

**“Careful the things you say, Children will listen.
Careful the things you do, Children will see and learn.
Children will look to you for which way to turn and to learn what to be.”**
--Stephen Sondheim

April 8, 2008

Dear Families,

As I look ahead at our calendar, I realize that there will not be many more bulletins that I will be writing during this year. How quickly the year has passed, and how delightful it has been working with very dedicated teachers and enthused student learners. As the end of the year ends, our faculty and staff will be completing the work that was required of us for the **School Improvement Plan (SIP)** that was not completed last year. We will be visited by a team of educators in early September. These educators will study our reports and make recommendations about certification of our school. It is a very important time. I am grateful for the quality of work that our teams have been accomplishing.

There are some dates we want you to remember, so please be sure to add these to your calendar.

April 18—NO SCHOOL—Teachers will be at a Professional Development Workshop.

April 25 –We DO have school. The calendar that shows that day as a NO SCHOOL day is wrong.

April 25—LAST Cafeteria Special Day. We owe Mrs. Lopez and her faithful workers—Mrs. Neri, Mrs. Martinez, Mrs. Padilla, Mrs. Cortes, and Mrs. Jeroski—deep appreciation for adding that highlight to our children’s lunches. This opportunity earned over \$400 monthly for the school—a great gift.

Parents of students in Kindergarten, Grade 2, and Grade 6 **are required by law** to see to it that your child has a complete dental exam that must be returned to this office no later than May 15th. Mrs. Sandoval sent out two important forms to you previously. One was the form that your dentist must complete. The second form was a waiver that allows you to check that you do not want this exam for a specific reason—either because your child is enrolled in a free and reduced lunch program and is not covered by private or public dental insurance or is ineligible for public insurance, or because your child does not have any type of insurance, and there are no low-cost dental clinics in our community that will see your child. **Please remember that you must return one of those two forms completed and signed by May 15th in order to meet the requirements of the law.**

School Registration! Special THANKS to all of you who have completed your child(ren)’s registration forms for next year –2008-2009. We currently have 195 students registered for the new year. Our Pre-School is closed since we have 20 children enrolled in Ms. Ryan’s room for next year. We are opening a second Pre-School since we have already received several registrations for PreK and have four more months to register children. If you know anyone who is looking for a pre-school position, please invite them to consider us. You will then receive \$100 off of your tuition for next year. Any parent who recommends a child to St. Michael and that child is registered will be eligible for the \$100 tuition credit next year. Our Kindergarten registration is going well. At this time we expect to have only one Kindergarten class. We will watch that closely over time. If your child is in Kindergarten now and you have not registered your child for next year but intend to, we would appreciate receiving your registration form. **Parents of our 1st graders this year, please note. We have one second grade classrooms for next year closed already. In fact, we want to keep that class size reasonable; however, we need to know if you intend on having your child return to St. Michael next year. Even if you do NOT have the registration form or need another one because you can’t find it, please call Mrs. Sandoval and let her know if your child will be returning.** Our 5th grade is currently full. If you intended to have your child return, please call us immediately.

Computer Classes are beginning this week for grades 4-8. At long last we have hired a computer teacher despite the fact that we have only a matter of 6-7 weeks. Our intent is to introduce our students to the world of our new laptop computers, to teach them some basic skills for using these laptops appropriately, and to have our students complete some assignments given by their teachers so that they become familiar with the features of our laptops. Students will also review guidelines for the use of the laptops. Obviously, any student who misuses a computer and causes damage will be subject to replacement costs--\$769. You will be asked to sign a form that the students have completed about their responsibilities. Students found to be on the internet when they should not be or at any sight that is totally unacceptable, will lose computer rights here at St. Michael. Their teacher is Ms. Carol Josefowski.

Thanks for your continued support. Our students need to understand that we are not finished with school until the final day. This is the perfect time to be checking student planners in the upper grades as well as in the lower grades. You may also want to take a look a folders in your child's backpacks that might reveal some language that is very unacceptable or disrespectful toward teachers and/or peers. As a Catholic School, our values of faith, deep respect for life, service, community, justice, and good use of the things we have been giving so graciously to use well—our buildings, classrooms, desks, books, outdoor property, food—all are an important part of your child's education here. We rely on you for continued support in this area as well.

In the meantime, may the “greening” of the earth be a wonderful reminder of the goodness of our Creator God.

Blessings,

Ms. Lee