



SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Rosary School Family Communication Newsletter

August 19, 2011

Dear Holy Rosary School Families,

As we set forth in the 98th year of this school, I wanted to share some of my reflections and my vision for the school year. I realize that many changes have come about in a school that is not used to so many changes and this includes the new teachers, the new hot lunch program, the faculty re-assignments as well as the new families joining the school community. Least I forget; it also includes the change in this office, i.e. the new principal!

Over the summer months we said goodbye to some wonderful members of our school community. Linda Romo relocated to South Carolina, Becky Smith is now pursuing a new career in technology, Lucinda Cicero retired and Jennifer MacDonald went into hospital chaplaincy work.

Change is never easy and is harder for some more than others. I can reassure you that all will be fine but I know that in addition, time and experience are needed to ease the transition/change challenge. Not to take anything away from those that left, but the new teachers are wonderful and were chosen with a great deal of study and care.

Dr. Peters is a fine man who I can see accomplished a great deal in his two years here. It is also evident that though she is now gone these past two years, Kris Brown was a wonderful principal for many years here. Her lasting legacy is the quality teachers she hired under her tenure. This school is blessed with an outstanding faculty and she deserves credit for this.

As you probably know, I have served as a Catholic School principal for many years now. I love my work and I especially appreciate being in a Catholic environment and being able to directly witness my faith. It is not always easy, in fact it is downright difficult at times but the rewards are many and it is what I feel called to do. I feel called to serve this school and will do so with all my heart and with a full commitment. I look forward to getting to know the great variety of groups and individuals that have helped make this a great school.

Sincerely,

Michael Cantu,
Principal

And here are the new teachers describing themselves in their own words:

Hi! My name is Meghan Burke and I am going to be teaching 4th grade at Holy Rosary this year. I am originally from Minden, Nevada and attended the University of Nevada, Reno where I received a Bachelor's of Art in Art History with a minor in Studio Art. While pursuing my undergraduate degree I tutored elementary students in reading and math and realized that my true passion is teaching. I then decided to continue my education and get my Master's of Education in Elementary Education from the University of Nevada, Reno that I completed in 2010. I moved to West Seattle in the beginning of August and cannot wait to get to know all of the wonderful students and families at Holy Rosary.

Hello! My name is Autumn Helling and I am excited to be teaching 3rd grade at Holy Rosary this year. I grew up in Wenatchee, Washington and graduated from the University of Washington in 2006 with a BA in Anthropology and Psychology. I received my Masters of Arts in Teaching at Seattle Pacific University and student taught in a 4th grade classroom at Lafayette Elementary in West Seattle. I currently live in Ballard but have gotten to know the West Seattle community this past year while substitute teaching at Holy Rosary and other elementary schools in the area. I am thankful and excited to be part of the staff at Holy Rosary and am looking forward to building strong partnerships with students and families!

My name is Stephanie Kesterson and I am so excited to begin teaching 6th grade this year at Holy Rosary. I grew up in Lake Chelan and went on to attend college at Northern Arizona University where I graduated in 2004 with a Bachelors of Science degree in Elementary Education, and a Masters of Education degree in 2008.

My husband, Justin, and I recently got married last year and enjoy spending time with family and cheering on our favorite sports teams at various events. I enjoy running, the beach and reading. I am excited to share my love for teaching and energetic lifestyle with the community at Holy Rosary.

Communication From the School: Again this year we will be communicating with families Entirely through our web site www.holyrosaryws.org. Every Thursday, a newsletter from the school will be posted on our web site and will be the primary means of communication from the school to the family. We strongly encourage you to **Read** these communications. Forms will be available for download on the web site.

Class Assignments: Letters to students from their classroom teachers are enclosed. Class lists will be posted on the school webpage and on the school doors on Friday, August 19. There will be no changes to the classroom assignments.

Online Payments: New this year, in order to provide more security for your bank account information, we have set up an online payment site for you so that you may directly input your own bank information. Once you have created a profile, you will be able to make school payments online, i.e., milk, yearbook, pizza lunch, etc. So many school families have asked for this option - we are pleased to accommodate you! When you go online the first time, you will be asked to

create a profile, select your tuition payment option, enter your Church ID# and then provide your bank account information. If you do not know your Church ID#, please call Thea DeFrancesco. If you have any questions, concerns or you need assistance, please let us know. Thank you.

Classroom Supply Lists are available on the school website, under “School Forms and Other Downloads” on the right hand side of the page. Please make sure your child has the necessary items on the first day of school.

Comfort Kit guidelines are also available on the school website under “School Forms and Other Downloads”.

The Kindergarten Tea will be held on Thursday, September 1st at 10am in The School Hall. Please call the school office if you have not received an invitation.

