



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School Newsletter
3801 N Miller Rd ~ Scottsdale, AZ 85258 ~ (480) 874-3720
www.olphaz.com/school

November 10, 2009

Dear Parents:

As the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday season fast approaches we need to pause and reflect on why we celebrate these holidays. Have a very enjoyable Thanksgiving.

OLPH PRIDE

O.L.P.H's eighth grader, Patrick Hull, was a top ten national finalist in the Aaron Brothers "Show Us Your America" art contest. His entry was chosen by a panel of professional judges from over 150 semi-finalists submitted by Aaron Brothers art stores throughout the country.

All School Mass

The entire Student Body and the Faculty will celebrate School Mass on the following dates:

- November 11th with homeroom 8B serving as Liturgical Ministers
- November 25th with the 3rd graders serving as Liturgical Ministers
- December 8th with homeroom 7B serving as Liturgical Ministers
- December 18th with the 6th grade serving as Liturgical Ministers

YMCA Aftercare

The program is held in Maguire Hall each day after school until 6 p.m. At present 19 students are using the service. All staff members are trained, have a positive attitude, background checked, fingerprinted and have the four character values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility.

Thank You Booster Club

The teachers, school staff and parish staff would like to thank those who worked hard and treated us to a wonderful Staff Appreciation Luncheon.



From the Nurses Office

A reminder to parents about attendance:

Tardy - if a student will be reporting to school AFTER 9:00 a.m. parent must call the absentee line 480-874-3727, before 9:00 a.m.

Absences - all absences MUST be called in to the ABSENTEE LINE 480-874-3727, even if a note has been submitted to the teacher.

Please feel free to call the Health Office if you have any questions.

Website Links

- [School Website](#)
- [Teacher Websites](#)
- [School Calendar](#)
- [Wednesday Flyers](#)

Important Dates

- 11/11 All School Mass
- 11/13 Early Dismissal 11:30 a.m.
- 11/15 OLPH Family Carnival
- 11/17 Art Masterpiece Workshop
9 a.m. - Noon
- 11/19 Principal Appreciation Day
- 11/20 First Reconciliation for 2nd grade
- 11/24 Parent Advisory Meeting
7 p.m.
- 11/25 All School Mass 10 a.m. and
Early Dismissal at 11:30 a.m.
- 11/26 No School – Happy
Thanksgiving
- 11/27 No School
- 11/30 No School
- 12/1 Reconciliation Grades 6 - 8
- 12/2 Reconciliation Grades 3 - 5
- 12/3 8th grade Retreat
- 12/9 Band Concert
- 12/8 All School Mass
- 12/11 Early Dismissal 11:30 a.m.

November:

Discipline with Purpose

#3 Asking Questions, #7 Reason for Rules & #13 Initiating Solutions

Student Learning Expectation

Lifelong Learner

OLPH Boosters

What's up with the Boosters?

Wow, look at what we've already done:

1. The **Fall Fundraiser** raised \$30,000. Good work, Celtics!
2. **Ice Cream Social**: Thank you for the best turn-out yet!
What a sweet way to build our community.
3. **Faith in Action** collected items for Casa Linda, a shelter that helps young mothers keep their infants.
4. An **Appreciation** lunch from Grimaldi's to express our thanks for the backbone of our community, our staff.
5. **OLPH Carnival**:
HUGE thanks to Suzanne Iacono, Annie Hoyle, Lisa Sifert and Angela Cartwright for hours of work to make this event come to life.
 - a. Thanks to homeroom parents for pulling together the games.
 - b. Thanks to all of our underwriters for their financial assistance.
 - c. Thanks to the Decker family for the donation of the hot dogs and the Men of OLPH for cooking them.
 - d. Thanks to the Ticket committee for bringing in the dough.
 - e. Thanks to the vendors for supporting this new event.
 - f. Thanks to the City of Scottsdale for the fire truck.
 - g. Thanks to the Student Council for their enthusiasm at the pep rally.
 - h. Thanks to the OLPH community for coming together to make this event a success.

