

**Parent Update
December 1, 2009**

Our Parish School Mission

The mission of Our Lady of School Counsel Parish School is to form young minds and hearts in the image of Jesus spiritually, academically, physically, and socially through authentic Catholic teaching within a faith community of respect and compassion for others.

Upcoming Dates

December	1-3	Santa Secret Shop	
	2	Class Mass Grade 1B	9:00 a.m.
	3	Class Mass Grade 6B	9:00 a.m.
	4	Class Mass Grade 3B	9:00 a.m.
		Report Cards	
		PTA Ladies Night Craft Show	7:00 p.m.
	7	Class Mass Grade 7-1 & 7&2	9:00 a.m.
	8	No School - Feast of the Immaculate Conception	
	9	Class Mass Grade 1A	9:00 a.m.
		Penance Prayer Service (Gr. 3-5-7)	1:00 p.m.
	10	Class Mass Grade 2A	9:00 a.m.
	11	Class Mass Grade 2B	9:00 a.m.
		Jesse Tree Pageant	1:15 p.m.
	14	Class Mass Grade 8B	9:00 a.m.
	15	Class Mass Grade 8A	9:00 a.m.
		Market Day	
		Parish Penance Service (Gr. 4 & 6)	7:00 p.m.
	16	Class Mass Grade 5A	9:00 a.m.
	17	Dismissal 12:00 Noon	
		No Afternoon Nursery	
		No After School Program	
	18	Class Mass Grade 5B	9:00 a.m.
		1 st Grade Prayer Service in MPR	9:15 a.m.
		Kindergarten Christmas Play in MPR	1:45 p.m.
	21	Class Mass Grade 4B	9:00 a.m.
	22	Class Mass Grade 4A	9:00 a.m.
	23	Dismissal 11:15 a.m.	
		No Pre-School	
		No After School Program	

Thank You for your Thanksgiving Donations

Our families were extremely generous in donating food this Thanksgiving. Last Tuesday 2 truckloads of food were delivered to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel/Fatima parish in Camden. Included in the donation were 64 boxes packed with food items and 64 frozen turkeys. Also, \$575 and 4 gift cards to Shop Rite were given to Fr. Matthew Hillyard, O.S.F.S. to use for his parishioners at Christmas. Special thanks to our own Art teacher Mrs. Christ, who is also president of Mothers of Multiples, for suggesting that MOMS donate \$591.66 to our turkey drive.

Thank you so much to all our parents and students for your generosity and compassion for the poor at this time of the year. Your spirit of giving inspires our children to experience firsthand our theme this year of “living and learning Jesus”. Thank you.

Report Card Envelopes

Parents are reminded to please sign and return the envelope that your child's report card comes home in. We ask that you return the envelope as you receive it because it is intended to last the entire year. Lost or damaged envelopes will be replaced at the cost of \$2.00 each. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Father Damian's Policy on Requesting Tuition Aid

Good Counsel School families who seek diocesan Tuition Grants or parish tuition assistance for next school year (2010-2011) must first complete a Tuition Aid Form with the Private School Aid Service (PSAS) in order to be considered for any tuition assistance. Please visit www.psas.org and click on “Begin Application” in order to complete the application/form for tuition aid. The Tuition Aid Form can also be found on our school website www.olgenj.org. No request for tuition assistance/tuition aid from the Diocese or the parish will be considered unless an application has first been made with PSAS. Please use the authorization code **TRNI** and school code **5854** when completing the online PSAS application. **The deadline for filing the PSAS Tuition Aid Form is December 31, 2009.**

What's Happening in Our Classroom

Mrs. Allen's 5th Grade Class:

In science, we are making travel brochures about the rainforest.

In ILA, the students are reading the novel *Mr. Popper's Penguins*. Students are also making a fun booklet of activities and designing a shoebox to represent Mr. Popper's home.

Mrs. Christ ~ Art

Each class has been busy trying new projects. We will be working on some special Christmas projects over the next few weeks. Since art can be a little messy at times, I would like each student in grades K-8 to start bringing an old shirt to school only on Art days. This shirt can be kept in a labeled plastic bag and will be used to protect our uniforms. Thank you!

Mrs. Steel's 5th grade class

Mrs. Steel's Social Studies classes are taking **A Step Back into the Time of Slavery** by creating digital stories about the lives of escaped slaves. The students are using Windows MovieMaker to provide narration, music, and photos to enhance their narratives. The slave stories are a culmination of a lesson on slavery and how the people of New Jersey, specifically Burlington County, were affected by slavery and how close slavery was to their own backyards. Students learned about the history of a specific Burlington County family of runaway slaves (The Still family) who gained much strength in their adversity and persevered to keep their family alive. A link to the digital stories will be provided on our web site.