Back to School Coffee for all parents will be hosted by Parents Club on Tuesday, September 6th, the first day of school. Please stop by the school hall starting at 8:15 for coffee and conversation.

First Week of School Schedule: The first day of school is Tuesday, Sept. 6. Dismissal is at noon for grades 1-8 and at 10:00 am for Kindergarten. On Wednesday, Sept. 7 school dismisses at 2:15 pm for grades 1-8 and noon for kindergarten. On Thursday, Sept. 8 Grades 1-8 will dismiss at 3:00 pm and Kindergarten will dismiss at noon. Friday, Sept. 9 is a noon dismissal for everyone.

Important School Forms: Please complete and return the enclosed forms by the first day of school: 1] Holy Rosary School Emergency Closure Directions (one per child); 2] Field Trip Driver Information Sheet; 3] Milk Order Form.

Back To School Night for Parents is scheduled for Thursday, **September 22nd**. We will begin at 6:00 pm for food and fellowship. This is a change from the original date printed on the school calendar. Please mark the new date on your calendar. The evening provides the best opportunity for you to meet your children’s teachers and find out about classroom goals and learning expectations.

Professional Development For Staff: School dismisses at 2:15 p.m. **every** Wednesday for staff meetings and professional development.

Uniform Policy: Students should be in the correct uniform on the first day of school. A copy of the policy and information about purchasing school uniforms can be found on the school website under “Forms and other Downloads” and then click on “Purchasing School Uniforms”. Your full support of this policy helps the staff maximize the educational environment. Thank you for your cooperation.

Used Uniforms

The used uniform room will be open Tuesday, August 23rd from 10am to 11am and Thursday, August 25th from 3pm to 4pm. Come by and stock up for the new school year.

GATOR GEAR INFORMATION

On Fridays at Holy Rosary, the kids can wear a navy blue or red Gator Gear "hoodie" Sweatshirt. Also, if you'd like, you can order Gator Gear sweatpants in grey or navy. However, only the sweatshirts can be worn to school as part of the uniform on Fridays.

To order, just go to the school website, click on "School forms & other downloads." At the very end of all the links, there is a site that says "CYO FORMS." You'll see the Gator Gear order form. Click on it, fill it out and turn it into the school office. We'll process your order as soon as we can, then we'll give the orders to the school office. The 7th/8th grade Leadership elective kids give the "Gator Gear" to your oldest child's classroom teacher. Your child is responsible to bring it home.

Kevin & I have been Holy Rosary Parishioners since 1991, & all 4 of our kids have graduated from Holy Rosary. It's our 16th year at the school!

We are dedicated to serving you in any way we can. If you want the "Gator Gear" to be a gift, just let me know and I'll arrange to give the order to you.

Please email us if you have any questions. Plus, we'll process team t-shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants, hats, etc. for any of your CYO or other teams.

Our email is kmpadon@comcast.net, work email kevin@norwestgraphics.com
Home phone 206-938-4387, work phone 206-938-0141

Thank you,
Kellyann & Kevin Padon

Drop-off/Pick-up: We ask that you observe the following for everyone's safety and convenience. Please DO NOT EVER park along 42nd Avenue in front of the school during morning drop off between 8am – 8:30am. Drivers should never leave their vehicles when dropping off in front of the school or in the alley. Please use the crosswalks. If the traffic manager directs you please follow the instructions immediately. Also please remember that the HEART Auction parking spot is always reserved for the family who purchased it; please do not park in or block that space at any time.

Hot Lunch: Blue Plate Express will provide the hot Lunch program this year. Please see information and menu in this mailing.

BASE

Holy Rosary's Before & School Enrichment (BASE) Program provides for a safe and nurturing environment to students prior to and after regular school hours.

BASE Contact Information

Donna Jerge-Nass, BASE Director

Phone: (206) 933-8081

Email the BASE Director at www.base@holyrosary.org

BASE Forms & Calendars

All BASE forms are available for download in the Forms and Downloads page.

Parent Service Opportunity

We have an excellent opportunity for someone with the skill-set to maintain our BASE schedule calendar throughout the year. This person will assist Donna our BASE director in ensuring that this is posted in a timely and accurate manner each month. Training will be provided but familiarity with Excel is required. Please contact the school office if interested.

Safe Environment: Once again, all volunteers and employees must complete the Archdiocese Safe Environment training. Listed below are two upcoming training sessions

Holy Rosary – School Hall

Tuesday, September 13 @ 6pm

Or

Our Lady of Guadalupe – Parish Hall

Saturday, September 17 @ 9am

Please register for class at:

<http://seattle.setanet.org/>

Background Checks: All volunteers must also have a background check completed within the last three years and on-file in the parish office.

If you should have any questions about Safe Environment training or background checks, please contact Melissa Tuthill, Rectory Office. 206-935-8353.

