

Holy Name of Jesus School Newsletter

From the Principal...

On behalf of the staff and students of Holy Name of Jesus School, I would like to wish all of our HNJ families and parishioners a blessed Christmas and a HEALTHY, HAPPY New Year! **During this time of giving, your generosity and support to our school is a constant reminder of the gift that all of you are to our school community. God bless you all.**

A Reflective Christmas prayer:

Father God, When your precious Son became a tiny baby in a stable in Bethlehem in poverty and simplicity, you changed our world. As we imagine those surroundings, we join with the shepherds and the wise men in wonder and praise. We thank you for our material lives, praise you for our spiritual lives, and trust in you for our eternal life. Amen

Dig In Everybody *By: Meenu Johnkutty, Grade 7*

Our annual Thanksgiving prayer service and luncheon took place on Tuesday, November 24, 2011. We started the day with high spirits and good moods. We filed into the church with a food offering to put on the altar later. We thanked God for many things including our school which was in danger of closing down last year. When the time came we placed our food item on the altar to be blessed and brought to the soup kitchen and given to the less fortunate. After that we sat down in the gym which was decorated nicely by the adults that came to volunteer. The food was scrumptious and many people even went for seconds. The feast was prepared nicely by Mr. and Mrs. Sinopoli along with many volunteers. Overall, we should thank all the volunteers, teachers, and especially the Parent Council who coordinated the event.

Second Grade Receives First Reconciliation *By: Eileen Cacsire, Grade 8*

Reconciliation is a sacrament of healing that gives the opportunity to cleanse you from your sins and brings you closer to God. It is a sacrament in which is required to be received before the First Holy Communion.

On Monday, December 5, Mrs. Gembecki's Second Grade class received this sacrament of healing. During their First Penance, there was a prayer service. The children said the Act of Contrition in unison and each had an opportunity to go into the confessional for the first time. Parents attended the ceremony as well. Afterwards, the families enjoyed the refreshments that the third grade provided.



The Christmas Concert

By: Monica Gayanelo, Grade 8

On Monday, December 12, grades Kindergarten to fifth grade dressed up and came in holiday spirits to sing their hearts out. The Christmas concert, directed by Mrs. Gerbosi, was an exciting event for everyone. Students felt happy to be on stage and sang songs, from "Jingle, Jingle, Jingle" to "Carol of the Bells." The first grade performed their wonderful Nativity play, and last but not least was the outstanding finale of "Silent Night". This brought tears to many people's eyes, making the audience realize the true meaning of Christmas.

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Principal, Mrs. Toni Conso-Stults

***As the winter weather approaches, the IRIS alert system will notify parents of any school delays or closings via phone and/or email. Please be sure to call the school office if any contact information changes.**



First Quarter Honor Roll *By: Morgan Blank, Grade 6*

On Thursday, December 8, 2011, on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, was the Holy Name of Jesus Honor Roll Assembly. Being it was a Holy Day of Obligation, the students all went to Mass together. Immediately after the Mass, the students were given their awards if they made honor roll. Honor Roll ranges from grades 3-8. 34 students received a pin for first or second honors. Congratulations to the following honor roll students for all of their hard work and effort!

First Honors

Grade 4- Shannon Hoffman
Kirsten Giuliano

Grade 5- Sarah Brone
Andrei Captan
Nicholas Giuliano
Daniel Serra
Tyler Tsiakaros

Grade 6- Morgan Blank
Ginny Cacsire
T.J. Hebrank
A.J. Sinopoli

Grade 7- Jerry Brone
Christopher Giuliano
Meenu Johnkutty
Jared Sirois

Grade 8- Eileen Cacsire
Monica Gayanelo
Jerrin Kakkanatt
Stephen Mateo

Second Honors

Grade 3- Jimmy Brone
Peter Cacsire
Ciara Daly

Grade 4- Patrick Gayanelo
Anthony Golden

Grade 5- Michael Abbamont
Deanna McCullough
Collin Hall

Grade 6- Nicole Capizzuto
Liana DiVitto
Adrianna Nigro

Grade 7- Caitlin Daly
Johanna Torres

Grade 8- Nicole Bregante
Kelly Ann Nichols

Student Council Induction Ceremony

By: Monica Gayanelo, Grade 8

On November 22, 2011, the recently elected Student Council for the 2011-2012 school year had their induction ceremony. The members were formally introduced to the school and were blessed by Father Joe. With smiles all around, they received Student Council pins, wearing them with honor for the rest of the day. **They promised to work hard for a promising, fantastic school year and to spread God's love around the whole community.**

