



# OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

“A New Year: 2018 -2019~CHRIST YESTERDAY, TODAY AND FOREVER”

August 2018



*Our Warmest Congratulations, and best wishes (again) to all this past June’s graduates.*

25 - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students graduated †  
(Many accepted to Catholic H.S. with scholarship)  
21- Kindergarten students graduated  
11-Pre-K<sup>4</sup> students graduated and 5 Pre-K<sup>3</sup> student moved-up

## Re-Registration

**\*RE-REGISTRATION:** To date, we have too many families who have not re-registered. Reminders are being made via School Messenger. We share every year how inconvenient this is—setting up and preparing for the new school year. All re-registration must be completed by be August 20, 2018. Please contact the school office if you have any concerns/questions. The office staff will be more than happy to assist you. 2017-2018 balances on tuition fees, aftercare and pre-k must be paid!!!- We have some outstanding balances owed to the school and would prefer that you pay in-full any outstanding balances at the time of reregistration. It is imperative that these balances are paid an arrangement or a plan may be made and signed before school reopens. If needs be call the school to make an appointment to see me so we can make some arrangement with regard to tuition. It is late already, and it makes our job very difficult in preparing and setting up for the 2017-2018 school year. The C.U.S.P wanted every student re-registered by March. If not, then at least paperwork that would indicate a families’ intent to return to OLHC. **So if you have not already done so please come in and register.**



## Summer Fun



We are in the midst of another summer school, camp and pre-kindergarten, H.S. (Testing) Prep program but wanted to take time out on behalf of the staff and myself to reach out to our families. We pray daily that each of you is enjoying a safe, happy and health summer. In anticipation of the coming school year we also wanted to take this opportunity to welcome all of you back and extend to any new members of **“The OLHC Family Unit”** a big warm welcome.

Our hallways will once again echo with the sound of students’ footsteps as we share in the excitement and wonderment of a “new year” on **Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 8:00a.m. To 1:00p.m.** There will be early dismissal from **September 5<sup>th</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup>, so please plan accordingly.**

This year our summer programs are small and pleasant. All the students/campers are well –behaved, work to the best of their ability and are enjoying the summer experience. We had (2) volunteers: two 8<sup>th</sup> graders (Class of 2018). The skills these volunteers receive translate into work experience that can be placed on a resume. As always, I would like to congratulate these young volunteers on a job well done. Our campers began each day with bible stories and followed with educational exercises in the following subjects: math, reading and writing and participated in outdoor “showers & pool splashes” and art-n-crafts, culinary arts, etc.

### OLHC School Outreach 17-18 School Year (Tag Days)

**October**.....American Cancer Soc \$224  
**November**.....Canned/Boxed Food -Parish Food Pantry  
**December** .... Gr. 5 Pajama Project -Area Hospitals  
**January**.....Snow Plowing -\$500  
**February** .....Lenten Bank – (Parish Food Pantry)-\$600  
**March**.....Haiti (Sr. El) \$200

**Our child/children's** future lies in the **partnership** all of us have in the investment of **“EDUCATION”**. Total education embraces each one of us as parents, guardians, teachers, students, and the community. No school can take on this task and mission without the support, cooperation, interest, presence, enthusiasm, and commitment of the parents and guardians. *Parents/guardians, you are the key! The key to everything in their lives. We as parents/guardians, school, church and community must reclaim our children, keeping them safe and secure.*

It becomes more apparent as the years pass by that our children look for and depend on you to be there for them in all facets of their life: the spiritual, physical, emotional, and social growth that is so important. With this guidance and commitment from all of us at OLHC, our children will flourish in their inner spiritual growth, Christian values, and overall education! Always remember that you are their.....**PRIMARY TEACHER, COACH, EXAMPLE; PERHAPS SHINING STAR AND THIS MAKES THE DIFFERENCE. “YOU ARE “KEY.”**

**KNOWLEDGE:** We repeatedly say many of our students are very smart, but often tend to be very lazy or settle for “just passing”, therefore, they are not working or testing to their ability. Some students “freeze” on testing, and results are not indicators of their daily work. Some students master learning quickly, others need more time, but do manage to catch up. Some can work with distraction, while others need quiet and consideration. In fact, we are all individuals, learning at our own pace, performing well if we choose. However, we as parents/guardians, and staff have a definite obligation to demand, encourage, and set rules for study time, written work and mastering the tasks ahead a

