



Queen of Apostles Catholic School

Office of the Principal
4409 Sano Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22312

Ph: 703 354-0714

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www.queenofapostlesschool.org

February 26, 2010

REMEMBER:

BUY YOUR AUCTION TICKETS NOW!!! The Auction is next Saturday and we are counting on your support. There really is **NO** excuse not to be there and enjoy the delicious food and the company of friends. More importantly, we **ALL** need to do our share to support the school – **it isn't fair to expect others to do all the work and we not at least support the event.** I really want to be able to get the students a new playground! Go to the website for the forms or call Allie Bernardo to purchase your ticket.

March 12 – no school due to a mandated professional work day. The teachers will be attending diocesan meetings.

Yesterday was the middle school science fair – huge thank you to all of our judges and to Mr. Pelczar and to Mrs. Littlefield for working with the students and organizing the event. Ten students will represent our school at the Diocesan Science Fair in April.

There are still some families who have not sent in re-enrollment forms. Thank you to those who did so in a timely manner. I have started to accept new applicants and am very happy about the new families that will be attending our school next year. If you have not re-enrolled yet, please do so right away. If you are not planning on returning, please let me know that as well. I hope to see all of your children next year!

Wish our math whiz students good luck as they participate in the “MathCounts” contest tomorrow at Woodson High School. We have students who are competing as a team and also students who are competing in the individual contests. Thank you to Mrs. Molnar for arranging this and to Mr. Haile for mentoring those seventh and eighth grade students who are participating in this. They practice every Friday night for several hours!



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The Q of A Weekly



February 26, 2010

Science Fair

Our thanks to Mrs. Littlefield and Mr. Pelczar for organizing a very interesting and informational Science Fair on Thursday of this week. Each of the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students' displays was exceptional. Other grades were able to observe all the projects and displays, learning lots about different aspects of science and preparing for what will be expected of them in Junior High. Thank you to the following parents, teachers, and parishioners who served as judges:

Jim Bailey	Maria Marvich
Maureen Blackwell	Kathy Molnar
Albert Coo	Joe Molnar
Kathleen Fonda	Evelyn Nash

Thanks also to Roland Akosah, Rafah Masri, Jen Nafarrete, and Pauline Vuong, who volunteered their time to make the day a success.

And finally, congratulations to all the winners on a job well done!!

HOT LUNCH MAKEUP FOR SNOW DAYS: Kids whose parents paid for hot lunch for the week of snow days will receive the hot lunch that was paid for when we have our make-up days. Those make-up days have not yet been scheduled—we'll keep you posted. Alternatively, snow credits may be used for any ordering period during the remainder of the year. See www.schoolhousegrill.com for more information.

FINAL COUNTDOWN TO THE MASQUERADE GALA AND AUCTION!! If you haven't already, reserve your tickets for the Masquerade on Saturday evening, March 6 – it will be a fabulous, fun-filled evening as parents, faculty, and supporters come together to enjoy each other's company and raise funds for our school. Just fill out the form on the Auction website and leave it with payment in the school office. With more than 700 items to bid on—vacation getaways, elegant jewelry, delicious meals, sports events, museum tours, articles for the home, activities for kids, items to pamper yourself, and memorabilia from our own Q of A children—there's bound to be something for you!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES! Setup and cleanup help is needed for our upcoming Auction. Please consider helping with our largest fundraiser of the year – you'll have fun and earn your service hours at the same time! Help is needed Friday the 5th with setup, Saturday night the 6th with welcome and check-in, and Sunday the 7th with cleanup. If you can help, please contact Gladis Griffith at ggriffith@uspsioig.gov. Thank you!

Principal: Mrs. Yates j.yates@queenofapostlesschool.org • Pastor: Father Vander Woude

President: Gladis Griffith ggriffith@uspsioig.gov • Vice President: Nina Russell nina_russell@verizon.net

Treasurer: Allie Bernardo allie.bernardo@bipc.com • Secretary: Shannon Hines shanrhines@excite.com

Members-at-Large: Paige Fashanu PFashanu@VCBOnline.com • Kyle Wright Wright.Kyle@verizon.net

Publicity: Hyde Loomis khydeloomis@gmail.com • Teacher Representative: Kathy Littlefield k.littlefield@queenofapostlesschool.org

BUY YOUR AUCTION RAFFLE TICKETS IN ADVANCE! Raffle tickets are on sale! In addition to the Best of Live and Pearls in Champagne raffles, we are raffling a 50" plasma TV. See the tickets on the Auction page on the school website--print them out and sell them to friends and family! It's not necessary to attend to win. For more information, contact Allie Bernardo at allie.bernardo@bipc.com.