Nicole Bregante - President
KellyAnn Nichols - Vice-President
Monica Gayanelo- Secretary
Eileen Cacsire- Treasurer

Andrei Captan - 5th grade Class President

Anthony Sinopoli and Morgan Blank
- 6th grade Class Co-Presidents

Caitlin Daly and Meenu Johnkutty
- 7th grade Class Co- Presidents

Ring Day *By: Monica Gayanelo, Grade 8*

On December 2, 2011, the Holy Name eighth graders, Class of 2012, received their beautiful momentous class rings. After the first Friday mass, the future graduates received Father Joe's blessing and slipped the sapphire blue and aquamarine crystal encrusted rings onto their fingers. The eighth grade class had a fun-filled day, having the school students and faculty turn their rings many times towards their pinky fingers, symbolizing good luck in their future. **These rings will remind the students of the many cherished memories made throughout their years at HNJ.**

Valuable Students *By: Anthony Sinopoli, Grade 6*

Every month, the kindergartners through eighth graders are awarded a value of the month pin. One person from each grade is chosen by his/her teacher. **During the month of November, the value that was acknowledged was "being open to change". The following students set an example for this value:**

Kindergarten - Devin Campbell
1st Grade - Melanie Cotrone
2nd Grade - Erick Barros
3rd Grade - Jenifer Guaman

4th Grade - Derek DeLeon
5th Grade - Deanna McCullough
6th Grade - Jorge Palacios
7th Grade - Stacey Misaray
8th Grade - Niclolle Bregante

Swedish Raffle

Our Swedish Raffle took place on November 12th with about 120 people in attendance. Parishioners, school families, and friends gathered to enjoy a delicious dinner from Ernesto's in White Plains, to win prizes, and have a good time. The event raised almost \$15,000 for our school! Many thanks to Maggie Hoffman and the Swedish Raffle Committee for organizing yet another successful night!

Writing of the Month Winners

By: Anthony Sinopoli, Grade 6

Each month, the writing of the month contest takes place. The first through eighth graders participate. Each class writes an essay pertaining to the topic of that month. **The winners for the month of October are:**

1 st Grade - Sara Vala	5 th Grade - Nicholas Giuliano
2 nd Grade - Daniella Grono	6 th Grade - Thomas Hebrank
3 rd Grade - Peter Cacsire	7 th Grade - Jerry Brone
4 th Grade - Joshin Johnkutty	8 th Grade - Imani Campbell

Spread The Word

For those of you that are aware of Holy Name of Jesus School's fine reputation, we are sure that you are familiar with the outstanding education we provide for grades PreK-8th grade. Our graduates have gone on to attend the finest preparatory schools, such as Regis High School, Fordham Prep, Good Counsel, and Hackley (to name a few).

What many of you may not know is that we also offer many child enrichment programs including, music, art, Student Council, and Peer Tutoring. We understand the importance of nurturing a child's mind together with a solid religious formation. We believe that in addition to preparing our students for the next phase of their academic careers, we help to lay the foundation for a productive and prosperous life.

In order to keep the successes of Holy Name ongoing, the school needs constant support. This year, in addition to our fundraising which helps to defer increasing costs, we have a goal to increase enrollment by 20%. **Tell a friend, distribute flyers, stay involved, are simple ways that you can help us achieve this goal. Help us continue to make a lasting impression on a child's life.**

PLEASE JOIN US AT OUR NEXT OPEN HOUSE:

**“TEAMWORK DIVIDES THE TASK AND
DOUBLES THE SUCCESS”**

An Interview with Mrs. Malcolm

By Nicole Bregante and KellyAnn Nichols, Grade 8

Q. How do you like our school so far?

A. *“I love your school. I feel like I've been here forever and it's only been a few months. Everyone's been very helpful-from the students, to the teachers, even when I make mistakes.”*

Q. Where have you taught in the past?

A. *“St. Joseph's in Croton Falls for twenty-two years, also one year in the Bronx.”*

Q. What do you like most about teaching in a Catholic school?

A. *“I like teaching my religion. I like sharing my faith with the students.”*

Q. Do you have children of your own?

A. *“I do. I have three; Alison is sixteen, T.J. is thirteen, and Annie is eleven.”*

Q. What's your favorite subject to teach and why?

A. *“It's a toss up between religion and math. Religion because I love to share my faith and math because there's so much to do, especially play games.”*

Q. Do you have any hobbies?

A. *“I love to read but I'm a hockey mom. I'm also president of the Hockey Association so I'm driving a lot. I play golf and love to travel.”*

