



SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Rosary School Family Communication Newsletter

November 5, 2009

Once you have kids, you'll understand that life changes. You'll find that your happiness is defined by your least happy child. You'll understand then: Every player we have, someone--maybe a parent, a grandparent, someone--poured their life and soul into that young person. They are handing their child off to us. They are giving us their treasure, and it's our job to make sure we give them back that young person intact and ready to face the world.
(Joe Paterno, Penn State football coach)

As we near the completion date for the exciting renovation work that has been done on the parish hall/convent building, we would like to take this opportunity to review and clarify some of our traffic safety procedures (now that construction traffic is becoming less of an issue). It may or may not come as a surprise to many of you that **concerns voiced regarding compliance with pick-up/drop-off procedures have been among our most identified and time consuming issues since the start of the school year.**

While our preference would be to utilize this time to focus entirely on academics and other core responsibilities, we understand and concur with the concerns that are being expressed. **Simply put, there is no greater responsibility for any of us in the Holy Rosary community than to recognize** (as Coach Paterno states in the quote above) **that people's children—their treasures—are being handed off to us each day and that “it's our job to give them back intact and ready to face the world.”**

When individuals fail to take seriously the stated procedures that guide this twice-daily process, they place students, staff, and parents at risk of serious injury, or worse. At best, the logistics of moving hundreds of cars and people in a relatively short time through two narrow spaces on busy city streets is a challenge; it requires that everyone involved be as alert, cautious, and respectful as possible in order to continue what has been a remarkable safety record to date.

For those involved in dropping off/picking up children at Holy Rosary, please read and always follow these rules:

- 1. Drivers should never leave their vehicles while in the drop-off/pick-up zones. Please pull forward as far as possible and ensure that all children and items to be unloaded from cars are ready to exit quickly, as a courtesy to others.**
- 2. Drop-off/pick-up should always take place at the curb—never in the middle of the street. Please remember to signal and use extreme caution when pulling into/away from curb.**
- 3. If you park to drop off or meet your children, please make certain that they cross the street with the crossing guards.**

4. Always drive carefully and slowly through heavy traffic areas; please avoid all distractions such as CELL PHONES and do not be in a hurry (even when you're late for an important meeting at work, safely negotiating this task may be the most important thing you do all day!).
5. Again, if at all feasible, please either walk your children to school or consider setting up or joining other families in carpooling.

With your assistance, we hope to achieve 100% compliance and safety, and be allowed to focus our entire efforts on continuing to provide an outstanding learning and faith environment for the young people at Holy Rosary School.

INDIVIDUAL PICTURE RETAKES will take place Monday, November 9. If you want your child to have their individual picture retaken please have them bring their original package with them. If your child did not have their picture taken, please stop by the school office and pick up a form to complete prior to Monday's retakes.

NOTE FROM PARENTS CLUB. Don't forget next Tuesday November 10th is the Parents Club Meeting at 6:30pm in the School Hall. We will have a presentation on our Mission program to Uganda. We will also have an opportunity to vote on new outdoor play equipment we have earned through our box top program, as well as take a look at different options for uniform sweatshirts. Please come and join us! Childcare is available.

HOLY ROSARY IS BEGINNING THE SCHOOL ACCREDITATION PROCESS. Holy Rosary School is beginning the School Accreditation Process: a periodic cycle of assessment and planning. This Self Study process takes approximately eighteen months, and begins with a Stakeholders' Meeting, designed to review and clarify our mission, philosophy, and Student Learning Expectations, (SLE's). The term Stakeholders refers to students, parents, alumni, school and parish staff and representatives from various groups. This Stakeholders' Meeting will be held Monday, November 16th at 6:30 pm in the School Hall. If you would like to participate as an "at large" stakeholder, there is limited space available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please RSVP to selfstudy@holyrosws.org if you would like to join us as we begin to assess our existing student programs and make plans for future improvement of student learning.

ALL SCHOOL SERVICE. At a recent prayer service students learned about family homelessness and how our parish helps through the ministry Family Promise. Take a moment to read the FCE insert about this ministry and thoughts shared by parishioner and Family Promise board member Alice Cuchinotto at a recent mass. Learn how you can become involved either through volunteering your time or financial support. Many of our junior high students volunteer service hours to this organization.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PANTRY. The 3rd grade class at Holy Rosary School together with St. Vincent de Paul invite everyone to help fill our pantry! Please bring in nonperishable food items to the school hall or to Mass during the month of November.

