



SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Rosary School Family Communication Newsletter

2008

September 4,

“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act, but a habit.”

--Aristotle

Welcome Back to School! We are off to an excellent start, but after all, Holy Rosary is in the habit of excellence...and enthusiasm. You couldn't help catch the excitement from the students and the staff on Tuesday, as well as from the parents at both the opening day coffee and the “Welcome to HR Kindergarten and New Family Barbeque” last Wednesday. Thank you to Sara Velling and Martha Nogales for providing the hospitality for parents on the first day of school. Thank you to Sarah Mackay, Carrie Bendzak, Nikki Page, and their crew of first grade Moms and Dads for organizing and hosting the first HR back to school barbeque for new families. Thank you to Brian and Marti McGaughey who did a fantastic job cooking up tasty hamburgers and hot dogs on their giant BBQ. Also thank you to members of the 8th grade classes who took care of the kindergarteners while their parents learned more about Holy Rosary and ways to stay connected. Our theme this year is “Better Together” and I believe that is so fitting here at Holy Rosary. I am immensely grateful for the spirit of support and togetherness that exists here at every level. In this vein, I look forward to another exciting year of growth and new learning.

What can we do to help our children make a smooth transition from the more carefree days of summer to the more structured life of school? Here are three tips for helping your children establish routines that will help them have a successful year and develop the habit of excellence: 1.) **Set a regular bedtime** – stick to it. Children need a good night's sleep to function well in school. 2.) **Have a regular homework routine** including a regular, distraction free workspace. Be available to answer questions, but remember it is your children's homework, not yours! 3.) **Practice “backpack basics”**: first, ask your child to empty his or her backpack each day after school. This way you will receive any notes intended for you and it will give you an opportunity to chat with your child about the school day. You will know if your child is bringing books and other materials home necessary to complete homework assignments; and second, have your child pack their backpack the night before—it will greatly ease the morning routine for everyone. Simple routines such as these teach children responsibility and organization – and make life better for the entire family.

The Family Communication Envelope will go home with the oldest member of your family each Thursday in September and on the first and third Thursdays every month thereafter. No hard copies of this newsletter will go into the envelope unless you notify the school office that you need one. On Thursday mornings, you will receive an email notification that the newsletter is on the website. In today's envelope, look for the September calendar and a lot of information about

WestFest. Please note that the **Open House, Back to School for Parents, is next Thursday, Sept. 11, beginning at 6:30pm in Lanigan Gym.** This evening is for parents only. Your attendance is strongly encouraged, as this is the BEST chance for you to meet your children's teachers and to learn more about the year's learning goals and classroom expectations. Please make every effort to arrive on time! Also note that next **Friday, Sept. 12, is "Flashback to Summer Day", thanks to the principal and vice principal for the day, Bella and Ali Campagnaro!** Students may enjoy wearing summer clothes with flip flops. No swimming suits or immodest clothing permitted. One other important date I'd like to point out is our opening School Mass, which will be on Wednesday, Sept. 24, at 8:45am. We invite all of our parents to join us as we pray together for God's blessings on us for a new school year. Students need to be in perfect uniform for Mass. During the warmer weather, students do not need to wear their sweaters or sweatshirts on perfect uniform days. Thanks for supporting the uniform policy. Please remember that boys' hair must be off the collar and both boys' and girls' hair can't be in their eyes. Uniform shorts must be purchased at the Uniform Store. Shorts may be worn all year. Shirts must be long enough to be tucked in and girls' skirts, skorts, and jumpers may not be any shorter than 3 inches above the top of the kneecap. On the days that your children have PE, they **MUST** have tennis shoes in order to participate in PE class. Classroom teachers will post the days their class has PE on their webpage. Students will receive uniform infractions when they do not follow the uniform policy. Four infractions result in a detention. Please remember that our teachers prefer to focus on their teaching, not on making sure students are dressed properly! We so appreciate you helping us enforce the Uniform Policy so that is fair for everyone – thank you!