And so much more to come:

1. **Art Masterpiece**: Kick off workshop on Tuesday, November 17th.
2. **Springfest**: Let's look ahead. We are fortunate to have Lisa Meyer, Maria Maddock and Lina Van Vleet volunteer to co-host.
Hold on tight, and away we go!



Remember, we are all the Booster Club: students, parents, teachers and staff. Thank you for playing your part.

Happy Thanksgiving!

City of Scottsdale Youth Sports Program

The City of Scottsdale youth sports program is fielding 4th – 5th grade football and volleyball teams after school at OLPH. The 31 flag-football players practice on Mondays and Wednesday and play their games either on Friday or Saturday. The 15 girls on the volleyball teams practice on Tuesday and Thursday and play their games on Saturday. The program is available to OLPH students and any child that resides in the OLPH neighborhood.

The Future Cities Team, led by Science teacher Deborah Magish, with their mentor, Jennifer Bohac, and student coach, Rebecca, toured Scottsdale's newest and most environmentally friendly fire station at the corner of Indian School and Miller on October 21st. The students were doing research for their project.



Sports Scores

The 7th grade Volleyball team finished the season with 6 wins and 9 losses. In the CYAA tournament they defeated St. Mary Basha before 2 straight match defeats eliminated them from competition.

The 8th grade Volleyball team ended their season with 8 wins and 6 losses. In the CYAA tournament they lost their first 2 matches and were eliminated from the tournament.

The 7th grade Football team finished with 5 wins and 8 losses. In the CYAA tournament they lost to St. Thomas 20-0 in their first game and came back in their second game defeating their opponent 24 -6. They lost their 3rd tournament game 21-7 in the double elimination tournament.

The 8th grade Football team finished their season with 9 wins and 6 losses and a tie. In the CYAA Tournament the team lost in the first round 26 – 12 to St. Thomas. The Celtics beat Christ Lutheran 47-0 and SS Simon and Jude 35-18 before being eliminated from the tournament by St. Francis 32 – 8.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
7655 East Main Street
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
(480) 947-4331

November 4, 2009

Dear Parents,

Recently, at the “Night of Hope”, Elinor Ford spoke very enthusiastically about Catholic School Education. She mentioned three main points – learning, community and faith development.

At OLPH, we have a very strong learning environment. The children are doing very well at each grade level, and the children who are a little behind, we are working with them.

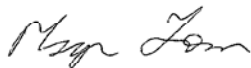
The community spirit is wonderful. We have great support from parents and a bunch of happy kids who are willing to learn.

Our faith community is where we depend on the help of parents. At school we have prayers, Masses and Scripture. But the real teaching is at home, where parents pray with their children, where they speak lovingly and positively about God and are committed to attend Mass every Sunday. One hour a week with the community in prayer is a great balance in daily living. Fr. Peyton’s phrase was, “The family that prays together stays together.” What better way to celebrate Sunday than by attending Mass as a family with your own church community.

We could mandate church attendance for OLPH students – it is much more effective if families do it on their own from the heart.


Best wishes to all for a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas.

