



Holy Family School Newsletter...

Strong in Faith Joyful in Hope Active in Charity

Dear Parents,

We have to remind ourselves every day that love hangs in there, but sometimes we are tempted to hold back and only give 15-20% and we don't love God as completely and freely as we should. There may be roadblocks and obstacles to love such as ambivalence, where one can love and hate just as a light switch turns on and off. But the way of love is to get to the core of a person. We must relate to the whole, not just the beautiful parts. We can't just love only one part of a person; we must also accept the not so attractive parts.

Another challenge to loving is learning to find a way through our moods. Love is a decision, and not temperamental like our moods. We must make a choice to love. We should not act on something or make a decision based on the mood we are in. It is not wise to make a big decision when our mood is at a low ebb. We must not run from problems or let the sun set before our anger is purged. We need to get over "glum realism." It is not enough to love just a few people in our family, our community, or our church. We must love and get along with all.

Throughout our lives one goes through doubts, fears and challenges that will test us. In order to truly love we have to break through self pre-occupations, self-concerns, and self centered tendencies that restrict love. We are at our best when we love as Christ loves.

We must be willing to love God 100%. Love lets go. Love gives away and does not control. In our journey through life we must let go of many things. We leave our family and move on in life. Children leave their parents and move on.

I treasure the love that my parents had for themselves and for me. They made many sacrifices for all of us. Love is the most powerful force in the world. In the evening time of life, we will be judged on love.

Love & Prayers,
Fr. Michael

Dear Holy Family Parents & Guardians,

The school year is now in full swing complete with guided reading groups in most classes, exciting and educational class trips, assembly programs, sports, and other extra-curricular school sponsored activities. Many of your children are also involved in additional out of school activities—Scouts, sports, music and dance lessons, etc. Sometimes with such busy schedules it is difficult to find time to complete homework and to help your child to practice reading skills at home. Here are some strategies taken from *Classroom Instruction from A-Z* by Barbara R. Blackburn that might prove useful and enjoyable when reading with your elementary school child to help reinforce important skills. These skills will help your child understand and remember more of what he/she reads following a reading assignment. You'll need some colored cereal (or another treat) in six different colors. Have your child close his/her eyes and pick a piece of cereal. For each color, have him/her do one of the following tasks:

- Blue: Tell a word or words that are important in the reading.
- Green: Ask a question about what he/she just read. Then look for the answer.
- Orange: Restate what was just read in his/her own words.
- Yellow: Make a prediction. What will come next in the story?
- Brown: Draw a picture or sketch or something important in the reading.
- Red: Relate what was read to something in his/her own life.

You might want to take turns with your child to make this activity even more interesting. Your child will probably not even notice that he/she is practicing reading skills!

It is also important that you check that your child (Grades K-8) has completed his/her homework every night. Ask your child questions about the different assignments. When you show an interest in your child's schoolwork, you send a message that it is important—and that is a very important message. Homework is vital to the learning process as it reinforces the lessons the teacher taught that day.

I look forward to seeing you during Parent/Teacher Conferences, which are scheduled for November 30th, December 1st and December 2nd. Please check the calendar for other important dates and read this publication for important information and happenings at Holy Family.

Please remember that should you have any concerns, academic, social or emotional, regarding your child, please do not hesitate to contact teachers, the nurse (Mrs. Cleary), our Athletic Director (Mr. Hecht) or me. Communications is the best way to ensure that the children are happy to be in school and are meeting with success.

I wish everyone a blessed and a very Happy Thanksgiving filled with good health, good food and loving family and friends.

Very truly yours,

Miss Linda D. Pesce



The HFS Fundraising Committee...

Football Frenzy games started on October 16th..... Good luck to all!!!

Mark your calendars! November 13th is our annual Tricky Tray event!

Per the information letter that was previously sent out to our families, ***Tricky Tray*** donations are due at this time. If you have already sent in your donation, THANK YOU! If not, please do so soon. This is a very exciting, fun, and profitable event for our school, and it is successful with the help of all our families.

Tricky Tray tickets are on sale on an advanced ticket basis only! Reserve your spot now, for this annual event. Tickets are not sold at the door.

Volunteers are extremely important to help make this event a success. If you have some spare time to help out the day before (setting up) or the day of, please contact Carol D'Aloia at 732-363-4771 x203.

E.D.P. (extended day program)

Currently, all HFS students are automatically enrolled in EDP at school registration. Aftercare is provided to all students, as needed, on a (pro-rated) pay per use basis: *\$4.50 per hour for the first child, and \$3.00 per hour for each additional child in the family.*

If you know ahead of time that you will need to make use of EDP services, it is suggested that you send in a note that day to your child's teacher. If there is an emergency situation, please call our main office and your child will be sent to EDP until your arrival. Students who miss their bus will be sent to EDP to wait for pick-up. EDP is available each day that school is open, until 6:00PM.

Students who leave school grounds are NOT permitted to return to EDP.

