



SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Rosary School Family Communication Newsletter

December 19, 2013

FRIDAY IS RED GREEN AND WHITE DAY

Friday is our last day before Christmas break. We want to make it a bit celebratory. The students will not have to wear their uniforms if they instead wear Red, Green, and/or White as part of the Advent and Christmas Spirit. Students can also wear appropriate Christmas Hats if they so desire.

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

On behalf of the staff of Holy Rosary School I wish all of you and your children and extended families all the joys and blessings of Christmas. Hopefully you will get some peace and rest during these next two weeks as you rekindle relationships and experience the hope and laughter our God brings into our lives in a special way during this sacred time of the year. And may the New Year bring you 52 weeks of adventure, health, prosperity and renewed energy. It is going to be a great year. But the first step into that wondrous new future is believing in the great possibilities that our Lord has waiting for you to accept and to open up for yourself. Take a chance. Step into 2014 with a smile on your face, belief in yourself, and conviction in your choices and direction. It can be contagious. And remember the three best ways to teach your children are:

1. Through example
2. Through example
3. Through example

GIVING FOR THOSE WHO ARE 70 YEARS OLD

This year the government is allowing people who are 70 and a half years old or older to give directly from their IRA or Roth IRA to a Charitable institution (LIKE HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL OR HOLY ROSARY CHURCH). This way there is no tax being paid on appreciation or the corpus invested. Every dollar is a tax deduction and there is no tax on the amount of money withdrawn to do this. The transfer must be made directly from the IRA to the institution. All you have to do is instruct your financial advisor to do this. It must, however, be done by December 31st. Feel free to call me (George) if you have any questions 979-2620.

OPEN HOUSE

Open House will be on Sunday, January 26th. It will begin with an all school mass at 9:30. The principal will be offering the sermon. The school doors will be open from 10:30-1:00. Everyone is encouraged to come. Bring friends. Bring alums. Bring anyone who may be interested in enrolling in the school. Tours will be provided by our students. The Parent Club will be providing steaks and eggs and Mimosas ---- I mean coffee and donuts. So come and enjoy yourselves. It will be the start of Catholic Schools Week. Mark it down on your calendar!

STUDY HALL

The first session of study hall comes to an end today. Parents can sign up their children, if they like, for the next session. Study Hall takes place for one hour after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There will be 15 sessions in this next sign up. The non-refundable fee is \$90. The dates for service are January 7, 9,14,16,21,23,28,30 and February 4,6,11,13,20,25 and 27. Checks should be dropped off in the office by the morning of January 6th. There must be at least 8 students to make a go of this, but we will not take more than 13. Checks should be given to Jennifer in the main office. This is really for students who want a controlled quiet environment in which to do their work.

TRAFFIC ALERT

Last week I had a parent in my office expressing concerns over our before and after school traffic. Ironically while I was talking with that parent another parent was trying to reach me about the same topic. I paid very close attention to the traffic pattern and flow outside my office last week. I must admit that I really could not compare it to previous years because I did not experience them. I do, however, know that traffic around Catholic Schools is a growing issue with many. It seems that fewer and fewer children walk to school each year. And we have to realize that this school was once one class per grade with no pre-school. Now we have two classrooms per grade and a pre-school program. And this year there may even be more children driven to school because of "incidents" concerning one or two undesirable men in the neighborhood.

So, what to do? Well one thing that can make a huge impact is if people were to arrive about five or ten minutes earlier. It does make a difference because the reality is that there might only be 10%-15% who actually do that. The really bad time is between 8:10 and 8:20. Then there is simple patience. And that can be hard for many of us. More and more we are in a rush. Sometimes there is a reason for that rush and sometimes it is just our psychological makeup. We will try to stop traffic as little as possible for crossing, but my observations last week found that the traffic was stopped for crossing when there was nowhere for it to go. Finally we all have to be extra cautious for the sake and safety of our children, and we should not park too close to the corners. It is illegal, but more importantly, it is unsafe, especially for our wonderful crossing guards. It has also been suggested that we close the crosswalk between the school front doors and the parish center forcing everyone to cross at the corner. The thinking is that this may speed up the traffic on the street. Please let me, or your Parents Club officers know if you have any thought on that. So, thanks for thinking about this, and thanks for taking care of one another.

