

February Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Thank you to all who have submitted the 'Strategic Planning Initiative: Parent Survey'. As mentioned before, OLA is at the mid-point of its school accreditation process and the results of the survey will aid us in developing a 5 year strategic plan.

Also, as this is my first full year as principal it is helpful for me to know the feelings of the school community. There have been many positive responses; others express concerns in different areas. To formulate a practical strategic plan it is necessary to look at all aspects of our school. The survey results will be compiled into a report and shared when completed.

February is a month of anticipation. Groundhog Day on the Feb. 2nd is my personal "holiday". I celebrate the promise of spring coming sooner rather than later. It is also a time of anticipation and maybe trepidation for our 8th graders as they await high school acceptance letters. Excitement is also building for our 2 teams competing in the Malden Catholic Quiz Bowl February 1st.

February 17th brings us into our Lenten season of renewal with Ash Wednesday, as the first of the 40 days the church has set aside for us to take the time to pause and renew our lives. Small changes can be made by all of us to be nicer, kinder and more forgiving of each other. As the words of the anointing with ashes are spoken, let us remember to 'turn back to God and 'turn away' from those things that make us less Christian. It's not what we give up but what we do that make us followers of Jesus.

Peace and blessings,
Mrs. Tosiello

Spiritual Happenings

Monday, February 1st - Catholic School Week Mass - 1 p.m.

(Catholic Schools Week agenda is on the website)

No School and Half Days

Friday, February 5th - **Noon Dismissal**
(Please pick up your children on time)

February 15th to 19th School Vacation



Open House

We will be hosting an Open House on **Monday, February 1st from 9-11 a.m.** for new students and parents. Spread the word! Please tell your relatives and friends to come in and have a tour of our school. The Catholic Schools Week Open House for current parents is on **Wednesday, February 3rd from 9-11.**

Re-Registrations

There are still 18 families that have not returned the re-registration form and \$25 registration fee. If you are not planning on returning to OLA in September, please let the school office know immediately. We have applicants waiting for available openings. Please call me if you can't remember if you returned your form. Thank you, Mrs. Arrington

Please check the OLA school website weekly for updates of news and happenings.

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Help!

Some of the teachers are in desperate need of copy paper. If you know of an office or business that is relocating and needs to dispose of old letterhead, please send them our way. As long as the paper is clean on one side, we can use it.

Cub Scouts

One of our Kindergarten dads would like to start a Cub Scout group next year but doesn't know how to begin. Is there anyone who could point him in the right direction? Please contact Mrs. Arrington in the school office and she will forward information to him.

Haiti fund

Many thanks for your generosity on our N.U.T. day suggested by Grace Couillard, one of our 4th grade students, for the people of Haiti. The children, faculty and staff contributed \$2045.00 to the Catholic Relief Services for the aid project.

Auction

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the OLA auction, Thursday, March 25th at the Danversport Yacht Club. This annual fundraiser is a great way to support the school and have fun at the same time. The theme this year is "Luck Be A Lady Tonight".



Flu Update

Please remember all sick calls must be made by 8:30 a.m. to the nurse's office. If you leave a message, please be specific as to your child's illness. For your information the CDC is predicting that there may be another outbreak of H1N1. Please follow the earlier recommendations that children with fevers cannot attend school.

Coat Drive

Emergency requests have been made by the "Tree of Life" food pantry for gently used adult coats. This drive will end on February 5th. Thank you for your participation.

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