

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School



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September 2010 Parent Newsletter

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

Our Lady of Lourdes administrators, faculty and staff wish to extend a warm welcome to all our students and their families, especially to our new students and families. We are looking forward to a happy and successful school year!

Our Lady of Lourdes School has a new school website, www.ourladylourdesschool.com. Please use the website to contact teachers, to check homework assignments, to check school calendar, and newsletters. Even this year all the information will be on our website. We are not going to send the monthly calendar and newsletter in the family envelope, for all the information please refer to our school website.

FACULTY CHANGES

The summer months brought some changes to our faculty for the coming year. Warm welcome to Sr. Eleanora Anthonappa, SOLM, 5th grade teacher; Ms. Searles, Art Teacher; Lynn Hudgins, School Nurse; Mrs. Fuhermeister, Title I Teacher and Mr. Marshall; School Maintenance

STAFF AND FACULTY FOR 2010-2011

Pastor:	Fr. James Mayer, O. de M.
Principal	Sr. Rose Mary Balappa, SOLM
Secretary	Mrs. McDonald
Pre-Kindergarten	Sr. Sunitha Kurumthodathu, SOLM
Kindergarten	Mrs. Leonetti-Johnson
1 st Grade	Ms. McKnight
2 nd Grade	Sr. Julia Balu, SOLM
3 rd Grade	Ms. Barcoski
4 th Grade	Mrs. Heim
5 th Grade	Sr. Eleanora Anthonappa, SOLM
6 th Grade	Mr. Mullaholland
7 th Grade	Mr. Dotsey
8 th Grade	Mr. Miller

Library	Mrs. Jimmo
Art	Ms. Searles
Music	Mr. Ross
Computer	TBA
Title 1 Reading	Mrs. Fuhermeister

WEDDING BELLS

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Dotsey, our seventh grade teacher. They were married on August 28, 2010 in Philadelphia. We wish them a happy married life. God Blessings be with them as they start a new life together.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

School begins Wednesday, September 8 for **grades 1-8**. School dismisses at 12 PM on September 8, 9, and 10. Full day classes begin Monday, September 13 for grades 1-8.

School begins on Monday, September 13 for **Pre-K and Kindergarten**. Dismissal is at 12 PM September 13-17 for **Pre-K and K only**. Full day classes begin Monday, September 20 for PK and K.

School is in session from 8:10 AM until 2:55 PM. Students arriving after 8:10 must report to the office for a late slip.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

The Back to School Night for parents of children in Pre-K and Kindergarten is scheduled for Tuesday, September 7 and for Grades 1 through 8 is scheduled for Thursday, September 16. The program will begin at 7:00 PM in the School Cafeteria. We will have a special speaker from Huntington Learning Center to speak about the importance of Homework and how the parents can assist their children with their homework. Then the parents will proceed to the classroom where the teachers will explain curriculum and their class expectations. We ask that no child/en attend this meeting, it is for parents only. **It is a mandatory meeting**. We hope to see everyone.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

The teachers will begin to post homework and announcements on the web. Parents should email teachers with any questions or concerns they have about their child. Do not expect the reply during the school hours. Teachers are allowed to e-mail during their prep time or/and after school hours. The email addresses are:

Sr. Sunitha	gradepk@ourladyourdesschool.com
Mrs. Leonetti-Johnson	gradek@ourladyourdesschool.com
Ms. McKnight	grade1@ourladyourdesschool.com
Sr. Julia Balu, SOLM	grade2@ourladyourdesschool.com
Ms. Barcoski	grade3@ourladyourdesschool.com
Mrs. Heim	grade4@ourladyourdesschool.com
Sr. Eleanora, SOLM	grade5@ourladyourdesschool.com
Mr. Mullaholland	grade6@ourladyourdesschool.com

Mr. Dotsey grade7@ourladyourdesschool.com
Mr. Miller grade8@ourladyourdesschool.com
Ms. Searles art@ourladyourdesschool.com
Mr. Ross music@ourladyourdesschool.com
Mrs. Fuhermeister reading@ourladyourdesschool.com
(Title 1 reading teacher)

CARES PROGRAM

The CARES Program: before and after-school care will begin on Monday, September 13 for students in grades 1 through 8. CARES program for Pre-K and Kindergarten will start Monday, September 20. Parents must send to school the CARES Registration Form and payment of \$25.00 before the children can participate in the program. Registration information is on the web.