TIS THE SEASON TO BE GIVING!!!!

Our donations and pledges are picking up a bit. And that is both wonderful and deeply appreciated. We need every penny we can get. We are sending out a mailing to those who have not, as of yet paid, on their Annual Fund pledge. Some families did not specify when they were going to make their donations and, for some, December is their giving time because of tax situations. So please respond. We need you! Our updated pledges and collections to date are as follows:

Centennial number of pledges	23
Centennial Amount Pledged	\$253,650
Centennial Amount Paid	\$19,481
Annual Fund number of pledges	282
Annual Fund Amount Pledged	\$137,797
Annual Fund Amount Paid	\$94,558

THE SPECIAL CATAGORIES LISTED BELOW ARE INCLUDED IN THE NUMBERS LISTED ABOVE.

Number of <u>Grandparents</u> who have given to the Annual Fund	4
Amount <u>Grandparents</u> have given to the Annual Fund	550
Number of Holy Rosary <u>School Staff</u> who have given to Annual Fund	41
Amount Holy Rosary <u>School Staff</u> has given to the Annual Fund	14,839

EIGHTH GRADERS

We are getting very close to that time of year when families seek to get all their forms turned in to the high schools they may be applying to. It is important to be aware that the school cannot mail anything if tuitions and fees are not current. The parish will sign off on active parishioner forms only when that is the case. This would mean a mass attendance and a pledge on file that is being paid on. And please do not wait until the last minute to get this form to the parish for a signature. Finally, under obligations met ----- when that part of the form is filled out, please keep in mind that participation in the Annual Fund is part of that obligation.

CHRISTMAS CARDS ----- HAPPY NEW YEAR CARDS

Thank you to so many of you who have sent your family photo Christmas cards. They are posted on the door of the staff room. I read an article the other night saying that the expectation this year is for many to send Happy New Year's cards rather than Christmas Cards. For some it is because the space between Thanksgiving and Christmas was one week shorter. For some it is because there is a trend to see who sent us Christmas cards and then just mail out New Year's cards to them. So we are leaving the cards on the door thru the Christmas Season and all the way to Open House. If you end up sending one of those New Year's cards, please turn one into the office. We would love to post it for Open House. Prospective Parents love to see who is already here.

CHRISTMAS TREE OH CHRISTMAS TREE

Our Christmas Tree sales lot is closed. It looks like it will prove to be a fantastic success. Thank you to all of you who purchased trees, ornaments and/or wreaths. But all of us owe a huge thanks and debt of gratitude to Pat Galvin for the whole venture. **We could not have done it without him! REALLY!!!!**

FINANCIAL AID

Please remember that anyone who feels they may need financial aid must apply on-line. This should be accomplished as soon as possible. The final date for applications is January 10, 2014. Do yourself a favor and beat the rush. This would be true for high school as well as Holy Rosary. All of this is done thru Fulcrum. The tuition assistance financial aid form is available at www.fulcrumfoundation.org/tuition. This must be done in order to receive either, or both financial aid from Fulcrum and Holy Rosary. For more information review the school website or call Kimberly Tish, the school registrar. Yes, this means it is registration time.

TUITION

This is my first time going thru the tuition decision process at Holy Rosary. And I appreciate the hard work a number a number of people are putting into this effort. I do not believe the number will be decided upon until February or possibly March. But I, and I can only speak for myself here, believe the recommendations in the Five Year Plan would truly be the minimum increase, and I would not be surprised if they are a little higher. I, and again I can only speak for myself here, believe that the parents who were voting with a show of cards on their support, or lack thereof ----- for the "White Paper" recommendation seemed to be widely in support of it. But that comes from me standing in the back of the School Hall viewing their cards, which were the opposite of the actual vote. And I do realize that, even though a good number of people were present, it was not the majority of the parents. But as I review this process I still strongly believe that eventually it is in the best interest of the school to determine tuition for a period of years so everyone knows the number well in advance. But ----- that is just me again.

