

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School October 2009 Parent Newsletter



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Friday	October	2	Faculty Meeting ½ day Dismissal at 12PM
Monday	October	12	Professional Development Day/NO SCHOOL
Monday	October	18-23	Book Fair Week
Monday	October	19	Fall Fundraiser Begins
Monday	October	26	Progress Reports Sent Home

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Anyone interested in learning “more” about the catholic faith –or any catholic or non-Catholics interested in receiving Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation should contact Laura McNeely, Director of Religious Education at 215-473-1669.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

The teachers have been given instructions to post homework and announcements. Parents should email teachers with any questions or concerns they have about their child. The email addresses are:

Sr. Sunitha Kuramithodathu, SOLM	gradepk@ourladylourdesschool.com
Ms. Leonetti-Johnson	gradek@ourladylourdesschool.com
Ms. McKnight	grade1@ourladylourdesschool.com
Sr. Julia Balu, SOLM	grade2@ourladylourdesschool.com
Ms. Barcoski	grade3@ourladylourdesschool.com
Mrs. Heim	grade4@ourladylourdesschool.com
Mr. McCarthy	grade5@ourladylourdesschool.com
Mr. Mulholland	grade6@ourladylourdesschool.com
Mr. Dotsey	grade7@ourladylourdesschool.com
Mr. Miller	grade8@ourladylourdesschool.com
Mrs. Pakalo	art@ourladylourdesschool.com
Mr. Ross	music@ourladylourdesschool.com
Mr. Neef	computer@ourladylourdesschool.com
Mrs. Bailey	TitleI@ourladylourdesschool.com

Parents may also email teachers directly from the school website. Click on “contact us” to access the teacher directory or click on “homework”, teachers are listed by grade and subject.

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHT

High school information night was held during September at Visitation BVM. Representatives from area high schools will be available with information regarding admission. Parents and students in grades 7 and 8 are welcome to attend.

September 29, 2008, 7-9PM

Visitation BVM

300 E. Lehigh Ave.

Philadelphia PA 19125

215-634-7280

HOT LUNCH BEGINS

Phyliss Gordon, Hot Lunch Manager will begin to serve Hot Lunch on Monday, October 5. **HOT LUNCH ORDERS WERE DUE AT THE OFFICE BY Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 23.** Ms. Gordon will not be able to give Hot Lunch to any student who did not have his/her order in by the due date. Ms. Gordon must submit his orders to the Child Nutrition Office two weeks in advance. Students who did not order for October must wait until the end of October to order for November. Students who did not get their orders in on time must bring their lunches during the month of October. Hot lunch order forms and menus are available on the **school website**. Click on school forms tab.

HOT LUNCH STATUS

Families can apply for free or reduced rate status for Hot Lunch. Applications were sent home in September. Families who have submitted forms must wait for official approval before children can be put on free or reduced rates. All families must pay full price for lunch until they are notified through the school or the Child Nutrition Office concerning their status for free or reduced rates. Families who were on free or reduced rates last year must submit a new application for the 2009-2010 School year.

STUDENT LUNCHESES

Parents are not allowed to delivery lunches on a daily basis. Students must bring their lunch to school in the morning. Fast food lunches are not allowed.

RESPECT LIFE MONTH

The United States Bishops have designated October as Respect Life Month. During this time we renew our commitment to build a culture of life in our society. The Archdiocese traditionally begins the month with a Mass of celebration of life on the first Sunday of October at the **Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul**. All school families are invited to attend this special celebration. The participation of our youth will send a strong message of hope for the future or pro-life ideals.

For pro-life each class room will receive a large **Baby Bottle** to donate any amount of change they would like to contribute. This is part of our school's outreach program. The collection will go to Pennsylvania Pro- Life Support

ATHLETIC MEETING AND CYO BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

Registration for boys and girls in grades 5 through 8 who are interested in playing basketball this year will be held Tuesday, October 2 at 7PM in the school cafeteria. Parents must be present. The registration fee is \$50.00 per student.