Thank you!

Immunizations: If you have a child entering kindergarten or sixth grade, please send in the correct immunization forms indicating they are current with their vaccinations. Washington State law requires that all schools keep accurate immunization records on all students. **Forms are Due the first day of school.**

Medication Policy: Washington State Law requires In order to dispense medication, including albuterol inhalers, EpiPens, etc to your child the office must have an oral medication/prescription permission form authorized by a Licensed Healthcare Provider, who has prescribed the medication and the parent/legal guardian.

The parent/guardian must also provide the medication, which is from a Licensed Healthcare Provider in its original labeled container from the pharmacy. The container must include the name of the student, medication, dosage information and enough medication to be administered at school. For non-prescription medications such as Aspirin, acetaminophen, and ibuprofen the school also needs an oral medication/prescription form signed by a health provider and parent.

No Medication will be given to a child without an oral medication/prescription form on file. Please Download the oral medication/prescription form from the Holy Rosary website under “Forms and Other Downloads”

WestFest Rides Wristband Sales: There are less than 2 weeks of school before WestFest this year. Plan now to buy your rides wristbands before the event for big savings! Pre-sale wristbands cost \$8 for Friday night, \$13 for all day Saturday or \$20 for both days. The day of the event prices jump to \$10 for Friday night, \$15 for Saturday or \$25 for both days. The last day for pre-sales will be Thursday, September 15 until 10:00 AM. Any orders received after that time will be processed for the full cost. Wristbands will also be on sale after Masses September 10 and 11.

Mandarin Chinese After-school Classes

Registration is now open for Mandarin Chinese language learning classes after-school at Holy Rosary.

K – 2nd: Wednesday 2:25-3:25pm

3rd - 5th: Wednesday 2:25-3:25pm

Sign up online at www.spongeschool.com/holyrosary.html

Please see link to handout flyer for more information. Xie Xie!

Parents in Touch

This is a long time tradition (14 years!) at Holy Rosary School. You are welcome and invited to pray with other parents for the intentions of our school and parish community beginning Friday, Sept. 23. We meet from 8:30am (after drop off) until around 9am in the Reservation Chapel (off the narthex in the church) to pray the rosary each Friday morning of the school year. It is a wonderful way to conclude the week, remembering those who need our prayers, as well as giving thanks for the wonderful community that is Holy Rosary School. Whether you are new to the school or someone who has always "meant to" join us, please do! We look forward to seeing you there! Any questions please email Jillian Kane. Thank you!

Holy Rosary Golf Tournament

School is about to begin which means that it's time to sign up for the 10th Annual Holy Rosary Golf Tournament on September 24th. We will have a great day of golf at the West Seattle Municipal Golf Course. The event will include a 4-person scramble, lunch and awards receptions following the golf. And remember all proceeds benefit the Father James Mallahan Endowment Fund. As most of you know, Father Mallahan passed away a few weeks ago so this is a very special year for our tournament. Please join us and help celebrate all the great work Father Mallahan has given our community. You can register now on-line by going to:

<http://golf.holyrosaryws.org/index.html> or <http://www.golfdigestplanner.com/18799-HolyRosaryGolf> See you on September 24, 2011.

Online CYO Sports player and coach registration is available on our Holy Rosary Parish website.
<http://www.holyrosaryseattle.org/>

Fall Soccer: We have a couple of team rosters that could use some additional support and participation in order to field complete teams. Our greatest needs for additional players are for the following teams: 2nd Grade Coed (3-4 players), 3rd Grade Boys (4-5 players), 3rd Grade Girls (2-3 players), 4th Grade Girls (2-3 players) and 5th Grade Boys (5-6 players.) If your child is also playing soccer on a non-CYO soccer team this Fall, they do have the option of playing both CYO and the other league. Open registration continues for Kindergarten until August 30th. If you have any questions regarding soccer, please contact Sean Coleman, Soccer Coordinator at hrscyosoccer@gmail.com

CYO Cross Country

Cross Country is open registration for all Holy Rosary grades - Kindergarten through 8th grade from now until September 23rd. Every participant scores one point for the team so we are looking for as many runners as possible.

Practices start on Tuesday, September 6th, and will be every Tuesday and Thursday at 4:00 at Lincoln Park ("middle" parking lot). Cross Country is FREE if you are also registered for soccer. Yes, you can do both! For those of you that like to plan in advance please mark your calendars for the preliminary meets on September 25th and October 2nd. The K-3 Championship will be on October 9th at 1:00. The 4-8th grade championships will be at 1:00 on October 16th. Please email Coach Heather Slee at sleeh@katewwdb.com if you have any questions about this great sport. We are also looking for some additional assistant coaches and a parent liaison for the team. Run Happy! Coach Heather