



SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Rosary School Family Communication Newsletter

January 24, 2008

"Catholic schools provide hugely consequential oases of impact and hope. Their value is – literally and figuratively – beyond measure."

–the late Malcolm Forbes, in an article entitled *What Big Cities Owe to Catholic Schools*

Some interesting facts about Catholic Schools (based on data from 2006-07):

- ∞ There are 7,498 Catholic schools: 6,288 elementary; 1,210 secondary.
- ∞ Thirty-six (36) new schools opened in 2006-07.
- ∞ Total Catholic school student enrollment is 2,320,651.
- ∞ Minority student enrollment is 25.7% of the total enrollment.
- ∞ Non-Catholic enrollment is 13.8% of the total enrollment.
- ∞ Full-time equivalent professional staff numbered 159,135.
- ∞ Students in Catholic schools consistently score higher on all standardized tests than their public school counterparts.
- ∞ Nearly every Catholic school has a required service program; the average number of service hours performed by students in Catholic high schools is 79.

Welcome to Catholic Schools Week 2008, *Catholic Schools Light the Way*. We hope to see you on Sunday at Mass and at the Open House, which is from 10:30-2:00, with student led tours for new families. Weekend Masses are Sat. at 5:00pm; Sunday at 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, and 5:30pm. Students are to wear perfect uniforms to Mass this weekend. Thank you to the many students who are helping out at the Masses. Your family *Holy Rosary Light the Way* posters are due tomorrow. We are hoping each family will be represented. Posters will be on display throughout the week. The Scholastic Book Fair opens on Sunday, Jan. 27, in the library and remains open throughout the week. Thank you for joining us in our celebration of Catholic Schools Week.

A snapshot of the rest of the week:

Monday, January 28: We Honor our Students

- Class Theme Day as follows:
 - Gr. KA: Pajama Day
 - Gr. KB: Hawaiian / Caribbean Beach Day
 - Gr. 1: Twin Day
 - Gr. 2: Favorite Story Book Character Day
 - Gr. 3: Pajama Day
 - Gr. 4A: Pajama / Comfy-cozy Day
 - Gr. 4B: Twin Day

- Gr. 5A: Secret Agent Day
- Gr. 5B: Pajama Day
- Gr. 6: Pajama / Crazy Hair Day
- Gr. 7: Pajama / Comfy Day
- Gr. 8A: Nerd Day
- Gr. 8B: Comfy-Cozy Day

Tuesday, January 29: We are Happy to Serve Others

- Jeans Day
- Ugandan Mission Team Presentation: an update on our mission and the students we sponsor at 8:30am in the School Hall; each student is encouraged to bring in \$1.00 during Catholic Schools Week to help pay for our adopted students' education.
- Class and Schoolwide Service Projects as follows:
 - K & 8: new sock and underwear drive for the Clothesline
 - Gr. 1: making Valentine's cards for residents at Mount St. Vincent's
 - Gr. 2: litter pick-up around the school and parish grounds
 - Gr. 3: making thank you certificates for West Seattle Businesses
 - Gr. 4: delivering thank you certificates for West Seattle Businesses
 - Gr. 5: delivering primroses to Holy Rosary's neighbors
 - Gr. 6: waxing the pews in the church
 - Gr. 7: making and delivering cards to neighboring Catholic schools
- Annual Planting of the Primroses with our Faith Families at 2:15pm – please have your child bring a small planting tool; parents welcome to help us plant

Wednesday, January 30: We Appreciate our Parents, Grandparents, Pastor, and School Staff

- Perfect Uniform for students – sweaters, sweatshirts, vests required
- PATS breakfast for school staff at 7:45am in the staff room
- Grandparents' Luncheon: A-L, 11:15–12:00 – arrive by 10:45am in the School Hall to meet your grandchildren; M-Z, 12:30-1:15- guests can go directly to Lanigan Gym and meet their grandchildren there. First lunch grandparents visit the Book Fair before the lunch; second lunch grandparents visit the Book Fair after the lunch.
- Students will finish special thank you to parents to go home tomorrow
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- **Have your child write a “special thank you note for lighting the way” to Fr. John, the office staff, and his/her teacher; remember the specialist teachers. Bring notes to school today. No Gifts, please!**

