



Dear Parents and Legal Guardians,

We are proud of the great progress we have made over the past few years here at St. Anthony of Padua School in developing a truly 21<sup>st</sup> century educational environment. As you know, all of our teachers are using iPads and digital projectors in their classroom throughout the day, allowing for more immersive and engaging lessons. Our collection of iPads has allowed our students to create a variety of types of digital documents, and we are making more every day. The Learning Lab has been developed to mimic the type of collaborative projects and work cultures of Silicon Valley, while our use of Gradelink, classroom blogs and the school website has transformed the manner in which we report grades, assign homework assignment, and distribute documents.

Today, we are asking your permission to take St. Anthony of Padua School one step further into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

In order to create a more streamlined system for communicating directly with parents and students, and aid in the creation, collection, organization, grading, and display of our digital work, St. Anthony of Padua School is integrating individual student email accounts into its educational infrastructure. We have decided it is best to provide those for the students using our own domain, *stanthonygardena.org*, rather than using their personal emails.

We are therefore asking your permission to create a school email account for your child. Essentially, this email account will be a family account. You will, of course, have access to these accounts. Our hope is that you will use these accounts to communicate with the school and the various committees in which you are involved, and more effectively provide the school with feedback on various topics through the digital survey system we will be using. Moreover, these accounts will allow your student to use a variety of other services, such as Google Apps, Edmodo, and a variety of other web-based applications your child's teacher may wish to utilize that require an email account for use.

We truly believe that there are many benefits in adding these accounts to the St. Anthony of Padua School. It is very important, though, that you consistently monitor the account and are always aware of the way it is being used by your student. We recommend that you check these accounts daily, both to stay up-to-date with school-related emails, and to make sure your child is not using the email account in an inappropriate way. To help combat any potential inappropriate use, internet safety lessons will be presented to all students in their individual classrooms, and an internet safety tutorial will be offered to parents at one of our general parent meetings.

We are very excited about the educational doors that will be opened by the creation of these accounts. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,  
Angela Grey  
Principal

Please sign the following statement:

I hereby give permission to St. Anthony of Padua School to create an email account and Google account for my child.

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|---------|------|------------------------------|
| Student | Name | Signature of Parent/Guardian |
|         | Date |                              |