

## JANUARY NEWSLETTER

### Revised Exam Schedule

Please note that we tinkered with our semester exam schedule since my last newsletter. The girls will be dismissed at 2:00 PM on Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, and at noon on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Also, we will be having our Advent/Christmas celebration together with SSC in the Brother Peter gym on Monday, the 18<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 AM. Please join us.

### Exam Exemptions

There are a few seniors who are eligible for an exam exemption or two this semester. Seniors who qualify for an exemption need NOT report to school during that time. They are free to leave, come late, whatever.

### The Gym

Speaking of the gym, we can't wait for all of you to see it! The girls seem to like it and everyone who has seen it has been most positive. Bishop Rodi blessed it on Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. Our basketball team christened it with a victory against Mercy Cross on November 30<sup>th</sup>. Please drop by and visit and we'd be glad to show it off to you! Our next project is to get the computer resource room up and running, so that the girls have a place on our campus to do research. The hardware is here; we just need to get the software installed and the wiring finished.

### The Lock-In

Many thanks to Mrs. Anna Kalom and the OLA students who organized a wonderful lock-in for the sixth grade girls from Holy Trinity, St. Vincent de Paul, St. James, and Coast Episcopal last week. Over 50 young women joined us for the evening and overnight. All are interested in attending OLA next fall. (Of course, they must pass an entrance test, have their grade school record reviewed, and survive a personal interview before they will be admitted.) We are all encouraged by the interest shown in OLA. We know we are good and we're glad others know it also!

### OLA Entrance Exam

We will be administering the Entrance Exam on Saturday morning, January 20<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00- noon, at OLA. If you know of any sixth graders who are interested in attending OLA next fall, please have them call the school to register for the test.

### ACE Competition

Congratulations to Regan Huey who was the second place finisher in math in the Academic Competition for Excellence held at SSC several weeks ago. Other participants were Matti Scardino, Caroline Collins, Kolleen Aicklen, Meg Artigues, and Lauren Bishop. Congratulations, ladies! Way to go, Regan!

### Character Education

We have the opportunity to offer 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders an excellent seminar entitled You Are Unique on January 3-5. The program is presented by the Women's Resource Center. It was developed by Sex and Family Education, Inc. and deals with such topics as self-esteem, goal setting, and good decision making, particularly regarding adolescence. It also covers the physical and emotional consequences of premarital sex and gives practical ways to say "No." It is a character education program, not just a sex education program. As always, you are invited to join your daughter for this seminar. It will be presented in the religion classes. If you do not wish for your daughter to participate, just let us know and we'll provide a study hall.

### State Band Clinic

Congratulations to Megan Gargiulo who represented OLA at the State Band Clinic last week. Megan was selected as the sixth chair in the French Horn section of the First Band (there were four bands selected). Nicely done, Megan.

### **I Am Distressed!!**

**I am truly distressed at the number of OLA families who have requested to leave early for Christmas vacation, thus requiring a change in exams for their daughters. We have two weeks for Christmas vacation. We published our calendar last April. Families had ample time to make plane reservations, other travel plans, etc. without their daughters missing school. It is an extra burden on our teachers to make up separate exams and administer them at a different time than the regularly scheduled exam time. In the future, no exams will be administered early. Students missing exams will have to take them after they return to school!**