



SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Rosary School Family Communication Newsletter

October 6, 2011

Dear Families,

I would like to start by sharing the following passage:

“ In the first place in order to preserve the individuality of the children and to enable this individuality to express itself most variously, and thus to provide a richer life for the child, special attention is given to each pupil in order to make him capable of the largest measure of physical, mental, and moral growth. That is to say, the unit is the single pupil, not the class; work is adapted to each child according to his own actual needs and powers, not the “average” child of the grade or group”.

This sounds a lot like differentiation or a quote from All Kinds of Minds? Actually, it is from a very old book from my personal library collection written by Professor George Freeland at the University of Washington way back in 1919! In the chapter I took this from, the author is grappling with the same questions we are dealing with today. The balance between the whole classes need versus the individual student need in the classroom. In my opinion, this is something we will always struggle with (as they were doing in 1919) but some teachers do it better than others. It is a skill to be developed and I commend Holy Rosary for the steps that have been already taken. I would like to continue this effort, as it is the right thing to do.

I hope your year continues to go well. The upcoming conferences are a golden opportunity to enhance your child’s opportunity for optimal growth. I will also be available should you like to stop by to chat.

Cordially,
Michael Cantu
Principal

FROM: **ALL KINDS OF MINDS;**
TO: **ALL KINDS OF HEARTS.**

We are all familiar with the saying; he has a mind of his own or she has a mind of her own. Parents will make this observation about a little one who is already exhibiting an “I’ll do what I like” kind of independence and families sitting down to plan the funeral for Dad or Mom will say the same thing when trying to describe the mind of that aged parent.

Educators have introduced programs like “All kinds of Minds” to help find a good way assess their gifts and abilities of children and lead them in the best development of their gifts. It is a concerted effort to move beyond “one size fits all” and to help each child make the most of their abilities. This approach has not been the first and I am certain it will not be the last effort for educators to try and find their way into the minds of students and bring out the best in them: bring God’s wonderful design for their lives to fruition.

When God addressed human beings in Old and New Testament times he generally addressed the heart. The message was and is that it is through the heart that the God connection is going to be made: it is in the heart that the relationship with God is going to succeed or fail. God gave us a heart that is wired to receive love and give love and out of that, great things could happen between him and his people and in his people’s relationships with each other. Just as easily could also go bad. We all know how this can happen in our human interactions and we can see equally well how it can happen in the relationship with God.

How do we address these situations in our lives?

In our human relationships we can elect to talk to one another; we can seek outside help or we can let things drift and do nothing. We can chose to do the work it takes to repair and restore love that goes bad or in choosing to do nothing we are also saying something very important: this relationship is not important enough to me to try and fix it or it is gone too far to ever turn it around. We even look back on a marriage or family relationship and say it was never there in the first place. I thought it was a good relationship but now that I look back it really wasn’t good from the beginning. Now, do I want to see if I can really build it or do I even want to try?

The relationship with God is no different. Was it there from childhood? Was it as strong as I thought it was? Did I at any point take what I was given from parents, teachers or priests and open myself to the kind of relationship God

keeps inviting me to have with him? The key issue is going to be the same as in human relationships; will I keep the discussion in my head or will I let it into my heart where love can play the biggest role.

This is why the Bible talks about hard hearts or receptive hearts: it is why God asks us to not harden our hearts so as not to squeeze out the love he has placed there. The invitation of scripture is to have the word of God find a home in our hearts.

“Wagging” comes from the heart and “Barking” comes from the head --- I think! I am desperately trying to have the interaction about the spiritual life with you out of the heart since it is the best meeting ground. This was the meeting ground for you and your spouse originally and it was idyllic until your respective heads got involved! That is the battle ground where “having a mind of one’s own” without the heart’s involvement can cause things to go bad. It is the ground where our voices begin to sound strident and nagging and angry to one another instead of loving and supportive and encouraging and understanding.

Thank you so much to the parents who have come in to talk to me over the past couple of weeks. Conversations have been varied and often pretty robust but also respectful. I have been very appreciative of having the opportunity for such dialogue and wrestling with our differing viewpoints. Not everything has been magically resolved but it has given me the arena to discuss and work towards a resolution over time, or, to agree to disagree in some cases. For me, this has been better than no opportunity for discussion.

This is the very situation the Bible speaks to when it says “Love God with your whole being and love your neighbor as yourself”. My heart is not set in “hard” and I am looking for a way to dialogue with “all kinds of hearts” out there. Take a step and make a connection.

Fr John.

Parent/ Student/ Teacher Conferences will be Oct. 25 – 27 Your scheduled conference time will be sent home next week in your child’s classroom communication vehicle. School will dismiss at 12:00 on Tuesday, October 25 to begin conferences. There will be no school Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

"Conferences" also means the Scholastic Book Fair is returning to HRS. To assure that this is a memorable activity, volunteers are needed to help set up, work the cashier's desk during lunch recesses and help with packing up the book fair. If you would like to volunteer, see the webpage Book Fair News and Updates. Check the eFC next week for another Book Fair update.

MAGAZINE DRIVE RESULTS? WILL WE MAKE OUR GOAL? Did we TURN IT UP enough? It's going to be a nail biter this year! We continue to count all orders so please continue to send them in! Paper orders will be accepted until tomorrow and after that orders can be placed online at www.aphearst.com (school code WC2897). Order by Sunday, October 9 for prize credit.

