



# SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Rosary School Family Communication Newsletter

May 24, 2012

*Dear Families,*

*As we all travel down the so-called information highway, it is helpful to point out that Holy Rosary School has not one but two guides to help our students better navigate this aspect of their education. As you know, this is very important and goes beyond the simple. In this week's newsletter, I interviewed Mrs. Harris and Mr. Barker and asked them to share their insights into this area of the educational program here.*

**Mrs. Harris, how long have you worked at Holy Rosary and how has your job changed over time?**

First, Mr. Barker and I want to thank you for the opportunity to chat with all the families. I have happily worked in the library for 20 of my 21 years teaching at Holy Rosary and over that time there have been many changes. Doubling the school's enrollment brought a new library and computer lab. We accessed our collection using the "old school" card catalog and now the collection is available 24/7 using the online catalog through the Follett Destiny software. (If you have yet to visit the library catalog, use the link located on the right side of the HRS website under Quick Links.) Because of advances in technology, the students, staff and parents now have access to resources in formats that were not available 20 years ago: DVDs, Playaways, eBooks, online World Book Encyclopedias, and the Proquest databases.

Fostering and supporting a love of reading and life-long learning continues to be at the core of the library program. I truly believe that the quality and variety of children's literature has improved through the decades. Recent best sellers lists demonstrate that adults are also enjoying young adult fiction. The ways our students access reading materials will continue to change but the school-wide belief in the value of reading and literacy remains strong.

**Mr. Barker, your background is originally as a classroom teacher, how did you happen to become a technology teacher? How long have you served here?**

I was hired in the spring of 1997 as a long-term substitute to replace a former technology teacher. I had received my Master's in Teaching in 1995, however classroom teaching positions were difficult to find at that time in the locations where I wanted to teach. I didn't know much about computers or "technology", but I knew more than anyone at Holy Rosary, so I was hired. Most everything I've learned since then have been self-taught. When I came here 15 years ago, the school had just unveiled the new computer lab/library addition, so I was responsible for setting the lab up with 30 new [Apple Macintosh 5500's](#). ☺

**You both make a wonderful team, how did this develop and how do you divide up your lessons and then merge them to form specific learning objectives?**

Over the last few years, following class-scheduling issues, our programs have changed and developed out of necessity. Two teachers are needed in the lab in order to teach effective lessons and to timely address

students' questions, and troubleshoot when necessary. Our curriculums and subject matter are very similar so it seemed like a natural thing to do. The standards developed by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) and the National Educational Technology Standards (NETS) intersect about 85% of the time. Our goal is to integrate content from the students' classrooms into the lab. We are also responsive to the needs of the homeroom teachers, discussing ways to collaborate that enrich the teaching and learning for all students. We also make a good team because Mr. Barker has the best sense of humor and Mrs. Harris is his best audience!

**Mr. Barker, why would you say we have a strong computer lab? What is your assessment of our technology offerings and what is your vision going forward?**

Our lab offers a wide variety of software and hardware for student and teacher use. The desktops and laptops are pretty much in constant use throughout the day; there's not much quiet time! I'm impressed by the lessons that classroom teachers bring into the lab and I'm equally impressed by the work and creativity of the students. I also love the Yearbook elective. We are one of the few, if not the only, K-8 school who creates their own yearbook. Eighth graders, using Adobe Creative Suite, completely design and develop our yearbook! I'm extremely excited about this year's book, which will be coming out in the next few weeks. It holds a special surprise; something I've wanted for years.

Looking forward it's inevitable that we'll transition iPads into the school at some point. They've completely changed the education landscape, for students and for teachers. This summer I'm taking classes to learn the best uses for iPads in education, so I know I'll return in the fall with some excellent ideas to share with our teachers. I also want to see teacher mastery in using the SmartBoards. It's one of the SMARTest investments Holy Rosary has made and an invaluable teaching tool. SMART continues to update their software, improving it to reflect changes that teacher's have requested.

**Mrs. Harris, do you feel that books will always hold a place in our program or do you sense that Kindles will displace them? What is your vision for the library going forward?**

I believe that Teacher Librarians in school libraries will remain committed to helping all students access and use information in whatever form it takes. We want graduates who are literate, think critically, create, and dream. At this time, I cannot predict the winner in the Kindle/Nook/eReader battle. It does remind me of the VHS - Betamax competition in year's past. I believe that while children need variety in their lives, holding a book and exploring the pages will never go out of style. I see this daily as I watch and help our students browse and select the books that sing to them.

