



OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL SCHOOL

www.olgcschool.org

OLGC GOOD NEWS

from Mr. Poole

October 8, 2009

Friday, Oct 9 Dismissal at 11:30 am – No ECAP

OLGC School will be hosting the November 1st **Donut Social** in DeSales Hall after every Sunday Mass. We will also be hosting an Open House for Prospective Families on November 15th from 10am-1pm. Please encourage friends and neighbors to stop by to see what we have to offer.

Our Enrollment Management Committee has recommended that current school families be available to help serve donuts, to answer questions about our school and to promote our Open House at the Donut Social on November 1st. There are 4 times when your family's assistance would be greatly appreciated: 8-8:30am, 9-9:30am, 10:30-11am, and 12:15-12:45pm. We are encouraging all students to wear their school uniforms to Mass on November 1st and they will receive a no uniform ticket from teachers at the Donut Social to be used on Monday, November 2, 2009 only. Contact the school office if you can help out on Sunday, November 1st after Mass.

Just a reminder that our **8th Annual OLGC Golf Classic** is coming up! Even if you are an occasional golfer, we can find you a foursome. The golf classic provides funding for our tuition assistance program. So if you can't take the day off, consider being a sponsor or making a donation. The registration/sponsorship/donation form can be found online at the Thursday News webpage. If you have any questions, please contact Patrice Roe, (703) 896-7424, development@olgcva.org. Hope to see you on **November 2!**

Please respect our neighbors along Wolfltrap Road and allow them to exit their driveways and neighborhoods during our arrival and dismissal times. Just a reminder that the speed limit on Wolfltrap Road is 25 mph.

Austin S. G. Poole
Principal

Classroom News

Kindergarten took a field trip to the **Fifth Grade** this week. They were able to see all the animal book reports that the 5th graders had worked on during the last few weeks. Kindergarteners were able to pet a polar bear, feel the feathers of a bald eagle and see the dangling tentacles of an octopus.

Mrs. Williams' **Second Grade** had the opportunity to visit the chapel during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament this past Friday. The children's behavior while in the chapel was outstanding! When we returned to the classroom to discuss the experience, one little boy said that he could just feel the love of Jesus getting stronger and stronger as each minute passed. Another child reflected how peaceful the experience was. Another child commented on how nice it was to be still and quite. We can't wait for the first Friday in November to experience it again!

Fourth Grade is doing a wonderful job helping their **Kindergarten** prayer partners at Mass. They love being the "big kids", and they are setting such a good example for the younger children. In writing, they are currently working on Chinquapins, so look forward to some delightfully spooky hallway decorations this month! The students are really working hard on the exciting transition to getting ready to be "upstairs" – they are doing a great job.

Eighth Grade Students

...In Algebra they are working their way through algebraic word problems. We are using a four step method, and the hardest part is translating the words into equations. Once they figure that out, they will have become Master Equation Solvers, so the rest will be easy!

...In Literature classes we are studying vocabulary words associated with the novel "Peak" by playing games with a teacher made set of flash cards on the website "Quizlet". We visited the computer lab to practice using "Quizlet" and the students enjoyed this new and inventive way of studying.

...In Social Studies we wrapped up our unit on the Civil War with a group exercise in critical and creative thinking. Students had to imagine what might have happened in two "what if..." scenarios. The first asked: "What if the states of the upper South that did not secede until after Ft. Sumter had instead remained in the Union?" The second asked: "What if the border states had chosen to leave the Union?" Their responses showed some exceptionally good insights into the possible consequences of decisions about secession for the conduct of the war and the resolution of the issue of slavery. At the same time, the exercise demonstrated how the political choices people make truly can affect the future.

Computer Lab News

Keyboarding is key! The **Fifth and Sixth Graders** have been practicing their finger positions, posture, and "teaching their fingers to think for themselves" as they practice, practice, practice. Each student received a Keyboarding Practice Sheet to use at home. These exercises review every alphabetical key and some of the basic grammar marks. Please, encourage them to practice at home using the *proper* techniques with home row (looking at fingers and two-finger typing doesn't count!). This week they are required to get the practice sheet signed after doing the exercises the first time. The recommended amount is fifteen minutes, three times a week. With this reinforcement they will begin to see progress.

In case you didn't know, the keyboarding program at OLGC starts with teaching the layout of the keyboard in Kindergarten. During the last quarter of **Second Grade** proper keyboarding techniques are introduced. These techniques are refreshed and practiced throughout the remainder of the grade school years. A vast majority of our students exceed the Diocesan goal of 30 wpm with 95 % accuracy by the time they graduate. The complete Technology Goals are on the Diocesan website and a link is provided on the OLGC School Computer Teachers' website, as well.

Counselor's Corner

Our October Service Project is a hat drive for the Heavenly Hats Foundation. The group sends hats free of charge to individuals who have lost their hair due to cancer or medical treatments. We will be collecting hats for the next two weeks in a box outside the office. Hats must be new – never worn – due to the weak immune systems of individuals receiving the hats. In order to cover shipping costs, Heavenly Hats also sponsors a Hat Parade each year on October 16. OLGC will hold a hat parade on that day. Participants donate \$1 for the privilege of wearing a hat of their choice to school.