Thursday, January 31: We Take Pride in our Academics

- Perfect Uniforms – sweaters, sweatshirts, vests required
- Spelling Bee, Grades 1-4, 8:30-9:15 and Grades 5-8, 9:30-10:15 – School Hall
- Schoolwide Learning Expectations (SLE's) Classroom Presentations after each Spelling Bee
- Check out Grades 7 & 8 Science Fair Exhibit Today
- Eighth Grade Pizza Lunch today – complete and return enclosed order form no later than Friday, January 25
- Schoolwide “DEAR” – Drop Everything and Read – 2:25-2:55; be sure your child has a good book or magazine to read.
- **Special Surprise for Parents in the FCE Today**

Friday, Feb. 1: We Have Fun Building School Spirit

- Mardi Gras Spirit Day

- Spirit Assembly at 9:30am – Lanigan Gym (parents welcome)
- 8th Grade vs. Staff Volleyball Game 1:45pm – Lanigan Gym (parents who plan to cheer for the staff most welcome...)

The Barnes and Nobel Bookstore at Westwood Village will give a kickback to Holy Rosary for any book purchased between Jan. 27 – Jan. 30. Be sure to download the B&N receipt that is on our website and turn it in with your purchase.

The important season of Lent is just around the corner. The theme for the season is *“Change our Hearts”* by fasting and feasting: fasting from something we love as a sacrifice and also fasting from those things that separate us from God; at the same time we feast on things that help to keep our connection to God strong. In preparation for our Ash Wednesday Mass (8:45am on Feb. 6; perfect uniform day) each student will be making a heart and writing down his/her Lenten promises on it. Classroom teachers will be talking about Fasting, Prayer, and Almsgiving, the three hallmarks on Lent. Classes will be signing up to attend the 8:00am Mass together at least once during Lent. More on our school’s Lenten activities in next week’s newsletter.

Will it snow? There are hints of snow in the forecast for next week. Remember to go to the Holy Rosary webpage for news on late starts or school closure. A late start means that school will open at 10:00am. Information will be posted by 6:30am. It will also be broadcast on KING, KIRO, and KOMO TV stations and on KOMO and KIRO radio stations. I’m thinking it is NOT a good time for snow. So, Let it NOT Snow, please!

PROCUREMENT NEWS! Please turn in your procurement forms or enter your donation on-line by February 1! If you enter them before Friday January 25th you will be included in a drawing for a \$75 gift certificate for Cactus. Thank you for your support in making this year’s auction a huge success.

TUITION ASSISTANCE FOR THE 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR. You can now access the application for tuition assistance for the 2008-2009 school year on-line at <http://www.fulcrumfoundation.org/Tuition>. You can apply on line or download the application and fill it in by hand. Whether you apply on-line or in paper form the application needs to be completed and forwarded to Jennifer MacDonald in the school office by February 21, 2008 with your Federal Tax Return. You can e-mail Jennifer at jmacdonald@holynosaryseattle.org.

BOOK FAIR The Scholastic Book Fair Reading Road Trip begins tomorrow. Here is a glimpse of some special stops as we cruise through the week. Check the Library webpage for additional activities. See you at the Book Fair.

Date	Time	Special Activity	Prizes
Friday 1/25	8:30-3:00	Opening Day	
Sunday 1/27	9:00-2:30	Open House	Traveling bag with treats
Monday 1/28	8:30-3:30		
Tuesday 1/29	8:30-3:30		Random winners
	5:00-7:00	“Under the stars” Shop after work	\$20
Wednesday 1/30	8:30-2:30	Grandparents Luncheon	\$25

Thursday 1/31	8:30-3:30		Random winners
Friday 2/1	8:30-3:00	Mardi Gras and Volleyball	
Sunday 2/3	9:00-1:00	Open after Masses	\$20
Monday 2/4	8:30-2:00	Last day	Posters

