

November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Dear Parents:

We hope your **parent-teacher conferences** are going well. Once again, our school showed very healthy IOWA test results with the majority of students scoring at or above the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile. Next week we will share some of these overall scores with you. Just a reminder that every day this week is a minimum day, with dismissal at 12:15pm for grades K-3 and 12:30pm for grades 4-8.

Don't forget November's ongoing food collection for the San Francisco Food Bank. We are in the middle of our **annual collection of canned goods and other non-perishable items** for the Food Bank to provide **Thanksgiving meals for those in need**. We have barrels here at school for your donations and will continue the collection through November 18<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity!

Today, tomorrow, November 10<sup>th</sup> and this Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, because of the minimum day schedule, **guitar, band and piano classes** will be cancelled.

As the girls' volleyball and boys' soccer seasons draw to a close, **boys' basketball** gets underway. Practice will begin next week in the gym. Congratulations to all the teams representing St. Thomas More School in soccer and volleyball this year. A job well done! A special note of praise to the following teams who made the playoffs. The third and fifth grade soccer teams both made it to the playoffs but unfortunately were defeated. The sixth grade team will duke it out this Saturday against Town School beginning at 1:15pm at West Sunset. Congratulations to four of our Lady Bronco volleyball teams who also made it to the playoffs! Below are the playoff game schedules. Please consider coming out to support your teams. GO BRONCOS!!

Grade	Home Team	Guest Team	Date	Time	Venue
3rd Grade	St. Cecilia	St. Thomas More	Sat Nov 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2011	10:00AM	St. Cecilia
4th Grade	St. Cecilia	St. Thomas More	Sat Nov 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2011	11:00AM	St. Cecilia
5th Grade	OLM	St. Thomas More	Sat Nov 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2011	2:00PM	CYO - Serramonte
8th Grade	SVDP	St. Thomas More	Fri Nov 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2011	5:00PM	St. Emydius

On Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, **Olive the Storyteller** will return for the K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. Also on that day, Olive will continue her story telling project with the 8<sup>th</sup> graders and the 7<sup>th</sup> graders will hear from a special guest speaker on the Islamic religion.

**PICTURE MAKE-UP DAY:** Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> is picture make-up day for students who were absent when pictures were taken in September as well as those who wished to have their picture retaken. Please make sure you return your original photo package if a retake is requested. Composite class picture were not in your picture package, as we have not yet received them. They will be sent to you once retake pictures have been completed.



**FIELD TRIPS:** Next week is a busy week with field trips. The **seventh and eighth graders** are off to Archbishop Riordan's performance of *Dracula* on Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. The **second grade** students will visit Elkus Ranch in Half Moon Bay on Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. Also on Thursday, the **seventh graders** will begin their community service in preparation for receiving the sacrament of Confirmation by visiting the San Francisco Food Bank.

**SANDWICHES-FOR-THE-NEEDY:** A reminder that sandwiches-for-the-needy days have now moved to Fridays. Our first collection will be November 18<sup>th</sup> with 6<sup>th</sup> grade taking the lead. Sandwiches will be delivered to the Martin de Porres House and will be served to the needy with lunch on that day.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING:** The Strategic Planning group meets this Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> from 8:15-10:30am in the St. Thomas More School library. If you have not yet RSVP'd to the email you received, please do so by tomorrow.

**SCRIP:** The two raffle winners of our October scrip orders were Juan Velez and Janet Nori. They each won a \$25 Gift Certificate to the vendor of their choice simply by placing an order during the month of October. Place your orders now for your chance to win in our November raffle. For every \$50 you spend, you'll be entered into the raffle. Check out the flyer you are receiving today with some great ideas of how to use scrip during the holidays.

**2012-2013 APPLICATION FORMS:** Just a reminder that the 2012-2013 K-8 application forms are now available online and from the school office. The following are the **tour dates** for prospective families. Please call the school office at 415-337-0100 if you wish to attend.

**8:45-10:15am Wednesday, November 16**

**8:45-10:15am Tuesday, November 29**

**8:45-10:15am Tuesday, December 6**

**8:45-10:15am Wednesday, January 11**



**TECH CAMP:** Looking for something fun to do over the Winter break? Reserve a spot now for the **Winter Tech Camp**. Always a popular activity here at STM! This year camp attendees will make digital music, create their own 'claymation' movie and experience 3D modeling. Check out the flyer in your envelope today.

**DECEMBER 4<sup>th</sup>:** Please mark December 4<sup>th</sup> on your calendar as an exciting day here at STM. We will begin the day with a **10:00am Family Mass** where we will commission our current altar servers and install those who are newly trained. Students in 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade who would like to become altar servers are receiving a flyer in today's envelope. Following the Mass, the Parents' Club will present a **Pancake Breakfast** in the gym. Seventh and eighth grade dads will be receiving an email asking for your help for this event. Volunteers from other grades are also welcome. Also in the gym, the Alumni Association and the Parents' Club will present their annual **Winter Faire**. They will also offer activities for the children, a bake sale, pictures with Santa, and great door prizes. Do you know someone who would like to participate? We still have a few tables for *quality, hand-made arts and crafts or gourmet food items*. Tables are \$35.00 for the day. For questions or to reserve a table, please contact Linda Shah @ 415-218-0401 or email lp1114@aol.com.

Sincerely,

Marie Fitzpatrick  
Principal