BEER & WINE DONATIONS NEEDED FOR AUCTION: We still need beer and wine donations for our upcoming Masquerade Auction and Gala. Our goal is to keep expenses to an absolute minimum so that every dollar earned goes to our school! Please consider donating a case of beer or wine in exchange for service hours. Contact Flavia Sampaio at fsampaio@aol.com for more information.

STILL DESPERATELY SEEKING COORDINATOR FOR THE FALL FUNDRAISER: A volunteer is needed to run the giftwrap fundraiser in Fall 2010. This is a great chance to make a major contribution to our school! If you are interested, please contact Nina Russell at nina_russell@verizon.net.

FREE THROW CONTEST: The Knights of Columbus Council 4522 (Pope John Paul II Council) will hold their annual Free Throw Championship in Queen of Apostles School gym on Tuesday, March 9, from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. This event is open to all boys and girls ages 10-14; participants will compete in their age and gender division. This is a fun event, and winners will advance to the Knights of Columbus district-level competition. Parent or guardian approval is needed to participate. For more information or to receive a registration form, please contact Brian Vaccaro at vaccarobd2000@yahoo.com.

Dates to Remember	
March 6	Masquerade Auction and Gala
March 12	Diocesan inservice--no school
March 20	Spaghetti Dinner

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The Three Ps, Always With Us

We have seen many changes in the education system over the last couple of decades, especially the integration of technology, even at the youngest grade levels. These enhancements benefit the academic experience of our children, but some things do not and should not change. I like to call these the “three Ps” – prayer, praise, and problem solving.

Prayer is the foundation on which we build our plans, dreams, hopes, and goals. Our children learn, at a young age, that they are never alone, that God is always with them, and that Mary, the other saints, and the angels are strong and willing intercessors. What a wonderful gift we give them by sending them to a school where they pray throughout the day.

Praise is effective when it is bestowed prudently and realistically. When my children played “peewee” baseball, some parents wanted to buy them trophies (I guess because they looked so cute in those uniforms – it sure was not for their athletic prowess!). Of course, the players came to expect a trophy instead of developing the concept of earning one. It takes hard

work and responsibility to be successful in schoolwork and just about everything else in life!

Problem solving is so important but is becoming a lost art! We want to solve all of our children’s problems for them out of love and a desire to protect, but our children will find it difficult to cope in the “real world” unless they learn to be accountable for their actions and to deal with the consequences. If they do not do their homework, they will get low grades; if they misbehave, they will lose privileges. We can guide, advise, and try to soften the fall, but we cannot – nor should we – make everything perfect all the time!

As our children learn the skills to navigate the challenges of life, prayer will be their strength, praise for a job truly well done will give them the encouragement they need, and sharp problem-solving skills will help them meet expectations.

Joanne Yates
Principal

It’s Time for a Masquerade!

What an insane winter it has been! Thank you, God, for sending no more snow! I’m thinking only Spring right now – and looking forward to our **Masquerade Auction and Gala** on March 6!

This is a wonderful opportunity to spend a fun evening with friends, enjoy delicious food and great music, and raise critical funds for our school. Is anything more important than ensuring that our children receive the richest education possible?!

If you are committed to this goal, you will understand why it’s so important to support our Auction. Our annual auction fundraiser has helped build our school gym. It has built our computer lab. It has funded the wonderfully interactive Active Boards in every classroom. This year, we hope that it will fund new playground equipment to ensure that our children develop physically as well as spiritually!

The PTO is able to contribute in this way to Q of A largely because our annual Auction is so successful. And it is successful because of your generosity!

Be part of the magic on March 6th!! Make your contribution by attending the Auction, offering an item for auction, or volunteering to help decorate or clean up afterward.

To the many who have already purchased tickets and volunteered to help, thank you!! Your support is an investment in one of our most precious community assets – our young people. To the rest of you: Get your tickets now – information is on the school website.

Looking forward to Masquerading with you on March 6!

Gladis Griffith
President, PTO Board



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What's Happening Around School



The kindergarten Valentine Day post office was a huge success. The kinders sorted and delivered hundreds of cards – in spite of the blizzard, our brave little postal workers made sure the mail got through! Thank you to Mrs. Dowden and Mrs. Murphy for helping them.

