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Principal's Thoughts

I hope you enjoyed your Labor Day holiday on Monday and didn't have to work! The first Labor Day was established to celebrate the economic and social contributions of workers in the United States on September 5, 1882 and became a federal holiday in 1894. For many Catholics this holiday is a reminder of one of the social teachings of the church: Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers. The US Catholic Bishops released this statement: "If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected." I hope this is true for you. Do you feel valued and respected? If you have a teenager, that may seem fleeting! In July 2023 after praying the Angelus, Pope Francis addressed the faithful and stressed that parents "sow goodness and faith in their children, and they are called to do so without being discouraged even if at times they seem not to understand or to appreciate their teachings, or if the mentality of the world is against them." I thought of each of you when I read this quote. The current state of the world is definitely making parenting more difficult. The work of parents often goes unnoticed not only in the importance of the work that is done but how hard this work can be! I have always said, being a parent is the most rewarding and difficult task we can do.

Please know we value you and the work you do; your children are polite and well behaved. I am always proud of our students when I watch them on fieldtrips, at junior high dances or Diocesan gatherings. Please continue to sow the seeds of faith, and as Fr. Luke reminds us: bring your children to Mass. Knowing God exists and recognizing His love is the greatest gift we can give our children, even if they complain!

The Children's Liturgies begin this month and we are going back to having classes assigned to "host." As hosts, students will proclaim the Word, read the Petitions and bring the gifts to Father during the Offertory. The first Children's Mass will take place Sunday, September 15th at 9am with the Kinders and 8th graders hosting. All families are invited and encouraged to attend! This is a wonderful way to celebrate Mass with families you have journeyed with in faith during your years at St. Agnes even if it has only been one month! Maybe this will become weekly occurrence for you!

St. Agnes School Mission Statement

St. Agnes School, in partnership with the Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Oakland educate children in the Catholic faith and nurture their minds, bodies, and souls, inspiring them to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ, achieve their highest academic and creative potential, and actively serve and enrich the community.



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Children's Liturgy

- Let us gather together to celebrate the Eucharist and enrich the faith development of your child(ren) on Sunday, September 15th at 9am.
- A flyer has been included in your envelope today so you can post it in a prominent place in your home.
- A non-uniform dress pass to be used on Monday, September 16th will be given out to all students in attendance! Here are the future dates: 10/20 (Grades 1 & 7), 1/12 (Grade 3), 2/9 (Grade 4), 3/16 (Grade 5) and 5/18 (Grades 2 & 6.)

Spirit Shirts Coming Soon!

- We anticipate that the Spirit T-Shirts should arrive this week in time for Spirit T-Shirt Tuesday, September 10th.
- Once these arrive no other spirit shirts can be worn.

Smile Nicely!

- o Picture Day will take place on Wednesday, September 11th for children in preschool grade 5 and Thursday, September 12th for junior high students. A makeup day TBD.
- o This is a formal dress day and PLEASE make sure your child's hair is in compliance with the dress code. Thank you. **All children will have their picture taken.**
- o Portraits will be available to order online approximately 4 weeks AFTER picture days. Please use this link to ordering your pictures: http://grow@roots-shoots.com
- o Portrait packages will be shipped directly to families' homes and a shipping fee will apply). There will be no school package drop-off.
- If you have any questions, please reach out directly to Roots & Shoots, they will be happy to assist you!

Elementary Staff Day

- Twice a year the School Department of the Diocese holds a gathering of all staff to build community, nurture our faith and professional development.
- o This gathering will take place on Friday, September 13th so the school will be closed for the weekend. Scrip will not be sold on this date.

Weekly Schoolwide Learning Expectation: 1.4 A faith-centered person living the Gospel message who is able to express compassion for others, locally and globally, through gifts of time, talent, and treasure.



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Hurry! Get Your Teams Together

- Don't forget the Annual Bocce Tournament will take place next Saturday, September 14th.
- Individuals or couples can register and teams will be created from those names.
- The form to register has been posted on our website.

• The Amen Open Accepting Golfers

- The St. Agnes Golf Tournament is scheduled for September 23rd and will be held at Oakhurst Country Club in Clayton.
- Registration and sponsorship forms are on our website.
- If you have questions, please contact Chris Lynch, CYO Athletic Director at: cflynch42@gmail.com.

Handbook Acknowledgement is Past Due

- If you have not already done so, we ask that you turn in this Acknowledgement page, signed by ALL family members by this Friday.
- This document outlines all our policies so it is imperative that we know you have viewed this important document. We don't want children missing school because this document has not been turned in. Thank you for your assistance.







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Dine Out

- The first Dine Out of the year takes place TODAY at Skipolini's Pizza in Clayton from 4:30pm-9:30pm.
- o St. Agnes will receive 15% of your food order! Thank you Skipolini's!

Welcome Back Social

- We hope to see you this Friday for the Welcome Back Social. Please join us by bringing your dinner and picnic blankets or lawn chairs to the field from 6-8pm.
- Ice Barbers will be available to purchase shaved ice for dessert. St. Agnes will receive 20% of the proceeds!
- o Let's reconnect while the children play!

Coffee Socials Return!

o Join us! A flyer with the dates for the year has been included in your envelope today.





Wheel-a-thon News

Did You Forget?

- If you turned in your permission slip without the \$5.00 attached, please send in your money in your family envelope.
- This money offsets the costs (printing, snacks etc.) to run this event.
- Permission Slips and your \$5.00 are due next Wednesday, September 11th.

To Do:

- Make sure the bike is in good riding order.
- A properly fitted helmet is mandatory.
- Please label your bike with the name and grade of the student.

Time to Get Your Pledges!

- The Wheel-a-thon (WAT) information packet has been posted on our website.
- This year, all pledges will be made through Pledgestar. Please watch for an email with directions to create your account!
- Training wheels are only allowed for students in grades K-2. All bikes K-8 need pedals.



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	IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS
9/4	Dine Out-Skipolini Pizza-Clayton 4:30-9:30
9/6	 Opening of School Mass 1:30-Formal All Are Welcome! Welcome Back Social 6pm-8pm
9/7	Work Party 9am-1pm
9/8	• 23 rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (Mk 7:31-37)
9/10	Spirit Shirt TuesdayPACE Meeting 6:30 – Cauchi Hall
9/11	 School Pictures Preschool-5th Grade (Formal Dress) WAT Permission Slips & \$5.00 Snack and Supply Fee Due
9/12	School Pictures Jr. High (Formal Dress)
9/13	Elementary Staff Day-No School
9/14	 Bocce Tournament 4pm-8pm Check-in 3:15 New Player Lesson 3:40
9/15	Children's Liturgy 9AM
9/16	Non-Uniform Dress for Mass Attendees (Must turn in pass)

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