



The Principal's Pen

"A man travels the world over in search of what he needs, and returns home to find it".

~ George Moore

FEBRUARY, 2012

Prayer:

We will meditate on the example of the Holy Family this month and ask the Holy Family to intercede on our behalf as we pray for peace in our families.

Father,
help us to live as the Holy Family,
united in respect and love.
Bring us to the joy and peace of your eternal home.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Geography Bee: Mary Rimmer, seventh grade student at Our Lady Academy, won the school-level competition of the 24th National Geographic Bee on January 10 and a chance at a \$25,000 college scholarship. As a school winner, Rimmer now advances to a written test. Winning second place was seventh grader Grace Nicaud, and the third place winner was eighth grader Diana Baroudi. Congratulations to all three of our finalists.

Close-up Washington: Elise Cuevas and 5 students (Kolleen Aicklen, Allison Ariatti, Brooke Crowder, Carrie Mullins, and Ava Wolf) attended a week long study in DC. It was a packed week filled with monument tours, heated debates, town visits, and museum adventures. The Close Up Foundation incorporates neighborhood visits that included serving at a DC soup kitchen and bus tours that enabled the students to witness first hand the poverty in our nation's capitol. To highlight some of the week's events: Congressman Palazzo took us on a dome-tour of the Capitol which ended with a Q & A on the balcony of the Speaker of the House. They witnessed a heated debate on the House Floor about the debt ceiling and the vote that stopped that ceiling from being raised.

They were able to hear an entire case presented in the US Supreme Court as well as tour the White House. On a less academic side, the girls enjoyed cupcakes at the famous TV show's bakery "DC Cupcakes" as well as enjoyed the great weather while ice skating in the Smithsonian Sculpture Garden. Mrs. Cuevas hopes to take a group again in the Spring of 2013. For questions: Elise Cuevas [228-467-7048 x 45](tel:228-467-7048) or elise.deano@ourladyacademy.com

March for Life: On January 22, 1974, the first March for Life was held on the West Steps of the Capitol. The March was established to protest the Roe v Wade decision that made abortion legal in our country. This year, twenty-eight OLA girls traveled to Washington DC to attend the Annual March for Life. This is the fourth year that OLA has attended the March with the Diocese of Biloxi. The ice, snow, and rain did not dampen the girls' resolve to put their faith and beliefs into action. Along with eighteen SSC students and hundreds of thousands of people from all over the county, these awesome young women marched to the Supreme Court to say that they believe "All life is sacred from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death."

Seniors Caroline Collins, Madeline Simpson, Kirby Rhodes, and Mandy Raborn have attended the March with OLA all four years.

Other students in attendance were Kristen Morel, Kaitlyn Gex, Tori Bonney, Reagan Holley, Franny Favre, Erin Hale, Amy Love, Kendall Ritten, Madison Schloemer, Holly Raymond, Emily DiLorenzo, Mary Michael Collins, Badius Lee, Sydney Schmitt, Katherine Taylor, Alicia Gates, Heather Brown, Megan Smith, Lizzy Black, Taylor Huey, Cordy Hotard, Christian Davidge, Crystal Airhart, and Leah Sandoz. This group, which is sponsored by Shannon Collins and Heather Burluson, was also able to visit various museums and monuments, meet with Congressman Steven Palazzo, and attend Mass at the National Cathedral.

Progress reports: Progress reports were mailed on Wednesday, January 25 to parents of those students who have Ds or Fs in classes. The next progress reports will be issued on Tuesday, February 14.

Reminder: you can stay informed about your daughter's performance in her classes by logging into the PowerSchool Student Information System. If you need assistance with logging in, please call Mrs. Kren (ext. 10) for assistance.

Catholic Schools Week: Week of January 30th – February 3rd. During Catholic Schools week, we will honor our students, parents, and teachers/staff that make Catholic schools a wonderful place. During this week OLA, SSC, and HTCS will celebrate Mass together on Wednesday Feb. 1st. Students should be in dress uniform.

Gulf Pine Catholic: Please pick up a copy of the Gulf Pine Catholic's "Catholic Schools Week" edition to read two wonderful essays written by Senior Emily McDermott and Junior Carrie Mullins as they express what Catholic Education means to them. We are very proud of these two young ladies.

STAR Student: Regan Huey has been named as Our Lady Academy's STAR Student. Each year, the Mississippi Economic Council's M. B. Swayze Foundation honors top high school seniors from across the state. The S.T.A.R. Student program recognizes high school seniors who have the highest ACT scores in their schools. The scholarships and awards are provided through the Kelly Gene Cook, Sr. Charitable Foundation, Inc. Reagan has selected Mrs. Louise Perkins, Calculus AP teacher from St. Stanislaus, to be her STAR teacher.

Junior rings: Mr. John Evans of Herff Jones will meet with the juniors during the day on Wednesday, February 1 to tell them about their options for selecting and ordering Our Lady Academy Class Rings. He will return on Tuesday, February 7 before school to take orders.

Parent Workshop: OLA will be hosting a financial aid workshop for interested parents on Monday, February 6. A representative from Educational Services Foundation will be available between 12:00 noon – 7:00pm. Any senior parent with questions or concerns about filling out the state and federal financial aid forms for college are encouraged to attend. Please call Mrs. Emmel (ext. 14) to sign up for a time and get a list of needed materials. If we do not have enough participants, the workshop will unfortunately have to be cancelled. This is a great opportunity to have assistance with the sometimes confusing and tedious paperwork associated with college.

9th Retreat: The Freshmen class will have their annual retreat during regular school hours on **Wednesday, February 8**. Please keep these students in your prayers.

