

Our Lady of the Assumption School

2141 Walnut Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608 (916)489-8958

January 27, 2009



With Hands to Serve and Hearts to Love



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve."

--Dr. Albert Schweitzer

Catholic Schools Week is off to a great start thanks to the outstanding work of our teachers, students, PTG, and parish. Our Open House Liturgy and Open House went very well, and I was proud of the high quality of student work on display in the classroom and school office. Our teachers have worked very hard to prepare for Open House, and I am grateful for the pride and commitment that they give to this very important annual school event. The students play a part in this too, of course. It is their hard work on display, and they were able to share with their parents the great work they are doing. Finally, I appreciate all that our PTG has planned to celebrate our school and show appreciation for our teachers. We are blessed.

On Monday morning, a very large, boisterous contingent of students greeted their teachers in front of the school with picket signs that had words like, "We love our teachers!" The sincere love and enthusiasm that they showed for each of our teachers as they entered the school was touching. I've never seen anything like it in my years of education. We see picket signs and disgruntled people on the news all the time; this was an inspiring contrast. I wish the news crews from every station in town were here to cover this story. But the affirmation of our students and parents was enough for us. Thank you students for your genuine outpouring of affection, and thank you PTG for organizing the rally and pumping up our spirits!

We have a terrific week ahead of us as we celebrate our school and Catholic education in general. Catholic Schools across the country will be joining us in celebration, and they will all be reflecting on this year's theme: *Celebrate Service*. It is a terrific theme, and one that mirrors our school motto *Hands to Serve, Hearts to Love*. Our students learn about service daily here. Service is taught, preached, and put into action all the time. We have a great constellation of role models for our students to look to in our parish, on our staff, and in our parent community. I believe that the ethics of service and Christian love are hallmarks of OLA School; furthermore, I believe that the service we give is rewarded tenfold. We are a happy community *because* of the service we give. Albert Schweitzer was right!

God bless,

Robert Love

This Week at OLA

Catholic Schools Week—Celebrate Service

- Sunday 9:30 a.m. Liturgy followed by Open House
- Monday Celebrate Community-Students began the week by gathering outside for prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. Teachers will have students write and send letters to different members of the parish, school, local, and national communities.
- Tuesday Celebrate Family-Students will develop in class a service project that they will perform for their families this week.
- Wednesday Celebrate Students / Pajama Day, **January 28**. No homework will be assigned to students on this day.
- Thursday Celebrate Teachers-The PTG and students will have a special surprise for the teachers.
- Friday Cougar Crew Day / Rally at 2:05 p.m., **January 30**, as a culminating celebration of Catholic Schools Week and our sports teams. Wear your Cougar Crew Wear with appropriate bottoms. Jeans are OK. PTG will provide lunch for faculty and staff.

Field Trip

Grade 3— Thursday, **January 29**, Dept. of Food & Agriculture, Division of Measurement Standards.

Pencil Sale

The first grade class will be selling pencils **this week** outside of Room 1 to raise money for our local sister school. Come by and check it out before school, during lunch recess, and after school. Each pencil sells for \$1.

Next Week at OLA

Book Swap

Wednesday, **February 4**, God Squad Book Swap.

CSAC Meeting

Thursday, **February 5**, AT 6:30 P.M.

Minimum Day

Friday, **February 6**, is a minimum day due to a faculty meeting.

Free Dress!

Friday, **February 6**, is a free dress day IF you donate \$1 to benefit Palestinian Catholic school children.

OLA Choir “Heaven Bound Singers”

Our next liturgy is:

Saturday, **February 7** at 5:30 p.m. Mass.

Dress: Saturday—Boys: shirt and tie, if possible. Best pants and shoes (dress shoes if you have them).
Girls: best dress, skirt outfit or pants outfit (no jeans). Best shoes (no flip flops or heels).

Bits & Pieces

OLA Claims Boys Varsity Comp Team Annual Jesuit Junior Classic Title

The OLA Cougars defeated 2-time defending champion, St. Ignatius, 36-30 in overtime to claim the prestigious Jesuit Junior Classic title on Monday, January 19. Lead by Tourney MVP, Casey Reilly, the Cougars used their size to great advantage as Reilly and fellow post and All Tourney performer, Andrew Augustine, pounded the boards and rang up points (12 and 14 respectively). Patrick Risley found Andrew Augustine inside for a basket to tie the game. In overtime, the Cougars made six free throws and emerged with the hard fought win.

