



OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL SCHOOL

www.olgcschool.org

OLGC GOOD NEWS

from Mr. Poole

September 17, 2009

Classroom News

Mrs. Williams' **Second Grade** is adjusting nicely to the demands of second grade. The children are happy and full of energy. They are learning a lot about the main idea of stories and they can find supporting details with ease. They have silly songs that they like to sing to help them remember and understand the main idea and subjects of sentences. They have been enjoying a few rounds of MATH KNOCK OUT that help strengthen their basic math facts. They have also enjoyed learning about God's creations and that we are the most important of them all!

P.S. The Second Graders helped me write this and they also wanted to include that they are SMART!

Miss Boyce's **Third Grade** has been preparing the Liturgy for Mass on Friday. We hope you will join us in the church at 1:45.

Our **Seventh Grade** Social Studies students have been preparing for their study of World History by learning some basic principles of related disciplines such as archaeology and geography. In a recent class, they played the role of archaeology students from the year 7509 studying artifacts from the long-lost civilization of 20th century North America. Using a limited amount of evidence and their good imaginations, they were able to determine a considerable amount of information about that culture, including the possibility that it was based on a religion that worshiped a god in the form of an eagle named "Peace." They also learned how difficult archaeology can be and how easily it can come to erroneous conclusions based on limited artifacts.

Seventh Graders are currently working hard to pick a Science Fair question. The primary work of the Science Fair is done at home as an independent investigation with some guidance and practice during Science class. Parents, peers and I all provide feedback throughout the process which culminates in the Judging of the 2010 Science Fair on March 2nd! This is a long term process which requires hard work and the 7th graders are already showing they are up for the challenge!

During a virtual experiment the **Eighth Graders** attempted to design a game that allowed a bowling ball to travel through a course of loops and hills, possibly through a sand trap, and knock down a bowling pin atop a ledge. The trick was making sure the game only allowed one bowling ball to win so they had to tweak their designs to ensure there was only one winning combination. Everyone did a great job!

Computer News

The **Seventh Grade** started their stock market project. They are learning about the stock market and have formed investment groups. Each group is researching stock's past and projected performance. They will create spreadsheets, using Microsoft Excel, and begin tracking their profits or losses.

Eighth Graders have chosen a country they would like to visit. They are writing letters to the Embassies to learn how to write a simple business letter. Students will research foods, transportation and other interesting facts about their country to create a brochure about their country using Microsoft Publisher. They will create an expense spreadsheet using Microsoft Excel and track their travel expenses. Several past students have reported helping their family with travel plans for their vacations and using the skills they have learned during this travel project!

Music News

As part of the **Third Grade** curriculum, the students will be introduced to the recorder. Plan to see the instruments at home after the first of October and to hear lots of practicing!

Welcome New Staff Members

A belated welcome to our new school counselor, Miss Sara Brown. Miss Brown is a recent graduate of Old Dominion University with a Master of Education degree in School Counseling. She also holds a B.A. in Psychology and a M.Ed. in School Psychology from The College of William and Mary. We're delighted that Miss Brown has joined our faculty.

Please note that we have a new receptionist who will be greeting you at our main doors. Mrs. Berney has joined our staff after most recently working in the parish office. Many thanks to Mrs. Smith for her service to our school.

Upcoming Events

Sept 11	Opening School Mass, 1:45pm
Sept 14	Kindergarten begins regular hours 8am-3pm ECAP starts today for Kindergarten
Sept 15	Band Meeting for Parents, 7pm in Counsel Rm
Sept 18	Class Coffee for parents of Kindergarteners & Gr 1, 7:30am in Library