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Enclosed you will find a volunteer form for parents interested in joining the School Athletic Committee. Mr. Brooker, the Athletic Director is looking for parents interested in coaching and/or helping to supervise our basketball athletic teams. Basketball is offered to boys and girls from fifth through eighth grades. Parents interested in coaching do not need to have children in these grades in order to coach.

WALKATHON

We will have our yearly Walkathon on Thursday, October 29 from 1:30 to 2:30 PM at School. Students should wear their gym uniforms for the Walkathon. The purpose of the yearly Walkathon is to raise funds for our school. We depend on our families supporting these events. This year we ask that families pledge a minimum of \$25.00 per family if possible. Fill out the Family Pledge Sheet and return to school with your donation anytime during month of Oct. 1st to Oct. 30th.

DINNER DANCE: FALL FEST

Please, help to support this fund raiser for our school children. We encourage all families to purchase at least one ticket. A wonderful menu, dancing, silent auction –all for only **\$30.00 per person, \$50.00 for couples, \$75.00 for a family of three and \$100.00 for a family of four or more.** All proceeds will benefit Our Lady of Lourdes School. The doors will open at 6PM with dinner served at 6:30PM. Tickets are available at the School and the Parish Center as well as in the Narthex of the Church. If anyone can donate or have a company donate something for the Silent Auction, it would be greatly appreciated. Please, pass the word and join us Saturday, November 7th!!!

TERRA NOVA TESTING

The Terra Nova Achievement Test will be administered in March for grades K-8.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports for the first trimester will be sent home on Friday, October 24. Parents must sign the progress report and return it to their child's teacher on Monday. Parents should be aware that if a teacher requests a conference parents must respond. Teachers will put their request in writing on the progress report. Parents may respond to the teacher's request on the progress report.

HALLOWEEN PARTY - TBA

Our Lady of Lourdes School will be collecting candy for the Halloween Party from Oct 19th-23rd. Every Student will get a bag of candy for a treat on October 30, 2009.

SCHOOL BUS

Bus service to and from school is provided through the Philadelphia School District. Families needing bus service must submit their request in writing at the beginning of the school year. Requests are submitted to the school district. Approval for bus service is dependent on the families' home addresses and distance from the school. We are not able to request changes in bus stops that involve students going to other addresses other than where they live. Bus stops cannot be changed unless the stop scheduled for a student was a mistake and very far from their home address. We ask that families consider not asking for changes throughout the year once the bus schedule is set unless it is an emergency. Requests for changes sometimes involve changing schedules for other students.

Children may not eat or drink on the bus—they must keep their head and arms inside the bus window at all times. Bus rules must be followed or children will not be allowed to ride the school bus.

WINTER UNIFORM

Students will change to the fall/winter uniform beginning Tuesday, October 13. Refer to student handbook for complete uniform dress code, make-up and jewelry policies. Demerits or detentions will be given for non-compliance.

SCHOOL FEES

When sending money to the office we ask that parents enclose money in an envelope indicating the name of the **child, grade and purpose of the payment.**

PICTURE DAY

Picture Day is scheduled for Tuesday, October 21. Students will have their pictures taken during school hours. Order forms will be sent home at the end of October. ***WEAR SCHOOL UNIFORM***

FALL FUNDRAISER

Our fall fundraiser will begin Monday, October 19 and end Monday, November 9. We will be using the GIFTS'N THINGS, INC. This year we have added an additional weekend to sell products. Prizes will be awarded to the top selling families. The oldest child in the family will receive a catalog on October 19.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY

- Animal Blessing in front of the Church after the 10:30AM Mass
- CCD classes begin

PARENTS OF 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

Any parent of an 8th grade student that needs transcripts sent to High Schools, please send in a self-stamped addressed envelope to the school office. In order for any transcripts to be sent out all Tuition and Material Fees must be up to date.

PLEASE RETURN FAMILY BY TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7

- Lab and Materials Fee \$35 per student
- forms and checks please make sure your child's name & grade are on all forms and checks
- Walkathon Pledge/\$25.00 per family (Oct.1-Oct.30)

NO SCHOOL ON OCTOBER 12 , 2009