



May 24, 2012

Dear Parents,

*The end of the school year is quickly approaching. Ask any student for the countdown: five days for Pre-K, nine days for Kindergarten, ten days for eighth graders, and twelve days for students in Grades One through Seven. Students are ecstatic with the approach of summer vacation, and excitement permeates the school hallways. Music will also fill the air today, as the band performs their spring concerts at 2:00 and 7:00.*

*This school year's close is bittersweet, as we bid farewell to Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Beringer, who have brought so much joy and love of God and learning to our four year olds over the years. We have planned a special assembly for them tomorrow morning at 10:00 in the gym. The program will feature special guest speakers, a Brown Bear reunion, and class presentations. All families are welcome to join us to express our love and appreciation to these dedicated teachers.*

*Enjoy the long holiday weekend with your families!*

*Sincerely,*

*Kristine K. Carr*

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## Appreciation

We are most grateful to:

- Parents and students for your support popsicles. We raised \$765.00 for Our Lady of Guadalupe Medical Clinic!
- Fitness Festival organizers and supporters: Jim Casey, Don Dougherty, Jennifer Hong, Andrew Kent, Jennifer Kuzdzal, Marty Lerner, Meg Ryzdewski, Karen Vasquez
- Mark Hurley, our CYO Commissioner, and our dedicated CYO coaches
- Kassara Vongkamhan, for surprising the teachers with a delicious lunch yesterday
- Third grade parents who shared their culinary expertise at the State Fair
- Mrs. Marge Herbert, Band Director, for instilling the love of instrumental music in our children
- Mrs. Peggy DiNunzio, Mrs. Marie Macnamara and their corps of eighth grade family volunteers, who transported students and scenery to and from Paul VI High School
- Thank you to the dedicated and *hard working* team who volunteered during library classes all year long, keeping track of students' check-ins and check-outs; learning new software; and digging deep into their knowledge of the Dewey Decimal System! **Sarah Bidigare, Liz Bailey, Allison Bliley, Jennifer Carpenter, Gina Carusillo, Kristin Filpi, Julie Larson, Lisa Phy,** and Nancy Spooner.

## Congratulations

- To our eighth graders for their marvelous performance in the Shakespeare Festival at Paul VI
- To Vincent Buono and Alison Criswell, who were named Chandra Muong Athletes of the Year at the CYO Banquet
- To our Battle of the Books contestants who represented St. Agnes so well: Alec Blagg, Madeline Filpi, Cate Hogan, Mary Catherine Hurley, Claire Jackson, Marie Jones, Vince LaGrassa, Kerrigan McCormick, Sarah Richardson, Camille Seldin, Natalie Todaro, and Isabela Wilson

## May Virtue Project

Dear St. Agnes parents,

We know that the month of May is filled with many exciting activities, but we wanted to remind you of our virtue project and the commitment we made to HOPE. Please try to send in an item or two by FRIDAY MAY 25TH. As always, thanks so much for your support! I would really like to fill up that pack and play we have by the main office.

Here is the list of items requested by HOPE...

\*Boy & Girl clothing, sizes 6 months-24 months / 2T.\* (Used clothing is welcome)

\*Diapers size 4 and 5 \*\*Wipes, Bottles\* (used bottles, in good condition are welcome)

\*Formula, Similac\* in the blue container is most in demand, because that is what WIC supplies coupons for, but any formula is great \*Pacifiers\*, \*Diaper cream\*, & \*Baby shampoo\*

### **Spring Band Concerts**

The Saint Agnes Band will perform on Thursday, May 24 at 2:00pm and 7:00pm in the gym.

### **YEARBOOK ORDER INFORMATION**

This year you may order our "fabulous" St. Agnes yearbook online. It's as easy as pie! Just go to our Edline site and under links you will find "Yearbook Orders" both on the St. Agnes home page and on all homeroom pages. All you do is "click" on the link to place your order. It's just that easy! You do not have to sign in or register. Just click on the "**add to cart**" in the **yellow box**. After that, the Jostens site will just ask for your students name and grade. This allows me to keep track of all orders. All yearbooks will be sent to the school and will be handed out by the homeroom teachers. There are only 300 yearbooks, 70 of them have already been sold! So order yours today

Here's the link... <http://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=A08791370>

If you have any questions, feel free to ask... [ksharpe@saintagnes.org](mailto:ksharpe@saintagnes.org)

### **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Aggie Awards**

We are blessed with a group of talented film makers who will soon be Academy Award winners. Our First Annual Aggie Video awards were given out to fifth, sixth and seventh graders with a special award going to a young actor in the third grade. Here are the recipients of our first ceremony:

Best Sound - "Smooth Criminal" : Claire Griffen, Maddy Smith, Erin Sweeney

Best Script - "The Fairy Academy" : Claire Baptiste, Abby Dinegar, Jennifer Joseph, Elena Lockland, Charlotte Ueland

Best Animation - "Smiles" : Tess Casey, Sophia Rivas, Anna Shumate

Best Stop Action - "Fruit" : Camille Seldin

Best Trailer - "Battle for the House" : Dennis Byrne, Danny Podratsky

Best Action Adventure - "They're Alive" : Brandon Bloebaum and Isaiah Bloebaum

Best Horror - "The Return of Bloody Mary" : Alice Hart, Caroline Jones, Ruth Lewarne, Callan and Kerrigan McCormick

Best “Documentary” - “The Free People Walking” : Joanna Lundquist, Regan Morche, Gabby Pirozzoli, Camille Seldin

Best Comedy - “The Fairy Academy” : Claire Baptiste, Abby Dinegar, Jennifer Joseph, Elena Lockland, Charlotte Ueland

Best Video Editing - “Fruit” : Camille Seldin

Best Special Effects - “Brian's Movie” : Brian Uemura

Best Male Actor – Brandon Bloebaum in “They're Alive”

Best Female Actor – Selene Swanson in “Destination Ithaca”

Best Young Actor – Isaiah Bloebaum in “They're Alive”

Best Video - “The Fairy Academy” : Claire Baptiste, Abby Dinegar, Jennifer Joseph, Elena Lockland, Charlotte Ueland

You can view the winners on the Edline Computer pages for grades 3-7. We look forward to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Aggie Awards next year. Get ready fourth grade!

*Mrs. Conlin*

### **A Butterfly Garden for Saint Agnes**

Today, Pre-K installed a Butterfly Garden among the trees and plants by the greenhouse. They also released butterflies into it!

Why did we want a butterfly garden? Butterflies are great pollinators (like bees are) and they are very pretty! Pollinator insects help plants to grow.

Butterfly Gardens include two types of plants: 1. plants that caterpillars love to munch on, such as herbs like dill, parsley and fennel, and 2. nectar-producing plants that butterflies love to visit.

About six weeks ago, the Pre-K classrooms started growing their herbs in little cups. The Bears grew dill, the Beavers grew parsley, and the Bees grew fennel.

Meanwhile, the classrooms brought in caterpillars that would soon turn into butterflies. They watched the transformation with great interest!

Finally, it was time to release the butterflies, so we set up the garden.

Please visit the following link to see photos of the planting and the butterfly release. Stop by the garden sometime to see what the children did :)

<https://picasaweb.google.com/106183485424840029405/ButterflyGarden?authuser=0&authkey=Gv1sRgCMDztcvhyvu9Mw&feat=directlink>

## **2012 Annual Battle of the Books A Success**

This year's team made an amazing showing during the 24th Annual Diocesan Battle of the Books!

They were poised, respectful, and supportive of other schools' teams, not to mention intelligent, well-spoken and focused!

Their scores were high in all three rounds of competition. They achieved a near-perfect score on the Verbal Round, scoring a 17 out of a possible 18 and only one team performed better than them.

This program is no walk in the park - it requires discipline, dedication, focus, teamwork and cooperation. Participants are required to read 16 books, and are quizzed on their knowledge of plot, characters, themes and setting. Our team gave 100 percent from January to competition day, this past Tuesday.

Congratulations to 6<sup>th</sup> graders **Alec Blagg, Marie Jones, Vince LaGrassa, Sarah Richardson** and **Camille Seldin**; and to 5<sup>th</sup> graders **Madeline Filpi, Mary Catherine Hurley, Claire Jackson, Kerrigan McCormick, Natalie Todaro** and **Isabela Wilson**.

Huge thanks to **Kathy Jackson**, who helped all semester, and at the last second, jumped in during the competition when she was asked to be the official timekeeper. Special thanks also to **Anne Jones** and **Moira McCormick** for leading several of the book discussions. And thank you to our drivers **Kathy, Moira, Anne** and **Yajaira Wilson**.

