

To: Parents of OLG Students
Fr: Mrs. Chaimowitz
Re: Week of February 2, 2009

My sincere thanks to our parent volunteers, teachers, and staff, who helped in many various ways during Catholic Schools Week. All of you helped to make it a very fun and exciting week for our students, and all your efforts are appreciated. We couldn't have done it without you! Thanks also to those who stopped by Ruby's Diner on Thursday evening in support of our school. It was a great week at OLG!

...And the Oscar™ for "Best Director of a Book Fair" goes to: Mrs. Maria Hall! Our "director" put in several hours of work prior to and during the Book Fair to make it an excitement-filled and "top-grossing production". We sincerely thank her for all her efforts.

Our grateful thanks to Mrs. Andrea Fisher, our P.E. teacher, for also putting in many hours of preparation for a very fun, exciting, and activity-filled Game Day! We very much appreciate all the thought and work you put into making it such great fun!

Thanks also to Sister Michelle and Pat Baker for your organizational skills with the box lunches! And we appreciate Corinne Ashley for making that last minute "McDonald's run"!

Thanks from Our Librarian: A very special thank you to everyone who came to our Book Fair and to all who helped make it a great experience! Special thanks go to Stacey Beauchamp, Colleen Consola, Rosie Martinez, and Diana Rauda for their generous donations. Also, heartfelt thanks to all the "behind the scenes" volunteers for all their time and dedication! Keep on reading, and we'll see you at our next Book Fair! -- Maria Hall

PTO Board Meeting: There will be a PTO Board Meeting tonight, Tuesday, February 3, at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

General PTO Meeting: There will be a **mandatory** General PTO Meeting held **this Wednesday, February 4, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Parish Hall. This is a change from what is noted on the school calendar. A guest speaker from *Outreach Concern* will lead an informative discussion on drug abuse. Attendance at this meeting is mandatory for all parents/guardians. Please make any necessary arrangements to ensure your attendance at the meeting. Please, **no children**. If both parents are unable to attend, a note of explanation must be sent to Mrs. Chaimowitz before the meeting. Thank you for your cooperation.

First Friday: Thank you to the Grade 1 parents who will participate in the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Prayer Vigil this Friday, February 6, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

"Valentine Gram" Sale: The OLG Student Council-sponsored "Valentine Gram" Sale began on Monday and continues through Friday, February 13. Students and parents may choose to send candy grams, flower grams, or both to a family member, special friend, or teacher. "Candy Grams" are \$2.00 each and "Rose Grams" are \$3.00 each. Each "gram" ordered must have a separate "Valentine Gram" gift tag attached. **Turn in your money and your completed tags with your order to Mrs. Baker.** Orders will be accepted through February 13. Heart lollipops may also be ordered for 25 cents each. Your candy grams will be delivered daily and rose grams will be delivered on Friday, February 13.

Family Fundraising Accounts: Enclosed in this family envelope are your FFA Statements. Please **keep the statement** for your records and **return the envelope it came in** for future statements. If you have any questions, please email Lynn Silberberg at: lynvin@earthlink.net.

2009 – 2010 Re-Admission Forms: All families have received **re-admission packets** included in a previous family envelope (the forms that were paper-clipped together inside the envelope). This is another reminder about the **upcoming due dates** for those forms:

Due February 18: A non-refundable \$150 per family re-admission fee along with a: 1.) Re-Admission Form, 2.) Family Fundraising Contract, and 3.) PTO Directory Information Form. Please note: **THE RE-ADMISSION FEE FOR PACKETS RETURNED AFTER FEBRUARY 18 IS \$250 PER FAMILY.** (No phone call reminders will be made to families before the due date.)

Due February 18: If you would like to receive a Financial Assistance Application packet for the 2009 –2010 school year, please submit a written request letter to Mrs. Chaimowitz in a sealed envelope addressed to her and marked “personal”. She will send you the application documents after receiving your letter of request.

Enrollment Applications: OLG is now accepting applications for enrollment in the 2009 – 2010 school year. Application packets may be picked up in the school office, or may be downloaded from our parish website at: www.ourladyofgrace.org . Once there, click on “school” then follow the prompts. (Our office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday.)

School Tours: Mrs. Chaimowitz will be conducting school tours for prospective new OLG School families by appointment only. If you know of prospective parents who would like to tour the school, please ask them to call the school office to sign-up for a visit.

February Hot Lunch: Our new hot lunch program, *Mr. Jiffy*, is running smoothly and the children seem very happy with the food served. Starting this month we will be implementing a few **new rules**. Home room teachers will be presenting children with **hot lunch tickets** before their lunch period. That ticket will be taken by a hot lunch volunteer in the Parish Hall. Children will then be given plates and served lunch. If children are still hungry after finishing hot lunch they may return with their plates to receive another helping, only after everyone who submitted a ticket to receive their hot lunch has been through the line. If your child has not ordered hot lunch they should not be in the Parish Hall at lunch time.

In January we allowed a "free sample" trial period for students to come in after everyone had been served and try *Mr. Jiffy* if they had not before. The trial period is now over and we will be following the above new rules.

Late hot lunch orders will not be accepted after the deadline. The March menu will be sent home February 10th in your family envelope. **The deadline for returning your order is Wednesday, February 18.** Please note that we **cannot accept late hot lunch orders after February 18**. Please ask your children to look for and use the **recycle containers** for their **plastic** water bottles. Thank you – Andrea Fisher.

School Website: The following information is currently available for you on our website: Weekly Family Bulletins, Monthly Hot Lunch Menu Calendar, 2008 – 2009 School Year Calendar, Parent/ Student Handbook, Enrollment Application packet documents, and much more! This may be helpful to you if you have misplaced information but need to refer back to it. Access our parish website at: www.ourladyofgrace.org . Once there, click on the “school” tab then click on the information you want to access. Our deep gratitude to Kindergarten parent, **Mrs. Jennelle Stewart**, who has volunteered many hours and worked very hard to greatly improve our school website!

Testimonial Requests: We are looking to put a few great testimonials on our website from current or former OLG parents. If you would like to share your thoughts about what OLG School does right, please send those thoughts in an email to: peteronk@ourladyofgrace.org, along with a note giving us your permission to add your kind words to our school website. Thank you for taking time to help “spread the word”.

Aluminum Can Collection: Just a reminder: Don’t forget to bring in your clean plastic bottles and aluminum cans to deposit in our blue recycle bins located outside the front gates on Friday mornings. Thank you!

Family Directory Updates: Please update your PTO Directory listing with the following **NEW** information:

Joy and William Hart	New address: 17450 Burbank Blvd., Encino 91316 New cell phone: (818) 681-6569 (mom)
Gianetta and Bill Raggio	New email addresses: wraggio@att.net or wraggiol@yahoo.com
Stephanie and Mark Winkler	New cell phone: (818) 984-9270 (mom – work)

Games:	Tuesday	February 3	Girls B Basketball	Home vs. St. Bernadine of Siena
	Wednesday	February 4	Boys A Basketball	Away vs. Our Lady of the Valley
	Thursday	February 5	Girls A Basketball	Home vs. St. Joseph the Worker