2010-2011 STUDENT COUNCIL 2010-2011 INSTALLATION

Installation of the Student Council is scheduled to take place after the 8:30AM Mass on Wednesday, September 15. Parents and friends are invited to attend. We congratulate the following students:

President:	Simone Williams
Vice-President:	Jessica Hugee
Treasurer:	Celina Jones
Secretary:	Sara Bien-Aime

Classroom Representatives

Grade 6	Yahnira Dogan
Grade 5	Eryka Hightower Diamond Lee Samantha Scroggins Alana Shavers
Grade 4	Ahmarri Jenkins Desiree Junfijiah

SHELTER IN PLACE SUPPLIES

All students must bring a shelter in place food bag to school. We are asking for a gallon size food bag containing a 16oz bottle of water and a non-perishable snack such as saltine crackers, graham crackers, or cereal bars for your child. **Please do not bring any food with nuts or peanut butter.**

UNIFORM POLICY

Parents are once again reminded that golf shirts must be worn tucked into the uniform skirt and trousers. Please no oversized golf shirts. This year the uniform store is selling a banded golf shirt. The length of the uniform jumper and skirt for girls is at the knee not above the knee.

Please remember that the white golf shirts are worn by the girls and the light blue golf shirts are worn by the boys. The uniform policy is strictly enforced.

MEDICATIONS

If a student has a food allergy, asthma, or other life threatening condition the parent must supply the school with the proper medication. Failure to do so may result in your child being suspended from school until the medication is received in the school office. All medications must be in the original container with the prescription label attached.

GOVERNMENT TEXTBOOK FORM

Each family is asked to complete the Government Textbook Form and return it to school in the Family Envelope. We are required to keep an updated form for each family on file.

PARENT-STUDENT HANDBOOK

The updated Parent-Student Handbook is found on our school website. Please read and discuss the handbook with your child. Please discuss the school policies with your children. All the parents and students must sign the policy book agreement in September.

HOT LUNCH MANAGER

Ms. Williams is our Hot Lunch Supervisor and Br. Gerard is our Hot Lunch Manager. Hot Lunch will begin on Monday, October 4, 2010. All students must bring lunch from home in September. Families interested in ordering Hot Lunch for the month of October should fill out the Monthly Order Form (money enclosed) that will be distributed to the students the latter part of September. **Hot Lunch must be paid in advance.** Students **may not** pay for lunch on a daily basis. There are **no refunds** if a child is absent or leaves school early.

LAB AND TECHNOLOGY FEE

Lab and Tech Fee will be due with the tuition this year. Payments started in July and will end in April. The fee is \$15.00 for Pre-K and Kindergarten and \$38.00 per month for grades 1-8.

STUDENT ABSENCES

Parents must call the school before 9 AM on days your child is absent. The absent note with the reason must be brought to school when the students return to school.

EMERGENCY FORMS

If you have not yet filled out your child/ren Emergency Form, please complete the form and send back to school in the Family Envelope during first week of school. In cases of any emergencies, we need to have current emergency numbers on file. Please inform the office if any of the emergency numbers change throughout the school year.

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL FOR CARS

Cars coming into the schoolyard at the beginning and end of the day must form a line. Parents are asked to stay in their cars. Students are not permitted to walk through the schoolyard. Teachers will put children into cars one car at a time. We ask for your cooperation and patience with the arrival and dismissal procedure for cars. This procedure will ensure the good order and safety for all students and parents

TELEPHONE USE/MESSAGES FOR STUDENTS

No student may call home during the school day. Please make sure that students have all materials, assignments and other needed items before leaving home. Students may not call home for homework, permission slips or to change their dismissal arrangements. Should the need arise to get a message to your student, please call the school office allowing sufficient time to deliver your message. Any student found using a cell phone on school grounds will have the device confiscated and held by the principal until picked up by a parent. We are not responsible for the lost and/or damaged phone.

ELECTRONICS/UNWANTED MATERIALS

Students are not permitted to possess the following items on school property or at school functions: Electronic games or devices, including PDAs, MP3 players, ipods, CD players, gameboys, PSP, cameras, etc... are not permitted at any time on school grounds. Any electronic device found on a student during the regular school day will be confiscated. Laser pens or laser pointers, as well as liquid correcting fluid, are not permitted on school grounds. We are not responsible for lost or/and damaged items.

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHT

High School information night will be held on Tuesday, September 28, 2010 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 28, 2010 from 7-9PM

Visitation BVM

300 E. Lehigh Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19125

215-634-7280

ELWYN PERMISSION FORMS

Enclosed in this month's family envelope is an Elwyn permission form. This is a "universal" permission form allowing students to receive any of the services offered through the program. Please sign and return the form by Monday, September 13.

GOOD NEWS:

- ✓ We completed in updating all textbooks for Pre-K through 8
- ✓ With the help of Title I and Archdiocese we got 25 new computers to our computer lab.
- ✓ With the help of parishioners and donors we are looking into installing seven Smart boards in the classrooms
- ✓ Our School got Re-Accredited by the Middle States for six years.

REMINDERS: Return in the Family Envelope by first week of school or on Monday, September 13.

1. Government Textbook Form/Policy Book Form
2. Family Emergency Form

3. CARES Registration Form and \$25
4. Emergency Medical Form (those who did not submit)
5. Acceptable Use Policy for Technology
6. Elwyn “Universal” permission form
7. Shelter in place bags

