



C.A.R.E. News

Newsletter – July 16, 2008

www.CareNews.org

Our Lady of Grace Catholic School

this week's Q&A's

Mr. Mike Johnson, principal of Our Lady of Grace Catholic School, continues his efforts to prepare Our Lady of Grace to open this coming fall. Once again, Mr. Johnson also takes time to answer questions you have posted on the C.A.R.E. News web site.

Q: I noticed that the price of lunch included a price of .05-.50 for "snacks". Could you elaborate on what this will be? With the current problem of obesity in children on the rise, I would hope that this would be fresh fruit or yogurt. I would hate to see candy/ice cream or junk food being offered at lunch.

A: The cafeteria director and I discussed this question and she is in the process of identifying the types of items that will be on the snack cart. Items such as power aide, vitamin water, cookies, pretzels, popcorn, and fresh fruit will be on the cart. We are currently working on identifying healthier ice-cream alternatives (sherbet, fruit bars, etc.). While what we serve as cafeteria snacks are an important part of our children's nutritional lives, we also need to continue to develop a comprehensive approach to nutritional health and healthy lifestyles. One of the five pillars of our mission statement deals directly with our physical development and health. OLG will assist parents/guardians in nurturing this approach in each of our students.

Q: I am concerned about accepting private students beyond the third grade. Will the applicants be screened and either accepted or declined based on academic and / or behavioral considerations?

A: Our policies regarding the acceptance of private students must be the same for all students coming from families that are not registered members of a covenant parish. We have been meeting with all new private students beyond the third grade and assessing them to ensure that we can meet their needs and that they can meet the expectations of our community. While I wish I could say that we have accepted all of the private students wishing to come to OLG, we have not. For some, it was decided that remaining in their school of origin would best meet their educational needs.

Q: When you say the students will wear name tags, is this something that is going to be required, like part of the uniform? I am going to have a VERY hard time getting my 8th grader to wear a name tag every day.

A: The name tags will be part of the uniform. They will, however, not be going home with them. The students will keep them in their classroom and the students will put them on each morning.

Q: I was wondering if we are going to have any bios on the teachers. It would be nice to know some of their backgrounds. Thanks.

A: We are in the process of putting brief bios together for the web site. As you can imagine, summer schedules and vacations make it a challenge. We will get them posted to the web as soon as possible. Thanks for your interest!

Q: First of all THANKS for all your efforts! I love your Q & A every week. This website looks fantastic!! It came to my attention today that some people are getting the wrong uniforms! While the plaid was

the same, the pleating was different and it makes the uniform look VERY different. I'm not sure but it sounds like either the store or the supply house is sending out the wrong pleat.

A: Thank you for the feedback! I have contacted Schoolbelles and they are ensuring thorough communication throughout their stores. There is a school in Walton, KY that uses the same plaid as OLG but they have the Knife Pleat. If you receive the Knife Pleat (pleated all the way around) then please return it to one of the stores and exchange it for the official OLG Distinctive Pleat skirts/jumpers (box pleat on the front and the back). We apologize for this inconvenience.

On another note, I have also heard back from the owner of Schoolbelles and he is working on getting the refunds for those of you who paid for the shipping of uniforms ordered at our school sponsored fitting held at St. Margaret Mary.

Q: Some of the stores are actually having back to school sales and we have I have a question about the school supply list for grade 7 & 8. It says we need 2 single folders (L.A.).What is a single folder?

A: While the supply list has been out on the OLG web site (which is still under construction) it is now also posted [HERE](#) on www.carenews.org.

Q: I have not read anything recently about the textbook issues. Are all grade levels using the same text books?

A: Thanks to the help of the clerks at the various covenant parish schools and the hard work of many current OLG employees we are cataloguing and inventorying all of our texts. We have ordered a variety of texts to ensure that there is alignment across the grade levels and are excited about how well the process is going. This is, as you can imagine, a continuous work in progress!

Q: Regarding latchkey - when one doesn't know the bus schedule, should a registration be entered and then canceled as soon as we find if the bus schedule fits in with work schedules for the parents?

A: Yes, that would be fine. On the registration please note that your registration is tentative depending on busing schedule.

Q: When is the Open House at OLG scheduled? We are looking forward to seeing the school. Is there going to be more than one date available?

A: Currently we have the Open House scheduled for Sunday, 8/24. The challenge, of course, is all the building preparations that are underway. We will, if the building is ready, offer another open house date earlier than 8/24. In early August we may be in a position to take smaller family groups through. More information on that to come.

Q: We are paying tuition in lump sum. Will we receive a bill shortly for that?

A: Those of you paying in lump sum will not receive a bill. Please send payment in to the school (2940 West Galbraith Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45239) or drop it off between 9:00-3:00 at the office.

Q: Will there be "orientation" days for the students prior to the proposed Open House? I feel the students need to become familiar with the new school more than two days prior to school starting.

A: The challenge, of course, to scheduling another open house date is the remodeling and building preparations. If the building is going to be ready, we will schedule another date but that is going to be something that will have to happen later after we have a better feel for our building status. That said, in early August we will probably be able to take individual families through parts of the building if that would be helpful. We'll keep you posted!

Q: Will OLG have tutors for the students who need more help than other students?

A: Yes. We have a full array of support staff providing services to students who need additional support. One great element of our program for grades 5-8 is an "Academic Assistance" period. This will be held once a week and offers students the opportunity to assist one another as well as seek assistance from their teacher within the context of the school day.

Hope to see you at our gatherings – THIS WEEK!

Movie Night

July 17, 2008 - Assumption Parish Center - Grades K through 3

Doors open at 5:30 / Movie starts at 6:00

Pick up dinner at your favorite drive thru and settle in for a great movie!!

Students should come dressed in their pjs!!!

Bring a pillow and/or sleeping bag if you like!!

Students must be accompanied by at least one parent!

Contact: Cassie Smith 607-1113, casslynn@zoomtown.com

or Lynn Schultz 851-2659, jschultz@cinci.rr.com

Social Night

July 18, 2008 - Little Flower Parish Center - Open to students in grades 7 and 8

8:30PM 11:00PM

Get ready for a night of socializing with your classmates.

We are asking for the boys to bring one 2 liter of pop and the girls to bring a bag of snacks to share.

Students must be accompanied by at least one parent!

Contact: Sharon Kauffman 522-8180, jnskau@fuse.net

or Jodi Knollman, jknollman@hrr-law.com

Mr. Johnson will continue to keep parents & parishioners updated throughout the summer using the C.A.R.E. News web site (www.carenews.org) and the C.A.R.E. News email.

To have the C.A.R.E. newsletter emailed to you automatically as they are issued, go to www.CareNews.org. While you are there, you can also ask questions or leave comments and feedback for Mr. Johnson and the Steering Committee.

NOTE: If you missed any of the C.A.R.E. News weekly Q&A emails, you can always access them at <http://www.carenews.org/QandA.htm>