**OLHC School Outreach 17-18 School Year (Tag Days) cont'd**

<b>April</b> .....	St. Angstasia Miss. Fl. \$200
	St. Jude \$1639
<b>May</b> ...”OP”	Olympic Day for “OP Infirmary” -\$300
<b>June</b>	Red, White, Blue Tag & PreK Cake Sale\$ 200
<b>Grand Total:</b>	\$3963.00

**Great Job to All!**

well as checking, and correcting it. There are many electronic distractions all of which have taken over “the minds” of our young people. If we, as parents/guardians and school system do not recapture our children and be in control, we will lose them to the devastating ills of this society. In fact, we are shortchanging our kids if we continue in this direction. Many of the **“old rules”** are needed today. Let’s go back to basics!

**“MATERIALISM”** means “destruction”; “God and Prayer” means “Hope”. There is no separation between schoolwork, parent/guardian and teacher. We have many success stories from Our Lady Help of Christians’ students, (Doctors, Lawyers, Teacher Service Men/Women, etc.) and we hope to continue this trend!!

**“PRAYER”** A #1 priority: Worshipping God in our churches, praying and doing this individually and as a family is a must in this “dying society”. Our Lord “promises He will return”

As we continue to prepare for the new school year 2018-2019, let us as a family, try to do something, about this and begin to pray more as families and take the opportunities to pray in groups in our churches or places of worship. During this new school year (and beyond) let us place the child/children as our top priority in everything (we do), spiritual, education, finances, all of which are important parts of raising a family in America. We realize this means great sacrifice, but the end results are rewarding. “Prayer” is the only “answer”—to our concerns and the devastation in our world today. “Worry ends, when FAITH begins!!!”

## **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

### **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS/MAJORREPAIRS/CHANGES/ADDITIONS**

#### **PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:**

1. \*Tuition/registration: Initial payment must be made to the school in August. Payments thereafter will be made by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month, to the school office until further notice. You will be notified of any changes as soon as they are implemented.
2. Major cleaning was done in the main building as well as painting.
3. Screening/ security system- \*Upgraded
4. Wireless internet service upgrade from 50Mbps to 250 Mbps for the new school year.
5. New security doors have been ordered for the main building. Will be installed upon completion.
6. New “security technology” to be implemented-one door only for entrance/exit (front door).
7. In addition to the PowerSchool student data system, the school will use “School Messenger” Alert System to communicate with families. \*New this year we will utilize the email and text messaging features of School Messenger. [Text short code is 675-87, please opt-in to receive msgs.] (Please make sure your contact information is accurate and up to date in the main office). Also, please be attentive to all updates and messages.
8. Pre-K painted, upgrading, repairs to be done.
9. Once again, the wonderful volunteer youths from Catholic Heart Work Camp came to our school. We are most grateful for all they did in and outside of school this summer.

**TECHNOLOGY:** We are happy to share that OLHC is totally wired for internet access. You will be receiving THE STUDENT PROTECTION ACT LETTER which you would need to sign, so your child may use the internet. We have several I-pads and a mobile storage/ charging cart. All the classrooms have computers and our computer laboratory is more than adequate to handle school computing needs. We are adding a Smart Tv to our school’s library. Chromebook are being added to the Title I Program and will be utilized by those enrolled in the program.

**SECURITY:** Upgrades have been made to our safety monitoring system inside and outside of the school in compliance with the state regulations, which is monitored yearly. Shades have been received and installed throughout the building.

**Nursing & counseling services:** Parents/guardians who received recommendation for their

child/children to have vision and/or hearing follow up, immunization booster shots are requested to be done as soon as possible. Children entering kindergarten, first grade and sixth grade needed hepatitis B vaccine in order to start school in September. It is important to have the children’s shots up to date. **Students without up to date immunizations will not be admitted, or be able to remain in class.** This is NJ State Law. If there is a question about requirements, please see your child/ren doctor or call the school nurse.

Once again, we have a P.T. Counselor on Staff for this school year.