PARENTS IN TOUCH HIGHLIGHTS 1ST GRADERS. Parents in Touch, Holy Rosary's weekly prayer group, will be focusing their prayer intentions on the 1st graders during the month of November. Parents of 1st graders (and all other grades!) are invited to join us on Monday

mornings after drop off (8:30 am) in the Reservation Chapel in the church. Please contact Ginny Kane or Jillian Kane for questions.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY. THANK YOU to **Mrs. Stacey Guzek** and **Kui Hammington** for volunteering to distribute milk!

GREEN TIP. Join the Waste Free Lunch movement! Join the many Holy Rosary students who are working to make their lunches waste free; here's how: Use a reusable lunch box instead of paper bags. Bring a cloth napkin and silverware from home instead of single use paper or plastic. Use a thermos or reusable water bottle instead of plastic throw-aways. Finally, eliminate plastic baggies by using Tupperware-type or other reusable containers. Many plastic baggies are finding their way into Holy Rosary's food waste bins, making extra and just plain yucky work for our custodial staff. If you need to use disposable bags, please give wax paper bags a try; they are compostable and biodegrade in about 9 days. Our earth, and our custodial staff, will thank you!

A GRAND MUSICAL APPRECIATION Goes to the **Joseph and Ligia Wiegand Family Foundation** who recently approved a grant in the amount of **\$3,500** for the Holy Rosary School Music Program! We are SO excited to use money to fund items for the new Music Classroom: piano keyboards, electronic tuners for our ukuleles and guitars, 3 -5 new guitars & cases, music theory posters, an Elmo document camera and a projector (to be used with the Smart Board technology), music theory software for laptops and perhaps some risers, too! And a word of gratitude to Virginia McIntyre for orchestrating the process for us! This is a very generous donation that will benefit our students for many, many years to come. We are so very grateful for this kind donation & and extremely blessed to have all these nice resources that will support our Music Program. Thank you~~~ most sincerely, Ms. Janet Mudge, Music Specialist

POINSETTIA SALE It's time to get ready for Christmas! Poinsettias are always a lovely way to decorate for Christmas, and to give as gifts. Please see the flyer in the FCE to order your poinsettias. If you wish to order poinsettias for your office or business, please download the business order form from the Holy Rosary web link. Would you like to help decorate the church this year with poinsettias? Add a note to your order form indicating which poinsettias you are buying for the church and we will insure those plants are a part of our church decorations. We are also looking for volunteers to help unload, hand out and deliver poinsettias. The dates to help are Nov. 29, Nov. 30, Dec. 6th and 7th. Please contact Bethany Larsen (pbandjonw@msn.com) or Melissa Ardales (mardales@yahoo.com) to volunteer.

JOHN HOPKINS TALENT SEARCH The registration deadline for the 2009-10 CTY Talent Search sponsored by Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth is Nov. 20th. The purpose of the Talent Search is to identify, assess and recognize the academic abilities of highly able students. To qualify, a student must score in the 95th percentile or higher on a reasoning section of a nationally-normed test, such as ITBS. Qualified students are offered the opportunity to register for the SCAT test (grades 2-6) or for the SAT or ACT (grades 7-8). A variety of services and opportunities are offered to students after they test. If you are interested in pursuing this opportunity for your child, more information can be found by visiting the website: www.cty.jhu.edu You may determine your child's eligibility based upon last year's ITBS scores. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either Mrs. McFaul or Dr. Peters. Application forms may be obtained in the school office or on-line at the CTY website. There is a cost of \$37 payable to CTY/JHU to register for the optional testing.

CROSS-COUNTRY WRAP UP The running Gators placed 6th overall in the championship cross-country meet. We finished only 10 points behind the 5th place team and 16 point behind the 4th place team. I'm looking forward to a larger team next year and a top 3 finish! Congratulations to all of the team members who gave it their all at the championships.

