *who*
 - understands the Catholic faith
 - demonstrates Gospel values
 - actively participates in prayer celebrations
 - shows a love of God, others, and self

- B) **Academic** *who*
 - actively solves problems and thinks critically
 - makes progress through the diocesan standards
 - develops and shares knowledge and talents
 - demonstrates a curiosity and respect for learning

- C) **Respectful** *who*
 - appreciates diversity and the uniqueness of others
 - practices good citizenship
 - lives the "Acts of Courtesy"
 - cares for God's creations

- D) **Confident** *who*
 - recognizes self-worth
 - leads and cooperates
 - embraces challenges
 - always perseveres

- E) **Responsible** *who*
 - practices self-discipline
 - makes Christ-like decisions
 - owns his/her choices
 - is trustworthy

Principal's Message

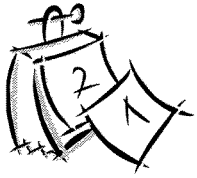
Dear St. Francis of Assisi Parents,

It was wonderful seeing so many of you Friday evening at our annual Back-To-School BBQ. The only way the evening could have been more perfect was if we had a breeze! The reason the BBQ was so great is because of the wonderful chairperson, Kim Macias, and her incredible committees. Talk about an organized, hard-working group of parents!! Your dedication and enthusiasm is greatly appreciated by all of us at St. Francis Elementary! Thank you, also, to all the families who attended and/or donated items. We are awaiting the final numbers (profit), but it looks as if our goal of purchasing three LCD projectors for technology enhancement and the re-treading of one staircase will become a reality!

Beginning Monday, September 28th, students in grades 2-8 will take their yearly ITBS tests (Iowa Test of Basic Skills). These diagnostic tests will be given every morning throughout the week, and possibly into the following week. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD GETS PLENTY OF SLEEP, EATS A HEALTHY BREAKFAST EACH MORNING, AND IS ON TIME FOR SCHOOL. Thank you!

If your child is in grades 3-8, please make sure you check their Edline account for up-to-date grades and progress. New grades are uploaded every Monday (at least), and this is your way of staying on top of your child's academic progress. If you have misplaced your Edline login info, please contact our technology teacher, Mr. Wenk, at complab@stfranciselem.org and he will get you the info needed.

Mrs. Laurie Power



St. Francis Elementary
School Calendar
September-October 2009

September

- 25 Parent Club Dinner and Meeting, 5:30
28 ITBS Diocesan Testing Week, grades 2-8

October

- 2 NOON DISMISSAL/WASC Preparation
2 Blessing of the Animals, 8:00 am
All Kindergarten to attend classes,
8:00 am – 11:00 am, TK 8-10:30
4 Feast Day of St. Francis
5 Mid-Term 1st Trimester
8 School Mass, 8:30am
9 NO SCHOOL/Teacher/Diocesan In-service
12 6th grade to Sly Park
13-15 Parent/Teacher Conferences; MINIMUM
DAYS, NOON DISMISSAL
23 Jog-A-Thon

PARENT CLUB MEETING

Please join us for our first Parent Club meeting of the school year, this Friday at 5:30. As always, in an effort to encourage you to attend, dinner and childcare will be provided. Just bring your enthusiasm and ideas! Hope to see you there!

**CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS'
OPEN HOUSE DATES**

**Christian Brothers HS
Sunday, October 4, 2009
12:00pm-3:00pm**

**St. Francis HS
Sunday, October 11, 2009
1:00pm-4:00pm**

**Jesuit HS
Sunday, October 18, 2009
12:00pm-3:00pm**

Blessing of the Animals

Our annual blessing of the animals will take place on Friday, October 2nd, at 8 am in the schoolyard. This tradition is in honor of our patron saint, St. Francis of Assisi. If you bring your pet for a blessing, it must be properly restrained or caged, and must go home after the blessing. If your child can't bring their pet, they may bring a picture of it to have blessed.

NOTICE !!!

Because of the Parent/Teacher Conferences, there will be **NO After-School Library or Computer Lab** on **October 13th, 14th, or 15th**.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council is up and running, and we have some great projects planned for this year. Our first fund raiser, Hats On Day, is on Sept. 30th. Students may pay \$1.00 (or more) and wear a hat to school (NO FREE DRESS). The money raised will be donated to The Foundation for Children with Cancer. We are also spearheading a recycling program this year. Plastic drink bottles and cans may be deposited in black recycling bins located around the school. Ask your student council representative for details.

Religion Round-up

Praise and bless my Lord, and give thanks,
and serve him with great humility.
St. Francis of Assisi



The next two weeks are filled with activities to celebrate our faith. Our parish will be closing its Centennial year at the Noon Mass on Sunday Oct. 4th. Bishop Soto will preside and members of our school choir will be part of the music ministry.

On Friday, October 2nd, we will have our annual Blessing of the Animals. The festivities begin at 8:00 a.m. Please have your pet securely restrained and be prepared to take it home after the blessing.

This year our door decorations to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis will reflect the "Canticle of Creation" written by St. Francis of Assisi. Stop by and see the creative interpretations of this beautiful prayer.

Last week's prayer service was led by the 4th grade. Each student shared how they will use their talents to be a light for the world.

The 6th grade prepared the prayer service for this week. They reenacted the story of Creation and reminded us that caring for God's creations is one of our School Wide Learning Expectations.

Our schedule for the rest of the month is as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Led by</u>	<u>Time</u>
Mon Sept 28	5 th Prayer Service	8:10 a.m.
Fri Oct 2	Blessing of the Animals	8:00 a.m.
Mon Oct 5	2 nd Prayer Service	8:10 a.m.
Thurs Oct 8	6 th Mass	8:30 a.m.
Mon Oct 12	7 th Prayer Service	8:10 a.m.

Parents are always welcome to join us for prayer services and Masses.

Christmas is Coming!

Yes, it's that time already. St. Francis of Assisi Parish is looking for children who would like to sing at the Christmas Eve Children's Mass.

*Rehearsals begin on **Sunday October 11th at 9:00 a.m.** in the Parish Center Chapel.*

Due to the large amount of music required for this ministry, it is best if the singer is at least in the Second Grade or, if younger, a strong reader.

*For more information contact Mrs. Stites at **Janetstites@earthlink.net***