



# St. Francis of Assisi

Elementary School - Sacramento, California

Visit us at [www.stfranciselem.org](http://www.stfranciselem.org)

## GUBBIO GAZETTE

April 28, 2010

### MISSION STATEMENT

*St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Elementary School is dedicated to living the Gospel values. Our Franciscan, academically challenging curriculum teaches and supports students in becoming contributing members of their communities.*

### St. Francis of Assisi

### Schoolwide Learning Expectations

#### A St. Francis of Assisi Student is:

##### A) **Spiritual** *who*

- understands the Catholic faith
- demonstrates Gospel values
- actively participates in prayer celebrations
- shows a love of God, others, and self

##### B) **Academic** *who*

- actively solves problems and thinks critically
- makes progress through the diocesan standards
- develops and shares knowledge and talents
- demonstrates a curiosity and respect for learning

##### C) **Respectful** *who*

- appreciates diversity and the uniqueness of others
- practices good citizenship
- lives the "Acts of Courtesy"
- cares for God's creations

##### D) **Confident** *who*

- recognizes self-worth
- leads and cooperates
- embraces challenges
- always perseveres

##### E) **Responsible** *who*

- practices self-discipline
- makes Christ-like decisions
- owns his/her choices
- is trustworthy

### Principal's Message

Dear St. Francis of Assisi Parents,

Next week, in honor of mothers in the Sacramento community, our school is sponsoring a "Mothers' Day Diaper Drive" in conjunction with the Sacramento Food Bank. Please consider making a donation of diapers as a gift in honor or memory of your mother, grandmother, etc, or tell your children that that would be a perfect gift for you! We have special "a donation has been made..." cards in the school office for your child, also; just ask for them. What a wonderful "gift" for that mother who has everything! I know my mom will be thrilled and honored to receive this as her gift this year, and I am requesting that my own children do the same for me.

This week is 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester Progress Report week. If your student is in TK-2<sup>nd</sup> grade, he/she will bring home a progress report on Friday. If your child is in 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade, you must print out a copy of his/her online Edline report between today and Friday, sign it, and return it to your child's teacher by Monday. Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

It is already that time of year when we officially welcome our new parents for next school year. I am again looking for you, my experienced parents, to become "Sponsor Families" for them. This doesn't require a big commitment, just a willingness to give them a call, answer any questions, welcome them at our New Parent Dinner on May 18<sup>th</sup>, and basically help relieve any anxiety they may have! Please call Stephanie in the office if you are interested.

Please keep our second graders in your prayers as they make their First Holy Communion next weekend. It is such a wonderful time in the lives of both our students and their families as they receive their sacraments. (cont.)

It was a pleasure seeing many of you at Feria on Saturday evening. Once again, a great time was had by all! This huge fundraiser was organized and chaired by parent Dawn Waltz, who continually does so much for our school. Dawn also had a great group of parents (too numerous to mention in this spot) who assisted her. Please see the Feria “thank you” below.

In the Peace of St. Francis of Assisi,

Mrs. Laurie Power

## FERIA 2010

A HUGE thank you to the following people who made Feria 2010 a success:

Dawn Waltz – Chair

Katie Bourbeau – Co-Chair

Tracy and Anthony Palombo – Food; John Hesse – Bar; Troy Carlson, Jose Altamirano, Refugio, Craig Simmermon, Octavio Ruiz - Electrical and Lighting; Mark Madsen, Julie Song-Rodriguez - Clean-Up; Nancy Winks - Check-In; Jesly and Marlon Paulo - Item Pick-up; Michelle Kuo Harris - Finance and Software; David Bell – Cashiering; Maria Chan - Auction Items; Michele Villarreal and Sherri Lamm - Decorations and Layout of Event; Maureen Allen - PR and Band and Sound Coordination; Debra Ryan - Midtown Procurement; Patrick Powers, Caroline Patti – Procurement; Kelly Falk – catalog; Troy Nunley - Cigar Bar; Connie Laborin – Volunteers; Bliss Gonsalves - Classroom Auction Item Coordinator; Jackie Pinto – Photography; Renato Rivera – DJ; Chris Carlson, Pam Dominisse, Domingo Rodrick – Security; and the entire school faculty and staff for their support, participation, and patience!

