



# Our Lady Star of the Sea School

*An Island of Learning... A Sea of Faith*

**Newsletter: January 18, 2017**

Dear Parents & Guardians,

It's that time of year when we start looking ahead to the 2017-18 school year, with Re-Registration for existing families opening on Jan. 29, and Admissions for new families opening on Feb. 12. Overall, positive word-of-mouth recommendations from school parents are our biggest help to increase enrollment. Please encourage friends and family to visit one of our upcoming Open Houses to learn more about our school. Please remind them that Tuition Assistance is available from the ADW and the Parish.

Catholic school prepares your child for a lifetime of learning. We prime our children for academic success with rigorous, standards-based curricula and on-going assessment. We believe that children reach their academic potential and exceed expectations because there is a grace, a power, at work in the faith community of the classroom. We teach a way of actively living faith each day. Children experience the gift of daily prayer, sacrament preparation, regular participation in Mass, and an integration of Catholic values into the curriculum. We hope to share all the benefits of OLSS School with new families for the future.



**We are excited to welcome two new international families to our school this week!**

Mariella Castro, whose family recently moved to Maryland from Spain, joined our Pre-K class.

Tiwaloluwa "Tiwa" Okedara, whose family is from Nigeria and just moved here from Oregon, started in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

**Please join us in welcoming these families to our school community!**

## NEWS:

**Report Cards:** The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter closes today. Report cards will be sent home in yellow folders on Jan. 25. Parents can view their child's grades through Plus Portal at any time.

**Chairs Needed:** We are in need of volunteers to chair two CSW events; **Parents for Pastries** on Jan. 30, and **Ice Cream Social** on Feb 3. The Chair will organize the events, purchase necessary items, and oversee set-up and clean-up. Please sign up through the Volunteer Opps page if you can help!

**Volunteers Needed:** Many volunteers are needed to help with the Alumni Players event; as waiters/waitresses (age 18+), kitchen help (age 18+), and bussers (age 12-17). We are also in need of a Chair for this event. Please sign up online to help!

**Basketball Pics:** Seahawks Basketball team pics will be taken **Sun, Jan. 22**, before each team's game. Please arrive promptly!



**NATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK**  
January 29 - February 4, 2017

**Catholic Schools Week is Jan. 29 - Feb. 4! Please see the schedule of events posted on the school website. Highlights of the week include:**

### Sun, Jan. 29:

- 10:45am: Opening of CSW Mass. Please plan to attend this Mass with your children, wearing their school uniforms, to show support for our school.
- 12-1pm: Open House

### Mon, Jan. 30:

- 7-8:30am: Pastries for Parents
- 5-8pm: Roy Rogers Spirit Night
- Operation Shoebox; students make care packages for active duty military

### Tue, Jan. 31:

- 1pm: Talent Show
- Tag Day: Student may wear sports jerseys for a \$1 donation to Catholic Charities.
- Free Lunch: A generous school family has donated lunch to students and staff. Students may choose a Chick-Fil-A sandwich or a salad.

### Wed, Feb. 1:

- 9-10am: Open House

### Thu, Feb. 2:

- Bay Studies Presentation by Natural Resource Specialist from PAX River

### Fri, Feb. 3:

- 2pm: Ice Cream Social
- 8<sup>th</sup> graders teach lower grades

## REMINDERS:

**Scantron:** Mid-Year Scantron testing for K-8<sup>th</sup> grades takes place this week.

**Pre-K Info Day:** We are having an Info Day for our Pre-K program on **Wed, Jan. 25** from 8-10am.

**Youth Rally:** Middle School students are attending the Youth Rally & Mass for Life on **Jan. 27**.

**Coat Drive:** The last day for donations for the Catholic Charities/ADW Coat Drive is **Jan. 27**. Coats will be distributed in the Washington, DC area to those in need. Thank you for supporting this service project!

**Re-Registration & Admissions:** Re-Registration for the 2017-18 school year opens **Jan. 29**. Current families will receive an email from OLSS/TADS with instructions. Admissions for new families opens **Feb. 12**.

**Open Houses:** We are having Open Houses on **Sun, Jan. 29, 12-1pm**, and **Wed, Feb. 1, 9-11am**. Volunteers are needed to greet visitors and help give tours; please sign up through the school website if you can help.

### OLSS ALUMNI PLAYERS

PROVIDENCE ROOM THEATRE



#### DATES:

FRI, JAN. 27

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

SAT, JAN. 28

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

FRI, FEB. 3

SAT, FEB. 4

**Call (410) 231-0168 for reservations**

### FROG IT CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK:



This week's Challenge is for our students to make a list of the top 10 things they love about Our Lady Star of the Sea School, & why they think it's the best school!

### WHAT'S GOING ON AT OLSS:

Last Friday, our 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> grade students presented their homemade ziggurats (temple structures built in ancient Mesopotamia) for Social Studies. Their amazing creativity included structures made from wood, cardboard, paper, styrofoam, clay, legos, cakes, & candies!



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### JANUARY

- Jan. 25, 8-10am: Pre-K Info Day
- Jan. 27: Middle School Trip - Youth Rally in DC
- Jan. 27 & 28, 6pm: Alumni Players Dinner Theatre
- Jan. 29 - Feb. 4: Catholic Schools Week
- 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. 20: No School – President's Day

God Bless,

*Mary Bartsch*

Mrs. Mary Bartsch  
OLSS Principal