BISHOP BLANCHET HIGH SCHOOL open house is Thursday, Nov. 19 from 5:30-8pm. It will be free flowing format. All interested families are invited to attend and tour the school. This is a great opportunity to interact with teachers and students, learn more about the curriculum and co-curricular programs, and see all the great NEW facilities. Bishop Blanchet is located at 8200 Wallingford Ave. N. For more information call (206) 527-7711 or visit www.bishopblanchet.org.

S.U. SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY and St. James Cathedral are co-sponsoring an event on Health Care Reform. The intent is to educate participants about the moral issues and implications to this important social justice issue so that they can engage the political process in a thoughtful and faith-based way. It should be a great evening. Please refer to the attached flyer, "THE MORALITY OF HEALTH CARE REFORM, The Debate's Missing Link " for more information.

ST. BRENDAN PARISH SCHOOL is pleased to announce its 30th Annual Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday and Sunday, November 7th and 8th. Featuring over 100 returning and new craft vendors, a holiday gift raffle, kids craft room, refreshments, baked goods and homemade soups. Free admission. St. Brendan's is located at 10049 NE 195th Bothell, WA 98011.

ARCHBISHOP MURPHY HIGH SCHOOL is hosting its tenth annual Booster Club Spaghetti Dinner, Sunday November 15 from 4:00 to 7:00pm in Grace Hall on campus. All proceeds benefit the AMHS Athletic Booster Club. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 10. Please visit our website for more details: www.am-hs.org.

BISHOP BLANCHET performing Arts Department announces upcoming performances of "The Nerd", a laugh out loud play by Larry Sue. Performances are scheduled for Nov. 13 and 14 at 7pm and Nov. 15 at 2pm. Tickets are available in the activities office at BBHS starting Nov. 2nd. For more information call (206) 527-7746.

Included in this FCE

- Study Hall Enrollment Form (orchid)
- 8th Grade Pizza Lunch Sign Up Form
- Hot Lunch Menu and Order Form for Nov. 30 – Dec. 18
- Poinsettia Order Form
- Family Promise All School Service Project Flyer
- The BIG GIVE Service Project Announcement
- The Morality of Health Care Reform, The Debate's Missing Link (download only)
- Campfire USA Flyer

UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES:

- ✚ All Saints Day Mass, Thursday, October 29, 8:45am – Holy Rosary Church
- ✚ SPIRIT DAY, Wear orange and black, Friday, October 30

-  Auction Committee Meeting, Monday, November 2, 6:30pm – Staff Room
-  School Commission Meeting, Thursday, November 5, 6pm – Staff Room
-  Prayer Service by 5B, Friday, November 6, 8:35am – School Hall
-  Youth Mass, Saturday, November 7, 5pm – Holy Rosary Church
-  City Light Climate Change Assembly, Monday, November 9, 8:30am – School Hall
-  Individual Picture Retakes, Monday November 9 – School Hall
-  Development Committee Meeting, Monday November 9, 6pm – Staff Room
-  Parents' Club Meeting, Tuesday, November 10, 6:30pm – School Hall
-  NO SCHOOL, VETERANS DAY, Wednesday, November 11th
-  Prayer Service by 2A, Friday, November 13, 8:35am – School Hall
-  Reconciliation Service for Gr. 3-5, Monday, November 16, 10am – HR Church
-  Stakeholders Meeting, Monday, November 16, 6pm – School Hall
-  4A Field Trip to Pike Place Market, Tuesday, November 17
-  Reconciliation Service for Gr. 6-8, Tuesday, November 17, 10am –HR Church
-  Endowment Committee Meeting, Tuesday, November 17, 5:30pm – Staff Room
-  Grants Committee Meeting, Wednesday, November 18, 6pm – Staff Room
-  4B Field Trip to Pike Place Market, Thursday, November 19
-  Prayer Service by 6A, Friday, November 20, 8:35am – School Hall
-  Thanksgiving School Prayer Service, Wednesday, November 25, 8:45am – HR Church
-  NOON DISMISSAL, Wednesday, November 25 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY BEGINS
-  THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY, Thursday, November 26-Friday, November 27, NO SCHOOL
-  Christmas Tree Lot Opens, Saturday, November 28, 12 noon – Admiral Safeway