



Where aspiration begins early, and thrives.

Newsletter 11.25.2019

www.hfgsglendale.org



The Experience of Learning About a U.S President and Air Force One! By Mr. Clarence Clark, 5th Grade Teacher

5th Grade enjoyed a day learning about a recent U.S. President and U.S. history at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum. Well-informed docents led students through the buildings and grounds in three small groups, including a walk through a retired Air Force One jet, the airliner of five U.S. Presidents. Another highlight was a fairly realistic hologram of the former President, a recent addition to the museum. After an outdoor lunch, students returned to different areas and visited the gift shop before the festive and surprisingly quick bus ride back to school.



An Amazing Experience in the Farm by Mrs. Teri Nelson, Kindergarten Teacher and Vice-Principal for Primary Grades



The TK, Kindergarten, and First Grade classes experienced a wonderful day at Underwood Family Farms in Moorpark. In an outdoor classroom setting, students learned about the five stages of plant life from seed to fruit. Students compared and contrasted vegetables and fruits, identified deciduous trees, and basic concepts of photosynthesis. Following the educational lesson, students experienced a tractor ride through the farm where they were able to pick and take home vegetables fresh from the fields. They were also able to feed and observe farm animals such as pigs, goats, horses and alpacas.



8th Graders' Biographies by Mrs. Ashley Liberda, 8th Grade Homeroom Teacher and Vice-Principal for Middle School



The 8th grade students recently submitted a Biography capturing both the struggles and the perseverance of a famous individual. Students are now in the process of creating an engaging KeyNote that delivers such information. In addition to informing the class about specific details, the students will show a short clip of the famous person to assist the audience in better understanding the importance of working hard to achieve a goal.



President of St. Francis High School - La Canada, Fr. Tony Marti Visits Holy Family and Holds a Special Session with Our 7th and 8th Grade Classes

Fr. Tony held a session with our 7th and 8th Grade classes right after our Tuesday School Mass this week. His talk centered on students' focus on a guided direction to be determined as these students move to High School, then to college.

He also advised students to never let their guard down; despite all the challenges they meet today and in the future.



He emphasized the value of managing one's time, without procrastination, despite the load of homework, participation in sports, and in other academic or extra-curricular activities. Fr. Tony engaged our students in a conversation on what they should expect as they move to high school. Some students did say that they expect to meet new friends, new faces, new tasks, and to prepare themselves for adulthood.

Fr. Tony enumerated three essentials in the lives of Middle School students - learning academics, spirituality, and character formation. First, **learning academics** is competitive. Second, **spirituality** is important especially that HFGS students are being educated in a Catholic school. Third, **character formation** is as vital in building a strong foundation toward adulthood. He shared about various programs that help toward attaining academics, spirituality, and character formation for our young male adolescents in particular. **Brotherhood, sportsmanship, and respect for other people** are the values taught at Saint Francis High School, an all boys high school.

While St. Francis High School is an all boys Catholic school, the girls are most welcome to do Cheer during sports and participate in theatrical and musical plays beginning with auditions. 8th Grade boys' transcripts, progress report, attendance, punctuality, demeanor, and skills in teachers and administrators' recommendations are carefully reviewed during the admission process at St. Francis. He also shared tuition financial assistance for admission and merit scholarships once in and in being able to maintain a GPA of at least 3.5 and above in four years of high school.

HFGS administration, Middle School faculty, and students are grateful for Fr. Tony's celebration of our Tuesday Mass and the sharing of his wisdom and spirituality! Many thanks as well to **Fr. Jim Bevacqua, Mrs. Ashley Liberda, Mr. Krikor Kiladjian, and Mr. Andrew Burghdorf, St. Francis High School's Chief Operating Officer** for making this session possible.

Surveys to Validate Some Finnish Educational Initiatives in Los Angeles

A Survey on Classroom Use of Brainbreaks for All HFGS Families

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1iS2YcEcaDwlRayKTTBpWmiZD-BNTct_UfEq9pvDb_QU/viewform?edit_requested=true

2019-2020 Finland Initiatives Parent Survey

Please take the time to fill out this brief survey so that we can gain valuable feedback concerning our Finland Initiatives that we are implementing this year. This information is anonymous and will be used by our network of schools working to implement these initiatives across Los Angeles. Your opinion is valuable! Faculty and students (Kinder through 4th and 5th through 8th grades) have their own specific surveys. Thank you!

Important for the Weeks of November 25th and December 2nd

Mon. 11/25

Note: Catalogue orders are delivered and distributed.

Tues. 11/26

8:00 a.m. - School Mass

9:00 a.m. - 8th Grade Cap and Gown Pictures

Wed. 11/27

8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. - Regular School Schedule

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. - Recess, Play, and Hygiene Time

10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. - Potluck in classrooms, student assembly, and community prayer

10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. - Musical and Puppetry Performers for the Grade School

11:45 a.m. - 11:55 a.m. - Classroom clean up and backpacks ready for dismissal

12:00 noon - Dismissal

12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m. - Extended Child Care

Note: There will be Thanksgiving classroom potluck in the morning. Parents are encouraged to coordinate and communicate with their child's Homeroom Teacher on what they plan to send to celebrate Thanksgiving in school. Thank you.

Thurs. 11/28 - **Happy Thanksgiving!**

Note: Our Thanksgiving Break begins. No School.

Sun. 12/1 - 1st Sunday of Advent

Mon. 12/2 - School resumes. Welcome back.

For our prayerful meditation to start this week:

"Lord Jesus, your love knows no bounds and you give without measure. All that I have comes from you. May I give freely and generously in gratitude for all that you have given to me. Take my life and all that I possess - my gifts, talents, time and resources - and use them as you see fit for your glory."

Psalm 24:1-6

1 The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein;

2 for he has founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the rivers.

3 Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place?

4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false, and does not swear deceitfully.

5 He will receive blessing from the LORD, and vindication from the God of his salvation.

6 Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

References:

Fr. Jim's Message on page 2

<https://hfglendale.org/bulletins>

Grade School Website Calendar

<http://localendar.com/public/HFGS-Bulldogs>

Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Their Mission, and Core Values

<https://www.bvmsisters.org/>

Thank you and God bless!

Dr. Suelto

Annual Giving Campaign will begin this November

Many of us know first-hand how powerful a strong annual giving campaign can be to help reach our goal. We have seen our first-time donors becoming recurring donors. We will encourage a positive response from donors after they see the difference their gift helps make in our Grade School community over the course of a year, and year after year. In advance, we send our gratitude to all our supporters for our Annual Giving 2019 who will grow to become major gift donors because they feel invested in our cause based on their annual gift. Please carry on being with us in engaging more people to fundraise on behalf of the organization, asking friends and family to make gifts to continue to build our future.

We are reaching our potential! Are you ready to make your mark?

Thank you always and we look forward to your positive response to our Annual Gift Giving campaign.



The Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes / Lambert Lombard

"No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks." - St. Ambrose