Remember the WestFest Pancake Breakfast is this Sunday, Sept. 7, after the 8:00am and 9:30am Masses in the school hall. Hope to see you there!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW FAMILIES: We extend a special welcome to all of our new families and students – in grades 1-8: **Dan and Kristen Paskett, Elena (1B) and Cameron (3A); Michael and Christine Grienauer, Jackson (1A); Emily Sherwood and Travis Watson, Nylah (2B) and Josiah (5A); Theresa and Jason Westlund, Stephanie (2A); Bob and Currie Baker, Claire (2B); Jill and Gavin Stephenson, Andrew (4B); William and Elizabeth Clifton, Haydon (5A); Mike and Lisa Ritscher, Theresa (6A); Paul and Maggie Baccetti, Ryan(6A) and Donna (7B); Anita laquinta. Austin Giftopoulos (7B); John Berti and Susan Hockberger, Anna Berti (7A); Brian and Lydia Oliger, McKenzie (8A); Matthew Clark and Katherine Robins, Sam Robins-Clark (8B);** -- in kindergarten: **Melisa and Christopher Ardales, Nathaniel (KA) Betty and Donn Bennett, Michael (KB); Kristin and Gregory Bentler, Annie (KA); Bryce and Lynn Caldwell, Maddie (KA), Brian and Holly Christenson, Madeline(KA); Cynthia and Sean Coleman, Kate(KA); Tony Rosario and Mark Contratto, Diego (KB); Mary Coucoules, Yury (KA); Stan and Lisa Debiec, Max (KA); Robert and Jocelyn Flenbaugh, Jaden (KB); Jeffrey Alferts and Catherine Friis, Ella (KB); Jon and Sarah Hartog, James (KA); Bradley and Tracy Honner, Morgan (KA); Anders and Martha Johnson, Adam (KB); Patrick and Kamila Kennedy, Luca (KB); Tom and Lisa Lee, Maxwell (KA); George and Maria Vilma Merca, Giorvi (KB); Kyle and Diane Morrison, Alexis (KB); Anthony and Gabriella, Isabella (KA), Steven and Margo Northey, Emma (KA); Ben and Wenday Palmer, Gabriel (KA); Chris and Amanda Parkhurst, Lucy (KB); Jonathan and Erin Peigari, Laurel (KA); Ralph Pooler and Michelle Neal, Enya (KB); Erich and Allyson Schreck, Alexander (KA); La and Keogh Singkeo, Sarah (KA); Conrad and MaryPat Smucker, Patrick (KB); Larry and Deyette Swegle, Natalia (KB); Traci Thirdgill, Tory (KB); Negash Tsegay and Tselat Guebremichael, Nimrod (KB); Todd and**

Jodie Underwood, Emma (KA); Josh and Wendy Warborg, Max (KB); Tyrone and Molly Ward, Aiden (KA); Greg and Cindy Wingo, Natalie (KA). And a special welcome to students who join their siblings – in grades 1-8: Christina Guppy (4A); Angela Nguyen (6A); Corey Wukelic (6B); Elliott Butterworth (7B) and in kindergarten: Matthew Acarregui (KA); Brandon Blayney (KA); Evangeline Byers (KB); Bianca Carufel (KB); Grace Connell (KB); Meg Cunningham (KA); Chase Eldredge (KA); Ike Hampton (KB); Ryan Klem (KA); Rose Lindblom (KB); Quinn Lorentz (KA); Connor Merz (KB); Marne Orsen (KB); Samuel Pare (KA); Erika Tweedy (KB); Sierra Waltier (KA); Delaney White (KB); Aimee Wickler (KA).

TUITION BOX. There is a new drop box right outside of Ms. Brown's office for tuition checks. Please deposit your tuition check and attached coupon in the tuition box each month. If you are paying with cash please go to the school office and they will give you a receipt. Thank you.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE. Please return the completed Summer Reading Challenge calendars to Mrs. Harris. If you misplaced the calendar during the summer and you know that your child read at least for 15 minutes each day, there is hope. Send a signed note verifying your child's participation in place of the calendar. Thank you.

