



# Queen of Peace Catholic School

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

SEPTEMBER 2011

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **Friday, September 30th:** Picture Day
- **Friday, October 7th:** NO SCHOOL!
- **Tuesday, October 11th:** Group Pictures and Retakes (full uniform)
- **Monday, October 17th:** 8th grade visits to Strake Jesuit and St. Agnes
- **Saturday, October 22nd:** BBQ Fundraiser
- **Week of October 24th-28th:** Red Ribbon Week
- **Tuesday, October 25th:** 8th grade (girls) visit St. Agnes
- **Friday, October 28th:** Parent/Student/Teacher Conference Day!
- **Sunday, October 30th:** Parish/School Mass, 10:45 A.M.

## From the Principal

Parents,

We are off to a great start! Students and staff are actively involved in their learning and teaching, and are eager each morning!

We are happy to welcome two new faces to our staff! Mrs. Rita Valles is our new secretary. She comes to us with many years of administrative experience in a public school. Please stop by and introduce yourself to her. We have also hired Mrs. Gina Lowry as our Middle School Religion Teacher. She is a member of our Parish and is very experienced in both classroom and religious education.

The P.T.O. officers for the 2011-2012 school year have been elected! They are:

**President:** Mr. Indalecio Rodriguez  
**Vice President:** Marisela Chavero  
**Secretary:** Mary Sanchez  
**Treasurer:** Alice Betencourt

### Teacher Representative:

Gina Lowry

**AdHoc members:** Nicole Benitez and Sophie Martinez

We look forward to all their contributions for the improvement of our school.

We had a wonderful turnout for Grandparents' Day on September 9<sup>th</sup>! Thank you to all the grandparents for your support.

Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students visited Cristo Rey and St. Pius as they begin to look at their future at the High School level.

Our Middle School students have had Student Council elections.

Congratulations to:

**8th grade:** Renee Bustos, Eric Matamoros, Anastasia Tristan

**7th grade:** Mallelyn Flores and

Darren Lowry

**6th grade:** Angelica Ordaz, Mathew Soto, Diamond Watson

The Spirit Club is being led by Mrs. Cruz. They have already held a few fundraisers, and are currently working to raise money for new boys' basketball team uniforms!

Our after-school programs have begun. Activities include Chess, Karate, Dance, and Robotics. Please come by the office if you need an application. These activities are being led by Mr. Cliff Campbell, at *Knowledge Influencing the Next Generation*. He can be reached at 832-752-2543 or [kingchessleague@live.com](mailto:kingchessleague@live.com)

This newsletter will begin dedicating a section for a "Wish List" from our teachers. If you are able to donate any of these items, please let us know.

~ Dr. Hernandez

## Events

We are having our BBQ fundraiser on Saturday, October 22, 2011. If you are available to help provide side dishes or other items please let us know. We hope that you can help us by selling tickets to this event. Come and enjoy the afternoon with the Queen of Peace community!

### Schedule:

**2:00 P.M.:** To-go plates available

**4:00 P.M.:** Student performances in new Community Center

**5:00 P.M.:** BBQ dinner plates available

# Early Childhood

## Pre-K 3:

Pre-K 3 has been working hard to learn all about the Letter's **A** and **B**. We are also learning the joy of God giving us a family. We used our little fingers to tear up green paper to make the leaves of a family tree, it was really hard work, but Mrs. Holden said we did a good job. In Math, we have Number Bear to help us learn about the number 2; he's also helping us to learn about circles. Please help us look for circles items and words that start with **Aa** and **Bb**.

~Mrs. Holden

## Pre-K 4:

September has been fun-filled with alphabet and shape activities in Pre-K 4. The children have been busy filling our ABC wall with their names, color words, and all of the Environmental Print (restaurant logos) that they brought in. In math we have examined different objects to identify their shapes. During Religion each day the children are learning how to work calmly, quietly and prayerfully. When we visit the church each Thursday morning, we are learning how to show proper respect for the Blessed

Sacrament by genuflecting and blessing ourselves. We are learning how to pray together and how to sit quietly as a class. Our class is enthusiastic, energetic and eager to learn. We look forward to sharing news about future learning experiences with you.

~Ms. Cussen



# Early Childhood

## Kindergarten:

Kindergarten is feeling fantastic about Fall. We are excited about celebrating All Saints Day on November 1<sup>st</sup> and will be learning about various saints throughout this month. This month in language arts we are exploring the letters: N, P, C & A, the sight words: go, can & to. We have fun using games like Uno and Bingo to hone our math skills and are learning about three dimensional shapes such as spheres, cones and cylinders. We are busy practicing our song that we will

perform for the QoP BBQ and Fundraiser on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> and looking for parents to help! ~Mrs. Roman

## First Grade:

The first graders in Sister Sharon's class begin their day in silent meditation. Bishop Michael Putney of the Diocese of Townsville in Australia has said, "It is important that even the smallest children learn to be still and not just be quiet. Being still is

very different from being quiet. It is in their stillness that God can speak to their hearts, and they can discover the love of God for each of them personally." Ask your child to tell you about meditation. Maybe you would like to do it at home with the family.