## We Need You!

All of our governing groups are looking for new members. We have positions available on our School Advisory Commission, Parent Club Officers' Leadership Team, and St. Francis Parish Council. If you are interested, or would

like more information, see Mrs. Power ASAP.

## Book Fair Set-Up Time Change

Our BOOK FAIR will be set-up on

Saturday, May 1, 2010

at 2:00 pm

If you can help,  
please join us!!

## Religion Round-up

*This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

*Psalm 118*



Last week our fifth graders prepared our school prayer service. The theme was faith. They acted out the story of “doubting Thomas”. **Sharon Rocco** and **Gabby Larraguivel** led us in a sung version of the Creed.

On the following Monday, the seventh graders demonstrated the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching.

The first grade will lead us in a prayer service next Monday about motherhood in preparation for Mother’s Day.

Please keep in your prayers our second graders as they near the date of their First Communion. Congratulations to Simon Bell who made his First Communion last weekend!

***Our schedule for the next few weeks is as follows:***

<i>Date</i>	<i>Led by</i>	<i>Time</i>
Mon May 3	1 <sup>st</sup> Prayer Service	8:10 a.m.
Mon May 10	3 <sup>rd</sup> Prayer Service	8:10 a.m.
Thurs May 13	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mass	8:30 a.m.
Mon May 17	5 <sup>th</sup> Prayer Service	8:10 a.m.

*Parents are always welcome to join us for prayer services and Masses.*

# Mothers' Day

Diaper Drive May 3-7<sup>th</sup>

## FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

### 2010-2011

The first day of school will be Tuesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> for grades 1-8 and Monday, August 30<sup>th</sup> for TK and Kindergarten. The entire 2010-11 school year calendar has been set, but some dismissal times are still being discussed. This complete calendar will be available within the next week and will be on our school website.

## SPONSOR FAMILIES NEEDED

Would you like to take a new school family "under your wing?" This is an important part of welcoming our new parents and is really rewarding. Please call Stephanie in the school office ASAP for more information.

## ITALIAN COOKING

*On April 29<sup>th</sup>, the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Italian classes will be making fresh pasta and also fresh pesto sauce with wonderful help from Patrizia Stavarek (who used to own her own Italian restaurant in San Francisco) and Katia Clark (a retired personal chef). We will be creating a specialty of the Liguria and Piedmonte regions of Italy – Pasta*

*Fresca con pesto, fagioli verdi, e patate!*

*Buon Appetito !!*

### *Spring Concert News*

Our annual Spring Concert for Grades 1-4 is tomorrow, **Thursday April 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** The concert, titled "The Happy Wanderer," will take place in the Church. Our theme this year is the great outdoors. The students will be singing hiking and camping songs. Come and bring your marshmallows and sing around the campfire!

### *Spring Choir Concert*

*Thursday May 6<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m.*

*St. Francis Church*

*"Dancin' in the Streets"*

As the title suggests, our concert this year is focusing on Motown music. Come and hear some incredibly talented kids belt their hearts out. Better than "Glee," better than "American Idol," all are invited to hear our school choir perform works recorded by the Supremes, the Temptations, and the Jackson 5. Get ready to groove!

## **5th Grader Qualifies for Taekwondo National Championships**

Miguel Batilando, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, won 2 gold medals (for sparring and forms) at the recently concluded US National Qualifier Taekwondo Championships held on April 10, 2010 in Fresno, California. He also won 2 silver medals (for sparring and forms) in the 2010 USA Taekwondo California State Championship held at CSU-Dominguez Hills in Carson, CA on March 20, 2010. With these wins, Miguel is now qualified to compete in the USA Taekwondo National Championships (Junior Olympics) to be held in July 2010 at Orlando, Florida. Miguel trains under 6<sup>th</sup> degree blackbelts Master John Yi of Elite Taekwondo USA in Cameron Park and Master Jong Yi of Koryo Taekwondo in Sacramento.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Maryael Ramos (5<sup>th</sup> grade) and Mario Ramos (2<sup>nd</sup> grade) both competed in the United World Tae Kwon Do Association's 2010 Spring National Championships, held at the Folsom Sports Complex on April 17, 2010. Maryael won a gold medal in the black belt weapons division and a silver medal in the black belt forms division. Mario won a bronze medal in the advanced belt sparring division.

