



Saint Francis of Assisi School
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Trisha Lenarz-Garmoe, Principal

4/4/06

Dear Parents,

Students at all grade levels will soon begin their study of human growth and development using the program “Growing in Love”. This important catechetical program helps young people from kindergarten through eighth grade and their families grow in their Catholic understanding of sexuality, family life and relationships. One of the strongest features of the “Growing in Love” program, which complies with all Vatican, national Catholic and diocesan guidelines for programs of this type, is its emphasis on involving families as the key teachers of our Catholic values. Your role in this program is central.

In order to keep you well informed, I have posted a list of specific topics that will be covered at each grade level on the Guidance page of the school website. This year I will not be sending home the textbooks for you to review as I have done in the past. If you would like to review the textbook used in class, please call or e-mail me to schedule an appointment. Please note that I will not be covering every topic included in the text. After careful review of the material, I have discovered that some of the information is already covered in the Religion curriculum and other Guidance activities.

In the past, I have also sent home the *Family Resource Guide* for you to review and purchase if you would like. These will be available for you to review along with the student text. The *Family Resource Guide* focuses on reviewing the chapters we have covered in class and is intended to lay the framework for you to discuss more sensitive topics when you feel your child is ready. These guides are still available for purchase, if you would like the information. Use of these guides is not required as a part of the program.

Students in grades 4-6th grade will be viewing videos and holding discussions about personal issues during this unit. Dr Waggoner will be visiting with the boys and Mrs. Joss, our school nurse, myself and/or Mrs. Mistry will be holding discussions with the girls. 7th graders will be using a different format this year. Parents who wish to preview the videos that will be used in class, need to mark their calendars for Thursday, April 27th. 4th-6th grade videos will be previewed from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. 7th grade videos will be previewed from 8:00pm –9:00 pm.

Students in kindergarten through 5th grade will begin this unit the week after Easter. Middle school units will begin in early May. Each week the elementary school students will bring home a family activity for you to complete together and send back the following class period. Instructions for these activities will include a review of the day’s topic and information referring you to the appropriate section in the *Family Resource Guide*, if you decide to use this part of the program. Please call the guidance office with any questions or concerns about this program.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Heckle
Guidance Counselor

