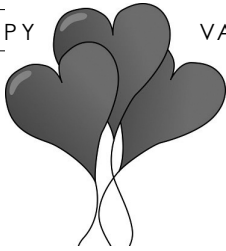


The Gazette

HAPPY

VALENTINE'S DAY!

FEBRUARY 2013



Important Dates

February

- 2&9 Kindergarten Testing
- 8 Family Food Truck Night
5-10 p.m.
HFS/Parish Parking Lot
- 8 JAT Sponsorships Due
- 21 Last day for JAT Pledges
- 21 Cold Stone Creamery
Fundraiser for JAT
Alhambra, 101 W. Main St.,
from 3-9 p.m.
- 13 Ash Wednesday
4th Grade Mass and Retreat
9:30 AM
- 15 NO SCHOOL
- 18 NO SCHOOL
President's Day
- 22 NO SCHOOL
Religious Ed Congress
- 23-24 Religious Ed Congress

March

- 2 Academic Decathlon
- 7 Jog-a-thon
NOON DISMISSAL
- 14 End of 2nd Trimester
- 15 School Mass, 9:30am
2nd Grade Retreat
- 25 Honor Roll Assembly
Parish Hall
- 28 Holy Thursday Prayer Service
NOON DISMISSAL
No Time Well Spent
- 29 Good Friday
NO SCHOOL
Easter Break Begins

Home is Where the Heart Is

By Lucy Jaburian • Parent Guild Vice President School Affairs

Most people I've met over the years came to Southern California from other counties, states, or countries. They've shared stories of the frightful winters in New York and the sweltering heat in Texas, but they call Los Angeles home and don't plan on moving anytime soon.

I am a native Angeleno who has lived within a five-mile radius of where I was raised, which in the past, I considered quite drab—no glamorous tales of living in Paris or Seville, London or Buenos Aires. I harbor fantasies of moving to Granada, Spain, where my mother's family was raised, or to the Basque country. But I doubt that will happen in the next 10 years. My brother moved to England at 20 and lived there for more than 25 years. A friend lived in Monaco, a cousin moved to Switzerland; my best friend from Maine is an expatriate in India, another an expat in Hong Kong, and here I am. My siblings and I were raised in South Pasadena and attended Holy Family when the Sisters of Loretto were our teachers and school administrators. We greeted Cardinal Manning often when he took up residence here. We witnessed Father McGovern turn beet-red with a smile as Monsignor Barry delivered jokes in his sermons. My grandfather's art was part of the first art exhibit in the parish hall. Holy Family has undergone many changes over the past 40 years, as has South Pasadena.

Who can forget Colliau, O'Gars, Fazio's, Sister Kay, Mrs. Danni (Mrs. Proctor's mom), or piano lessons in the convent? Though things have changed, they haven't changed our hearts from wanting to be home. I've met many families who are Holy Family alumni who have returned to raise their families here. We have faculty that are alumni as well—what a testament to Holy Family that alumni return to teach and choose this school for their children.

I believe growing up in South Pasadena and being part of Holy Family was, and remains, a sort of Rockwellian existence. A church community that is welcoming and a school that is a second home to our children.

Whether you are new to Holy Family or have been here for years, Holy Family is home to all of us. Since home is where the heart is, our hearts must be robustly full. Let's thank God for that.

From the Principal

By Carolyn Strong • Principal

With our WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) and WCEA (Western Catholic Education Association) accreditation visitation only a few days away we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who is a stakeholder in our school. This thank you is to parents, students, staff, school board and parent guild members who play a role by participating in surveys and communication of other sorts in the preparation and organization necessary for our accreditation visit.

The staff has been involved in the new protocol which is called Improving Student Learning. WCEA/WASC accreditation is an ongoing process. Holy Family School is always working on action plans and goals that we have to constantly improve the school. Your support in the past has been tremendous, and your willingness to pitch in whenever needed is outstanding. Some of you serve on school board and parent guild board and various committees, and most of you were asked to give your input via the surveys sent out. Some of you provided proofreading and provided input on our documents that we present to the visiting committee. All of this work is very much appreciated.

The visitation days for the team will be Tuesday, February 12, Wednesday, February 13 and Thursday, February 14. We are looking forward to showing the visiting committee what a fabulous place Holy Family School is in which to learn and play!