### **Author Signs St. Agnes Student's Kindle, Says It's A First**

**Fran Cannon Slayton**, author of *When the Whistle Blows* (one of the Battle of the Books selections) was present during this year's "battle" for a Q&A with the kids and a book signing session after the competition. When St. Agnes 5<sup>th</sup> grader **Natalie Todaro** asked her to sign her Kindle e-book, Ms. Slayton obliged, saying it was the first time she has ever signed an e-reader, and that she plans to feature Natalie, her Kindle and the Battle of the Books on her website, **[www.francannonslayton.com](http://www.francannonslayton.com)**

### **Summer Camp**

Reminder, Summer Camp payments are due. We have limited availability in some camps. Please email Mrs. Egan [megan@saintagnes.org](mailto:megan@saintagnes.org) if you are interested.

### **Parish Planning and Development Outreach Effort**

Fr. Roos has commenced a Pastoral Planning, Development and Stewardship Initiative that includes a process of communication, reflection, and parish-wide interaction intended to gather information and insights that will help Fr. Roos make decisions about how to focus the parish's energies and resources to the long-term benefit of St. Agnes. As part of that process, all parishioners and school families are asked to complete a short survey and participate in parish Listening Sessions to be conducted on May 29, 30, and 31. Please see Edline for the survey and information about the Listening Sessions.

Please take the time to complete the survey and participate in the Listening Sessions. Your thoughts, opinions, and insights will be important to the Pastoral Planning, Development and Stewardship Initiative, but they will be heard only if you participate. Please share your views about the future of our school and parish by completing the survey and participating in the Listening Sessions.

### **Academic Enrichment News**

The Academic Enrichment committee is working on scheduling a greater variety of after school programs next year, and we need your input! Please take the survey that was sent out by the PTO on Monday. The survey is open until June 1. Thank you to the parents who have already completed the survey, your feedback is so valuable.

*Like to sing? Like to dance?  
Play an instrument?  
Get ready to show us what you got  
at the St. Agnes*

# *Talent Show*

*June 11, 2012, 1:00pm*

*Auditions will be held on  
Wednesday, May 30, from 2-3:30  
in the gym.*

*(Auditions are open to all students in grades 1--8.*

*Students may leave with a parent as soon  
as they audition. If you cannot come  
on the 30th, but would like to be in the show,  
please contact Mrs. Smith: [jsmith@saintagnes.org](mailto:jsmith@saintagnes.org))*

*All acts must be school appropriate  
and must be approved by Mrs. Smith.*

Fri., 5/24      9:00 Mass Ms. Welsh 1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
                    10:00 Retirement Assembly for Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Beringer  
                    11:30 Dismissal; 6:00 Extended Day Closes

Mon., 5/28      School Closed – Memorial Day Holiday

Tues., 5/29      10:45 Pre-K Field Day  
                    Gr. 1 Fieldtrip  
                    7:00 Parish Listening Session – Parish Hall

Wed., 5/30      Field Day for Gr. 4-7  
                    1:05 Student Council Election Assembly in Gym  
                    1:00 Parish Listening Session – Parish Hall  
                    2:00-3:30 Talent Show Auditions in Gym, Extended Day in Library

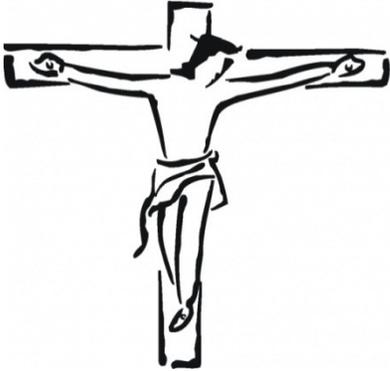
Thurs., 5/31    9:00 Mass – Visitation – Mrs. Nimey’s K  
                    7:00 – Parish Listening Session in Parish Hall

Fri., 6/1        Gr. K-3 Field Day  
                    Last Day for Pre-K  
                    Gr. 4 to Jamestown – 6:45am-8:00pm

**Prayer Request**

Please pray for Mrs. Tynan’s family. Mrs. Tynan’s mom, Liz Johnson died this morning and Jane Mudwilder, aunt of Mrs. Lee Morris who died on Friday, May 25.

# ST. AGNES YOUTH MINISTRY



## End of the school year barbecue!

May 27<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm-7:00pm  
Location: Black top behind  
St. Agnes School



All high school and 8th grade(rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade) students and family are invited to attend our end of the school year barbecue! A nice opportunity to have some great food and enjoy the company of friends and family. We'll also raffle off some prizes, including an iPod shuffle! Please contact Ben Fleser ([bfleser.stagnes@verizon.net](mailto:bfleser.stagnes@verizon.net), 703-525-1166) if you plan on attending so we can get a sense of numbers. If you would like to bring a dish, please let us know by May 26th.