The 1st graders are busy learning how to divide objects into groups (they informed me that is how to learn multiplication!), playing phonics baseball, and learning about the miracles of Jesus. They were complimented on their reverent behavior by some of the parishioners who attended Friday's Mass.



Our 2nd graders made their First Penance last Saturday. Mrs. Feliz and Miss Twaddle prepared them well and, as Father said, it is the parents' example that makes all the difference.

The 3rd graders are growing crystals – more budding scientists! They are also learning about the importance during Lent of sacrifice and good works.

The enthusiasm of the 4th graders was so energizing when I asked them what they were learning. They told me about divisibility rules, the Nathaniel Brown rebellion, a play they are performing in Literature, and all about the planets, comets, and asteroids (it was better than watching the Discovery Channel!).

If you have a few moments, read the poems and tall tales written by the 5th graders, displayed outside their classroom. You will enjoy reading their literary masterpieces. The 5th graders are also leading the school in the Stations of the Cross on Fridays during Lent.

The middle school students have been immersed in preparations for the Science Fair. Each student project entailed doing research, creating PowerPoint and oral presentations, and preparing a display board, as well as conducting the actual experiment. The results were stunning! Congratulations to the winners.

Farewell to Mr. George Cook

Mr. George Cook, Facilities Manager at Queen of Apostles, is retiring at the end of this month. In his many years of service to our community, he has been behind many of our most impressive community efforts. To name just two: He led the group to build St. Joseph's Hall, our beautiful gym, and he led the successful completion of the addition to the church.

Mr. Cook's children and grandchildren attended Q of A School; he served a stint as PTO president.

Words cannot express our gratitude for all he has done for the Q of A community. We wish him all God's blessings as he enjoys retirement, spending time with his family and at the beach.



Mr. George Cook



Meet Our Teachers



Ms. Janet Smith

Mrs. Nancy Ault, our 4th grade teacher, has taught at Q of A for 17 years. She grew up with two brothers in St. Marys, Penn., and came to the area when her husband, a Navy pilot, was transferred nearby. When she's not teaching, she goes for walks, gardens, and cooks for guests.

Her favorite movies are *Song of Bernadette* and *Gone With the Wind*. Her favorite book is *The Story of a Family* by St. Térèse of Lisieux. She has two sons and one daughter. Her last dog was a peekapoo named Gizmo, but she's currently without pets.

Her favorite travel destinations are the Virgin Islands and Montreal.

When asked what she likes most about Q of A, she answered, "I love the people I work with and have made many friends. One thing we have at Q of A is a true commitment to the Catholic faith."

Mrs. Janet Smith has taught at Q of A for 32 years! She started out teaching PE but after getting a degree in graphic design came back to teach art. She grew up in Peekskill, N.Y., and moved to this area when her husband became a police officer. When she's not teaching, she cooks and bakes, gardens, and sews, and summers are for art projects.

Her favorite movies and books are the Harry Potter series, and her favorite travel destination is Hawaii. She has a 5-month-old golden retriever pup.

About Q of A, "the kids!" are what she likes most. "I love the way they interact and accept each other, being from so many different backgrounds. It's always been that way!"



Mrs. Nancy Ault



Digging Out
(Thanks to Mrs. Beauch for the photo)