Club Moderators and Coaches will wait with students in Msgr. Everitt Hall, for ten minutes after the end of the event. If students remain after that period, they will be walked to EDP and standard hourly rates will apply.

Thank you and goodbye: After much consideration, I have decided that the time has come for me to move on from HFS and see what the future has in store for me in a new position with another company. My many years here have been meaningful in so many ways, and this school, and the people who were and are a part of it, will always be thought of with love and admiration. After so many years as a school parent and employee, I will miss not being here every day, and for each new school year, and I will truly miss the students, parents, and staff who have become my second family. I will not be gone entirely though, and will remain a part of the Parish and participate in some school activities throughout the year...I wish the best to all of you, and thank you for your friendship all these years.
~ Nina Pace



PTA News...

Happy Fall! What a great turnout for the first Class Mass on September 25th! The Kindergarten students did a great job at Mass and our families enjoyed gathering afterwards for some refreshments and snacks.

The PTA hosted our first ever Halloween Middle School dance. Some very creative students came dressed in fun and scary costumes. Our middle school students seemed to really enjoy the night with rockin' music provided by our 'school DJ', Vinnie DelRiccio. Thank you Vinnie for all you do and have done, for HFS.

First grade hosted the Class Mass on Oct. 16th with Monsignor Valentino inviting the children to the altar to help our parishioners recite the Our Father prayer. It was a sweet moment and the children did a wonderful job.

Back by popular demand, Kidstuff coupon books went out in October with many money-saving coupons to places such as Shop Rite and Kohl's. Please remember to return your payment or unsold book to the PTA.

The PTA invites you to celebrate '*A Night in Bethlehem*' hosted by HFS students/parents and Monsignor Donovan High School Students after the Class Mass Hospitality on November 20th. Come and feel the true spirit of Christmas as you are taken back in time to that special night of the birth of Jesus Christ. You will travel to different stations to recreate what happened during this blessed event. We look forward to seeing you and being a part of this special event together.

Upcoming Events:

*This year in place of the Santa Shop, the PTA is offering a *Display My Art* fundraiser. Children have created artwork that can be turned into products for gifts this Christmas Season. More information will be sent home with your child soon.

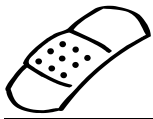
*Nov. 16th – First General Meeting/Ice Cream Social – We are looking forward to seeing everyone and enjoying the tasty ice cream! Be on the lookout for our new HFS Insulated Hot/Cold Travel Cups at the meeting! These durable cups with our school emblem will be on sale for \$5.00. Also, a great gift idea!

*Nov. 20th – 2nd grade Class Mass/ Clothing Drive after Masses at both HFC & St. Mary of the Lake – donate clothes/ toys etc. to the needy as well as raise money for HFS (more details to follow).

Immediately following refreshments, the PTA and HFS parents/students and Monsignor Donovan High School students present to you '*A Night in Bethlehem*'. Come feel the magic..

Additional reminders: You can show your support for our school in many ways, everyday, through the following programs...

- Join the PTA – membership is just \$10, send it in at any time in an envelope marked PTA
- Sign up with your Stop & Shop, and Target cards, using our school ID numbers
- Send in your Box Tops
- Send in old ink cartridges for recycling



Nurse's Notes.....Good Health Key to Child's Learning

Updating vaccinations, scheduling annual physicals and alerting your child's school about allergies and illnesses are crucial steps to ensure their academic success, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics. You can ensure a safe and happy year for both parent and child with a little planning.

Thanks to immunizations, most children lead much healthier lives than generations past. And while vaccines have reduced many infectious diseases to low levels in the United States, vacationers can bring old and new diseases back into the country. Measles, for example, is still prevalent in other parts of the world and has been linked to recent outbreaks in the United States. Unvaccinated children are at risk. That is why routine, up-to-date vaccinations are as important today as they have ever been.

If your child suffers from food allergies or other health issues that require management during the school day, be sure to contact the school nurse and update your child's health plan. A child's health can change from year to year or even month to month, so make sure the school is well aware of any new conditions or restrictions.

Along with your child's regular annual physical, aspiring athletes should get a sport physical before the start of the season. Make sure your athlete wears a well-fitted helmet, mouthpiece, face guard, padding, eye gear, protective cup, or other equipment appropriate for the sport. Of course, regardless of whether your child is on a competitive team or not, parents should promote physical activity for all children.

Linda Cleary, School Nurse



PICTURE DAY INFORMATION:

Individual student pictures will be taken on Thursday, November 10th during the school day. Students may dress out of school uniform if parents prefer.

On Friday, November 11, Class Pictures will be taken. Students should dress in their official school uniform.

