

June 2010 Parent Letter

Dear Our Lady of Peace Parents,

What a joyful (though tough) school year! We thank God for His continued blessing of this school community. We celebrate the many opportunities and varieties of growth and service experienced by each member of our community. This means that we celebrate you, the students' parents, who have taken such special care of us through hours and hours of volunteering. Thank you, thank you for the gift of your precious time. What would we do without you? It is a fact that without you we couldn't/wouldn't be able to have the nurturing environment we have at OLP. May God bless you back for each volunteer hour you have given (and will give this summer) to OLP!!!

We also want to recognize and thank the families graduating their last child from OLP – Tim & Kristie Barbour, Lisa Stechschulte, Greg & Janell Brown, Susan Cook, Andy & Yvonne Dawson, Sally Forna, Michael & Laurie Holden, Jon & Kim Hurst, Jeff & Dianne Krause, Sarah Novak, William & Julie Kurzenberger, Matt & Chris Sanford, David & Jeanette Schlairet, Mark & Jackie Somerson, Katie Zielke and Ron Zielke. We will miss these parents as well as ALL the wonderful grade-eight soon-to-be graduates! We ask God to guide and protect them each day of their lives. Come back and visit (parents too)!

Thanks to the 86 families (45%) who returned or did their year-end Parent Survey online. The averages on this year's survey for questions 1 – 10 are in this parent letter. Thank you for sharing your thoughts and insights; a few of them are listed. A summary of the strengths and weaknesses (#11 & 12) will be shared with the faculty and the School Board in the fall.

Please note that expectations for each grade level's Summer Homework is included in this parent letter. It is an important part of keeping your child's skill level up over the summer. It makes SUCH a huge difference in their retention of this year's growth if they keep using and applying the things they learned. This year, in compliance with our Wellness Plan, I have added the area of Fitness.

Celebrate each summer day and remember, we never take a vacation from our relationship with God and, thankfully, He never takes a vacation from us!!! Go to Mass each Sunday no matter where you are; your children will remember your priorities when they are older. Remember that the school builds on the foundation laid in the home. The Church teaches that the parents are the primary religious educators of their children and her wisdom shows in your children. The good news is that if we do our part in taking our children to Mass and being faithful ourselves, He will do the rest: We are called to be faithful and that is our success as a follower of Jesus.

I need to add that tomorrow is my last day of the school year due to answered prayer for a quick date for knee replacement surgery. There are many wonderful things that I will miss – 8th-grade dinner, 8th and Kdg. graduations, Mrs. Brown's retirement luncheon, the year-end swim, etc., etc., but I really have no choice. In order to be physically ready for the fall, I have to give up most of the summer. Please, as always, say a prayer for me.

May you and your loved ones have a joyful summer,
Mrs. Folian

** Congratulations to these eighth-grade students:

Kristin Fabian -- Kristin was awarded a partial Watterson Academic scholarship through the Scholar Search Test .

Kinsey Krause and Sean Zielke were chosen by Fr. Kavanagh to receive the 48th Annual Serra Altar Server Award.

Brian Scarpitti -- Brian was awarded the Central Ohio Association of Catholic Educators Scholarship.

-- Plus, Brian was also awarded a partial Aquinas Scholarship to St. Charles Sean Zielke for his wonderful work on the new score board. It was his Eagle Scout community service project, and we are grateful for his hard work.

***Results from OUR LADY OF PEACE SCHOOL PARENT SURVEY --2009 - 2010
Percentages Reflect Surveys returned by 5/26/10 (87 of 191 = 46% of families)

1 = Strongly Agree 2 = Agree 3 = Undecided 4 = Disagree 5 = Strongly Disagree

		☺				☹
1. I received helpful communication from OLP staff this year.	1)	<u>1</u> 47%	<u>2</u> 41%	<u>3</u> 5%	<u>4</u> 6%	<u>5</u> 1%
2. I felt comfortable contacting school personnel with questions or concerns.	2)	<u>1</u> 61%	<u>2</u> 31%	<u>3</u> 7%	<u>4</u> 1%	<u>5</u> 0%
3. My child enjoys coming to school.	3)	<u>1</u> 44%	<u>2</u> 51%	<u>3</u> 5%	<u>4</u> 1%	<u>5</u> 0%
4. My child feels safe at school.	4)	<u>1</u> 62%	<u>2</u> 37%	<u>3</u> 0%	<u>4</u> 0%	<u>5</u> 0%
5. I am satisfied with my child's academic progress.	5)	<u>1</u> 38%	<u>2</u> 44%	<u>3</u> 10%	<u>4</u> 5%	<u>5</u> 3%
6. The parent letter and family envelope keeps me well informed.	6)	<u>1</u> 61%	<u>2</u> 37%	<u>3</u> 2%	<u>4</u> 1%	<u>5</u> 0%
7. My child is not bullied and/or gets the help/support s/he needs at school. *	7)	<u>1</u> 34%	<u>2</u> 43%	<u>3</u> 14%	<u>4</u> 9%	<u>5</u> 0%
8. I feel part of the OLP Team.	8)	<u>1</u> 36%	<u>2</u> 46%	<u>3</u> 11%	<u>4</u> 3%	<u>5</u> 0%
9. Students receive appropriate recognition for their accomplishments.	9)	<u>1</u> 44%	<u>2</u> 48%	<u>3</u> 9%	<u>4</u> 6%	<u>5</u> 0%
10. I am satisfied with the overall discipline at OLP.	10)	<u>1</u> 34%	<u>2</u> 47%	<u>3</u> 15%	<u>4</u> 2%	<u>5</u> 0%

* In years past question #7 dealt with whether a family was satisfied with the Progress Report.