I would also like to thank all the parents for their generosity of time, talent, and treasure that you share with us in so many ways. Our parish community celebrates Grace, Gratitude, and Generosity, and I see that lived out in our school community constantly.

YEARBOOK



Halfway Complete! Keep the Photos Coming!

The first half of the yearbook has been submitted to the printer, but we still need your help.

Please send us photos of Mock Trial, Academic Decathlon, Scouts, Basketball, Choir, Drama, Dance and Jog-a-thon.

**8th grade tribute ads are due
by February 15.**

Upload photos to your class Shutterfly site or www.replayit.com

Here's How...

Go to: www.replayit.com

Login or click on: **"Register Today!"**

School Pass Code: **knights13**

You can also send us a CD or a flash drive through the school office. If you have any questions or problems uploading your photos, contact your yearbook advisors.

Trish Sarbaum

trish.sarbaum@coldwellbanker.com

or

Cassie Filippone

filippone@charter.net

Faith in Action: Our Spirituality Program

By Erin Maloney • Spirituality

*"Whatever you do for the least of my brothers and sisters, you do for me."
(Matthew 25:40)*

Toothbrushes, dental floss and tiny tubes of toothpaste filled boxes in the classroom last month. Our children decorated paper bags in which these donated dental supplies would be placed... all in the name of justice and mercy for children in our community being helped through Young and Healthy, a non-profit organization that coordinates free dental care for children in the Pasadena area. As my oldest child applies to high school this year, I have had the opportunity to look back on what he takes with him spiritually when he leaves this place. Three words come to mind: faith-in-action.

Woven into daily life at school is the belief that we belong to each other and are, therefore, responsible for one another. As we transition from January's virtues of justice and mercy into February's of hope and cheer, the Spirituality Program provides our children the opportunity to put their faith into action by reaching out beyond the classroom to our brothers and sisters who are fed by Meals on Wheels. Through handmade Valentine cards, our wish is to provide love, hope and cheer to seniors in our community, again, because our good and gracious God calls upon us to feed the hungry, visit the sick and lonely, and give drink to the thirsty.

As we enter the Lenten season this month, perhaps we can reflect on how to bring our faith into action in our domestic church with our families. I recently discovered two wonderful resources for our family that support our attempts to connect faith with life: www.vibrantfaithathome.org and www.loyolapress.com. Equipped with the ability to look outside oneself through the constant support of our teachers and parents, our children are capable of living their baptismal call and transforming their world at home and in the community at large. After all, we belong to one another.

Trading Post

The Trading Post is a Holy Family School Parent Guild program to save you money on school uniforms. We have a large supply of pre-owned uniforms and are happy to outfit your HFS student or supplement their current supply. There is no cost, and you need not give in order to receive. When placing an order through the Trading Post, please be sure to provide your child's gender, items needed, sizes, quantity and a phone number or email address in case there are questions. Anyone with uniforms to donate to the Trading Post can bring them to the school office.

Contact: Rachel Clements
(323) 225-1002 or rclements@gmail.com



Prayers & Condolences

The Parent Guild offers our prayers for the speedy recovery of the sick in our community:

Martin Chora,
grandfather of Jacob Ruano (6)

•

Christopher Villegas,
brother of Jonny (5) and Claire (7) Villegas

We also send our love and prayers
to the families of those who have passed away:

Esmeralda Gonzalez,
grandmother of Marie (2) and Madeline (5) Placido

In the event of an illness or passing, please contact:

Mary Ternan, Ministry for Pastoral Care
(626) 403-6115 or

Maria Adriano, Historian/Community Support
(213) 503-2191

¿Qué Pasa? What's Happening In Spanish Classes This Year?

By Maestra Tere • Spanish Teacher

The Keys to Learning a Second Language in a Classroom Setting

Second language teachers teach one of the most difficult subjects on earth to teach, and one of the most fascinating in my opinion. This year I am blessed to have Maestra Liz as a part time assistant and co-teacher. Her work is an integral part of our program.

How does a student become “fluent”, especially in speaking skills, while learning in a classroom? The experts tell us the keys to fluency and proficiency are: comprehensible input, repetition, and reading. We use these keys daily and make sure to add LOVE in every lesson.

We must understand that language acquisition is not a conscious process. It happens to every human being, starting before birth, as they begin to understand the messages they hear.

