

AUGUST 2013
SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL

Notre Dame High School will host a college fair on Wednesday, September 11th, from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm. Representatives from over 100 colleges and universities will be available to meet with students.

The Boys' Golf Team edged Knoxville Catholic by one point to win the Irish Cup trophy.

Pictured below: Mr. Valadie and the Notre Dame students at the football game.



Our Lady of Perpetual Help School

OLPH has had a smooth, but busy, beginning of school. We started with a welcoming dinner for all of our new families the evening before registration. This was hosted by our Home and School Association.

The middle school students had a great start of the year with a middle school dance on the 10th.

On the 16th we had our official celebration of the new school year with Father Jim Vick celebrating the Holy Spirit Mass (Red Mass).

Our Open House took place on the 21st following our first Home and School meeting.

On Saturday, the 24th, we had a campus workday. Many parents showed up to help us get our grounds looking good.

In addition, our Fall Sports (volleyball, football, cross country, and cheerleading) have had a great and successful start.

St. Jude School

Separate and targeted Open House and Orientations were held for Preschool, Kindergarten, Grades 1 - 5, and Middle School, Grades 6 - 8. Parents enjoyed the opportunity to hear about the plans and vision for the coming school year, the new Home and School Association recognition programs, and to meet with the teachers in an informal, yet informative setting.

(Photos are attached)



The 2013 ACT results have been released to schools across the country along with cumulative information about the scores. Nationwide and in the State of Tennessee, ACT scores continue to drop and our state is now ranked 48th in the country. The following current and historical data shows how KCHS has done compared with our state and our nation. Needless to say, these results confirm for us that we are blessed with incredible teachers, supportive parents and some outstanding students. We had 170 students take the ACT in 2013 and our average score was **25.3** (highest ever for KCHS). We also scored our highest scores in each section of the test: English - 26.2, Math - 23.6, Reading 26.1, and Science 24.6.

ACT REPORT - CLASS OF 2013

ACT has established composite reports for all four benchmark scores. The chart below shows the percentage of students who meet all four benchmark scores (English 18, Reading/Social Science 21, Math 22, and Science 24)

COMPOSITE BENCHMARK SCORES FOR ALL 4 AREAS			
Graduation Year	Knoxville Catholic	State	National
2006	33%	17%	22%
2007	38%	18%	23%
2008	42%	18%	22%
2009	41%	18%	23%
2010	46%	16%	24%
2011	46%	15%	25%
2012	49%	16%	25%
2013	52%	18%	26%

COMPOSITE SCORES (Combination of English, Math, Reading and Science Scores)				
Graduation Year	Knoxville Catholic	Knox County	State	National
2006	23.6	21.8	20.7	21.1
2007	23.9	21.8	20.7	21.2
2008	24.6	21.9	20.7	21.1
2009	23.9	21.8	20.6	21.1
2010	24.5	20.5	20.6	21.0
2011	24.7	20.4	19.5	21.1
2012	24.6	20.6	19.7	21.1
2013	25.2	20.4	19.5	20.9

Sacred Heart Cathedral School

Sacred Heart Cathedral School welcomed our students back to school on August 12th, which included 97 new students: 53 kindergartners and 42 in Grades 1-7. The new students and families enjoyed meeting the staff and each other at a family picnic the day before school began. Our new students had another opportunity to gather for pizza in the youth room sponsored by the school counseling department. The school also welcomed 11 new faculty members including a new principal, Mrs. Sarah Trent.

Fr. David Boettner spoke to parishioners and parents of the school during the Master Plan reveal on August 18th. Those in attendance received the vision of a new cathedral for our diocese. It is a plan that has been years in the making and benefits the parish, school and the entire diocese.

Beginning with the sixth grade class, students are able to participate in the AVID program. AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. Students learn through a systematic method of organizational and study skills, work on critical thinking and asking probing questions, receive academic help from peers and college tutors and participate in enriching and motivating activities. Our school is piloting this program to frame and support many of the strategies our teachers are using and provide additional resources needed to enhance student learning, strengthen skills, and accelerate their preparation for high school academic and college readiness.

Teachers hosted Orientation Nights for parents on two separate evenings to share curriculum, class procedures, and schedules. Parents found the evening informative and were able to follow their student's daily schedule in the middle school.