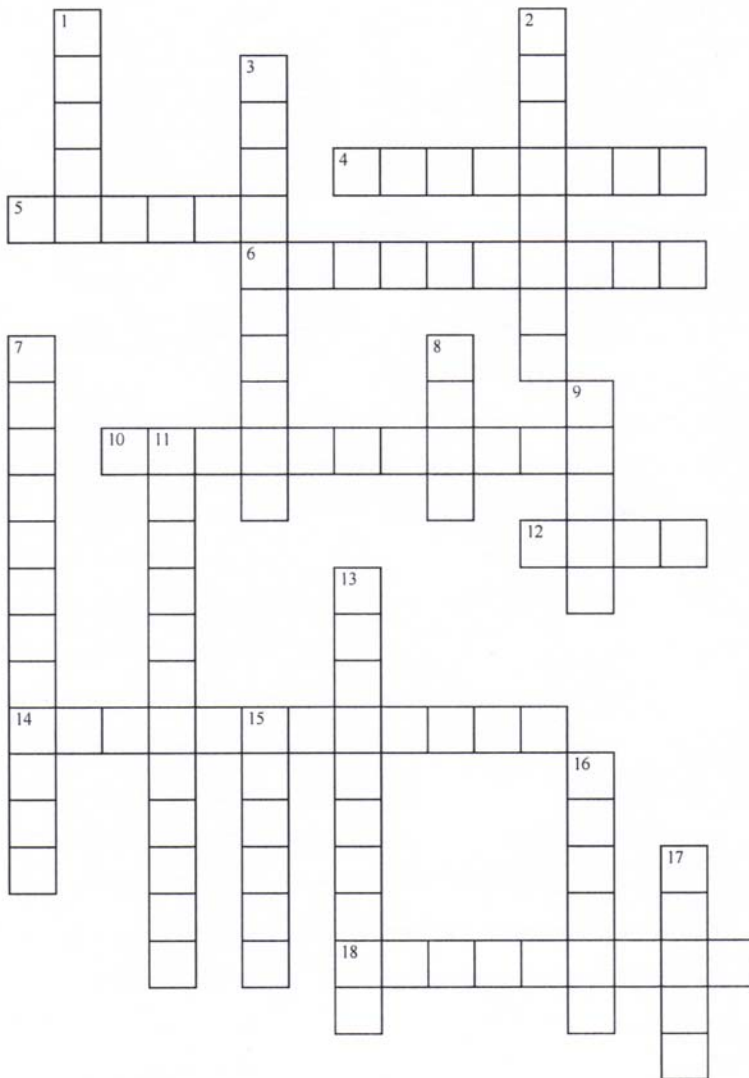
Mission Statement

At Queen of Apostles Catholic School, we recognize the uniqueness of each student, focus on the education of the whole child, and enable our students to realize their full potential.

The spiritual, moral, academic, physical, and aesthetic development of each student is fostered by providing a faith-filled academic environment where creativity and excitement for learning are tempered with self-discipline and order.

VERITAS ET GAUDIUM

Lenten Meditation

**Across**

- 4 The hill on which Jesus was crucified
- 5 It is said that St. Patrick drove these Creatures out of Ireland
- 6 The day on which Jesus was crucified
- 10 He protected and took care of Mary and Jesus
- 12 A time of fasting, almsgiving, and abstinence
- 14 The patron saint of Ireland
- 18 St. Joseph's trade, which he taught Jesus

Down

- 1 He helped Jesus carry the cross
- 2 She wiped Jesus's face with her veil
- 3 To give to the poor
- 7 The day we commemorate the Last Supper
- 8 To eat small meals or not snack between meals
- 9 The number of times Peter denied Christ
- 11 Begins the Lenten season
- 13 To refrain from eating meat
- 15 The Liturgical color worn through most of Lent



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP

ENTRY FORM AND SCORE SHEET



I wish to enter THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP in the category and age group checked below. My eligibility is to be determined by my age as of January 1. I also understand that I may only compete in one council level competition.

Secondary school athletes should check with the school athletic director about eligibility before participating. Birth Certificate for other proof of age is required to verify eligibility.

Boys

Girls

AGE:

10

11

12

13

14

Name of Entrant

Date of Birth

Street Address

City

State/Province

Postal Code

Telephone

Signature of Entrant

2. This Section To Be Completed By Parent/Guardian:

COUNCIL NO. _____

The undersigned hereby request and approve entrant's registration and participation in the KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP. In consideration of such registration and participation, the undersigned hereby agree: that entrant's participation will be at the sole risk of entrant and the undersigned and without liability to Knights of Columbus Supreme Council and any of its subordinate units and their officers, members, agents and employees, all of whom the undersigned hereby agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless from any and all claims and expenses resulting from or relating to entrant's said participation.

The entrant may compete in only one council level competition.

Witness

Father/guardian

Date signed

Mother/guardian

SCORE SHEET

3. This Section To Be Completed By K of C Officials:

SCORING INSTRUCTIONS: Each contestant will be allowed 15 consecutive free throws in council competition and 25 consecutive free throws in all other levels. Indicate number of free throws "made" in first column. Those tied for highest score will compete in successive rounds each being allowed 5 free throws until one contestant emerges as winner. Use other columns to indicate scores in "playoff" rounds.

COMPETITION LEVEL	SCORING:				TOTAL BASKETS MADE
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BASKET MADE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BASKET MISSED	
COUNCIL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
REGIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
STATE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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