- ❖ K-3 girls in jumper / white blouse / navy knee-high's or tights / school sweater.
- ❖ 4th through 8th grade girls should wear their plaid skort / HFS shirt / navy tights or knee-highs / school sweater.
- ❖ Boys should wear the appropriate color pant for their grade level / HFS shirt / black socks (gray ok K-5) / school sweater.
- ❖ ALL students should wear regulation black or navy shoes, as appropriate for their gender and grade level.

Tuition Notification

Please check you tuition coupons, as there may have been an error for the month of November.

You might have received a February coupon instead of a November coupon. But in fact there is a payment due in November, but not in February since it is re-registration month.

Please direct any questions you may have to:
Mrs. Bonnie Lynch at X-208.



HFS ACTIVITIES and SPORTS NEWS...

732-363-4771 x211

SPONSORS NEEDED!!!!

If you are interested or know someone who is interested in sponsoring the sports program for the upcoming season, please call Mr. Hecht at 732-363-4771 x211 for more information.

Sponsoring the program allows us to keep fees down; helps reduce parent cost and purchase equipment for the program.

All sponsors will have their names or business name placed on a banner, which will be hung in the gym throughout the school year. Sponsors will also be recognized in the monthly school newsletter. Plus we will encourage our families to support our sponsors. And of course, all donations are tax deductible!

Soccer

Intramural soccer ended on Saturday 10/29 with a practice and awards breakfast. 35 students from grades K-4 had a great time while learning how the game is played.

The Varsity soccer team finished the season on Monday 10/24 with their best record in years. Congratulations to all 29 team members and good luck in the playoffs.



Basketball

Basketball season begins in November and over 80 students are participating on JV and Varsity teams and on our cheerleading squads.

The pep rally is scheduled for 11/16 in the gym during the school day. All students will attend, and our coaches are invited.

Homecoming

The 1st home games of the basketball season are scheduled for Saturday 11/19. Come out and cheer on our athletes along with our school mascot, the Eagle and our cheerleading squads. Concession stand will be open all night, so join us for dinner before or after the game.

Hoodies are back just in time for Christmas. Holy Family hoodies and sweatpants with the HFS eagle logo are now available. Check your sports email for ordering information.

Mandatory Parents Meeting

If your child is on the JV or Varsity cheer squad or on a basketball team, you are required to attend 1 of 4 scheduled meetings which will be held on November 7, 8, 9, or 10 from 6-7:30PM. The meeting is to review new Diocesan rules and Holy Family sports policy. If a parent/guardian does not attend one of the meetings, your child will not be able to participate this season.

The meetings are conveniently scheduled the same time as the basketball practices for each team. You may, however, attend the meeting that is most convenient for you. Look for an email with more details.

Please remember that you must continually check our sports and activities website along with your email for updated schedules and information. If your email changes, please notify us immediately.

<http://sports.hfslakewood.org/>

GO



Student Council, Congratulations, Thank you and More...

Strong In Faith

Joyful In Hope

Active In Charity

HFS Student Council News:

The Student Council will sponsor a 'casual dress' day on Friday, November 18th. This is to support our parish St. Vincent de Paul food pantry. Students and faculty who wish to participate are asked to donate a nonperishable food item so that those less fortunate may benefit during the upcoming holiday season.

Also, the entire student body will be making hand feathers in order to create a huge turkey, which will be displayed on the two bulletin boards at the front entrance to our school.

The Student Council would like to thank you in advance for your support and generosity, and we wish everyone a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!

The Filipino community of Ocean County will gather to celebrate Simbang Gabi with nine Novena-Masses to be held at area churches throughout December. St. Mary of the Lake will host Simbang Gabi on Wednesday, December 14th with the Rosary at 6:30 PM and Mass at 7:00 PM. For more information, contact Zally Brownfield during school hours, at 732-363-4771 x202.



Happy Thanksgiving!



Library News... Come one, come all! The annual HFS Scholastic Book Fair will be held in time for your holiday shopping. The fair will take place from November 28 through December 2nd in our school Library. Yes, when we return from Thanksgiving break, our Book Fair will be up and running!

Students will attend with their class and teacher, during school hours, Monday through Thursday. Pre-orders will be accepted with exact payment enclosed, in an envelope with the child's name and class clearly marked on the outside.

Please make checks out to 'Holy Family School' Charge cards will ONLY be accepted from adults accompanying the card.

Parents, Grandparents, Guardians, and other family members and friends, are welcome to join us and shop that week. Although Wednesday and Thursday are early dismissal days, the Book Fair will be open Monday through Thursday from 10:00AM-3:00PM. On Thursday evening, we will be open again, during Parent/Teacher conferences, from 6:00PM to 8:00PM.

Look for more information soon, on our casual dress Friday (Dec. 2nd) in conjunction with the "One for Books" program.

Volunteers will be needed on Friday, December 2nd to help dismantle and pack up at the end of the fair, if you can help, please send a note in to Mrs. Palmieri. For more information on Book Fair schedules and the "One for Books" program, you can go to our website and click on the Book Fair link.

Thank you in advance for your time and support of our school Library programs.