**TEXTBOOKS:** Our school has received their allocations in funds for books per student. Textbooks cost between \$38.00-\$60.00 each, with an additional 10% add for shipping and handling costs. The government only provides \$57.58 per student for all of their books. One of my deepest concerns is the careless handling and destruction of books. This is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. Books found with writing on/ in them and binders ripped, etc. will be brought to the attention of parents and incur a fee. If the books are not covered they will also be fined a fee. Please be attentive in all grades—grade 1 through grade 8.

**Curriculum:** Based on the State and Archdioceses Standards. Cursive Writing and Phonics are a part of Archdioceses Curriculum.

**PARENTS/GUARDIANS:** We appreciate parents/guardians who offer their time and concerns, if any. You are the key in your child’s life. Many works more than one job, some two or three. I’m sure much of this is necessary; however, do not allow it to become your no. 1 priority. ***Your children need your presence, patience, and love more than anything else. Children must be priority.***

**MORNING CARE/EXTENDED CARE PROGRAMS:** These programs are important for most of our working parents. Payment schedule will be very strict this school year for those participating to alleviate any unpaid bills at the end of the year. All of your

balances must be paid in full before school opens in 2018. We have some outstanding balances owed to the school. These must be resolved before school reopens. Calls have been made and letters sent. Please contact the school to make an appointment with me if so we can resolve this matter.

**\*\* Attendance (drop-off/ pick-up times) will be taken during morning & aftercare programs.**

**A.M. Program Time-- 7:00 -7:50 and P.M.**

**Program—3:00- 5:30**

### **THE HANDBOOK SPECIFIES EVERYTHING!**

Parent/student and teacher handbooks have been updated. These handbooks will be given to new families and the families who do not have one (upon request). All policies will be enforced. Updated additions will be added to what is already written. Topics include—a crisis, the use of cell phones, computers, etc. An addition will be sent home on these topics, and bullying, etc. when and where necessary. Handbook available on our website as a PDF.

### **ATTIRE:**

**Flynn and O'hara Uniform Company**  
**196-198 Ferry Street || Newark, NJ 07105**  
**(800) 441-4122**

**\*\*\*no other uniforms will be acceptable.\*\*\***

All students must be in complete uniform. The company has boys/girls uniform package deals. Please place your orders or go to the uniform company if you are in need of more immediate service. Uniforms (including gym uniforms) must be purchased through the above uniform company. Please make sure that you get logos. The quality of this company's uniforms is superior and will look nicer far longer.

**UNIFORM GIRLS 6<sup>TH</sup>-8<sup>TH</sup>:** the mandatory navy-blue blazer with the same plain skirt and new style light blue blouse and new logo. (blazer will be in place of the weskit and sweater. The blouse must be from the uniform company also). If families have uniforms/blazers that have gotten too small and would like to donate, we can always use them and are grateful for them.

**GRADES PRE-K-5<sup>TH</sup>:** the uniforms are the same, however, much better quality. The only jewelry allowed is small post/hoop earrings. Colored nail polish, acrylic or artificial nails are not permitted. This will be enforced.

**UNIFORM BOYS 6<sup>TH</sup>-8<sup>TH</sup>:** grey slacks, light blue shirt, navy blue red striped tie and navy blue blazer. Boys are not allowed to wear any earrings or jewelry in any grade.

**GRADES PRE-K-5<sup>TH</sup>:** navy blue slacks, light blue uniform shirt, school tie and grey sweater.

### **SHOES:**

Boys: penny loafers or oxford lace up shoes in black or blue. Absolutely no boots/boot like shoes, sneakers/sneakers shoes are permitted. THIS WILL BE ENFORCED!

**Girls:** shoes should have a heel not higher than an inch—should be a strong shoe.

Flynn O'Hara sells shoes—blue/black acceptable. Children will not be admitted to class unless they are in complete, acceptable designated full uniform.

**GYM CLASSES:** it is mandatory for all student's grades k-8<sup>th</sup> to wear navy blue sweat suits with the OLHC logo. These are to be worn on the designated gym day. Nothing else will be acceptable and the students will receive a zero for not being incomplete gym uniform and sent home.

