

Important for the Weeks of January 29 and February 5, 2024
Catholic Schools Week / Career Day on Thursday

Dear HFGS Families, Faculty, Staff, Students, and Friends,

Our morning Open House today marked a successful start, and we express our gratitude to those who took the time to engage with our dedicated faculty, Fr. Anthony – our Pastor, and PTO Board President Mr. Tony Makhoul. Our traditional Tuesday evening Open House, featuring our Band performance and a warm welcome and tour from the Student Council and Kiwanis Builders Club, is scheduled for this Tuesday, 1/30/24 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.. We eagerly anticipate your presence, along with your child(ren) or acquaintances with kids aged 4 to 13 who aspire to become part of our educational community. See you at HFGS.

FHC Orientation Dinner for our 2nd Grade Families

Our First Holy Communion Orientation & Dinner last Wednesday was a delightful experience for our 2nd-grade families, First Holy Communion (FHC) students, and guests.

Heartfelt gratitude goes to Fr. Anthony Garcias (Pastor), Mrs. Alexandra Soliman (FHC Coordinator), Mrs. Nelson (VP for Primary School), Ms. Katy Huntley, Mrs. Ashley Liberda, Miss Mary Ann Gutierrez, Mrs. Bautista, Mrs. Pauline Pitpit Lead Volunteer, Volunteer Parents, PTO Board Members, 2nd Grade Families, Mrs. Myla Cervantes, and Mrs. Lillian Arias for contributing to the success of the FHC Orientation event.

2nd Grade Parents - Your dedication to nurturing your child's faith is truly commendable. Thank you for coming to know about the ongoing lessons, steps, and needed preparations before the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion are received by your child. The momentous occasion not only signifies a significant step in our 2nd graders' relationship with God but also reflects the strong foundation of values and beliefs instilled by their parents. We hope the dinner and orientation were filled with joy, reflection, and the blessings of unity with the divine. Please enjoy viewing the photos from Mrs. Arias's photo gallery (PTO Board) following this [link](#).

Hosting a Career Day

In our grade school, hosting a Career Day holds significant importance for several compelling reasons

1. Exposure to Career Diversity: Introducing students to a diverse array of careers at a young age expands their awareness of the myriad possibilities available. This exposure empowers them to make more informed choices as they progress through their educational journey.

2. Inspiration and Motivation: Direct interaction with professionals representing various fields serves as a powerful source of inspiration and motivation for students. Learning about diverse careers has the potential to ignite their interests, kindle passions, and fuel aspirations, encouraging them to establish educational and career goals.

3. Practical Application of Studies: Career Day bridges the gap between theoretical studies and real-world applications. Students gain insights into how different subjects relate to specific professions, providing them with a tangible understanding of the practical aspects of their academic pursuits.

In summary, Career Day in our grade school plays a pivotal role in shaping students' perspectives, nurturing aspirations, and fostering a deeper understanding of the world of work. It contributes significantly to a well-rounded education that extends beyond academic knowledge, equipping students with the insights and motivation needed for future success. We are grateful to have parent volunteers on Thursday, February 1st, who will generously share their professional experiences and engage our students in an enriching question-and-answer forum.. Our guest speakers will be:

* **Mr. Richard Caceres**, Director of Facilities, National Football League

* **Mr. Ray Leoncio**, Senior Creative Director - Toys and Hardiness Consumer Products

* **Mrs. Michelle Ramirez**, Hospital Manager

Los Angeles Zoo Veterinary Hospital: Animal Healthcare Careers

* **Retired Officer Ben Jarasa**, Police Officer III, LAPD

* **Mr. Tommy Hodges**, Sculptor

* **Mr. Bob Ladewig** - Actor

* **Dr. Steevens Alconcel** – EH&S Manager, Amgen Laboratories

Welcoming new families in our school community

In an effort to delve into the significance of Catholic education and illuminate the reasons families opt for Holy Family Grade School, dedicated volunteers will extend a brief invitation after each Mass at Church this weekend. Our heartfelt gratitude goes to:

Saturday, 1/27/24

5:30 p.m. - **Kayla and Kaseidy Kochoa** (Students of HFGS)

Sunday, 1/28/24

8:00 a.m. Mass - **Mr. Tony Makhoul** (Parent & PTO Board President)

9:30 a.m. Mass - **Mrs. Alexa Isaac Soliman** (an alum and current faculty)

11:00 a.m. Mass - **Mrs. Lillian Arias** (a parent and an alum)

12:30 p.m. Spanish Mass - **Mrs. Fabiola Martinez** (parent and PTO Board member)

5:30 p.m. Mass - **Zachary Brown**, One of the sons of George & Ethel Brown. (Zach - an alum)