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### St. Francis Alumni Inducted into the Jesuit High School's National Honor Society

Mari Batilando and Brian Grau, both graduates of St. Francis Elementary School and currently juniors at Jesuit High School, were inducted into the National Honor Society (NHS) in a ceremony held on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at Jesuit. NHS, established in 1921, is the nations' premiere organization that recognizes outstanding high school students. More than just an honor roll, NHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since its beginnings.

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### Mr. Cain's Book Shelf



**Amazing Tigers!** By Sarah L. Thomson (Reading level 2 with help)  
Reading level: Ages 4 – 8 / *“Amazing Tigers!* is the first paperback edition in our exciting series of nonfiction I Can Read Books filled with amazing photos from the Wildlife Conservation Society, one of the world's oldest and most respected wildlife conservation organizations.”

**Caterpillars on the Move!** By Abby Klein (Reading level 2/250-750 words) (A Ready, Freddy! Reader)  
Reading level: Ages 4 – 8 / “Freddy's class has some new class pets... caterpillars! But Mrs. Wushy says they won't be caterpillars long. What will they become?”

### Can You See What I See? 100 Fun Finds by Walter Wick

Reading level: 1/Beginning Reader/50-250 words) (A Read – And – Seek book)  
Reading level: Ages 4 – 8 / “From the photographer of the bestselling I Spy books and creator of the Can You See What I See? series is a new search-and-find reader chock-full of fun! Children can read the simple text and use the picture clues to search twelve photos for 100 hidden objects! An illustrated word list in the back of the book provides extra support for the newest readers!”

### Fly, Monarch! Fly! By Nancy Elizabeth Wallace

Reading level: Grade Kinder – 2 / “One summer day, Mom, Dad, Minna, and Minna's little brother, Pip, bicycle over to an outdoor nature center called Butterfly Place (Where Monarchs Reign). Their guide, Bert, aka Butterfly Man (which is a little strange, since all the characters are dressed as bunnies), guides them through excellent exhibits showing butterfly development: egg laying, hatching, the caterpillar stage, eating, skin shedding, the pupa or chrysalis stage, the emergence of a monarch, and nectar drinking. The book's cheerful presentation conveys a good deal of information in a playful, easy-to-absorb fashion as children vicariously explore the hands-on exhibits along with Minna and Pip. Instructive signs carry additional facts for those intrigued by the subject. In making the collage illustrations, Wallace used markers and acrylic paints as well as brightly colored, cut papers to good effect. The closing pages offer instructions for a craft project, tips for a butterfly garden, and some additional facts and sources concerning monarchs. A creative addition to kindergarten and primary-grade butterfly units.”

### Caterpillar to Butterfly by Camilla de la Bedoyere

Reading level: Grade 1 – 3 / “What do caterpillars eat? Where do butterflies lay their eggs? How long do butterflies live? Packed with fascinating facts about life cycles. Amazing photographs of every stage. Labeled diagrams to explain growth and development. Are you ready to start at the beginning?”

**Egg to Chicken** by Camilla de la Bedoyere  
Reading level: Grade 1 – 3 / “How many eggs do hens lay? Where do hens build their nests? What do chicks eat? Packed with fascinating facts about life cycles. Amazing photographs of every stage. Labeled diagrams to explain growth and development. Are you ready to start at the beginning?”