SORRY

Please forgive me for the length of my writing here, but I am abiding by the decision to simply put everything in these weekly "updates" rather than mailing a separate newsletter. It would be interesting,

and possibly helpful to know which, if any of these articles, you consider to be a waste of your time. I would take no offense. You could simply tell a Parent Club Officer or a School Commission member, or a Development Committee person ---- or even me! I am just trying to be both transparent and informative.

- George

Annual Fund Testimonials from Staff:

This is my 17th year teaching at Holy Rosary. I began by teaching five years as Technology Specialist, then seven years in 4th grade homeroom and now five more years as Technology Specialist. I've always considered the Annual Fund an important part of the school's income and have often contributed as a staff member but now that my son attends I feel that it's even more important to contribute because i know that tuition covers only 70% of the cost of his education. I like the idea of the Annual Fund because it targets what is necessary in our school but it's also tax-deductible, unlike tuition. :)

- Jon Barker, Technology Specialist



IT IS ALMOST AUCTION DONATION TME!!!

Auction online donations will start right after the Christmas Break, on **January 6th**. The link will be sent to families after the holidays.

The Auction **Amazon wish list** is up and running. If you choose to shop from the wish list, have the item(s) shipped to your home address. We will be taking items in January!

1 FREE ticket to the "Party of the Century" - Get your online donations into the system by January 10th, to enter a drawing for a FREE ticket to the Auction!!

The class/grade with the highest donation value by January 24th wins a black and white free dress day!

- If you plan to stop by a local business and "procure" an auction item from them, please let the business follow up team know at auction-procurement@holynosaryws.org. That way we can avoid "hitting" businesses twice.

- Remember to use the family **last name** that is listed in the **school directory**. That can avoid confusion.

A “**How to Donate**” info sheet is attached and will be coming home with your youngest child today or tomorrow.

Have questions regarding family donations? Please contact **Angel Sorensen** and **Tara Colagrossi**.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Distribution Coordinator(s) - the distribution coordinator is responsible for set up, organization and distribution of purchased items after the online auction and night of event. Dates to block in your calendar would be April 3, 4, 5 and 6. You can get all your fundraising hours in one weekend!

Auction Donating is As Easy as 1-2-3.... 4-5-6!

Family donation OPENS January 6th

1. Go to the Heart Auction website at <http://heart.holyrosaryws.org/>. Or, from the Holy Rosary home page at <http://holynosaryws.org/>, scroll down the right side of the page to the Heart Auction logo.
2. At the Heart Auction website click the “**donate**” button on the left.
3. Choose one of the two scenarios below that fits your donation criteria:
 - a. “**My family is donating a physical item.**” If your family is donating an item, service, party, etc. and there is no business affiliation choose this button.
 - b. “**My family is donating an item from a business or from my own business.**” If you have a family business donating a product or service, or if you have procured an item from a business like a gift certificate, choose this button.
4. Fill out all fields with information. **Please be as specific with details as possible.**

If you are offering a party, or vacation getaway and have a key photo that would help sell your item please **email the image directly to Amanda Parkhurst** at amandap322@gmail.com after you have entered it online. Please include the **donation number/receipt number in the subject line.**
5. If you do **NOT** have a physical item to bring to the school, after entering your description, you are finished!

Family Item donation CLOSES January 24th

6. **If you have an item**, please follow the directions for printing a label and turn your item into the office no later than **Feb. 28th**. Or, watch for Friday curbside drop offs on 2/21, 2/28 .

PS. If you shop through the HEART Auction Amazon wishlist link, you will still need to submit it into RSA, our auction software.

Need help?

Your Auction Chairs and Procurement Team are happy to answer any questions you might have about auction items or fun donation ideas.

Angel Sorensen 206.999.4287 angel_sorensen@hotmail.com and Tara Colagrossi taracolagrossi@hotmail.com

“CLICK FOR HRS” on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) Christmas Classroom Competition Tally

Less than 1 week of Christmas shopping left for the Amazon for the Class room competition!

Tips: Gift Cards sold on Amazon count (Amazon Gift Cards, Nordstrom Gift Cards, Starbucks Gift Cards....etc) if you want to stock up for your future buying or gifts for others, buying your auction item now on Amazon, share the links with your family and friends!