Wizards Game: In an effort to raise money for their Sister-to-Sister Scholarship, the OLA Senior class is once again hosting the Harlem Wizards on Wednesday, February 8. This dynamic basketball show is fun for the entire family. Tickets are on sale now and will also be sold at the door. All proceeds are used for scholarship purposes. The seniors have dedicated tremendous time and effort to raising enough money to help a deserving girl receive an OLA education. Please come out, not only to support this wonderful cause, but also to enjoy some fabulous entertainment.

Entrance Interviews: Individual interviews for 6th grade girls who are interested in attending Our Lady Academy are scheduled for Thursday night, February 9th starting at 5:45.

Mercy Action Day of Service: Our Lady Academy will once again participate in a day of service on Friday, February 10. Service is such an integral part of the OLA education that we feel it is important to take time out of our busy schedule and give back to our community. If you know of someone in the community or an organization that could use some help, please contact the main office.

Mardi Gras Masquerade: Saturday, February 11, the OLA Student Council will host the annual Mardi Gras Masquerade dance for students in grades 9-12. The dance will be from 8pm – 11pm. Tickets and t-shirts are on sale now.

Jr. Youth Legislature: Permission slips and money are due Monday, February 13th. All permission slips must be notarized. There are two notaries on the campus, Mrs. Gleber and Mrs. Kren. **Permission slips must be signed in the presence of the notary.**

Guidance News:

- If your senior daughter receives notification of a scholarship for college (even if she does not plan to attend that college), please send the notice to Mrs. Emmel so that your daughter can be recognized at Senior Awards Night.
- Financial Aid Workshop: Monday, February 6: 12 noon – 7pm.
- The free application for Federal Student Aid is not posted online. It's important to complete the form and submit as soon as possible, as some financial aid is provided on a first-come, first-served basis.
- **Juniors – Jump start your college planning!**
 - o Consider everything when course selection comes around.
 - o Make a preliminary list of colleges you want to investigate further.
 - o Make plans to visit colleges this spring while classes are in session.
 - o Create an academic resume, including your academic history, extracurricular involvement, and unique accomplishments.
 - o Register for the ACT.
 - o Investigate scholarship opportunities.
- **Seniors – Finish Strong!**
 - o Once you have a college offer in hand, you may get the urge to coast through the rest of the school year. However, it's important to finish strong.
 - o Colleges have been known to withdraw offers of admission to students who drop classes or begin to get uncharacteristically low grades.
 - o Taking a breather during your senior year can also make freshmen year in college more difficult because you are not conditioned for the level of workload.
 - o Have fun in these coming months, but don't give up on your college preparation.

ONLINE ACTIVITY CAN HURT YOU WHEN APPLYING TO COLLEGE OR JOBS!!!

- o "A recent article in USA Today says the number of college admissions officials using Facebook to learn more about an applicant has quadrupled in the past year. The story cites a survey where a number of college admissions officials reported finding information posted by perspective students online that hurt the student's chances of getting accepted." ~News You Can Use, ACT newsletter
- o "It's important to remember that the Internet is a public place and many times what you put on line can be accessed by anyone. Every word and every picture posted is a reflection of you, so make sure it's a positive one." ~News You Can Use, ACT newsletter

TUTORING: Beginning Monday, January 30, Mrs. Colbert will be offering “Back to the Basics” tutoring sessions. The sessions will be on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 7:30 a.m. Whether your daughter needs a little extra help in English or just a refresher course to prepare for the ACT, all grades are welcome. In order to insure there are enough copies of handouts, notes, etc., students must sign up at least two days in advance (e.g. Monday help must sign up by Friday, Wednesday by Monday, and Friday by Wednesday).

The topic schedule for Monday, January 30 - Wednesday, February 29

January 30-- nouns, we will discuss everything involving nouns (types, classification, uses);

February 1-- pronouns;

February 3-- verbs;

February 6-- adjectives;

February 8-- NO TUTORING FRESHMAN RETREAT;

February 10-- NO TUTORING MRS. C out;

February 13-- adverbs;

February 15-- prepositions, interjections, and conjunctions;

February 17-- subjects and predicates;

February 27-- direct and indirect objects;

February 29-- subject complements and objective complements.

Mardi Gras Holiday: OLA will not be in session from Monday, February 20 to Friday, February 24 for the Mardi Gras Break. Mardi Gras is a great time for fun and festivities, but please remember to always practice caution and good judgment.

SMART Track Survey: The SMART Track Survey will be administered during the week of February 27-March 2.

Decision Letters: Letters of acceptance for the incoming seventh graders will be mailed at some point during the week of February 27. Please be patient.



Tiffany Lindmark
Principal

“To us, family means putting your arms around each other and being there”.
~ Barbara Bush



Our Lady Academy

February 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 AM Schedule—Tri School Mass Tennis Practice begins @ SSC 3:45	2	3 Detention 3:30-4:30 Soccer State (V) Basketball at Perry Central 5pm	4
5	6 Parent Workshop 12 noon – 7 pm (V) Basketball District	7 Junior Ring Orders (V) Basketball District	8 9th Grade Retreat Wizards Game @ SSC (V) Basketball District	9 OLA Student Interviews beginning @ 5:45 (V) Basketball District	10 OLA Mercy Action Day (V) Basketball District	11 Saturday School 9 am- 12 pm ACT Mardi Gras Masquerade
12	13	14 Progress Reports	15	16	17 Detention 3:30-4:30	18
19	MARDI GRAS HOLIDAYS	MARDI GRAS HOLIDAYS	22 Ash Wednesday MARDI GRAS HOLIDAYS	23 MARDI GRAS HOLIDAYS	24 MARDI GRAS HOLIDAYS	25
26	27 Track Varsity Workmeet @ Picayune Smart Track Surveys	28 Tennis @ Abbey Rd. vs Long Beach 4:15 Smart Track Surveys	29 Smart Track Surveys			