Our first language began to develop by listening and comprehending little by little, what we heard. With reading, language skills advance quickly building vocabulary and grammar structures each year. Most important, fluency in any language is built from hearing the language spoken over time, repetitively and spoken with love. These are the keys to language acquisition at home and what language teachers attempt to create in the classroom. It's a true challenge!

Parents and students often ask me how long it will take to develop enough skills in order to “get it” and use the language in a “real” conversation. Think about this for a moment: babies eventually become fluent in their first language after more than 20,000 hours in their first six years (about 10 hours per day x 6 years). A student in the classroom might only have 400 to 600 hours to learn to speak, in the same amount of time. Here lies my challenge: how to accomplish a strong foundation for true second language acquisition

within the time we have for instruction. This takes effort, patience, and practice, for everyone involved!

Research and personal experience (27 years as an educator, 21 years teaching Spanish as a second language) support the following checklist leads to fluency when learning a second language in the classroom:

- Input must be comprehensible. Learners should understand what they hear; there are no gains from listening unless there is comprehension. We use pictures, props, gestures, whatever needed to stay in the target language and guarantee comprehension for ALL students.
- Students must receive enough repetitions of basic structures and vocabulary to be able to truly acquire a second language—store it in long term memory.
- The spoken and printed language must continually maintain the interest of students. They tell me what is interesting or important to them, and we build from there.
- There must be opportunities for students to express themselves in their own words, not memorized lines from a text. We provide opportunities for students to speak about themselves, their families and friends.
- The class must be conducted almost entirely in the target language. “La Zona Rosa”! Grammar explanations are short, directed to meaning not rules, and given in English.
- The process of learning must be relatively stress free. Corrections are done by simply repeating the student's statement correctly.
- Teacher expectations must be high. They are very high!

(Continued on Page 5)

The Keys to Learning a Second Language in a Classroom Setting, continued...

On any day, at any level in the Spanish language classroom, a visitor may observe a variety of listening strategies in the form of songs, stories, and videos. These provide the base for vocabulary and grammar structures to build curriculum from Kinder to Grade 8. Lessons are designed to meet the World Language Standards: Communication, Culture, Comparisons, Connections and Communities. The final goal: every student CAN speak with Confidence, Accuracy, and No hesitation. We must be patient and accept that true language acquisition does not happen quickly or without effort.

Our goals must also be realistic. When we add up the hours of instruction for a student at HFS, he/she has had the equivalent of about two high school years of Spanish instruction. We cannot expect students to be able to speak and write Spanish fluently and flawlessly while learning only in a classroom. A realistic goal is to be able to speak Spanish confidently with some errors and understand spoken and written language at an intermediate level. Some students decide to dedicate time outside the classroom to speak, listen and read. These students may achieve an advanced level of reading and writing when they leave HFS.

The most important goal of my day is to use every minute of class time in the most effective way possible, whether we meet once, twice or four times per week. I know the best way to accomplish this is to consistently and lovingly provide repetitive and interesting comprehensible input using stories, songs, and readers. I am very grateful to the HFS for continually supporting purchases for technology and curriculum materials that provide me with so many wonderful tools.

Please accept my sincere invitation to visit the Spanish classroom anytime. You may see students engaged in one or more learning strategies listed

below, leading them to future success and hopefully, you may acquire one or two new Spanish phrases as you observe!

- a. Focus on the 100 most common words used in the Spanish language.
- b. Mix tenses in stories, songs, and classroom conversations so students develop a strong "ear" for how Spanish is supposed to sound-natural L2 acquisition.
- c. Frequent repetition of vocabulary and structures to keep everything comprehensible and eventually store in the long-term memory.
- d. Ask that all students respond during question/answer sessions...eventually, all will think in Spanish and share individual creative responses-high expectations!
- e. When students show low comprehension, slow down and clarify using quick translation checks, calling on students who demonstrate they do understand, builds confidence.
- f. Dramatize stories with student actors. We have so many phenomenal actors!
- g. Make sure each activity has a specific goal to practice at least one of the following skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing.
- h. Use surprise, humor and novel ideas to keep interest high, stress free and fun!

There are several articles posted on the HFS Spanish page that support the successful methods most currently used in World Language Classrooms. I would love to discuss any of them with you.

¡Vayan con Dios!

