



Our Lady Star of the Sea School

An Island of Learning... A Sea of Faith

Newsletter: January 25, 2017

Dear Parents & Guardians,

This is a special time of year for all Catholic schools, as we prepare to kick off Catholic Schools Week at our 10:45am Mass this **Sunday, Jan. 29**. Please help us celebrate this nation-wide celebration of the lifelong blessings of Catholic education by attending this Mass with your children. There are also many opportunities to join in the week-long fun events we have planned; please see the schedule below.

OLSS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK EVENTS SCHEDULE

| Sun, Jan. 29 | Mon, Jan. 30 | Tue, Jan. 31 | Wed, Feb. 1 | Thu, Feb. 2 | Fri, Feb. 3 |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|
| Celebrating our Parish | Celebrating our Community | Celebrating our Students | Celebrating the Nation | Celebrating Vocations | Celebrating Staff & Volunteers |
| <p>10:45am: Opening Mass for CSW Please attend this Mass with your children wearing their school uniforms.</p> <p>12:00-1:00pm: Open House</p> | <p>7:00-8:30am: Pastries for Parents Please join us!</p> <p>Operation Shoebox: Please send in donations from list to make care packages for active military.</p> <p>5:00-8:00pm: Roy Rogers Spirit Night</p> | <p>1:00pm: Talent Show</p> <p>Tag Day: Sports Jerseys \$1 donation to Catholic Charities USA</p> <p>Free Lunch Chick-fil-A sandwich or salad, donated by OLSS family</p> | <p>9:00-11:00am: Open House</p> <p>Dedication of George Washington Portrait</p> | <p>Bay Studies Presentation by Natural Resource Specialist from PAX River</p> | <p>2:00pm: Ice Cream Social</p> <p>8th Graders Teach Lower Grades</p> |

ONGOING EVENTS DURING THE WEEK:

- Souper Bowl: Bring in a canned food item for the table of the NFL team you pick to win the Super Bowl. Donations to SMILE.
- Guessing Game

NEWS & REMINDERS:

Report Cards: 2nd quarter report cards are in today's yellow folders.

Youth Rally: The bus leaves at **4:50am** this **Friday, Jan. 27** for the Youth Rally & Mass for Life.

Re-Registration: Current families will receive an email from OLSS/TADS on **Jan. 29** with instructions on re-registration for the 2017-18 school year.

Spirit Night: Please take the tokens in today's yellow folders to Roy Roger's Spirit Night on **Jan. 30**.

Open Houses: We are having Open Houses on **Sun, Jan. 29, 12-1pm**, and **Wed, Feb. 1, 9-11am**.

Polar Plunge: The Polar Plunge fundraiser will be held at Vera's on **Sat, Feb. 11** at **2pm**. Please see the flyer with today's news.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Please sign up through the school website's "Volunteer Opportunities" page to help with:

Pastries for Parents – Mon, Jan. 30

- Help set up & clean up

Roy Rogers Spirit Night – Mon, Jan. 30

- Greet visitors

Open House – Wed, Feb. 1

- Greet visitors & help with tours

Ice Cream Social – Fri, Feb. 3

- Help set up, serve, & clean up

Alumni Players Dinner Theater – Jan. 27-28, Feb. 3-4

- Waiters/waitresses (age 18+), kitchen help (age 18+), and bussers (age 12-17)

Meet the newest member of OLSS, Cupcake!



Cupcake is a 3½ month old Yorkie Terrier who is excited to be here and begin her job as a Pet Therapy Dog. She goes into the classrooms at scheduled reading times, and encourages students to read aloud, work on vocabulary, and develop confidence in reading. Cupcake also works in the office. When students come to visit with Mrs. Bartsch, they also get a chance to sit with Cupcake and explain their visit. Cupcake has helped a few students feel less anxious about their day and go back to class feeling better.

Cupcake is up to date on her vaccinations, and is in training for therapy sessions. The students and Cupcake interact on an academic level, and Cupcake even has her own uniform. She makes sure everyone wears the proper uniform, especially on Mass day.

Cupcake's job at OLSS is to help students, staff, and others feel relaxed and engaged in school. As she completes each training period, Cupcake will become more involved with the students. Why a dog?

Research has shown children who have difficulty relating to other children and adults have been observed to behave differently with pets. They demonstrate greater self-confidence, more consistent awareness of the pet's needs, and the ability to take initiative to satisfy the pet – they have made contact! Sometimes this improves their ability to transfer these behaviors to people. With encouragement and familiarity, many students have been calmed and some of the behaviors have been markedly modified.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.



For this week's Frog It Challenge, I asked our students, "If you were going to create an OLSS shield, what would you put inside it?"

OLSS ALUMNI PLAYERS

PROVIDENCE ROOM THEATRE



Doors open at 6pm; performances begin at 6:30pm.

DATES:

FRI, JAN. 27 FRI, FEB. 3
SAT, JAN. 28 SAT, FEB. 4

Tickets are \$40/person include buffet dinner, drinks, and the performance.

Call (410) 231-0168 for reservations

UPCOMING EVENTS:

JANUARY

- Jan. 27: Middle School to Youth Rally in DC
- Jan. 27 & 28, 6pm: Alumni Players Dinner Theatre
- Jan. 29, 10:45am: Opening Mass for CSW
- Jan. 29, 12-1pm: Open House
- Jan. 30, 7-8:30am: Pastries for Parents
- Jan. 30, 5-8pm: Roy Rogers Spirit Night
- Jan. 31, 1pm: Talent Show

FEBRUARY

- Feb. 1, 9-11am: Open House
- Feb. 3, 2pm: Ice Cream Social
- Feb. 3-4, 6pm: Alumni Players Dinner Theatre
- Feb. 10: 12:30pm dismissal; Teacher In-Service
- Feb. 11, 2pm: Polar Plunge at Vera's
- Feb. 14: Valentine's Tag Day
- Feb. 20: No School – President's Day

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT OLSS:



Our 2nd grade put their newly-learned math skills to good use last week, when they made Apple Crisps. They used measuring cups & spoons to count out quarters, thirds, halves, and wholes, and worked together to measure and combine the ingredients. Best of all, they got to enjoy their finished products for snack!



God Bless,

Mary Bartsch
Mrs. Mary Bartsch
OLSS Principal