The final results will be announced at our Celebration Assembly on October 14 at 2:15 p.m. in Lanigan Gym. Who TURNED IT UP with the highest sales? Join us as we crown our "Holy Rosary Idol".

Volunteers Needed! We need help with prizes on Wednesday, October 12 from 6-9 p.m. These are fundraising hours! Please email sharlene82@msn.com if you can help.

Family Fun Center will be on Friday, October 21 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Permission slips will go home next week when we finish counting orders. Pizza lunch will be provided. Please volunteer to chaperone. We must have enough volunteers from EVERY grade in order for those students to attend. These are also FUNdraising hours!

If you haven't sold an order, it's not too late! PLEASE try to participate. Large or small, we need everyone. 100% participation is our goal.

Thank you to everyone who has participated and TURNED IT UP for Holy Rosary in selling magazines as well as those who have volunteered their time and talent. We appreciate it all!

PARENTS IN TOUCH RELOCATES TO THE CHAPEL! Parents in Touch will continue to meet on Friday mornings after drop off (8:30am) but will move into the Chapel of St. Dominic in the Parish Center. Please join us for a rosary prayer for the intentions of the school! Email Jillian Kane with questions or prayer intentions. Thank you!

Parents' Club Corner

Our first Parents' Club Meeting will be Thursday, October 13th in the School Hall. Refreshments start at 6:15pm. Our Meeting will start at 6:30 and we will end by 8:00. Childcare will be provided. Mr. Cantu will be providing an update on School items as well as answering your questions, we will have an update on our recent Fundraisers, additional information on the Annual Fund, an update from the Pastoral Commission as well as an overview of School

Commission including School Commission members, sub-committee updates and upcoming issues the School Commission will be focusing on.

We look forward to seeing you on October 13th. It should be an informative and interactive evening.

Blessings, Currie Baker

Junior High Dance Holy Rosary will be hosting the junior high fall dance in Lanigan, Friday October 7th from 7:30-10:00 for 7th and 8th graders and also inviting several of other Catholic schools as well. Parents who are interested in volunteering should email shields.jody@comcast.net.

The Tree Lot Committee is looking for a few good volunteers to donate their time in organizing and running the Tree Lot this year. The plan is to divide and delegate more tasks amongst committee members to make it manageable for everyone. We are looking for the following volunteers:

3-4 volunteers to act as "Operations Manager" of the Tree Lot for 1 week. Volunteers will fulfill ALL of their volunteer hours for the year for these roles.

Questions? Please contact Currie Baker. Interested in volunteering? Please attend the Tree Lot committee meeting on Wednesday, 10/19 at 7 p.m. in the 7B classroom.

Playground News For the physical and mental health of our students and staff, we try to send the students outside for recess rain or shine. **Please send them with raincoats everyday.**

CYO Basketball

Greeting Parents,

It is once again time to get ready for the 2011/2012 basketball season. Please come join us for another exciting season of Gator Ball. If your son or daughter is interested in playing CYO Basketball this year, there are few changes from last year. First, I am the new basketball coordinator as well as the interim Athletic Director so if you have any question regarding the basketball season, please don't hesitate to contact me at arangel@unifiedgrocers.com. The second change this year is the registration process. There is no more paper registration forms. We have gone online which makes the whole process

much, MUCH smoother. The online registration site is now open for you to go in and register <http://holyrosary.bonzidev.com/home.php>. If your son or daughter played CYO soccer this year, you may already be familiar with the site. The deadline to register is October 14th. Any late registrations after October 14th will be accepted on a space availability basis. Last but not least, we are implementing a new uniform policy this year for grade 6th – 8th. The upper grades will be receiving new uniforms this year and they will not need to be returned. They will be theirs to keep. Grades 4th & 5th will receive the same uniforms as we've used in the past but they will not need to return them. They will be theirs to keep. We will phase in new uniforms for the lower grades next year.

Parents, if any of you are interested in coaching basketball as a head coach or an assistant, you will need to register on-line as a coach. I will begin assigning coaches to teams at the close of registration.

The 2011-2012 registration fees are 4th Grade - \$50.00, 5th Grade - \$60.00, 6th thru 8th Grade - \$85.00

Here are some dates to remember:

October 14th - Registration Deadline

October 17th - Team's Practice Schedules will be decided

October 24th - Practices will begin

November 19th - Games begin.

If you have any question about the upcoming season, please don't hesitate to ask.

I look forward to a wonderful season.

Albert Rangel

Community Postings

The 2011-12 CTY Talent Search sponsored by Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth is underway. The purpose of the Talent Search is to identify, assess and recognize the academic abilities of highly capable students. To qualify, a student must score in the 95th percentile or higher on a subtest 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 Mr. Cantu or Mrs. McFaul. 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, and additional fees to the testing agency.

High School Regional Information Nights_ All regional nights events begin at 7:00pm. Families from All middle schools are welcome to attend whichever evening is most convenient.








Date

Thursday, October 6
Wednesday, October 12
Thursday, October 13

Location

Assumption – St.Bridget(Seattle)
St. Luke School (Shoreline)
Our Lady Of Guadalupe School

UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES:

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|  Oct 7 | Rosary Prayer Service 2pm (perfect uniform) |
|  Oct 13 | Parent Club Meeting |
|  Oct 14 | Magazine Sale Assembly |
|  Oct 25 | Picture Re-takes and 7th Grade |
|  Oct 25 | Half Day Conferences |
|  Oct 26-28 | No School – Conferences K-8 |
|  Nov 5 | Italian Dinner |