



St. Michael Elementary School

Please remember that Holy Thursday on March 20th will only be a half day of school. We will dismiss at 12:30. Please provide transportation for your child. Extended Day Program will be open on that day until 6:00 PM.

March 11, 2008

Dear Families,

Today the words of the song line that we sang in church keeps running through my mind and heart as we come closer to the celebration of the Passion and Death of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Those words cried out for an end in the violence that is everywhere in this world in which we are raising our children. That line reads: **“For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.”** We are so grateful to Mrs. Andres and her 8th graders for their prayer leadership in that very moving service. In our morning prayer each day, we remember together and lift up to Our Lord the lives of all of those in our families and neighborhoods, in our country and in all countries who suffer violence in any way. And here, we pray that we will grow all the more peaceful with one another rather than bullying and disrespecting one another and our teachers. Let us join in prayer these days.

Next week Wednesday, March 19th, our Student Council and other interested 8th graders led by Ms. Padilla will do the living Stations of the Cross at 8:30 in St. Michael Church. The stations of the cross depict the Passion and Death of Jesus. Our students will make those stations in our church come alive. We do encourage you to join us if you are able. We thank all of the students participating as well as Ms. Padilla for her leadership.

Once again I would like to encourage you to complete your **School Registration Form** and return it to our office at your earliest convenience if you are planning to return next year. You can pay your registration fee at another time if that is necessary. In order to get the \$25 registration fee, your fee must be received during March. The fee will go up to \$35 during the month of April. This gives us a clearer picture of the number of classrooms and teachers we need to hire for the 2008-2009 school year. Thanks so much for taking time to pay attention to this matter.

Thanks to our sister parish—Holy Family in Inverness—our pre-school, Kindergarten and first grade students will be receiving lovely Easter baskets. They have been beautifully prepared and show us just how much our children are treasured by them as well. Our very generous and faithful volunteers from Holy Family—Dennis and Carol Allar, Geri Seaman, and Joan Myer—have been coming long before I ever arrived at St. Michael. They have been instrumental in getting our library automated. Each book has a code that the librarian scans. It keeps track of what books come in and what books come out. It was a labor intensive process and is close to nearing the end. We are so grateful to them. On the hottest days

Academic Excellence in the Catholic Tradition

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last summer, Joan Meyer would arrive at school early in the morning and stay until well after 6:00 PM to avoid the traffic. Every time our volunteers come, they come bearing gifts of many sorts.

Today I am sending home a copy of the **Principal's Honor Roll**. You will find that a star next to any child's name meant that they were on the **Principal's Honor Roll** for the first quarter so that you can see students who made this honor roll in the first quarter even if they didn't reach that goal for the second quarter. Congratulations to each of our students for their serious hard work and passion for learning. They are an example to all student in their classrooms of the organization, study habits, and classroom behavior that allows them to be successful. Next week, I will send the B Honor Roll list as well as the Perfect Attendance list. We will plan a celebration honoring students who have been on the Principal's Honor Roll this year. Twenty-one percent (21%) of our students made this honor roll this quarter. Eighteen percent (18%) made this honor roll for the first quarter. We would love to see those numbers double for the third quarter which ends during Easter Break.

Our school brochure that shows what our next year's curriculum will be like as well as after-school studies. It has been completed by a graphic designer who works for the Mexican Museum of Art. Before we print it, we will send a note to any family whose child appears in any of the photos we would like to use. We need your written consent for that. I will be in touch. Angelina Verlazquez from St. Michael Parish so willingly agreed to design this brochure at no expense to the school. I know that all of our parents have something wonderful to offer to the school as well. Look forward to hearing from me.

Blessings on the week ahead!

Ms. Lee

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