St. John Neumann School

SJNCS Preschool –

Our first ever preschool classes started August 12th, 2013. SJNCS has had an overwhelmingly positive response to this new program. There is a 4 year old classroom and a 3 year old classroom. The classes are combined for activities such as recess and gym, and separated for age-appropriate academic and developmental skills. Each preschool student attends Mass one time per week in small groups.

Pictured below are some of our preschoolers enjoying story time in the library with Ms. Vicki McKernan.



Reading Buddies –

Students in Sabrina Talley's 4th grade class and Beth Mattingly's preschool class at SJNCS recently teamed up for a reading buddy program. The program allows older elementary students to practice their reading fluency and share their time and skills with others while exposing younger students to new words and different genres of books. Pictured sharing a book with preschooler Cole Latham is 4th grader Adam Osborne.



Missions –

Last year, SJNCS proudly collected 7 suitcases packed with school supplies which were delivered to the Mother Perialba Nursery School in Uganda. The children were thrilled to receive a gift that will provide them with tools to learn. A total of \$608 in proceeds from our special out-of-uniform day, September 4th, 2013, will continue to help this wonderful school community. Mother Perialba Nursery School (situated at Rubaga Hill Convent, Jinja-Uganda) is a property

and project initiated and run by the Evangelizing Sisters of Mary as one of the ways they carry out their mission of evangelization.



Athletics –

The SJNCS varsity and junior varsity Mustangs fought hard on Saturday August 17th at Knoxville Catholic High School's Feeder Fest. Five feeder schools participated in the tournament including Sacred Heart, St. Mary's, St. Joseph, and ESK. The varsity team placed 2nd in the gold pool and played against Sacred Heart in the championship game for the big win! Junior varsity placed 1st in the silver pool, but lost in the championship game to ESK by 5 points. Way to go Mustangs!



St. Joseph School

Saint Joseph School kicked off its 50th year with a *Meet and Greet* and *Back to School* picnic on August 9th.

Students and staff celebrated the Feast of the Assumption with an all- school Mass and an all-day retreat.

Eight graders received a special blessing and their class shirts at the end of an all-school Mass on August 16th.

Students enjoyed the *NED Show* on August 20th. This all-school assembly used storytelling, humor, magic, and yo-yo tricks to motivate students to "*Never give up, Encourage others, and Do your best.*"

St. Mary School – Oak Ridge

The first day of school started with an All School Mass, followed by Registration, and then a Brunch for our new families with an orientation.



We had an All-School Assembly on Aug. 16th to honor Fr. Bede's 25 years of service as a priest. He was presented with a card made by the students having every child's name on it and some money for his trip back home. During the assembly the students sang "Go Now in Peace."



On Aug. 23rd, the eighth graders were commissioned as our school leaders during the *Light of Leadership* Mass. They were given a miraculous medal and prayed that we would be servants in the manner of Jesus Christ.



Our girls' varsity and junior varsity teams are off to a great season with numerous wins and are enjoying playing as a team.

St. Dominic School

We had our Open House on Friday, August 2nd, and we had a record amount of people attend! In addition, we are excited to say that we have a percent increase in enrollment this year in Pre-K through 5th Grade!!

Our school was flooded in July and we have survived. We worked very hard and we were able to start school on time with new carpet! We are blessed by God with hardworking, dedicated employees and an insurance company that pays for damages during a flood!!

St. Mary School – Johnson City

Before school started, our Faculty/Staff was trained by a Johnson City Police Department Resource Officer about the new procedures in case of an emergency or an intruder. We are thankful for the great relationship we have with our local law enforcement.

One of our alumni, Rachel Spady, earned a top composite score of 36 on a recent ACT test. Nationally, while the actual number of students earning a composite score of 36 varies from year to year, less than one-tenth of students who take the ACT earn a perfect score.

Our fifth grade class went to Camp Explorer in Greene County to enrich their Science studies. They left Monday morning, August 26th and returned by dismissal on the following day.

St. Mary's School was presented with a check from Lakebridge Healthcare Facility for a needy child for the total of \$7,627.00. This includes tuition, fees, lunches, aftercare and field trips. We have a long standing relationship with Lakebridge and appreciate them being such a supporter of our school and Catholic education.