God bless,



Rev. Msgr. Thomas Hever
Pastor

OLPH Scrip Corner

- **Harkin's Loyalty Cups** available after November 23rd ... just in time for the holidays. **Prepackaged cups available for purchase \$20/ea.** Each cup prepackaged with candy and \$10 Harkin's movie card. The cups can be used throughout 2010 for \$1.00 drinks... anytime. Great gifts for neighbors, friends, family, teenagers, movie goers, babysitters, anyone who enjoys going to the movies, etc...
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- **See's Christmas Candy** available November 15th until "Sold Out!" 2 different 4 oz. boxes to choose from... \$6.00/box and 50% profit to your Scrip profit... that's \$3.00/box profit! Buy for family, friends, neighbors, babysitters, present topper, etc.
 - New Scrip Retailer Available... **Dick's Sporting Goods...** buy your sports' items on-line or in-store!
 - **Wal-Mart Scrip cards can also be used at Sam's Club.** They are available in \$25 and \$100 increments... always available for your convenience!
 - Attention **Bashas' shoppers...** OLPH can make up to \$5000 for our school. Just attach **our group #24554 to your Bashas' thank you card** the next time you buy groceries... Bashas will donate 1% of your grocery purchases to OLPH. Thank you!
 - **Online Ordering... coming soon!** Watch the website for details and starting date. Added convenience with your Scrip purchases!
 - Christmas Shopping made easy! (**adding Thursdays**)... Come to the **Scrip table in December: 3 days a week, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday!** We will be filling orders 3 days/week! Shop early for Christmas presents! It's one stop shopping!
 - **"Adopt a Family" program and Scrip Cards...** purchase **grocery cards** for your adopted family. No time to get the gift... you can also **purchase Target or Wal-Mart cards** right at the Scrip table. The Adopt a Family coordinator can buy what they still need for the adopted families.



Classroom News

Kindergarten Classrooms

The students in room K-A and room K-B put their "faith in action" by collecting food items for the OLPH Society of St. Vincent De Paul. Each class received a *Certificate of Appreciation* in recognition of their "faithful work" collecting and donating food to the OLPH chapter.

Classroom 1A

The children in 1A recently learned the Gratitude Prayer. Every morning each child says, "I bless with gratitude.....," and names something for which he/she is grateful. The children have expressed gratitude for things like an eraser, a fall leaf, a cool day, clean water, air, friends, a good breakfast, holidays, family, teachers, OLPH School, and God.

The purpose of this prayer is to help the children recognize the many blessings in their lives, to praise and thank God for them, and in doing so draw more of God's abundance and blessings into their lives. As the holiday season approaches Ms Denney and I would like to bless with gratitude all of you wonderful parents and the delightful children you've entrusted to our care. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

3rd Grade

The Best Pumpkin Day Ever! Third graders are pumpkin experts! We observed and studied individual pumpkins; we asked questions, made predictions/estimations and recorded our data on a graphic source. We applied our Critical Thinking to compare measurements and classifications. We hope the information was effectively communicated at home by your 3rd grader.



Library Corner

The Grand Canyon Reader Award is a program for students across the state of Arizona. A committee has put together a list of great books in the following categories: Picture Book, Intermediate and Tween. The titles are available for check out at our school library. Students vote annually in late March on their favorite book in these categories. The author and illustrator of the winning book in each category is awarded the Grand Canyon Reader Award. The books nominated for the 2010 GCRA are as follows:



Picture Books

- Born to Read by Judy Sierra (2008)
- Charlie Cook's Favorite Book by Julia Donaldson (2008)
- The Cheese by Margie Palatini (2007)
- Chester by Melanie Watt (2007)
- Delilah D. at the Library by Jeanne Willis (2006)
- Dimity Dumpty: the Story of Humpty's Little Sister by Bob Graham (2006)
- Grandpa for Sale by Dotti Enderle (2007)
- Help Me, Mr. Mutt! --Expert Answers for Dogs With People Problems by Janet Stevens (2008)
- Tex and Sugar: a Big City Kitty Ditty by Barbara Johansen Newman (2007)
- Wild West Bananza by Paul Frank (2008)

Intermediate

- Brendan Buckley's Universe and Everything In It by Sundee Tucker Frazier (2007)
- Cornelia and the Audacious Escapades of the Somerset Sisters by Lesley Blume (2006)
- The Daring Adventures of Penhaligon Brush by S. Jones Rogan (2007)
- Emmy and the Incredible Shrinking Rat by Lynne Jonell (2007)
- The Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary School by Candace Fleming (2007)
- Ibbey's Magic Weekend by Heather Dyer (2008)
- The Lemonade War by Jacqueline Davies (2007)
- Oggie Cooder by Sarah Weeks (2008)
- Swindle by Gordon Korman (2008)
- The Year of the Dog by Grace Lin (2006)

