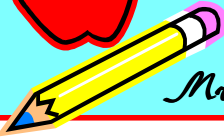




St. John the Baptist Catholic School

4B News

Mr. Nguyen's Classroom Newsletter



St. John the Baptist Catholic School

1021 Baker Street
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

August 30, 2009

The Importance of Reading

Reading is more important today than it ever was — it is crucial to being an informed citizen, to succeed in one's chosen career, and to personal fulfillment. Remember when people thought technology would decrease the need to read? I find I have more access to text than ever, more specialized magazines, more books being published, more newspapers and more articles to read on the Internet, just like we are communicating now.

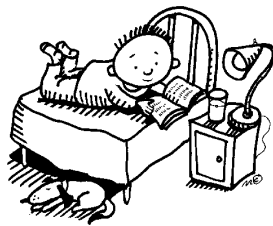
But first things first: Children who read well do better in other subjects and in all aspects of schooling and beyond. As the world becomes more complex, reading is increasingly important for children trying to find their place in it.

Music (and More) During Homework Time

While doing homework, your children love to listen to music—not to mention watch TV or instant-message on the computer! So parents often ask whether this interferes with learning.

I must say that in my classroom, I want children to be engaged and focused, doing one thing at a time—which means quiet during homework and classwork.

Multitasking may interfere with full comprehension. I suggest that your children do one thing at a time and that they give their homework their full attention.



However, no one knows your children like you do. You may decide, based on how well they are doing in school, that some soft music is okay. You may want to have them do their most difficult assignments in the most quiet setting. Studying for a test, for example, is a good candidate for no-media-allowed working conditions. They also most closely replicate the environment in which they'll take the test.

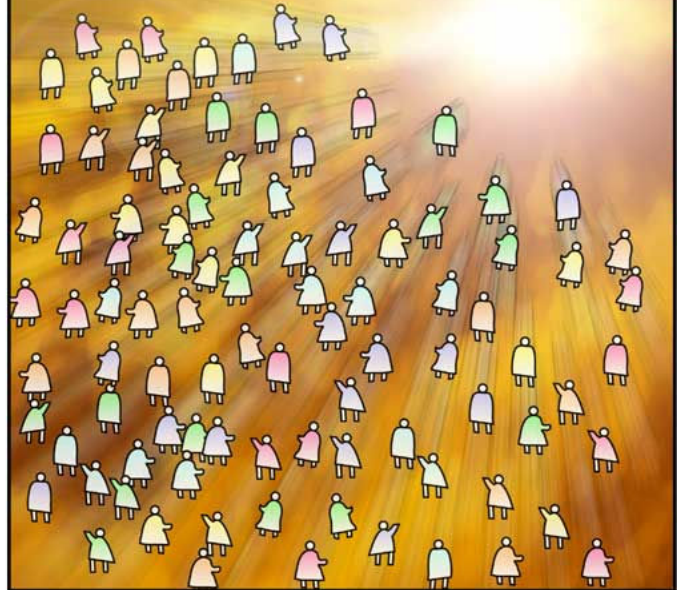
SAINTS FUN FACTS

by mario d. macari

EXACTLY WHAT IS A SAINT? SIMPLY PUT, IT IS A SOUL WHO SEES GOD AND IS WITH GOD IN HEAVEN.

NO ONE KNOWS EXACTLY HOW MANY SAINTS THERE ARE BECAUSE MANY SAINTS LIVED QUIET, HUMBLE, SIMPLE LIVES, KNOWN ONLY TO GOD. SOME SAINTS BECAME FAMOUS AND RECOGNIZED (FOR GOD'S OWN GOOD PLEASURE) TO TEACH US, AND BE EXAMPLES FOR US. SOME SAY THE ONE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH HAS RECOGNIZED OVER 10,000 SAINTS IN ITS' TWO THOUSAND AND THREE YEAR HISTORY.

WE ARE **ALL** CALLED TO BE SAINTS, BUT WE NEEDN'T WORRY ABOUT BECOMING A FAMOUS SAINT. MANY HUMBLE PEOPLE HAVE BECOME SAINTS IN THE LITTLE THINGS OF LIFE. JUST LOVE GOD, TRUST IN GOD'S MERCY, PRAY, DIE TO YOURSELF AND LOVE AND LIVE FOR OTHERS!!



Prayer Requirement

All fourth graders are required to know certain prayers before they enter the class and more prayers before they leave fourth grade. Below is a list of prayers students must already know by heart or must learn by the end of first quarter on October 30th.

- Our Father
- Glory Be
- Hail Mary
- O My Jesus
- School Prayer
- Grace before meal
- Grace after meal
- Prayer to Guardian Angel
- Act of Contrition
- Sign of the Cross

Book Adventure Reading Incentive Program

Last Thursday, I sent home with each student a letter about the Book Adventure Reading program. This program was created and maintained by the Sylvan Learning Center. By reading and taking an online quiz, students will earn cool prizes.

Book Adventure is a free, Web-based reading motivation program encouraging students to read great books and win cool prizes. Book Adventure not only rewards students for reading, but also enables parents and/or teachers to track a student's progress and participate in his or her education.

To begin, please visit www.bookadventure.com. Use the log-in information that was sent home last Thursday with your child. Please enter them in the login box on the top left-hand corner. Once logged on, you or your child may change the password as needed.



If you need the Username and Password again, please don't hesitate to contact me at anguyen@sjbschool.net to get it. **HAPPY READING!**

Scholastic Book Club Online Ordering

GOOD NEWS! You can now order books from the catalogs that students receive online. That's right! With a few clicks, you can have the books you want without worrying about your child handling money or losing their order forms.

Online Ordering Information

Web address: scholastic.com/bookclubs

Class Activation Code: 123G8

There will be many reading incentives throughout the year. Please encourage your child to read at home while I encourage them to read at school. Best of all, **our class earns a FREE book every time a parent places their order online.** If you prefer, you may still order books using the order form that I send home with your child. Thank you.



... to the following students who earned an A+ on the following tests.

Spelling Lesson 1

Emily	Katherine	Kelsey	Tiffeny
Julia	Zachary	Kayla	Eulalia
Alex	Jonathan	Tommy	Andrew

Weekly Giggle

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray: "Take only ONE. God is watching."

Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note, "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

Upcoming Tests

Religion	Ch. 1	TBA
Reading	Little House Ch. 1	TBA
Spelling + Vocab		Friday
Math	Ch. 1A	TBA
Language	Nouns	TBA
Science	Unit A, Ch. 1	TBA
Social Studies		Check Planner
Spanish, Music, Computer		Check Planner

Upcoming Events

- Thu., Sept. 3:** Mandatory Parent Meeting. 7PM
- Fri., Sept. 4:** NOON DISMISSAL
- Mon., Sept. 7:** Labor Day, NO SCHOOL
- Mon., Sept. 14:** Spirit Attire Monday
- Wed., Sept. 16:** Back To School Night 6:30 PM
- Fri., Sept. 18:** Spaghetti Dinner 5:30 PM
- Mon., Sept. 21:** Lunch Orders for Oct. Due
- Tue., Sept. 22:** Hawaiian Day
- Wed., Sept. 24:** All School Mass 10:00 AM