Jog-a-thon 2013

By Gail Hermano & Dana Negroe • Jog-a-thon Chairs

Get ready to lace up those sneakers on Thursday, March 7!

This is the date of our annual Jog-A-Thon (JAT), the school's second largest fundraiser.

For those new to the school, JAT is fun, spirited event where all students run laps at the nearby South Pasadena High School track for one hour to earn pledges they collect from family and friends.

Last year we raised more than \$40,000, so we hope to reach this goal again!

Make sure to review your 2013 JAT packet (distributed to all students in mid-January) to learn how you can help us reach our fundraising goals as well as show your school spirit! Here are some ways you can participate:

Consider a Jog-a-thon Sponsorship. Sponsorship levels range from \$65 to \$515, offering several perks to support your student and show school spirit such as personalized signs and T-shirt messages. All sponsorships count towards your annual fundraising goal. Sponsorship forms are due on Friday, February 8.

Encourage Students to Earn Pledges.

This year we are awarding mini iPads to the top two students who raise the most money in pledges! We also have lots of cool prizes including Dave & Buster's power cards, theme park tickets and restaurant gift cards to award to other top pledge earners!

Purchase an extra T-shirt, visor or hat.

Students automatically get a free T-shirt to wear for the event (thanks to the Parent Guild). But how about buying a few more for the kids to wear for PE, or getting a T-shirt for every member of your family to wear at JAT and other school events to really show your school spirit!

Donate a Gift Card.

We recognize our students, families, teachers and staff for amazing efforts related to Jog-a-thon, such as running the most laps, raising the most money, getting the most pledges and more. We could always use gift cards—anything from movies to theme park passes! If you would like to donate, please email Gail Hermano at dghermano@sbcglobal.net

Volunteer!

Whether you volunteer with the set-up, punching lap cards, refilling water bottles, cheering on the kids or even running alongside the students, we hope you will join us for this extraordinary experience. Your class Jog-a-thon coordinator will contact you soon for parent helpers.

We look forward to seeing you all on the track in March! If you have any questions, please contact **Gail Hermano** at dghermano@sbcglobal.net or **Dana Negroe** at dfabbri8@hotmail.com





Congratulations to 4th Grader Simone Crowder

This talented 4th grader designed the winning logo of this year's jog-a-thon!

Simone managed to encompass all of the elements of this fun event in her amazing and cleverly designed logo.

Her logo will be featured on this year's T-shirts and all marketing materials.

Great job, Simone!

New to Jog-a-thon... Family Food Truck Night

Make sure to bring all your family and friends to our first annual HFS Family Food Truck Night!

Friday, February 8 from 5-10 p.m.

at the school/parish parking lot.

Our lineup includes:

Firehouse Chefs

Sliders and Salads

The Grilled Cheese Truck

Gourmet Grilled Cheese Concoctions

Fist of Fusion

Hawaiian/Filipino

Fry Smith

French Fries Galore

Paradise Fine Cookies & Ice Cream

Freshly Baked Cookies and Ice Cream

10% of all proceeds will be donated to the school.

*Come out
and show your support!*

Spread the word via Facebook

www.facebook.com/HFSFOODTRUCKNIGHT

Be Our Guest!
Beauty and the Beast Announced
as the Spring Musical

Beauty and the Beast is coming to life on the Holy Family stage this Memorial Day weekend. All the beloved characters will be there.

Join the enchanted servants as Lumiere zee French candelabra, Cogsworth the t-t-tightly wound clock, and the motherly teapot Mrs. Potts try to help beautiful Belle find the beauty within a hideous beast.

Along the way we'll meet the arrogant but handsome Gaston whose sights are set on marrying Belle.

There will be grand banquets and great battles as the characters try to become human again by bringing Belle and the Beast together before the last petal falls from the enchanted rose.

Auditions Open to all 5th to 8th Grade HF Students until February 8th.

It's not too late to join in the FUN!
Individual auditions run until February 8th and are open to 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students interested in bringing this classic story to the stage.

There is something for everyone—from set design to spotlight operator to the silly girls who fawn and fight over Gaston.

Join Belle, the crew and this enchanted cast of characters as they sing and dance their way into your heart.

Questions about zee thrill of zee theatre?

Contact the Director, Tharon Garber at tharongarber@earthlink.net.