Tween

- Airman by Eoin Colfer (2008)
- Book of a Thousand Days by Shannon Hale (2007)
- Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam by Cynthia Kadohata (2007)
- Night of the Howling Dogs by Graham Salisbury (2007)
- Paint the Wind by Pam Munoz Ryan (2007)
- Rules by Cynthia Lord (2006)
- Schooled by Gordon Korman (2007)
- Skulduggery Pleasant by Derek Landy (2007)
- Taken by Edward Bloor (2007)
- The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt (2007)

5TH Grade

Fifth grade Science students have begun a study of Animal Diversity, examining the often profound differences between invertebrate and vertebrate groups. They have constructed models of the spinal column, using pipe cleaners, pasta wheels, and Lifesavers candy. Hard Lifesavers are threaded onto the pipe cleaner, alternating with the pasta wheels. Students observe the erect structure but its relative inflexibility. Then, they strip the pipe cleaner and rebuild their model, this time alternating the pasta wheels with soft (gummy) Lifesavers. This helps them understand how the structure remains erect and supportive, while the bones are somewhat cushioned, as our vertebrae are, alternated with cartilage. God really knew what he was doing when he most wonderfully and fearfully" made us, didn't he?

During the month of October, both 5th grade classes completed a Native American Project. The students were required to choose a tribe from a region and time period that we had been studying. Students then wrote and presented a personal narrative of "their" life as a Native American child of that tribe. Included in the narrative was information on the environment, housing, daily life and chores, and what was eaten and how the food was obtained. All reports were presented as an oral report using the rubric for Effective Communicator-Oral, one of our school's Student Learning Expectations. Next up – We become explorers, map makers, ship builders, and sea captains during the "Age of Exploration."

6th Grade

Sixth graders are studying adjectives and will be creating their own restaurant. Students will work in computers and English to create a logo, business cards, a map of their restaurant and a complete descriptive menu. Order up!

The sixth graders are creating their very own Sumerian city-state! The year is 3500B.C. and the nomadic travelers occupying the lands known as Mesopotamia have decided to settle down and build a city. Our 6th graders are taking on the roles needed to accomplish this large task. They have worked together to develop blue prints for their 3D project. This week they have started the construction process and have realized the value of team work. By next week, our city-states will be complete and the 6th graders will be presenting their final accomplishments.

Spanish Classes



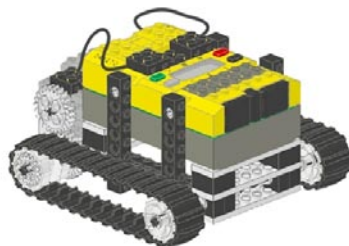
All of the students in the school worked to create a beautiful Día de los Muertos ofrenda in the front office. Students learned that this Mexican celebration of the feasts of All Saints and All Souls is a beautiful way to remember loved ones. They enjoyed working on crafts and learning about this rich tradition.

Computers 7th and 8th Grade

Meet the Lego "Tankbot" that groups in 8th grade Computer classes at OLPH are building and programming. We are using Lego Mindstorms for Schools kits which include an RCX – a programmable Lego brick. The RCX is a microcomputer with three output ports A, B and C for connecting motors and lamps, and three input ports 1, 2 and 3 for connecting sensors. The set enables groups of students to simulate real-life robotics and robotic systems.

LEGO® MINDSTORMS™ for Schools uses the ROBOLAB software to write programs. Based on LabVIEW™, from National Instruments, Texas USA, the ROBOLAB Software uses an icon-based, diagram building environment to write programs that control the RCX. ROBOLAB programs are downloaded to the RCX via an Infrared (IR) Tower.

Eighteen Tankbots have been built and groups are working to learn the basics of programming using the Robolab software. 7th Grade Computer students will begin Robotics in the 4th quarter.