**Joey to Kangaroo** by Camilla de la Bedoyere  
Reading level: Grade 1 – 3 / “How big are newborn joeys? Where do joeys live? What do kangaroos eat? Packed with fascinating facts about life cycles. Amazing photographs of every stage. Labeled diagrams to explain growth and development. Are you ready to start at the beginning?”

**Pup to Shark** by Camilla de la Bedoyere  
Reading level: Grade 1 – 3 / “Where do sharks lay eggs? What do pups feed on? How many pups can lemon sharks have? Packed with fascinating facts about life cycles. Amazing photographs of every stage. Labeled diagrams to explain growth and development. Are you ready to start at the beginning?”

**Tadpole to Frog** by Camilla de la Bedoyere  
Reading level: Grade 1 – 3 / “What is frogspawn? How do tadpoles swim? When do tadpoles become frogs? Packed with fascinating facts about life cycles. Amazing photographs of every stage. Labeled diagrams to explain growth and development. Are you ready to start at the beginning?”

**Seed to Sunflower** by Camilla de la Bedoyere  
Reading level: Grade 1 – 3 / “How do sunflowers begin? What do sunflowers need to grow? When do the flowers open? Packed with fascinating facts about life cycles. Amazing photographs of every stage. Labeled diagrams to explain growth and development. Are you ready to start at the beginning?”

**Now I Know: Baby Animals** by Melvin and Gilda Berger  
Reading level: Ages 4 – 8 / “Learn about puppies, kittens, lambs, and all kinds of baby animals!”

**Now I Know: Birds** by Melvin and Gilda Berger  
Reading level: Ages 4 – 8 / “Birds have feathers. Birds make nests. This book will teach you all about birds.”

**Now I Know: Fish** by Melvin and Gilda Berger  
Reading level: Ages 4 – 8 / “What is a fish? Dive into this book to find out.”

**Now I Know: Turtles** by Melvin and Gilda Berger  
Reading level: Ages 4 – 8 / “Learn all about box turtles, snapping turtles, and much more!”

**Disney Princess: Ariel: The Birthday Surprise**  
(a Disney Princess Early Chapter Book)  
Reading level: Ages 4 – 8 / “Ariel’s sister Aquata is having a birthday celebration. It’s going to be a fun-filled day, complete with a special concert, and Ariel is excited about visiting her family. If only Prince Eric could go under the sea, too. At the party, Aquata wishes that Ariel could stay with them forever. At that very moment, a rare solar eclipse hits, and the wish comes true! Will Ariel ever be able to break the spell and return to Eric—and her life as a human?”

**Disney Princess: Belle: The Mysterious Message**  
(A Disney Princess Early Chapter Book)  
Reading level: Ages 4 – 8 / “It isn’t easy being the prisoner of the fearsome Beast, but Belle is making the most of it. There are so many rooms to explore in the elaborate castle – including an amazing library. This may not be so bad after all! Things get even more interesting when Belle discovers a secret message hidden in one of the books. She soon realizes she’s hot on the trail of a decades-old mystery! Will Belle, along with the help of an enchanted candelabrum and a teacup named Chip, be able to solve this *beastly* case?”

**Kingdom Keepers : Disney After Dark** by Ridley Pearson

Reading level: Grade 5 – 8 / “Using cutting-edge technology, five Florida teens have been transformed into Holographic Hosts at Disney World. Their images appear throughout the Magic Kingdom, giving visitors information about the various attractions. It all seems to be going well, until the participants begin having disturbing dreams that start affecting their everyday lives. They sneak in after the park has closed, and Wayne, a retired Imagineer, directs them in their fight against the Dark Side, embodied by Maleficent from *Sleeping Beauty*. Audio-animatronic pirates from *The Pirates of the Caribbean* travel through the Magic Kingdom in the little cars from the Buzz Lightyear ride. The dolls from *It's a Small World* clamber into the boats and start biting the occupants. Cinderella's Castle is filled with an eye-popping array of staircases, à la Escher. There's a certain coolness factor for the notion that people could be both human and hologram at the same time, and the illicit thrill of seeing all the things you don't normally get to see (both real and imaginary) makes this a must-read for serious Disney fans. However, readers never really get to know any of the characters well, except for Finn, the narrator, and the mystery is so convoluted that it's hard to follow...”