WESTFEST 2008. Save the Dates! Friday, September 19 from 6 -10 pm Saturday, September 20 from 10am – 10pm! WestFest 2008 is gearing up to be our best ever! We are ready to take volunteers on our website so if you are looking for a volunteer opportunity, go to the WestFest website and select from lots of great options. You can reach the volunteer website by clicking here. Reminder to WestFest chair members... meetings are scheduled for: September 4 at 6:30 - school hall; September 9 at 6:30 - convent dining room; September 16 at 6:30 - convent dining room All food booth chairs please plan to attend! We will be reviewing our food orders. WestFest t-shirt order forms are in the FCE today. This will be your only chance to order a t-shirt so don't miss out! Friday, September 19 will be "Wear your WestFest t-shirt to school" day! Watch the Parish bulletin for additional information and see the goldenrod flyer in today's FCE. Other important dates to remember: Pancake Breakfast will be after the 8:00am and 9:30am Mass on Sunday, September 7. Italian Dinner will be on Saturday, September 13.

PLAY GOLF AND HELP THE MALLAHAN ENDOWMENT. Saturday September 27th The Holy Rosary Fall Classic is a guaranteed good time, and it is coming soon to the West Seattle Golf Club. We are filling up the field quickly, so get your group together today. All sizes of groups are welcome, and singles too. We will once again have a separate competition for "mixed" groups with one or more ladies, so sign up today.

MAGAZINE DRIVE KICKS OFF! Don't miss the opening assembly for our school year, **Better Together!** Join us in the gym at 11:15 for this fun annual event. Everyone should have received a magazine packet with last year's orders. Is everyone excited to reach that goal of \$150,000 in sales! *The Gorilla is!* Here are some highlights to note for this year's drive. *We have a new publisher.* Order online by going to www.aphearst.com and enter school code **wc2897**. No need to register your student, just type in the student name and grade. No need to submit any paperwork for online sales. We have it counted! **Tuesday Turn in Days** start **next Tuesday** and continue through September 30. **Discount coupons** should be attached to the order form. **Cash Donations** are accepted and used to purchase magazines for various organizations. Your student gets credit for the sale! **Extra Catalogs** and **Turn In Envelopes** are available in the office. **Parent Volunteers** are needed to process orders on Tuesdays at 8:30 in the convent.

Bring a calculator or 10-key if you have one. Please visit the school website for all Magazine Drive details.

5th GRADE STUDENTS AND PARENTS. Each week we are asking a different grade to assist in after mass catalog distribution. This weekend is 5th Grade! For whatever mass you attend please ask your student to quietly dismiss themselves after communion and meet outside the front entrance to help out. We are just asking to be available to distribute catalogs and answer questions. We would like to have a low key presence so really no hard selling. Thank you for your support on this! Next week 7th graders.

CROSS COUNTRY SEASON IS HERE! Our first practice is Tuesday, September 9th and will continue every Tuesday and Thursday through October 16th. We'll meet at the Northern most entrance into Lincoln Park at 4:00 and walk as a team into the picnic area to start. Practice will end promptly at 5:00pm. We want to grow the team this year and are in need of parent volunteers, it's a great way to get some exercise and spend time with your kids. Please contact Heather Slee if you can help or have any questions. Go Gators! sleeh@katewwdb.com or 206-938-5646

A RESPECTFUL REQUEST FOR PARENTS AND PARISHIONERS OF HOLY ROSARY FROM A CONCERNED NEIGHBOR. I so enjoy having the vibrant, loving energy of Holy Rosary Parish as my neighbor. As a neighbor I would appreciate it if you could refrain from idling your cars while waiting for your children, friends and loved ones. This will refresh the air and keep it clean for us all. Thank you!

CUB SCOUTS PACK 793 invites all Holy Rosary School boys in 1st through 5th grade to attend our Pack Kickoff Meeting at Lincoln Park Shelter #1 at 6:30pm on Friday, September 12th. This is the best time of year to join the Cub Scouts and we'll have games, snacks, hot cocoa, and a hot fire going, so come see what the Cub Scouts program is all about and join in the fun! Please contact David Wickler at 935-6661 for more information or visit the Pack Website at www.pack793ws.org.