Art Exhibit by Mr. Nick Gutierrez

In my collaborative discussions with Mr. Nick Gutierrez, our Art Coordinator and a cherished member of our school community, he emphasizes the significance of our school Art Exhibit. As a dedicated husband to Amie Caramanzana - an alum of our school - and a proud father to Ava and Harlow, he sees the Art Exhibit as a transformative venue. This annual showcase creates a positive and engaging environment within our classes, fostering a profound sense of pride, community, and appreciation for the diverse talents of our students. At HFGS, our Art Exhibit is cherished by school families for several compelling reasons:

1. **Celebration of Creativity:** It serves as a platform to showcase the boundless creativity and talent of our students. Parents take great pride in witnessing their children's artistic expressions and celebrating the uniqueness of their creations.
2. **Connection to Classroom Learning:** The Art Exhibit provides a tangible link to various subjects and classroom activities, demonstrating how art is seamlessly integrated into our curriculum. Parents appreciate the opportunity to witness firsthand how art reinforces academic learning.
3. **Sense of Accomplishment:** Displaying student artwork instills a profound sense of accomplishment in our students. Parents witnessing their children's achievements in the realm of art contributes significantly to cultivating a positive and supportive school environment.
4. **Expression of Individuality:** Art allows our students to express their individuality and unique perspectives. Parents highly value the opportunity to gain insights into their children's thoughts and emotions through their artistic creations.
5. **Boost in Confidence:** Seeing their artwork prominently displayed during the exhibit instills a sense of pride and self-esteem in our students. This boost in confidence is a vital factor in their overall personal development.
6. **Cultural and Diversity Appreciation:** Our Art Exhibit often serves as a reflection of cultural influences and diverse perspectives. It provides a meaningful platform for celebrating diversity and fostering an appreciation for different cultures and backgrounds within our school community.
7. **Quality Family Time:** Attending the Art Exhibit becomes a special family event, offering parents a unique chance to spend quality time with their children while appreciating and engaging in meaningful discussions about the displayed artwork.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to **Mr. Gutierrez** for his unwavering commitment to nurturing the artistic spirit within our students and everyone's effort to help set up the Art Exhibit.

Winter Dinner Dance

You're invited to join our Winter Dinner Dance, embracing the theme of "Happy Days Are Back Again." The event will take place on Saturday, February 10th, starting with a 6:30 p.m. reception followed by a delightful dinner at 7:15 p.m. Secure your spot with a \$50 event ticket, and please note that only 4,000 tickets will be available for this exclusive experience. Engage in the excitement of our 50/50 Raffle where each ticket is \$5, or seize a free ticket by purchasing 5 tickets for \$20.

Dance the night away in the company of friends and fellow parishioners, savoring delicious food and capturing moments at our Photo Booth. Don't miss the chance to win cash in our 50/50 Raffle while making a meaningful difference. Tickets are conveniently available at the Grade School front office. We look forward to your presence! Thank you!

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Sat. 1/27 - Open House #1

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon - Open House 2024. We welcome both new and current families.

Sun. 1/28 - CSW #1 Celebrating Our Parish

Mon. 1/29 - CSW #2 Celebrating Our Community / Bring a Friend Day

Tues. 1/30 - CSW #3 Celebrating Our Students

8:00 a.m. - 8:50 a.m. - School Mass

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Open House & Art Exhibit for ALL

Wed. 1/31 - CSW #4 Celebrating the Nation

Thurs. 2/1 - CSW #5 Celebrating Vocations / Career Day

Fri. 2/2 - CSW #6 Celebrating Faculty, Staff, and Volunteers

Sat. 2/3 - CSW #7 Celebrating Families / Happy Feast Day of St. Blaise (Blessing of the Throat)

Mon. 2/5 - Recycling Day

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. - 8th Grade Field Trip to the Battleship USS Iowa Museum

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. - Kinder through 3rd Grade Book reading and discussion with author Elizabeth Godley

Tues. 2/6 - STAR Testing Window 2 ends.

8:00 a.m. o 8:50 a.m. - School Mass

12:00 noon - Early dismissal

1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - Student Recruitment

6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. - PTO Board Meeting (via Zoom)

Wed. 2/7

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Student of the Month Assembly

Note: The student assembly will be run by each school led by each Vice-Principal. The awards are for the month of January, 2024 and certificates recognizing those who excelled in our Social Studies Contest.)

Thurs. 2/8

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - Kinder and 1st Grade field trip to the Glendale Fire Station #22

Fri. 2/9 - Loaves and Fishes

Sat. 2/10 - 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - HFCC's Winter Dinner Dance

A prayerful meditation to begin the week

Lord Jesus, your word is power and life. May I never doubt your love and mercy, and the power of your word that sets us free, and brings healing and restoration to body, mind, heart, and spirit.

Psalm 8:2,5-9

2 By the mouth of babies and infants, you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.

5 Yet you have made him little less than God, and did crown him with glory and honor.

6 You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet,

7 all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,
8 the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the sea.
9 O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Happy Catholic Schools Week,
Dr. Suelto

References:

[Fr. Anthony's Message](#)

[School Calendar](#)

[Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#)