

St. John Neumann Catholic School

Missions SJNCS is currently in the process of adopting a Catholic School in the New Jersey area that has sustained flood damage due to Super Storm Sandy. Items will be collected and funds will be raised in order to support their efforts to rebuild and repair any damages the storm has caused.

Events/Missions This year's SJNCS Christmas Musical is designed to engage our school, church and community in a life-changing effort to impact the world...one shoe and one soul at a time. Through scripture, songs and a heart-warming story, our school children will not only share the "Good News" of Christmas, but, in an extension of the musical itself, we hope to show God's love in action as we collect shoes to given to those in need all over the world. All who attend SJN's Christmas Program will be encouraged to donate a pair of old or new shoes to be given to Soles4Souls.

Awards Two students from each class in Grades 1-8 were awarded the Sharing Jesus Now (SJN) Award for the first quarter. This award is given to students who consistently exemplify Christian virtues we hold in great esteem at St. John Neumann Catholic School. Recipients are chosen based on respect, honesty, helpfulness, responsible behavior, and good conduct and citizenship.

Athletics The SJN Girls' Soccer Team won their second straight Smoky Mountain Middle School Soccer (SMMSS) Tournament Championship on October 28th. This year, they finished second in the regular season for the blue varsity division, and ended the season with a record of 10-2-2. Over the past two seasons, they have outscored opponents 107-42. The SJN Tennis C-Team can in 2nd in league play and won the Championship in the 2012 Greater Knoxville Tennis Association (GKTA) League Tournament. The SJN Tennis B-Team came in 3rd place in league play.

Fellowship & Fundraising On Friday, October 12th, SJNCS held their 4th Annual Chili Cook-Off and Supper. All funds raised this year will be used to purchase and implement technology programs in order to integrate the school's iPad initiative into the daily curriculum.

Knoxville Catholic High School

The KCHS Music Department performed at a Chamber Music Concert on October 16th. The performance was held in the Commons Area at 7:00 p.m.

The Guidance Department presented a Financial Aid Night for parents on October 30th. The meeting was held at the All Saints Parish Hall from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Sacred Heart Cathedral School

Year of Faith We have embraced our school theme, "Increase our Faith." Pope Benedict's encyclical about the Year of Faith encourages focus on the areas of sacred scripture, particularly the words of Christ in the Gospels, participation in the Mass through a greater understanding of the liturgy and Creed, and celebration of the gift of the Eucharist. As a result, we developed a plan of action to guide students and faculty through the school year. Each month we focus on three areas:

- Gospel selections or stories on Faith
- Commandments and portions of the Creed
- Synonyms for the word 'Eucharist'

In October, our Gospel reading was from Matthew 15:21-28, The Syrophenician Woman; the Commandment was the third, "Observe the Sabbath day and keep it holy." And, our word for the Eucharist was "The Holy Mass". We are encouraging these topics for reflection and discussion within our families throughout the school year.

Golf Tournament The 12th annual Sacred Heart Fall Golf Classic on October 5th was a tremendous success. EdFinancial was our presenting sponsor. Over 75 golfers enjoyed incredible weather and great golf at Egwani Farms while supporting the SHCS Endowment Fund.

JIM HASLAM VISIT On Monday, October 22nd, founder of the Pilot Corporation, Jim Haslam, visited Mr. Chase Estep's third grade classroom and spoke to students about the importance of voting and shared his political experiences while growing up.

HALLOWEEN Sacred Heart teachers dressed "in costume" as Sacred Heart students on Halloween Day. Teachers donned plaid skirts, oxfords, hair bows, pigtails, and sweater vests. The kids got a real kick out of seeing their teachers dressed this way. The Home and School Association and parents also treated the teachers to a "Soups, Stews, and Witches Brews" luncheon in the teacher's lounge.

St. Joseph School

St. Joseph School celebrated the feast of St. Francis with a blessing of the animals. Students were invited to bring their pets to school where everyone gathered outside as Father Orr led us in a prayer service and pet blessing. There was a great assortment of large, small, furry, scaly and feathery pets.

Students and staff kicked-off the Year of Faith with an all school rosary and "Strengthen My Faith" wristbands.

St. Joseph School hosted a Golf Tournament on October 12th and Fall Festival on October 13th. Students, staff, parents, and many other volunteers; worked for months to make these successful and enjoyable events.

School closed early October 17th -19th so teacher and parents could meet together to discuss student progress as the first quarter ended. More than two hundred conferences were scheduled in three days; benefitting parents, teachers, and most especially the students.

Many St. Joseph School families gathered on October 29th for dinner and presentations on the saints. Presentations included skits written and performed by the eighth graders. The skits highlighted four young saints whose images were depicted on newly installed “stained glass windows” in the chapel. The evening was the first in a series planned; to celebrate the Year of Faith.

St. Mary’s School – Oak Ridge

Spirit: All of St. Mary’s students enjoyed an informal visit October 15th with Bishop Stika, who made the rounds of all the classrooms and treated the students to the story of how he became a bishop. Student council officers greeted the bishop when he arrived, and the younger students gave him an enthusiastic welcome in Columbus Hall. Bishop Stika even got to renew an old “acquaintance” with one of the residents of the primary science lab: Herbert the corn snake.

Mission: On October 19th, St. Mary’s welcomed into the Catholic Church Kindergartner Jackson Sharpe, whose Baptism was celebrated at the All-School Mass. In addition to Jackson’s family, another special guest was on hand for this occasion: Jackson’s former “big buddy” Jack Deinhart, now a freshman at Knoxville Catholic High School.