~Sr. Sharon



# Elementary

## Second Grade:

September was a great month in second grade! Here is a look at what is coming up in October:

**Religion:** Unit 2: The Trinity, Students will learn about each person of the Holy Trinity.

**Reading:** Students will continue to build fluency with weekly take-home passages. Please make sure to listen to your child read nightly.

The average second grade students should be able to read 94 -104 words per minute.

**High Frequency Words & Vocabulary:** Second grade will continue to learn 7-10 new "BAM" words a week. These words provide an excellent base for reading at an early age. We will continue to have weekly HFV tests.

~Ms. Pittman

## Third Grade:

We have had a great start this year! Students have been working on 6-digit numbers, SuperSpeed math facts and rounding. They are continuing to increase reading fluency with their weekly poem. We will be starting SuperSpeed 100 this week to increase sight-word fluency. Ask your child about it!

~Ms. Esparza



2nd Grade Star Student of the Month: Angelina Rangel



**Fourth Grade:**

This year I have a challenging group of students. They are very busy with their studies. They are doing a lot of activities in Reading, English and Science. Their goal is to bring up their SAT scores this year mainly in Reading and Math. "Student performance can be improved by teachers having higher expectations." (Ressenthal and Jacobson) ~Mrs. Kurian

**Fifth Grade:**

We have been learning a lot in Religion class! Fifth grade students have enjoyed identifying vessels and vestments that are used in the liturgy. Dr. Hernandez joined the class on

# Elementary

one of our "field trips" to the Church sacristy to see the actual vessels and how they are set up for Mass. On another occasion, we invited (okay, more like commandeered) Fr. David to introduce us to the vestments that the priests wear to celebrate Mass. We have also spent time learning about Padre Pio on his feastday, and are anticipating the feast of St. Francis of Assisi! In the midst of all this learning, each week we spend time discussing the Sunday Gospel so that we are prepared to experience the Word at Mass.

~Ms. Foltyn



# Middle School

**Religion:**

6th Grade Religion has been learning about the creation stories in the bible and what it means to be part of humanity as a Catholic and to have and show dignity to others. We've also been learning how to use various charts and narrative writing to reflect on scripture and what we know about the saints.

7th Grade Religion has been focusing on scripture and how to incorporate it into our daily lives. We have studied

the saints for the week and reflected on their examples as a way of learning how to live in God's image.

8th Grade Religion has incorporated their knowledge on the ten commandments by writing reflective pieces on how these laws guide us in daily living. In addition, they too, have focused on the saints and have written narratives on how they might work towards becoming a saint one day as well.

I am very excited to be given the opportunity to learn and pray with our Jr. High students. They are a joy to listen to, pray with, and a blessing to the school.

~Mrs. Lowry

**Math/Science:**

THE RESULTS ARE IN! Ever wonder if the pricier paper towels are worth the money? Eighth grade science students did just that. We compared four brands of paper towels: H-E-B

It may not truly be "the quicker picker upper," as advertised, but it did prove to be the most cost effective. However, when we divided the unit cost by the precise amount of water each brand absorbed, it proved to absorb more water for less money than any other brand tested!

~Mr. Brindise

# Wish List

**PK-3:** No-Spill Paint Cups - 10-Color Set, Watercolor Paint, Natural Bristles - 10-Color Set, Playdough - 4-Pack, Collage Buttons - Large Size, Wikki Stix, Count and Link Shape Finders

**PK-4:** Gently used or new toy cars for block center, Gently used or new toy people for block center, Gently used or new toy animal for block center, Gently used or new play food for the dramatic play center, Gently used or new dress up clothes for the dramatic play center, 15 to 24 piece puzzles, Hula hoops, Stamp pads and stampers



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Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston**

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**Office Hours:** 7:30 A.M.— 3:30 P.M.



**Our History:**

Queen of Peace Catholic School continues over 60 years of educational ministry in the Roman Catholic tradition. Founded in 1947, by the Dominican Sisters of Houston, we strive to foster the spiritual, intellectual, physical and social development of each student.

**Our Programs:**

- ~ Religion, Technology and Library
- ~ Dance, Karate, Chess, Robotics and Athletics
- ~ Before and After School Care

For more information about programs, please  
contact: 713.921.1558

[www.gopcs.org](http://www.gopcs.org)



**Companions of the Cross:  
Fr. John, Fr. John Paul and  
Fr. David**

## Family Faith Formation

The Family Faith formation classes for students and parents have been scheduled. This year we are joining together with the Queen of Peace Parish to conduct our FFF nights! Please mark your calendars for the following Thursdays:

**October 20th, October 27th, November 3rd and November 10th**

We will be meeting from 6:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

October is the month of the Rosary. We will pray the Rosary with our students on the following dates: Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 A.M.; Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> after Mass; Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> after Mass; and Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 A.M.