The 2009 Jesuit Junior Classic All-tournament team as selected by coaches and tournament officials include: Casey Reilly, Tournament MVP, Patrick Risley, Andrew Augustine, and Thomas Sperbeck. We are so proud of our OLA Cougars. Congratulations!

Missoula Audition Sign-ups

Remember that audition permission slips will go home with all students in grades 1 through 8 on Monday, February 2. We will begin accepting permission slips in the office on February 3 in an orderly manner. This year there will be a limited amount of students in each age group accepted for auditions. If your child is interested in being in *Pinocchio*, please note these time frames. Thank you.

Book Swap

The God Squad's annual book swap will be held on Wednesday, February 4. You may bring in your gently used books to the seventh grade classroom before school between January 12 to 30. For each book your child donates, he/she will get to select a different book. Leftover books will be sold for 25¢ each on Thursday, February 5.

4th Grade Girl Scout Troop 2188

The 4th grade Girl Scouts have earned the "Family of God" Catholic religious award from the Catholic Youth Ministry/Diocese of Sacramento. A recognition ceremony will be held at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on Saturday, February 7, at 10:00 a.m. Bishop Soto will officiate over the ceremony. Father Brendan will formally present the pins to the girls at a ceremony on a date to be determined.

Parents Growing in Faith

Discussion groups meet on Mondays at 8:00 a.m. and Thursdays at 1:45 p.m. in St. Paul's Room. You are welcome to attend either day. If you have any questions, please contact Jane at mommyricci@sbcglobal.net.

2009/2010 New OLA Family Applications

Applications are now available in the school office for new families interested in joining our OLA community. Please let interested families know that applications will be accepted through March 6. Please encourage interested families to attend our OLA Information Night on Tuesday, February 10 at 7:00 p.m. in St. John's Hall.

Box Tops for Education

Congratulations to the 5th grade class who won the Box Tops for Education contest, collecting 585 box tops! Great job 5th graders, you all win a special treat! Third grade came in 2nd with 510 and 1st grade a very close third with 503 box tops. Thanks to all who collected. We earned over \$250 for our school. Please keep collecting those box tops and sending them in—it's an easy fund raiser for our school!

Bits & Pieces (continued)

Re-Membering for Returning Catholics (please note the change in the start date)

This welcoming process will begin on Tuesday, February 3 at 7:00 p.m. in St. Paul's room. This is an eight-week program that will meet every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. We will facilitate a comfortable return to the church community with discussion and information sharing geared to help you gain a confident understanding and participation in your faith. Please contact Jane Ricci at 481-5115 if you have any Questions.

Crab Feed

St. John the Evangelist School is hosting the 26th Annual Crab Feed Dinner Dance on Saturday, February 7, from 6:00 p.m. to midnight. St. John's is located at 5701 Locust Avenue, Carmichael. 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. is no-host bar, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. is dinner, raffle and wine auction, and 9:00 p.m. to midnight is dancing. The cost is \$39 per person. For more information please call the school office at 481-8845. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Auction Thank You Letters

The 560 auction thank you letters were sent out last week. Unfortunately, there are 36 letters we are unable to find addresses for. Please review the list of names below. If you know the person listed and are able to deliver their letters, please pick up their letters in the school office. Thank you so much for all your help.

Mr. John Allen
Mr. & Mrs. Billy & Annie Bunfield
Mr. Sam Chacoor
Ms. Lisa Coleman
Mr. Lester Collins
Mr. & Mrs. Joe & Laura Cravenho
Ms. Mary Degraf
Mr. & Mrs. Rich & Shannon Gray
Mr. & Mrs. John & Sandy Healy
Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Holly Hemond
Mr. & Mrs. Jim & Jane Ison
Ms. Jane Desmond Ison
Mr. & Mrs. Roy & Helen Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Nick & Julie Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Cullis & Mary Jones

Ms. Judy Kawa
Ms. Jennifer Langley
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry & Pat Lawman
Mr. & Mrs. Todd & Laura Lewis
Mr. & Mrs. Mastagni
Ms. Terri McGuffey
Mr. Christopher McSwain
Mr. & Mrs. Dave & Sonja Merold
Ms. Shelley Orlando-Epstein
Mr. & Mrs. Ramatici
The Rogers Family
Mr. & Mrs. Bryan & Selena Srabian
Valley Lighting Company
Mr. & Mrs. Mike & Kellie Valdez
Mr. & Mrs. Jason & Lorie Powers