



## **SAN MARTIN DE PORRES SCHOOL**

**NOTES TO PARENTS FEBRUARY 16, 2011**

### ***Mission Statement***

San Martin de Porres Catholic School strives to develop and inspire strong Christian values and academic excellence, thus empowering our children to become tomorrow's leaders.

### **PROGRESS REPORTS**

Please look for your child's progress reports for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter in this envelop. Please see your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns. The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter ends on March 22, so students have time to bring up the grades if needed.

### **MAKE-UP DAYS FOR LAST WEEK'S DAYS OFF**

We will make up the two days we lost last week at the end of May. We will have class on Memorial Day and then May 31 will be Report Card Day. The teacher workday will be on Wednesday, June 1.

### **REGISTRATION FOR 2011 – 2012N**

We are now in the process of registering for next school year: 2011-2012 We will give you a \$50.00 discount on the registration fee if you register before March 31. We do have the financial aid forms ready, so you can pick it up in the office if you will have difficulty with the tuition for next year. Financial Aid forms will be due by April 6.

Some persons have asked about the increase in tuition for next year. The Parish is cutting back on the amount of subsidy (\$15,000 over the next three years; \$5,000 each year) that is part of the budget in order to put the money toward a new education building they are planning. Since we have a very frugal budget to begin with, we could not see any cuts to make up this difference. Along with this increase which affects you as parents, the teacher and staff salaries will remain at the same level for next year with no increases.

### **ITBS TESTING TO BEGIN**

This next week the students will be given a practice booklet to go over the types of questions that will be on the official test that begins March 2. I have included the parents booklet which gives you information about the test. Third Grade parents you are receiving a copy of the K-2 booklet since it has valuable information for you also. This test is used by all the Catholic Schools in Texas.

The results last year were very good, so we look for good results again this year. Since this is not a minimum based test like the TAKS test given by the public school, but rather an achievement test, we concentrate on the work in the curriculum in the classes and not on testing.

I call these our “bragging rights” from the 2009-2010 tests taken:  
40 to 60<sup>th</sup> percentile is the average category for students taking these tests.  
We did much better.

Kindergarten Students	Average of 89 <sup>th</sup> percentile in Reading words and reading comprehension
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	Average of 81 percentile in Social Studies
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Average of 98 <sup>th</sup> percentile in math computation 96 percentile in math concepts
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	Average of 85 percentile in math computation

### **DINNER/RAFFLE/AUCTION**

\*We hope to have the raffle tickets to you by next Tuesday (February 22) They will be due back to us by **March 25**.

\*Parent Commitment is to bring in \$200.00. This can be done by selling just the raffle tickets (this is the reason you are receiving 7 books of tickets) or you can just sell the dinner tickets which will be \$15.00 each, or you can do a combination of raffle tickets and dinner tickets. If you do not sell all the raffle tickets, please return the unused ones to the office.

\*Angel Sponsors – black and white copy sent last week. If you know of a business you can take this to ask them to help us, please ask for a color copy in the office.  
The deadline for sponsors is **March 21**.

\*Classrooms will be responsible for an audible auction item –see your child’s teacher if you can help with the project. Most rooms have now selected their project.  
The Homeroom Mothers will be responsible for contacting parents for items for a basket. So far 2<sup>nd</sup> grade is doing a Religion/Easter Basket, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is doing a Rio Grande Valley Tourist Basket, and 1<sup>st</sup> grade is possibly doing a Garden Basket. Montessori Rooms to be decided by next week.  
The Homeroom Mother will also be coordinating a new project which will involve flowers and children’s pictures.

\*We ask each family to approach two different businesses for items for the Auction. We will accept any items, but try to bring in items worth at least \$25.00. We also accept gift cards and certificates for free services. The deadline for the items is March 28.

**Items and donations already turned in are listed on the bulletin board outside the library.**

**JEAN DAY FOR THIS MONTH:** Thursday, February 24, 2011. It will cost \$1.00 to wear jeans and our spirit shirt. This will be donated to the St. Jude Hospital Math-a-thon campaign for research for children with cancer. Anyone wishing to make a larger donation may do so in the office (you may make a check directly to St. Jude Hospital if you wish and we will send it on with our donation.)

## **COMMITTEES**

The following committees will meet:

Membership/Recruitment/Marketing Committee – Make up meeting for this month: Feb. 17  
Grounds Committee (formerly Playground Com.) - Wednesday, March 2, at 7:00  
Technology Committee - Thursday, March 3, at 7:00 p.m.

The PTC Officers meeting will continue to meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

We can still use more persons on the committees. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the office.

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

February 17	Marketing/Recruitment committee meeting at 6:00 p.m.
February 18	No School – Faculty/Staff Retreat
February 21	No School – Presidents’ Day School Council Meeting postponed to next Monday
February 22	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting for parents of students making First Reconciliation at 6:00 p.m.
February 28	School Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
March 2	Beginning of Testing for Kinder through 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade
March 9	Ash Wednesday Send out information about Dinner Tickets
March 11	2 <sup>nd</sup> Graders receive Sacrament of Reconciliation
March 14 – 18	Spring Break

## **SAN MARTIN DE PORRES, PRAY FOR US!**

Sister Helen Rottier CSJ  
Principal