PLEASE HELP HR EARN MONEY WHILE SUPPORTING LOCAL GROCERY STORES! eScrip is a "passive" fundraising vehicle available to schools and youth organizations. The program is very simple to use and requires participants to register existing grocery loyalty (Safeway), debit and credit cards. We currently encourage families to register their Safeway cards. You can also register the Safeway card numbers of other family members, friends and neighbors. Safeway then makes contributions to HR based on the purchases you make. In 2006 our scrip program raised \$8000.00 and ~ \$10,000 for 2007...just by purchasing groceries at Safeway. To register; visit www.escrip.com, or download a form and return it to school via the FCE, or call Sandy Rottler at 935-6220. Thanks for supporting Holy Rosary!

RECEIPT 1% BACK PROGRAM. Welcome Back Everyone hope you all had a fun filled summer. Just a quick reminder that it is time to start turning in those Metropolitan Market and Thriftway receipts. The first back to school collection day is September 10th. So start sending in those receipts daily to the school office. Please note that any receipt for Thriftway dated before July 28th, 2008 is no longer accepted, and any receipt for Metropolitan Market dated before March 10th, 2008 is no longer accepted either. We also can not accept receipts for any other Metropolitan Market at this time, but as the other Metropolitan locations get involved we will be able to accept these locations as well. Keep up the greats support and if you miss turn in to the

office during the week, the collection basket for receipts is still located in the Narthex of the Church. Any questions please call Melody Sarkies 206-935-0793.

CONES FOR KIDS 2008 For Kids 2008. Join the EJ Guild at the Alki Bathhouse this Sunday, December 7th from 12 to 4 PM. We'll be scooping up West Seattle's finest Husky Deli Ice Cream to raise money for the Child Life Program at Children's Hospital. Cones are \$3 and sundaes \$5. Child Life offers care and education to the patients and their families that visit the hospital. There will be games for the kids, entertainment, and other goodies.

PIANO LESSONS AVAILABLE. One of Holy Rosary's newest parishioners is piano teacher Ellen Robinson (B.A. Manhattan School of Music/ Columbia University; M.A. Yale University). She and her husband Benjamin recently moved to West Seattle from Philadelphia where Ellen taught piano and music theory privately and at the Settlement Music School. She also taught classroom music at parochial schools, and music history at two local universities. Ellen is currently seeking students of all levels, ages 5+ (adults also welcome). Please stop by the school office for more information, or contact her directly at 206.762.7515 and ellenlaporte@aya.yale.edu.

DONALD HASERT. passed away suddenly on August 22nd at the age of 56. He lived most of his life in West Seattle. He is survived by his beloved son Andrew, who graduated from Holy Rosary School in 2007 and his former wife Sally. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him. A celebration of Don's life will be held on Saturday, September 6th, 10:30am – 1pm at Camp Long in West Seattle 5200 35th Ave. SW. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to your favorite charity. Our prayers are with Drew and Sally at this difficult time.

INCLUDED IN THIS FCE:

- 🕒 September Calendar (blue)
- 🕒 Westfest Pancake Breakfast flyer
- 🕒 Westfest Informational Flyer (yellow)
- 🕒 Westfest T shirt Order Form (goldenrod)
- 🕒 Italian Dinner Flyer (red)
- 🕒 October Lunch Menu and Order Form
- 🕒 Barnes & Noble Letter (blue or green)

UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES:

- 🕒 Band Recruiting Concert for Gr. 5 – Thursday, Sept. 5th, 10:45 – School Hall
- 🕒 School Commission Meeting – Thursday, Sept. 5th, 6pm – Staff Room
- 🕒 “Better Together” Magazine Sale Assembly, Friday, Sept. 5th, 11am – Lanigan
- 🕒 Noon Dismissal – Friday Sept. 5th
- 🕒 Pancake Breakfast after the 8am and 9am Masses, Sunday, September 7th – School Hall
- 🕒 Youth and Family Mass, Saturday, September 7th – Holy Rosary Church
- 🕒 First Day of Band Gr. 6-8 10; Gr. 5 10:45am, Monday, Sept. 8th – School Hall
- 🕒 First Magazine Turn In Day, Tuesday, Sept. 9th
- 🕒 Westfest Meeting, Tuesday, Sept. 9th, 6:30pm - Convent Dining Room
- 🕒 OPEN HOUSE, Thursday, Sept. 11th, 6:30pm – Begins in Lanigan
- 🕒 Flashback to Summer Day -