Since the progress Report is from the Diocese and not a local decision (or optional in any way), this year that question was replaced with this one about bullying at OLP.

**** FYI -- First day of school for 2010-11 School year is Wednesday, August 25th. The full calendar will be sent in the August parent Letter planned to be mailed on July 29th.

WEEK 38 AT OLP SCHOOL

(This information is also under News on the website's Home Page)

Last Week of School in the 2009 – 2010 School Year

Monday, May 31, 2010	No School – Memorial Day
Tuesday, June 1, 2010	Field Day
Wednesday, June 2, 2010	Gr. 2 & 4 – Nature Trip to Dusseau's Home Gr. 6 – Field Trip Thurber House Gr. 8 – Graduation – 7pm with reception following
Thursday, June 3, 2010	Last day of school – 11:30am Dismissal All School Mass – 8:30am – Kindergarten Graduation All School Swim at Worthington Rec Center 1-4 pm

Have a blest and safe summer! Thank you for your prayers and support this year!!!!

PREFECTS

Tuesday, June 1, 2010	Morning – Kate Wood Cafeteria – Parent helpers are prefects Playground – Parent helpers are prefects
Wednesday, June 2, 2010	Morning – Mary McCleary Cafeteria – Allison Stonis Playground – Tom Brennen, Tracie & Vidas Barzdukas
Thursday, June 3, 2010	Morning – Elizabeth Adornetto

SERVERS

Wednesday, June 2, 2010	Megan Ruland, Caroline Somerson, Sam Lewis
Thursday, June 3, 2010	Sam Magee, Alan Brophy, Ana Livecchi

NOTES AND REMINDERS

1. All present students, including graduating eighth graders, are welcome to continue working on Accelerated Math and Accelerated Reading as a major portion of the REQUIRED summer homework. Ideally all students will have completed the standards set for the year he or she has just completed before returning in late August. There are two ways to continue. Through Home Connect and E-mail, students will continue with Accelerated Math. The library will also be open on Sundays: June 6, June 13, June 20, June 27, July 11, July 18, August 1, August 8, August 15 and August 22. It will be closed on JULY 4 and JULY 25. On those Sundays students can take Accelerated Reading tests and/or Accelerated Math tests in the library. If you have any questions or if you need to know if your student is one of the students who is not on grade level, please contact Mrs. Gruber at 260-9546 or at gruberhoffman@aol.com.

There is a NEW FORM on the OLP webpage! Click to the Accelerated Math page. There you will find a form to type in your name, your form number and your answers! You will not have to number the answers yourself in an E-Mail when sending them to Mrs. Gruber! The form was created by Dan Weatherby! Thanks, Mr. Weatherby!!

Again, Accelerated Math is done at home through Home Connect and E Mail. The Accelerated Reader Tests are taken on Sundays in the library!

2. Sister Barbara Kolesar will be celebrating her 50th anniversary in June. She has been the Pastoral Assistant at OLP for 14 years! We are assembling a memory box for her and if you have a note or photo you'd like to share with Sister Barbara, please turn it in to the school office or in the box in the church's Gathering Space by Monday, June 21, 2010.

3. A Sears Craftsman garage door opener was found in front of school this week. If yours is missing, please contact the school office.

4. Enclosed you will find signup sheets for caring of Science Lab animals in the summer and tending the Peace Pond area. We realize the time to signup is short and apologize for the lateness – summer crept up in a hurry! Anyhow, if you are interested in doing either or both, please return the signup form(s) to school as soon as possible.

5. Volunteers needed for the ongoing YES program at OLP. The YES (Youth Education for Safety) is a child education program designed to empower children to deal with a threats to their personal safety (e.g., bullying, stranger abduction). We are looking for parents who could volunteer to go in to the classrooms and role-play various safety scenarios with a facilitator. Initial training will require 1 ½ days of training at St. Andrew School in the fall of 2010 (week of October 11). The actual YES program presentations require approximately 5 – 10 hours per school year. If you are interested, please contact Laura Williams (261-8383 or jlwilliams@columbus.rr.com). THANKS

6. The Green Club has to wait until the fall to plant our new tree. More on this in September.

7. PLEASE go over stranger danger for the summer. Two recent reports were troubling. One was a primary child who equated knew that since God made each of us, there are no strangers: God loves them but they are still strangers. Then a child reported that while on his front porch a man in a black car gestured to him to come to the car. He went inside and reported it to his parents, but it is still scary. (Hopefully, they called to police but with On “a black car” as a description, the police cannot do much.)

8. **Summer Homework Details (on the Website)** Due: Wednesday, August 25, 2010

Kindergartners into Grade 1 – Mrs. Gruber and Mrs. Stock made a summer calendar of activities. These can be done in order or randomly (Kindergarten note explains). All students are expected to attend church on Sunday.

Grades 1-7 into Grades 2-8 --

Reading --Summer reading listed by the title and author of at least five books they have read.

Math -- All grades – Once again, be sure that your child KNOWS their basic facts like they do their own name. In some way you need to document the math work that you do. At least four pages of problems that review the concepts taught in their current grade.

Writing -- All grades should write in some way weekly. The way that is handled -- by journal, letters to family/friends, stories, etc. -- is up to each student.

Religion -- Attend church and record service in writing, photos, or drawings. Please save the bulletins from ANY parish you visit over the summer and we will map all of them in the fall.

Fitness -- ANYTHING you chose to do is acceptable, but health care professionals recommend *at least 60 minutes* of physical activities every day. Keep track of what you do (make a chart, take a picture, keep a log).