8th Grade

In conjunction with our study of government in Social Studies, on Thursday, October 22nd, the 8th graders visited the Arizona Capitol Museum for a tour of the Capitol and the House Gallery. The students learned some things about the structure of the building, like Winged Victory, the weather vane that sits atop the Capitol Building



was purchased by Arizona Territory for only \$160 in 1898. They learned a little bit about Governor George W.P. Hunt, who served 4 terms, including where he is buried. Do you know? The tour guide also informed the students that the mosaic of the state seal on the floor of the Capitol Building is missing a tile or two. When it was shipped to Arizona, uncrated, and laid into the floor, they noticed that 2 of Arizona's 5 C's were missing. Since someone carelessly signed off on the proof without carefully checking it, the seal remains as it is.

They sat in the chairs of the old House of Representatives before heading over to the "new" House of Representatives Gallery, where they had a great view of where Arizona's lawmakers do their work. We were fortunate that the Sergeant at Arms of the House happened to be in the building and stopped in to chat with the students and tell us about his job. He also encouraged the kids who were interested in public service to consider becoming pages when they are in high school, a job that is often a stepping stone to other positions in public service.

GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING HERE!

Discipline with Purpose and Anti-Bullying Efforts at OLPH

Lesson 1 Overview

Lesson 1 focuses on the Introduction and the Policy Statement portions of the *OLPH Anti-bullying Policy and Procedures*. The goal of today's lesson is to establish the reason for the policy as grounded in our school mission, and in our commitment to provide a safe environment for all while building up the Body of Christ in our Catholic school community. We introduce the concept of dignity, defined in this lesson as "the inherent value of a person, that each person has a right to know and to feel, because they are created in God's image and loved by God." This God-given dignity is the basis of our being called to treat others with respect as Jesus did.

Lesson 2 Overview

Lesson 2 focuses on the first part of the Prevention and Education portion of the *OLPH Anti-bullying Policy and Procedures*. The goal of today's lesson is to define what we mean by "bullying" and to help students begin to distinguish between the normal social ups and downs of being together, behaviors that are mean or rude, and actual bullying. Students can begin to appreciate that sometimes it is hard to label a specific behavior as one or the other. The context, frequency, and intent will color the situation. We do not want to label every negative social behavior as bullying, but neither do we want to ignore that negative social behaviors do occur in various forms and sometimes turn into bullying. We want students to be aware of the various players that take part in situations where bullying occurs. Prevention and intervention will mean helping all of the students involved, including the bystanders, to learn the appropriate skills to better handle situations involving negative social behaviors directed at other people.

Lesson 3 Overview

Lesson 3 focuses on the second part of the Prevention and Education portion of the *OLPH Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedures*. The goal of today's lesson is to continue to develop a common understanding of the specific terms used to describe negative social behaviors such as bullying. Students will learn the types of bullying and be able to identify specific examples of each. Building upon yesterday's lesson in which bullying was distinguished from both the normal social ups and downs and from other acts of meanness and rudeness, these definitions will help students to identify specific behaviors that are of concern and can be considered bullying. This lesson is considered an introduction to begin to raise students' awareness of their own behaviors as well as behaviors that they see around them. Additional lessons about the dynamics and effects of bullying will be presented throughout the year as part of our ongoing curriculum.

Lesson 4 Overview

Lesson 4 focuses on the Reporting Procedures portion of the *OLPH Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedures*. The goal of today's lesson is for students to understand the importance of reporting their concerns about negative social behaviors that they see or experience to adults who can help. Because negative social behaviors and bullying behaviors often occur when adults are not directly witnessing, reporting concerns directly to faculty or school administrators in a timely manner is the best way to get help in addressing a concern that arises for your child. Students will learn about the different ways that they can report their concerns privately and confidentially. Report forms will be available on the school website beginning on Monday, October 26. We are also working on establishing an online reporting system through a Quia website.