Life After OLGC

Check out the following link. Mrs. Madden has written an article about two of our graduates. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/10/06/AR2009100601304.html?hpid=voicesopinion>

Upcoming Events

Oct 12 Columbus Day Holiday, **No School**
Oct 16 8th Grade Class Mass, 1:45pm



Volume 6

Weekly Chatter from OLGC

<http://www.olgcschool.org>



October 8, 2009

Message from the PTO President: Let me start with a BIG thank you to Katherine O'Brien and her Used Uniform volunteer crew for making sure we had sweaters and long pants last week just in time for those cool fall mornings.

Looking for a great way to kick off the Halloween weekend? Our first **Family Fun Night** - Trunk or Treat - is the answer! Dress your family and trick out the car with the spookiest, Halloween finest for a fun evening of **trick or treating** at OLGC followed by a family pot-luck supper in the Counsel Room. Start thinking about those costumes. Details are coming soon...

Have a great CRISP fall weekend!

Alison Galbraith - PTO President

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES SCHOOL ACTIVITIES SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Order your OLGC Cookbooks!! - Time is running out! OLGC School Cookbook orders are due Friday, October 9 (tomorrow!) for a pre-Christmas delivery. Cookbooks are \$15 each. Yummy Recipes and Great Artwork make this the BEST gift under the Christmas tree this year! Look for Hazel Lychak or Alison Galbraith in the parking lot for order forms or check the school website and the sign-in desk at the front entrance.

Lunch Recess Volunteers: Please check the school's website to verify the dates for which you are covering recess, and whether you are assigned to the back playground or blacktop. The schedule is available under **Parent Info/Forms**, then **School Volunteers** and then **Recess Fall Schedule**. Email reminders to volunteers will not be sent out unless requested. If you would like to volunteer for any days with open volunteer spots, or if you need to get a substitute to cover your shift, please email Terri Francese at francese24@yahoo.com. Thank you for all your help with recess!

Got Donuts? OLGC School is hosting the **November 1st** Donut Social in DeSales Hall. We need volunteers after the 7:00, 8:00, 9:30 and 11:15 Masses to set-up, make coffee serve donuts and clean up at the social. This a great chance to spread the word about the great things happening at our school. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the school office.

Seasonal Flu Shots Available Wed, October 14 Noon-2pm School Clinic \$23

Call Mrs. Barker at 703.938.3600 ext. 314 to sign up. Participants must be at least 18 years of age.

AFTER SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL

OLGC HOUSE LEAGUE BASKETBALL will be conducting evaluation sessions according to the schedule below. All players must attend only one of the tryouts listed. As there are no 'cuts' and everyone will be placed on a team, players should come and simply do their best. The evaluation is an assessment of current skill level to arrange for as balanced teams as possible. If your child has registered to play in the OLGC House League, please have him/her attend either one of the sessions. If at all possible, we would like the kids to be at the session for the full 90 minutes.

Sunday 10/18	4:30-6:00	4th & 5th grade BOYS
	6:00-7:30	4th & 5th grade GIRLS
Tuesday 10/20	5:15-6:45	4th & 5th grade GIRLS
	6:45-8:15	4th & 5th grade BOYS

If you have any questions, please contact either of the commissioners: Lisa Nihill(Girls), 703-319-3136 or lmnihill@verizon.net and Duane Knauf(Boys), 703-281-1556(Home) or 240-386-5244(Office) or 703-472-7641(cell) or knaufd@sarsenconsulting.com.

PARISH ACTIVITIES PARISH ACTIVITIES PARISH ACTIVITIES

Participate in the 8th Annual OLGc Golf Classic! Even if you don't golf very often or very well, we can place you in a foursome with other OLGc parents of the same grade as your children or with similar golfing skills. It's all about our OLGc Community! If you can't take the day off, consider sponsorships and donations that the Golf Classic presents. The registration/sponsorship/donation form can be found online at the **Thursday News** webpage. If you have any questions, please contact Patrice Roe, (703) 896-7424, development@olgcva.org.

Annual Men's Club Halloween (Adults Only) Party: The OLGc Men's Club will be sponsoring a Halloween Party on Saturday, October 24th, in DeSales Hall. The price is \$20.00 /per couple, which includes music, all food (hot food and snacks) and refreshments (wine, beer, sodas and water), as well as prizes for the Best Costume (auction tickets). **FREE Babysitting will be provided by the Youth Ministry.** There will be a DJ, so get your costume together and join the fun!

Attention Shoppers: There are lots of opportunities to help OLGc School. Check out several EASY ways to help the school raise funds <http://olgcschool.homestead.com/development.html>.

UPCOMING EVENTS UPCOMING EVENTS UPCOMING EVENTS

Family Fun Night Friday, October 30

Principal Coffees 7:30 am to 8:30 am in the Library:
Friday, October 30 2nd and 3rd grade
Friday, November 20 4th and 5th grade

Cox's Farm October 23 (No School-Diocesan Institute for Teachers)

Fall BINGO Friday, November 6