Service: During the annual “Silver Coin Challenge” the last week of October, St. Mary’s students donated more than \$1,000.00 to purchase books for needy children, who will receive them at Christmas. This charitable fundraiser is done in conjunction with the school’s Barnes & Noble Book Fair. During the fair, students will get to “shop” for the books they want to donate, which are then given to the Oak Ridge Holiday bureau for distribution.

St. Mary's School – Johnson City

Our 6th grade class presented Egypt to our school on Thursday, October 18th in our school gym. The 6th grade social studies/world history took components of what they studied about the Egyptians and recreated several scenes that represented life in ancient Egypt. Each class member had a speaking part and the entire school walked through to view and listen. It gave the students a chance to apply what they had learned. They dressed in costume to portray their part. They built a shadoof like the ancient Egyptians used to draw water. They showed and talked about how they built buildings and pyramids, and what tools were used. They learned about mummification. Some students were dressed as some of the gods that the ancient Egyptians worshiped.

We kicked our annual Walk-A-Thon off on October 16th; our theme this year is TEAM-Together, Everyone, Achieves, More. Our goal is \$15,000.00 and 100% participation. We will walk on November 2nd.

Our Student Council sponsored a Pumpkin Contest. We had pumpkins made into fish bowls to hamburgers. We had them lined down the hall of the school all the way from the library to the gym. Money cups were placed with each pumpkin for voting. Our first place winner was a fish bowl pumpkin with live gold fish, second place was a Hello Kitty pumpkin, and the third place was a hamburger, complete with all the fixings. The Student Council raised over \$600.00 and this money will be used for a needy family to have food for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Our students came to school dressed in costume on Tuesday, October 30th and we had our annual Halloween parade at 2:00 p.m. for parents to observe.

Our school also had our Parent/Teacher conferences this month since our first nine weeks ended in October.

St. Dominic School

The school held their Fall Book Fair October 15th – 19th. On the last day of the fair the children dressed as their favorite book character. We had many great “characters’ in our school that day.

On Tuesday, October 30th, we had an all-school Rosary in honor of October being the Month of the Rosary. It was a wonderful way to end the month.

On Wednesday, October 31st we celebrated Halloween with a Parade and Carnival. Everyone had a good time playing games, making crafts and having their pictures made.

Notre Dame High School

The Notre Dames Boys' Golf Team finished the season as the District Champions and placed 2nd in the Region. Alexander Riddle placed 2nd in the State Tournament. Alex's 2nd place finish earned him a spot at the Tennessee Junior Cup, a tournament that is held in conjunction with the Tennessee Challenge Cup matches that pit the state's most deserving professionals against amateur point's leaders for the season in a Ryder Cup format. The tournament was held at the Vanderbilt Legends Club.

Notre Dame held spiritual retreats for each class in late September and early October. The senior class enjoyed an overnight retreat at Horns Creek led by Jimmy Mitchell, founder of Fraternus. The junior class retreat was held at Holy Spirit Catholic Church and was led by Fr. Michael Cummins. The freshman and sophomore retreat was held on campus and was led by speaker and musician James Michael Mette.

Mr. Howie Sompayrac was named Athletic Director of the Year by the A.F. Bridges Award Program. The TSSAA selected Mr. Jeff Fisher as Golf Coach of the Year and Mrs. Anne Ricksecker as Girls' Tennis Coach of the Year.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School

October was a month of celebration for OLPH; the school and parish have been in existence for 75 years. Each grade level took a decade (1930's to 2010) to research. A timeline was created for the parish and the school, and classroom doors were decorated by each class. A wonderful Mass, celebrated by Bishop Stika took place on October 6th which was followed by activities for children and dinner for all. As a culmination to the month's festivities, "Retro Day" was held on October 31st when each student dressed to represent his/her decade, and a presentation of the decades took place in the gymnasium.

The Ram Run sponsored by OLPH Home and School took place on October 13th and was a great success.

The OLPH's BRAT (bratwurst) Booth at the Oktoberfest held at the Chattanooga Market was another huge success.

The Chattanooga Symphony Orchestra performed for OLPH on October 16th.

The students presented the Living Rosary on October 19th.

The eighth grade students went on their retreat to Camp Lookout October 25th & 26th.

Home and School sponsored the second annual Trunk or Treat on October 27th.

St. Jude School

7th grade students, led by their teachers, Donna Picard and Amy Lepley, spent two days and one night at Camp Lookout as they participated in a relationship bonding and trust building retreat. They kicked off the event with a special prayer service and enjoyed a fire and cookout in the evening.

St. Jude School is praying and supporting several school families who are battling or have recently lost the fight with cancer, including students and family members with Leukemia, Lung Cancer, Breast Cancer, Brain Cancer and Prostate Cancer. On October 24th, St. Jude celebrated Cancer Awareness Day with students dressing in the rainbow colors, or the color of the cancer they are fighting hardest. A special prayer was offered in the morning. Students all received rainbow sugar cookies and signed dedicated posters at lunch.

One of the annual highlights of the school year is Field Day, held this year on October 26th. Students in grades Pre-K through 8th participated in multiple activities including Relay Races and the always popular Teacher/8th grade Tug of War – this year the students won! The Home and School Association ran a very popular concession stand and over 30 St. Jude Alumni from Notre Dame High School came back that day to provide assistance.