

January 2010



Dear Academy Families,

Welcome back!!! As we begin the second half of the school year, we thank everyone for making 2009 so successful for the Academy. As staff, it is very rewarding to see positive growth and development in our children. Here are ways you may continue to support your child as a student at the Academy:

Healthy lifestyle habits are important.

- Please make certain your child enjoys nutritious meals and snacks. A variety of fresh fruits and vegetables will help your child develop a taste for these important elements of good nutrition.
- Regular outside activities and exercise are vital for the support of large muscle development and encourage life long participation in some form of physical activity. Ride bikes, skate, or just go for walks as a family. We all benefit from daily physical activity.
- Eight hours of sleep and regular bedtime prepares everyone for the upcoming day. Setting routines and rituals that reinforce a consistent bedtime set a tone in the household demonstrating a balance between active time and calm, relaxing, soothing time.
- Arriving on time to class is much easier when the child is well-rested and ready to begin his/her day. Please arrive on time so that your child begins his/her day as part of the classroom morning routine.

If your child enjoys lunch at school, please make certain the food selection includes the necessary proteins, carbohydrates, and fats that promote sound nutrition. Please, no sugary snacks or drinks.



The Academy is educating the total child...we want to support parents as their child's first teacher and build a strong partnership between home and school regarding any and ALL learning.

As the year is progressing we ask parents to review their volunteer hours and make certain service has been entered either online or in the notebook in the Office. Being a generous steward with your time, talent, and treasure is what we hope you are modeling for child. It is reasonable to expect that with the completion of one half of the school year most persons have logged 20 hours of service to the Academy. If you need assistance as to how to volunteer and what kinds of activities you are able to do in your home, please contact your classroom teacher or the director. Please note that I have included a letter to families from our PAC President, Vince Bejarano, regarding this very subject. I feel it is important for all families to understand policies at the Academy and their purpose in building strong traditions and support as we continue to grow as a community.

We are preparing for National Catholic Schools Week, January 31-February 6th, and will begin registration for the 2010-2011 school year on February 1st! We will have an Open House before and after all masses on Sunday, February 28th beginning with the 8:30 am mass.

All families are encouraged to visit the classrooms, meet our teaching staff, and bring family and friends that are interested in learning more about the Academy programs. Families will be able to see classrooms set with activities and speak with staff regarding curriculum, daily routines, and the programs we offer at Our Lady of Guadalupe Academy.

As part of National Catholic Schools Week, our First Friday Chapel on February 5th will highlight the spiritual focus of our programs. Father Thomas Bennett will preside offering special words for parents and family attending Chapel.



February ushers in the Lenten Season with Ash Wednesday on the 17th. Distribution of Ashes will be at 11:00 am followed by a Light Lenten Lunch at 11:30 in Highberger Hall. Please RSVP to the Evite online referencing this event and plan to begin your Lenten journey with the Academy.

We remind parents that the Academy uniform consists of:

- Logo “t” or Polo shirt, logo navy sweatshirt
- Izod navy skirt, jumper, pants, or shorts, white socks, white or navy tights, black shoes or white Keds (for girls)
- Izod navy pants, shorts, black shoes (for boys)

If you are of need of new shirts, they may be purchased in the Academy Office. Sweatshirts may be ordered through the Office as well.

We always want to hear from families and know how to better serve your needs. Open communication is the key...as well as attending PAC meetings and your personal involvement in Academy functions! **Please plan to attend the monthly PAC meeting on Thursday, February 4th at 6:30 pm in Highberger Hall. Please RSVP by Wednesday, February 3rd so that we may arrange for child care.**

Thank you again for all that you do to build and support the Academy. The entire staff continues to express their gratitude for the gift of your children and the support of our families. We hope to have exciting news regarding Academy expansion to share very soon with all families. We believe...For nothing is impossible with God. (Lk.1:37)

Sincerely in Christ,

Andy