*On behalf of all of us, I want to thank both of them for their service to the community. They are both jewels and we are blessed to have them at our school.*

*Sincerely,*

*Michael Cantu,  
Principal*

## **“EACH ONE HEARD THEM SPEAKING IN HIS/HER OWN LANGUAGE”!**

One of the miracles of Pentecost was that it reversed the terrible tragedy that began with the story of the Tower of Babel. The whole known world of that time spoke the same language but through a series of stories the author of Genesis illustrates the deadly consequences of sin. First, it alienated people from God -- - Adam and Eve --- and even further, alienated nation from nation and people from people. Suddenly, people spoke different languages and couldn't understand each other; the misunderstandings follow that lead to conflict and war.

The narrator of the story in chapter 11 of The Book of Genesis speaks with nostalgia of the “good old days” when “the whole world spoke the same language”. But **regrettably the prideful desire to be NUMBER ONE**” wanting to “**make a name for ourselves**” has been around for a long time. It slithered in unnoticed and wreaked havoc with God's elite human creation. The Spirit of Pentecost reverses this situation-helping alien and separated people to be able to communicate and understand each other again. This weekend we celebrate Pentecost, which is seen as the beginning of the Church when the Spirit came in a very dramatic way ----- wind, fire and languages. When Fr Raschko said “SHE” while speaking of the Holy Spirit some months back in a homily he did so because the word for Spirit in the ancient text is a feminine word: she blew in to the lives of people as the wind blows; she lit a fire under people as love lights a fire in us and she speaks in a variety of languages within every human being.

**The situation described in the readings for this feast this weekend is as a real today as it was in the beginning and has remained so throughout the ages.**

Communication seems to be the bane of our existence in all relationships --- personal, marriage, family, church, work, sports, politics, etc etc. The call is everywhere for better, more or clearer communication and in the midst of the greatest age of technology that the world has known we can't seem to communicate well. Why not? Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to counter the effects of what original sin did to the human condition and to continue to be the antidote to the ongoing effects of sin. But we have to invite the Spirit in to all parts of our lives if this is to work.

I don't feel one bit happy about alienations and separations that exist in my life and I bet you don't in your life; it is not a feel good aspect of life. With the gift of his spirit Jesus said --- I can cure this!

I am praying for the cure with deeper faith and greater hope and unflagging love this weekend as I celebrate Pentecost. I will be bringing the “different languages”, separations and divisions in my world to Mass with me asking for the Spirit to “fall afresh” on us and help us hear each other's languages again: the languages of love, forgiveness, understanding, patience, kindness --- the languages of the Spirit of God. May the false and divisive languages of the Evil One be wiped out.

The first Pentecost transformed the world to where people heard and understood each other: may this Pentecost repeat the miracle! Please join me in this same intercession so that it may happen that we can **hear each other speaking the language of our hearts** here and now as they did at the beginning of the church.

Fr John.

## **Holy Rosary's Second Annual Wine Tasting & Buffet Dinner!**

**June 9 at 6pm in the School Hall**

**See attached Flyer**

## **BOGO --□ Buy 1 Get 1 Free Returns to Holy Rosary**

Come to our Summer Reading Book Fair where all items are Buy One, Get One Free. The book fair will be open:

Thursday, May 24 from 1:00 - 4:00

Friday, May 25 for parents from 8:15 - 9:00 as students will be headed to Field Day. It is not open after school on Friday.

Tuesday, May 29 from 8:15 - 4:00

Wednesday, May 30 from 7:00 - 4:00 \*\*\*special family event with the early morning opening time.

Thursday, May 31 from 8:15 - 3:30. We will begin packing up at 3:30.

Please stop by and stock up on summer reading titles for your family. Don't be caught empty handed when you hear "I'm bored. There's nothing to do."

**FIELD DAY is Friday, May 25. Please have your child bring a water bottle. The colors chosen by each class is as follows.**

**KA&KB-white**

**1A-black/white**

**1B-blue**

**2A&2B-blue**

**3A&3B-black/white**

**4A&4B-blue/green/white**

**5A&5B-red/white/blue**

**6A-green**

**6B-gray**

**7A-blue**

**7B-white**

**Father/Daughter Glow Bowl pictures went home this week.** Please be sure to check your child's backpack for the envelope. Questions, contact Eva Newman.

## **Admiral Kids 4th of July Parade**

Do you love participating in this grass-roots, back- to-basics, old-fashioned kids parade? More importantly, do your KIDS love it? This is my LAST YEAR for coordinating this parade, and I am looking for someone to continue this great West Seattle tradition. It is not a lot of work, it is fun, and the kids will love you. Come hang out with me this year, and see how it's done. Please help continue the tradition!