Lesson 5 Overview

Lesson 5 focuses on the Intervention Procedures portion of the *OLPH Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedures*. Building upon yesterday's lesson on the importance of reporting concerns, the goal of today's lesson is for students to know that all reports are important and will be addressed as such. The lesson will lead the students through a flowchart outlining the steps that will be taken by the school faculty and administration in response to a report that is received. Students will also learn about the importance of confidentiality in addressing their concerns. While you may not always know the specific interventions or consequences that result from a report and investigation, you can be assured that we will address all reports in a timely and appropriate manner, and will communicate with all of the students and families involved.

DWP Anti-Bullying Program ~ Following Up on Our Policy Introduction Week

Our Anti-Bullying Policy Introduction Week in October was quite successful in that students and teachers of all grade levels were engaged in excellent and effective discussions about this very important topic. Parents also have expressed feeling well informed of the new policy and procedures.

Our November follow-up involves our students finding ways to express their commitment to work together on living the values expressed in the Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedures and thereby helping our school community to be a safe place for all. Here is a sketch of what is happening this month:

- Nov. 2-13 Teachers will work with students to decide how their homeroom will give expression to their commitment to this policy. Some may come up with a class anti-bullying pledge; others may design a slogan or poster for display in their classroom; still others may decide to have a daily prayer to support their efforts.
- Nov. 13 During the school Spirit Rally, each homeroom will announce how they are showing their commitment to the values of our school's Anti-Bullying Policy.
- Nov. 16-20 All homerooms will have a bulletin board display outside of their classrooms with a message to the school community about their commitment to prevent bullying. If you are on campus that week, be sure to check out these displays.

Let us continue to work together as we model for the children how to build up the Body of Christ by respecting the God-given dignity of each and every person!

Friends of the Orphans/ NPH Update:

We are in the midst of monthly collections from all of the classrooms and are overwhelmed by all of the students' generosity! Please keep the donations coming and thank you so much for your ongoing support. The pequeños always need our help and prayers!

Here is more information on the 3rd grade, 5th grade, and 8th grade orphans...



3rd Grade Orphan:

Emanuel Arenas Garcia was born on April 10, 2001. He arrived at the NPH home along with his two brothers and two sisters. They joined the NPH family in February of 2009. The children had no one to care for them until they came to live at NPH. His older sister, Jessica, is OLPH's 5th grade orphan.



5th Grade Orphan:

Jessica Arenas Garcia was born on March 20, 2000. She joined the NPH family along with her three brothers and one sister in February of 2009. The children's father died while in prison and their mother, implicated in the father's crime, was also put in prison. There is no proof against the mother and she is appealing her sentence. The children had no one else to care for them.



8th Grade Orphan:

Karen Vargas Salazar was born on January 26, 1995. She arrived at NPH in July 2000. She joined the NPH family along with her two brothers. Her birth family was a happy one until their parents divorced. The children were eventually abandoned by their mother and their father has severe problems and was unable to care for Karen and her brothers. I've met her at least three times and she is a beautiful young lady! She plays the viola in the NPH musical performance group.

**** Informative Blog****

An OLPH alumnus, Julia Koestner, is currently volunteering at the NPH home in Mexico. Julia graduated from OLPH in 2001. She then attended Seton College Preparatory and graduated in 2005. She continued her studies at the University of Arizona (U of A) in Tucson and received her degree in December of 2008. She had a double major in Spanish and Religious Studies with a minor in Business Administration.

She has been living / volunteering at the NPH home in Mexico since July 09. She writes in her blog regularly and it's very informative and fun to read. You can even share some of the pictures with your children so they can get a better idea of what NPH is about, including daily activities.

She's just accepted an offer to stay on for one more year as the Volunteer Coordinator of the home in Mexico, starting in January 2010. She is a wonderful example to all of us... putting her "Faith into Action!" May God continue to bless her in all that she does for the children of NPH Mexico!