



Our Lady of the Assumption School

611 West Bonita Avenue • Claremont, CA 91711
Website: www.ola-ca.org

Phone (909) 626-7135

Fax (909) 398-1395

September 22, 2011

Dear Families,

Our routines are established with teachers and children hard at work. The Iowa Tests of Basic Skills are underway, the standardized tests used by all the Catholic Schools for grades 2 – 8 in the Los Angeles Archdiocese. As usual if children are absent for a test the teachers arrange ‘make up’ tests. Standardized tests are an important part of what we know about the children, so we can examine trends within the school as well as monitoring the progress of individuals. Last year the studies formed an important part of our report for accreditation.

We had a great time at the spaghetti social last Saturday, where bouncy houses, face painting, cake walks as well as good food and better company made for a lively evening’s entertainment. Special thanks to all who contributed to the planning, organizing, and execution of the event. Many thanks also to those who took part in our “Great American” kick off fundraiser. Preliminary figures put us close to last year, at around \$12,000.00. Our wonderful PFA have several more activities this year. Check the calendar for details!

Tomorrow after school the teachers and I begin our training for research based instructional strategies with Mrs. Ann O’Connor from Claremont USD. I am delighted that we have been able to partner with her in this way. She is a veteran teacher and mentor with a wealth of experience, having trained many of her peers and colleagues in Claremont already. We are all looking forward to her work having a direct impact on teaching and learning.

I was delighted when OLA made the front page of the Claremont Courier for our celebration of our ‘blue’ mass in honor of all service. As Catholics the mass is the event around which we should plan our lives. Every week we are blessed to be able to offer this to the children where their full, active and conscious participation is encouraged and expected! I urge you to join us tomorrow and this weekend for the next two scheduled celebrations. Friday we are joined by Fr Ken Deasy who will share a little about the role of the Holy Childhood Association and how we can help alleviate the suffering of children in Somalia. On Sunday, we celebrate the first school mass of the year at 9:00am, where Mrs. Columbus, Mrs. Coleman and the 8th grade will be our hosts. The Knights of Columbus are hosting a Pancake Breakfast and the room parents will be taking donations for coffee and donuts that morning also! We are very fortunate to be in a parish where this level of involvement is allowed and where we have such great support. I am also indebted to the Knights of Columbus who plan to donate to a scholarship from the funds they generate. They will also be supporting us at the St Patrick’s day parent social in 2012.

Thank you all as always for your support and love for the children. We know that our lives have been blessed by the Lord, for He has given them to us.

Sincerely,

Bernadette Boyle
Principal