The top 5 classrooms through Dec 16th are: KA, KB, 1B, 3B, and 5A
Top classroom will get a PJ and Pizza party in January!

Magazine Drive Questions?

A.P.Hearst Customer Service is the best place to start: By phone:(1-800-284-9711)

Customers can also check the status of their order online at www.aphearst.com Go to "Check on your order" on the lower right hand side underneath the Facebook information on the A.P.H. Home page.

If there are still issues, don't hesitate to contact us here in the office. Be sure to leave a message or contact Deb via e-mail.

deb@yes-fundraising.com 425-483-6713

Honor Roll:

Congratulations to the following Holy Rosary School Honor Roll students. Nice job!

First Honors (All A's and A+)	
Seventh Grade	Eighth Grade
Claire B. Catherine E. Faith G. Stephanie W. Samantha S. Emma D. Chloe D.	Frances W. Grace T. Haley W.

Honors (All A's and A-)

Seventh Grade	Eighth Grade
Joey G. Bryn H. Hunter H. Alex P. Maia H. Mimi P. Leah M. Hannah D. Neve J. Gabi J. Savannah W.	Christine B. Isabella C. Matthew L. Brianna B. Nicholas G. Jonathan V.

Christmas Program: Congratulations to all of the Holy Rosary students for an exemplary Christmas program last week. A heartfelt thank you to Ms. Mudge and Ms. McKamey for their expert leadership.
Merry Christmas!

Come Pray the Rosary with Us. As we celebrate 100 years of Holy Rosary School, we believe it is fitting to revive that tradition of community members joining together to pray. Whether you regularly pray the Rosary, or have never experienced the beauty of the Rosary before, we would love to have you join us. No prior knowledge or experience is needed, and all ages are welcome. As Blessed Pope Pius IX said, "Give me an army saying the Rosary and I will conquer the world. " We will gather each month on the second Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Chapel. Those dates will be January 14, February 11 and March 11. If you have any questions, contact Ann at jandasummers@msn.com or Maritherese at maritheresethomas@yahoo.com.

Grandparents Lunch Reminder:

Grandparents Lunch RSVP is due on Monday Dec. 23rd!

Please, remind your special friends and grandparents to send in their RSVP card or call the school by 12/23. We have received about 80% of them already!

2014-2015 Holy Rosary School Registration for New Families

Applications for NEW students will be available in the main office and online starting Monday, January 6th. If you have questions regarding our enrollment process, please contact Kimberly Tish, Registrar at ktish@holyrosaryws.org.

***Please note, do not complete this form for currently enrolled students. Registration for current students will begin in March 2014. Thank you.

Fulcrum Tuition Assistance - Apply Online NOW

The application for Tuition Assistance for the 2014-15 school year is now available on-line at <http://www.fulcrumfoundation.org/tuition>. Please follow these instructions and note that in addition to

submitting an application on-line to Fulcrum, paper copies of the completed application and paperwork must be sent to Rufina Miller at Holy Rosary School by January 10, 2014.

1% Receipt Program with Thriftway

Please do not throw away your **2013 Thriftway receipts**. Instead please drop them off in the school office. There is a box placed on the shelf behind the office door. With the Thriftway receipts we submit, we will get back 1% of your shopping back to school through their ongoing 1% Receipt Program. **Please shop at Thriftway more often which means more money back to our school.**

If you have any questions, please contact Irene Merz at irenemerz@msn.com. Thank you for all your support.

CYO News

Hello HR Parents,

I know it seems like Basketball just started, but Volleyball will be here before you know it. CYO Volleyball 2014 is just around the corner and it is time to register for another exciting season.

Online registration is now open. Please go to this link to register your child for the 2014 Volleyball Season.

<http://holyrosary.bonzidev.com/home.php>. Students in grades 4-8 are eligible to play Volleyball.

Registration for Volleyball will close on January 10th. Any late registrations after January 10th will be accepted on a space availability basis.

When registering, please pay attention to the uniform options. If you have a uniform from last season and plan to use that again, please indicate this on the form and let us know what jersey number you have. If you plan to order a new uniform, please indicate this on the form and note what size you will need.