**Kingdom Keepers II : Disney At Dawn** by Ridley Pearson

Reading level: Grade 5 – 8 / “In this sequel to *The Kingdom Keepers: Disney after Dark* (2005), Disney World is again in danger. The five Kingdom Keepers must battle Maleficent and the Overtakers, who threaten to capture them while they sleep, so the kids must stay awake from the beginning of the battle to its end. Can they do it, or will the urge to sleep be too intense? Kids who loved the first title (also available from Brilliance) won't be disappointed.”

**Kingdom Keepers III : Disney In Shadow** by Ridley Pearson

Reading level: Ages 9 – 12 / “When Disney Imagineers installed hologram guides for the Magic Kingdom, using teenage models, they had no idea the technology might backfire. But backfire it did: some nights when the kids go to sleep, they wake up in one of the Disney parks

as a hologram. With the adventures set forth in the first books now behind them, *Kingdom Keepers 3: Disney In Shadow* follows the five teens, Finn, Philby, Willa, Charlene, and Maybeck as they search to find Wayne, their mentor and head Imagineer who has mysteriously gone missing. Concerned Wayne has been abducted by the Overtakers, the five kids pick up a major clue from a close friend, Jez, whose dreams (nightmares, really) often accurately predict the future. The very few clues from Jez's dream lead the kids into Disney's Hollywood Studios and Epcot...the Kingdom Keepers not only begin to decipher deeper meanings to the clues, but discover new truths about themselves and their ever-growing friendships.”

**Magic Thief: Lost** by Sarah Prineas

Reading level: Ages 10 – up / “In this thrilling sequel to *The Magic Thief*, Conn, “a gutterboy from the streets of Twilight,” continues to seek solutions and instead finds trouble...Like its predecessor, this story is interspersed with letters and journal entries, as well as skillful etchings, giving readers an intimacy with the characters. Eloquent and suspenseful, this follow-up doesn't disappoint.”

**Mudville** by Kurtis Scaletta

Reading level: Grade 4 – 8 / “Grade 6–8—Vandals have crossed off the “o” and the “n” from the welcome sign outside the town of Moundville, and appropriately so, as it's been raining there continually for 22 years. Shortly after 12-year-old Roy discovers that he'll be sharing his bedroom with Sturgis, a scarred foster child about his age, the rain stops. What better opportunity to organize some baseball? In short order Roy finds himself captaining a ragtag team with himself as catcher, Sturgis—who has a wicked fastball—on the mound, and position players of both sexes with wildly varying levels of skill. Scaletta takes nearly 80 pages to trot out his varied, well-drawn supporting cast and to fill in the town's history (a necessity: that rain interrupted an important baseball game that some adults, at least, still regard as unfinished business), but he balances perceptive explorations of personal and domestic issues perfectly with fine baseball talk and (eventually) absorbing play-

by-play. Readers will cheer Roy on as he struggles to get his team in shape, clicks with a girl who is new to the game but turns out to have an unhittable natural screwball, and weathers some rough waters with moody Sturgis on the way to a rousing climax and a fitting resolution.”

### **Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time**

adapted by James Ponti

(A junior novelization based on a motion picture)

Reading level: Ages 9 – 12 / “When a young prince (Jake Gyllenhaal) is framed for the death of his beloved father and the king of Persia, he must prove his innocence with the reluctant help of a conquered princess (Gemma Arterton) and a magic dagger that can reverse time. The junior novel is a retelling of the film and includes an eight-page full-color photo insert with pictures from the film.”

### **The Wimpy Kid Movie Diary: How Greg Heffley Went Hollywood**

by Jeff Kinney

Reading level: Ages 9 – 12 / “Go behind the scenes with Jeff Kinney and the making of the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* movie! If you've ever wondered how a movie gets made, you're not alone. Author and illustrator Jeff Kinney didn't know either, but when his bestselling series, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, was turned into a live-action movie by 20th Century Fox, he learned how a book gets adapted into a major motion picture. Complete with photographs, script pages, storyboard sketches, costume designs, and original art by Jeff Kinney, *The Wimpy Kid Movie Diary* is the perfect companion to the bestselling series.”

