



HCJCA PARENT NEWSLETTER December 2018 Issue



Classroom Corner: Second Grade

Children don't have to be geniuses to be successful. By the power of extraordinary teachers, every child can achieve extraordinary success. Our second grade class is privileged to have two exceptional teachers: Mrs. Hesse and Mrs. Guzman. They are very different people, both from different backgrounds, and experiences, but they have one very important thing in common: the desire to build up the confidence of their pupils because they believe all of their students can succeed. They go beyond exam grades and try to see potential in each and every one of their students. Mrs. Hesse and Mrs. Guzman make their mission to not only teach about the traditional subjects, such as math and science, but they are also teaching our kids that they are valuable, they are loved, they are enough, they matter and, more importantly, that they can do anything if they believe in themselves.

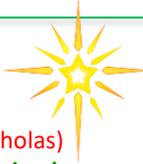
To Mrs. Hesse and Mrs. Guzman, it is important to create a connection with their students and a relationship of mutual trust, mutual respect, and mutual support where the students can freely express their ideas, no matter how small they are. Mrs. Guzman explains that "each child is unique and it's beautiful to watch them grow and share a bit of themselves with me every day." One of the things that the students constantly shared with them were their love for reading. This second grade class loves to read, and they communicated their desire to have a book club to Mrs. Hesse and Mrs. Guzman. Every Thursday, during recess, the students can decide whether they want to go to recess or to the book club. Mrs. Hesse proudly states that "it was completely their idea. I am so proud of them for coming up with that idea on their own." Mrs. Hesse and Mrs. Guzman take time of their own recess to be with the kids during the book club, because they value their students and their ideas.

I truly believe that our second graders will receive so much more than great academic scores and the gift of learning; they are gaining the mindset that they can do anything and everything because they have confidence in themselves, and this will be the result of two amazing second grade teachers whose primary goal is to make our kids know that they are always "good enough" and nothing is "impossible." Mrs. Hesse explains that "as a teacher, it is important for me to teach all those important academic skills, but I also want to help create great memories that my students will carry with them forever." I am sure they will always carry the memory of how two extraordinary teachers have given them the two biggest gifts in life: love and confidence.



Upcoming Events

- 12/3 8 a.m. Student of the Month (Gym)
- 12/5-12/6 Scholastic Book Fair
- 12/6 Blessing of the Candy Canes (Feast of St. Nicholas)
Parent Teacher Conferences/1:00 p.m. Dismissal
- 12/7 School Mass/12:00 p.m. Dismissal
- 12/8 Mass - Feast of the Immaculate Conception @ 9:00 a.m.
Breakfast with Santa from 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Illumination @ 5:45 p.m.
- 12/10 Honors Ceremony Gr. 1-8 @ 9:00 a.m./NUT Card Day
- 12/12 Confessions Grades 3-8
- 12/13 1st Grade Trip
8th Grade Graduation Pictures
- 12/14 Jr. High Christmas Dance Gr. 6-8 @ 7:00 p.m.
National Jr. Honor Society Induction @ 1:30 p.m.
Pizza Sale
- 12/17 Christmas Gift Shop (through 12/19)/\$1 Dress Down
- 12/20 Christmas Play
- 12/21 Christmas Sweater Day
- 12/24-1/1 Christmas Recess - School Closed



The Virtue of the Month

The focus for December will be **patience**:

- Wait my turn
- Try and try again
- Accept what cannot be changed
- Use my time wisely

Service Project of the Month: Fourth Grade

Christmas is almost here and we love to help out as much as we can. This month, the HCJCA 4th Graders will be collecting items for the residents of the Queen of Peace Residence in Queens Village run by the Little Sisters of the Poor. Items being collected are body wash, body lotion, Kleenex, mouthwash and Fix-a-Dent. Thank you in advance for your support.



Congratulatory Note

Congratulations to the HCJ Squirt Division Soccer Team coached by Mr. Chiofalo, and his co-coaches, Mr. Yance and Mrs. DePalo for a terrific season. You represented the school and the parish with dignity, sportsmanship, hard-work, and fair play, both on and off the field. We are very proud of you!

Well done!