All parents who are interested or are planning to coach Volleyball as a head coach or an assistant, will need to register on-line as a coach. If no coaches register for a particular grade, we will not be able to register a team for that grade.

The Volleyball 2014 registration fees will be \$90 per player, if you order a jersey, or \$15.00 discount if you have a jersey, this fee also includes the pre-season kick-off clinic. The Clinic will be offered on Friday evening Feb 7th (boys) and Saturday Feb. 8th (girls).

Date	Event
January 10th	Registration Closes
February 7/8th	HR Volleyball Kick Off Clinic
February 10th	Practices will begin
February 22th	Matches begin

If you have any question about the upcoming season, please don't hesitate to ask. You can also review the season schedule at this link. <http://www.seattlearchdiocese.org/athletics/Sports/Volleyball.aspx>

We look forward to a fun and exciting season.

Katie Jergens (current and outgoing coordinator) and Patrick Dowd (incoming coordinator)
(206) 510-6816 or k.jergens@comcast.net

Children's RCIA

Congratulations to Olivia P. (8th grade), Gabriel K. (3rd grade), Emi L. & Eric C. (2nd graders) who are now Catechumen and are preparing to be baptized, confirmed and receive their 1st Communion at the Easter Vigil

in 2014. Please keep them in your prayers.

Adult Confirmation

For those adults (anyone out of high school) who have not yet been confirmed, Holy Rosary will be offering a series of sessions beginning Wednesday evening, Feb 5th from 7:00PM to 8:30PM in the Parish Center. Bishop Eusebio Elizondo will be here Sunday, May 11th at the 11:30AM Mass to confer the sacrament of Confirmation for both our teens and adults. For more information or to register for the sessions, please contact JoAnn Tobin at 206-937-1488, Ext. 203, or email at jtobin@holynosaryseattle.org.

Holy Rosary Parish Nursery at 9:30AM Mass

We have two wonderful and very experienced Caregivers, Lauren and Abby, who love taking care of your children while you attend Mass at 9:30. They are joined by two very helpful Holy Rosary 8th graders, William and Ally. The Nursery is for children who can walk up to age 4. You can drop off at the Nursery prior to Mass by entering the Parish Center Basement door off of Genesee St.

Parish Nursery Schedule over Christmas Break:

Open Sunday, December 22nd

Closed, Sunday, December 29th

Open, Sunday, January 5th

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)

CLOW is taking a break for Christmas and will resume on Sunday, January 5th at the 9:30AM Mass. We have a fantastic dedicated group of Volunteers who make CLOW possible for your children. Please pass on a Thank You to the following Volunteers who make the CLOW possible for your children. If you are interested in volunteering for CLOW, please call Deyette at 937-1488, ext. 251. Volunteers do earn general hours for the school.

Thank you CLOW Volunteers!

Preschool & Kindergarten CLOW Teachers (Sr. Juanita, Davina Dilley and Wil Delostrinos-Supnet)

Assistants for Preschool & Kindergarten (Joellyn DeRonghe, Kathy Eckelkamp, Mary Ann Fessler, Kristi Lyons, Shelly Pugh, Mairead Quinn, Julie Roy, and Gina Strand)

1st and 2nd Grade Teacher (Mary Connolly)

3rd and 4th Grade Teacher (Christine Mastrangelo)

Safety for CLOW (Currie and Bob Baker, Michael Galang, Lillian Hofkes, and John Wingle)

Community Notices:

Two Brothers Winery

Two Brothers Winery now has a tasting room open in the lower level of Belli Capelli Salon located at 3902 California Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98116.

The Holiday season is here and what goes better with the holidays than a nice bottle of wine. Please check out my Holiday newsletter for this month's specials. ([insert link](#))

Now through the end of the year we will be donating 15% of all sales to JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund), a cause very dear to our heart.

We wish you all a happy holiday season,

Michael Taylor

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- ❖ **Dec 20 – Half Day Christmas Break Begins**
- ❖ **Jan 6 – School resumes**
- ❖ **Jan 26 – 31 – Catholic Schools Week**
- ❖ **Jan 29 – Grandparents Day**