## **NON FICTION**

**The next three (3) books only were used  
by the Academic Decathlon participants  
and  
donated to our library  
by our teaching staff:**

### **Camera: A History of Photography from Daguerreotype to Digital**

by Todd Gustavson

“Few inventions have had as powerful an influence as the camera, and few modes of expression have enjoyed the enduring artistic, scientific, and popular appeal of photography. We are so focused on the products of the camera, the indelible images marking our lives and times, that it's easy to forget the instrument itself has a history. Now that history has been comprehensively traced for photography buffs and amateurs alike by Todd Gustavson, Curator to Technology at George Eastman House. In this stunning volume, hundreds of new and archival images from George Eastman House bring the story to life and provide an unmatched reference source. Vast in its scope, this groundbreaking book is an in-depth visual and narrative look at the camera – and consequently photography itself – as never before seen.”

### **Climate Change: Picturing the Science**

by Gavin Schmidt and Joshua Wolfe

“*Climate Change: Picturing the Science* is a tour de force of public education. It is simply the best available collection of essays by climate scientists on the nature of human-induced climate change, the ways that scientists have come to understand and measure the risks that it poses, and the options that we face.”

### **The Rough Guide to Climate Change**

by Robert Henson

“*The Rough Guide to Climate Change* gives the complete picture of the single biggest issue facing our planet. Cutting a swathe through scientific research and political debate, it lays out the facts and assesses the options – global and personal – for dealing with the threat of a warming world. The Symptoms: How rising temperatures and sea levels, plus changes to extreme weather patterns, are already affecting life around the world. The Science: What we know and how we know it, plus the fascinating story of climate through the ages. The Debates: Scientists, politicians, activists and lobby groups - how and why climate change became a political hot potato. The Solutions:

How governments, scientists and engineers plan to tackle the problem, plus in-depth information about what you can do to help..."

**On the Court with...Kobe Bryant** by Matt Christopher

Reading level: Ages 9 – 12 / "As the son of Joe "jellybean" Bryant, a former NBA player and star of various European teams, Kobe Bryant spent his childhood watching professional basketball. From the moment he could pick up a ball, he was learning to dribble and shoot. From there, he went on to hone his skills further to become a basketball star, and was eventually drafted into the NBA fresh out of high school. With an MVP under his belt, he continues to be one of basketball's most talented players."

**On the Court with...LeBron James** by Matt Christopher

Reading level: Ages 9 – 12 / "Outstanding. Unbelievable. Mindblowing. These are just a few of the words used to describe the talents of LeBron James. He was a sensation in his early days playing AAU ball in Akron, Ohio-and continued to amaze through his four years as a high school phenomenon. Now going into his fifth year as a star of the Cleveland Cavaliers, he is touted as the best player in basketball today. And for good reason: his dunks are monstrous, his no-look passes are things of beauty, his three-pointers seem effortless. But even more importantly, he is that one-of-a-kind superstar whose main goal isn't to rack up the stats - it's to make his team better."

**On the Court with...Shaquille O'Neal** by Matt Christopher

Reading level: Ages 9 – 12 / "Shaquille O'Neal is one of the biggest and brightest stars of the National Basketball Association. Since his rookie year as center for the Orlando Magic, and throughout his years with the Los Angeles Lakers, and now with the Miami Heat, he has dominated on the court. Whether slamming massive dunks, rejecting shots by his opponents, or ripping down rebounds, Shaq makes his presence known whenever he plays. In the 1999-2000 season, he helped the Lakers win the first of their three consecutive NBA championships. These victories, plus

appearances in movies and commercials, and his rap music, have made him one of the most-recognized and well-paid figures in sports today. Shaq has also put fame and fortune to good use by founding and donating to charitable organizations..."