Sherri Chun

sherri.chun@att.net

**Patrol permission slips** which were signed this year for 7th grade, will suffice for their 8th grade patrol duty. They are given hours for this assignment.

Thanks,  
Mrs Judd

### **Recess Duty 2012-2013**

Double your volunteer hours for next year now by signing up for next year's lunch recess duty. The time is 11:15am – 1:15pm daily. Double volunteer hours are given for this enjoyable task. We ask that you choose one specific day per week for the entire year. Please complete the form attached to today's eFC and return to Ms. Judd by May 25th. Thank you

### **BASE Summer Art Camp**

If you are a member of the Summer BASE program, you still need to sign up for this Art Camp. No extra fee will be required from you except for a nominal amount of \$10.00 for the week for art supplies.

All other students from Holy Rosary are welcome to join the Art Camp from 10am to 4pm for a fee of 60.00 a day.

The Base Summer camp will also be available for one day and half days. Please let us know a week in advance in order that we can best accommodate your child.

See Attached Flyer

### **"If we were starting Holy Rosary today, what would it be like?" Envisioning the Future**

We have divided the task of defining the vision for Holy Rosary's future into six areas. Our purpose is to define how each of these areas will look based upon what the parishioners want. If you would like to add your voice and vision, please contact the member of the Pastoral Council attached to each of the areas as set out below:

Communication Kathy Schwartz (206) 935-8629

Engagement of the Parish Jim Burgess (206) 335-2802 and Mark Contratto (206) 762-0809

Parish School Relationship Mark Lorbiecki (206) 903-1800

Welcoming Environment Dan Schwartz (206) 935-8629 and Alice Rose Cuchinotto (504) 722-1039

Stewardship and Finance Michelle Morris (916) 747-7361

Organization of the Ministries Jenée Arthur (512) 576-0602

Jennifer Wong

## **Community Postings**

Keep the musical spark alive and have fun doing it during the Kennedy Elementary Summer Band Camp. July 9 - 13th is the big week! All band members have been given a registration form. Hurry, deadline is June 15th!

Cannot find the form? Go to [www.kennedyhs.org](http://www.kennedyhs.org) and look under Summer Camps!!  
**YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS OUT ON THIS ONE!!**

### **Lee's Martial Arts Summer Camps**

Sign up by May 31st and receive \$25 off!  
See attached Flyer

### **Seattle Sounders FC Games in 2012**

CYO Athletics, in collaboration with Seattle Sounders FC, have organized a discount for CYO Athletics families for three exciting games on the Sounders FC schedule this season.

Sunday August 5th 7:00PM vs. LA Galaxy

Saturday August 18th 1:00PM vs. Vancouver Whitecaps

Sunday October 7th 6:00PM vs. Portland Timbers (Faith and Family night)

Click Here to go to Ticket Master, and enter the password to access the discount. Available tickets are in the Upper Deck for \$10 (normally \$15).

**Password: Sounders**

**A Child Becomes announces it's 14th year of Summer Science Camps.** Sign Ups are available now and camps begin the last week of June. Please go to [achildbecomes.org](http://achildbecomes.org) and download a registration form and mail back to the school if interested. Age cut off is: your child must turn 5 by June 2012 up to age 8 or end of 2nd grade. New camps, loads of fun, outdoor experiences...come join us this summer! Teacher Shelley Neal, Director

**LAKE SAMISH MUSIC AND FINE ARTS CAMP,** musical experiences for kids in grades 5 - 12 in band, orchestra and choir. July 1 - 7, 2012. A great opportunity for students who want to dive into the arts this summer! Your child can learn to play musical instruments, including the guitar and African marimbas; improve music theory and composition skills; learn jazz improvisation & be part of a jazz band; and enjoy act dramas & improv theater games! Check out [www.camplutherwood.org/lakesamishmusic](http://www.camplutherwood.org/lakesamishmusic) for more information.

- **May 24-31**    **BOGO Book Fair**
- **May 25**      **Field Day**
- **May 28**      **Memorial Day – No School**
- **May 30**      **4<sup>th</sup> Grade Bake Sale**
- **May 31**      **Wax Museum 6<sup>th</sup> Grade**
- **June 1**       **Principal/Vice Principal for the day.**
- **June 2**       **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Mass/Award Dinner**
- **June 7**       **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation**
- **June 8**       **Kindergarten Graduation**
- **June 14**      **Noon Dismissal**
- **June 15**      **Mass, 10am Dismissal**