EARTH-FRIENDLY LUNCHES – A TIP FROM THE HR GREEN TEAM. Lunches are a great connection between home and school—coming and going with our kids every day. If we all just took a couple of simple steps to make lunches less wasteful, over the course of the year we'd make a HUGE difference. Here are a couple of ideas: **Use cloth napkins.** Unless your kids are really messy, they can use the same napkin for a week. If everyone in the school did this, we'd save tens of thousands of napkins worth of paper over the year! **Re-use plastic sandwich bags.** If your kids pack sandwiches and snacks in little bags, ask them to bring them home for re-use instead of throwing them away every day. Make it a challenge to see how long you can use one bag—they last FOREVER. Plastic bags will also last forever when thrown out, polluting landfills, waterways, and oceans for generations to come. If every HR kid throws away one plastic lunch bag a day, that's 70,000 in a school year! The fewer the better! **Better yet, minimize plastic bag use.** Try sending snacks in re-usable containers (like Tupperware) instead of baggies. For a great sandwich wrap alternative, check out the Wrap-n-Mat, <http://www.wrap-n-mat.com/about-us-i-5.html>. Replace some plastic bags with unbleached waxed bags--available at PCC, they are a landfill-friendly alternative to plastic. They can be re-used many times, too. For even more alternatives and resources, go to www.reusablebags.com. **Avoid over packaged snacks and juices** that generate lots of garbage. **Send a real spoon** for yogurt, applesauce, soup, etc., rather than a plastic one. **Instead of making this just one more moral obligation to feel guilty about, let's have the kids join us in making this a fun, creative challenge to create less waste at lunchtime!**

SUB SANDWICH ORDERS SUPPORT 6th GRADE SAILING TRIP Don't forget to order a delicious Husky Deli Super Bowl Sunday Sub Sandwich! See the attached order form, or you could order by emailing 6th grade teacher Matt Secrest, at secrest@holyroaryws.org. Please specify type and quantity: combo, roast beef, turkey, or ham. Subs can be picked up after Masses on Sunday, February 3rd. Proceeds from the sale support the annual 6th grade sailing trip. Thanks for your support!

SEATTLE CENTER ACADEMY. Looking for a summer activity that is educational and fun without being expensive? Consider Seattle Center Academy. The program also includes both specialized and integrated opportunities for students with disabilities. Seattle Center Academy serves students with a broad variety of disabilities including autism, cerebral palsy, Down Syndrome, Asperger's Syndrome, hearing impairment and visual impairment. Over 80% of students with disabilities are fully integrated. Students with disabilities are supported by a professional staff and paired with mentors who provide friendship, support and one-on-one assistance. We provide classes in dance, music, theatre, media, technology, visual and literary arts. They create community, art, life-skills, and a new world of possibilities. It's more than just a summer program, it changes lives! 2008 Seattle Center Academy July 28 - August 8; Monday – Friday; 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM. Check out the video and samples of student work on our website

UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES:

- ∞ Prayer Service by KA/KB – Friday, January 25, 8:30am – School Hall
- ∞ Sunday, January 27: We Celebrate our Faith with our Parish Community
- ∞ Monday, January 28: We Honor our Students
- ∞ Tuesday, January 29: We are Happy to Serve Others
- ∞ Wednesday, January 30: We Appreciate our Parents, Grandparents, Pastor, and School Staff
- ∞ Wednesday, January 30: Kindergarten Fair at SSCC – Holy Rosary Participating
- ∞ Thursday, January 31: We Take Pride in our Academics
- ∞ Friday, February 1: We Have Fun Building School Spirit
- ∞ Monday, February 4, 7:00pm – Eighth Grade Parent Meeting on Graduation Event – School Hall
- ∞ Tuesday, February 5, 6:00pm – Fifth Grade Parent Meeting on the Environmental Education Camp Program – Library
- ∞ Wednesday, February 6, Ash Wednesday Mass at 8:45am – Perfect Uniforms
- ∞ Wednesday, February 6, 5:30pm – Budget Committee Meeting – Staff Room
- ∞ Thursday, February 7, 6:00pm – School Commission Meeting – Staff Room