### **HAIR STYLES:**

Students hair should be neat and clean. Please note that trendy hairstyles are not allowed, this includes but is not limited to Mohawks, colored dreads, color in hair and hair jewelry. Uniform headband are being sold at O'hara and are the only acceptable headwear for girls.

### **STATIONARY/SUPPLIES:**

School supplies are available in the school office. The list for supplies will be distributed the first week of school, however to get started grades 3-8 can purchase the following (on sale now, target, staples, etc.) #2 pencils, pens, erasers, crayons, colored pencils and black& white marble notebooks.

### **TUITION/FUNDRAISING:**

at the time of registration, you will be informed of the four (4) obligatory fundraisers in the school contract. Balances in both categories are delinquent for these past two school years. This cannot continue. The balances in any category must be paid. We give each family several different options to fit their needs. However, these arrangements are not being adhered to by some parents/guardians. We have secured the services of a collection agency; namely, for current balances and we have secured the forms for different amounts for small claims court. Thank you, parents/families that have fulfilled, obligations, and are keeping their agreed payment scheduled. Many

options have been given. This summer some families will be submitted to both agencies. High schools have been informed of incomplete or none compliance to contract. Monies in the arrears.

**BREAKFAST/LUNCH PROGRAMS:** our breakfasts/lunches have been very healthy...lots of grains, fresh vegetables and salads were served to our children. **Nu-Way Concessionaries**, our school lunch program vendor was excellent and will continue to provide lunch to our student next year. Breakfast is served to all our children. Children have access to a “fresh” salad bar, daily with a variety of options available daily.

**PENNY DRIVE:** We are still collecting pennies for our penny drive. Children are bringing them in slowly. Save your pennies, send them in! We are continuing our “Million Dollar Penny Drive” this year— (10,000.00). We currently have over 300, 000 pennies (\$4,200). We can do it!!! A water bottle is in the main office, so drop your coins and help our drive succeed. Special thanks to the families who contributed. Congratulations to all who have contributed and will continue to contribute during the year. We will share exact totals raised during the 2018-2019 school year in September and then start the counter again at that time.

**FOUNDATIONS:** we will be approaching foundations to fund projects, scholarships, etc. but families must do their parts by paying the contracted amounts agreed upon.

**ALUMNI:** (CAP) Initiative is in full swing and we are getting a favorable response from our former students. We have many successful alumni and several have spoken at our 8<sup>th</sup> grade Graduations.

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** we started an “Adopt a Student/Family Education Scholarship Program”. Hopefully, this will be successful, so we can continue to help families who desire to keep their child/children at OLHC and have financial burdens. We have begun. If you know anyone interested in supporting this endeavor, please let me know (maybe your church, employer or other agency). This will be in conjunction with the Alumni (CAP) Program.

**ORIENTATION DAY:** New families and Students **Orientation Day is scheduled for August 29, 2018.** This is a must attend event and will start promptly at **6:00p.m.**, in the teachers’ lounge—located on the first floor across from the main office.

**MARKETING:** bring a friend to register/send new families with recommendation as we have a goal of 250 students to thrive/225 to survive.

**TRANSPORTATION:** if your city or town is not offering reimbursement, contact your city hall and ask why not and where the money is allocated?

**Bingo:** we would be grateful for some helpers from 1:00p.m.-3:00p.m. (Thurs.—Sat.). Even one (1) day! Think about it!

**Good New/ Thank You:** Our students raised monies for many causes during the 2017—2018 school year and donated much need goods to our churches’ food pantry. “Peaceable School Program” will continue 2018-2019 school year and continue to focus on the entire school community growing together in peace. S.T.E.M PROGRAM to begin in full depth.



**REMINDER:** **Take time to praise our Lord. Attend services. Bring a family, ask a friend. He waits for us.**

**Enjoy the remainder of the summer. Stay close to Jesus and we will see you soon. God bless all! Together let us open wide the door to Christ and remain “A citadel of hope”**

**2017-2018 marked the 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of OLHC School. (What a Milestone)  
2018-2019 —Entering our 136<sup>th</sup> Year**

PEACE AND BLESSINGS,

**SR. PATRICIA M. HOGAN, O.P.**  
PRINCIPAL

**SCHOOL OPENS Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 5,  
2018 AT 8:00A.M**