



February Highlights

- ... Jan 31—Feb. 5: Catholic Schools Week
- ... Feb 1: Dads vs. Kids Basketball Game, Gym, 7 pm
- ... Feb 2: Installation of Bishop Daniel Flores, San Juan Basilica, 6 pm
- ... 3: Eucharistic Adoration, 9 am, Church
- ... 5: Edline Update, Progress Reports distributed
- ... 6: Girls' Basketball Tournament, Brewster
- ... 9: 1st Penance Parents Meeting, 6:30 pm, Gym
- ... 11: Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes
- ... 11: Family Valentine's Dance, Gym, 6 pm
- ... 12: 3rd Grade Parent Mass, 8 am, Church
- ... 12: Junior high Valentine's Dance, 3:30—6 pm, Gym
- ... 14: Valentine's Day
- ... 16: Mardi Gras Bake Sale
- ... 17: Ash Wednesday
- ... 18: 3rd—5th grade confession
- ... 19: 6th—8th grade confession
- ... 19: Edline Update
- ... 20: Track Meet
- ... 22-26: Practice ITBS tests this week

Ash Wednesday

Wed. Feb. 17

Cougar Express



February 2010

Issue 7

From the Principal's Desk

Dear OLSS Community,

The month of February is the time of year when we talk a great deal about love because of Valentine Days. Flowers and cards are sent to loved ones to let them know that we love them. Since it is the month when we tend to talk about love we should reflect on what love truly means.

Many books have been written by psychologists about the true meaning of love and about the stages of love one may experience throughout their lifetime. I believe that the true meaning of love is best defined in the New Testament. Love is why God sent His son to live among us and teach us how to treat one another. Love is why Christ endured the torture of crucifixion. It is love that opened the gates of heaven when Christ rose from the dead. It is because of love that we should no longer fear death because we have the opportunity to be with God for all eternity.

Christ taught us that genuine love means commitment; a commitment to selflessness, a commitment to sacrifice, a commitment to working on overcoming life's obstacles and not giving up on each other; a commitment to forgiveness. During this Lenten season we should all ask ourselves how we can grow in love and how we can teach our children what it really means to love others.

Always in Christ,
Fred Valle

Progress Reports / Grades Online

Progress reports will be distributed Friday, February 5th. You may always access your children's grades online at <https://www.edline.net/Index.page>.

2010-2011 Registrations

Registration packets for the 2010-2011 school year were mailed at the beginning of January to all current families who had cleared all financial obligations. **Families with outstanding balances will need to clear their account before their registration packet is mailed.**

Beginning February 8, 2010, new families may begin submitting registration materials. All remaining spaces for new and returning families will be served on a first come first serve basis after February 8, 2010.

Project Wisdom

February's Project Wisdom Theme is *We're Different and Alike*. The daily affirmations throughout the month will address how the choices we make affect our future, the gifts of diversity and uniqueness, and the importance of respecting ourselves and others. I encourage you to discuss and promote the Project Wisdom theme at home as a family.

Included in this month's newsletter is the February edition of *Home & School Connection*. You'll find some helpful tips to promote your child's interest in reading nonfiction material and examples that will encourage your child to be a positive thinker.

Individual and group counseling sessions continue to be available to any student in need of services. Please visit my website for a description of the services available. If you have any questions/concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you!

May God bless you!
Ms. Lucie M. Garcia, M.Ed.
Guidance Counselor

Golf Classic & Car Raffle

The Annual Golf Classic and Car Raffle will be held on Friday, April 30, 2010 at the Palm View Golf Course. The golf classic is one of the finest tournaments in the Rio Grande Valley. Everyone in the community is invited to participate. Team sponsorships are available at \$1,150, \$2,150 and \$5,000. Also available are hole sponsorships for \$150. Special donations are also accepted. The winner of the raffle will have a choice of one of the following 2010 vehicles from the Ramirez Family Dealerships valued at \$35,000: Land Rover LR2, Ford F150, or Ford GT Mustang. The donation for each ticket is \$50, and only 2,000 tickets will be sold. The drawing for the car will be held on Friday, April 30, 2010 at the Palm View Golf Course at 6:00 p.m. If you are interested in purchasing car raffle tickets they are available at the school, church office, and after each weekend mass. Proceeds from this fundraiser will go to the school's endowment and general funds to assist in the education of the children of our community.

We kindly request your assistance with this event by donating a sponsorship. We invite you to purchase or sponsor a team. You may contact the school at 686-3651 for further information.

Golf Classic & Car Raffle Cont'd

Any contribution is greatly appreciated. We thank you in advance for helping Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School in providing a quality Catholic education to our children.

Minna Tamez
Development Director

Internet Resources—Kids Online

On January 20, the New York Times published an article titled *If Your Kids Are Awake, They're Probably Online*. The article highlights the amount of time kids use technology and discusses other parents' experiences and strategies to manage the amount of time their children spend using technology.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/20/education/20wired.html>

SchoolReach Parent Contact System

We are excited to announce a new technology that we will be implementing in February. Through a company called SchoolReach, we will be subscribing to an automated calling system that will allow messages to be delivered to all parents via phone call and/or text message. Through this system, OLSS administration will be able to contact all families with specific messages regarding school events, major changes, weather announcements, etc. We are optimistic this will improve communication and provide another means to circulate important information.

If you have any questions please contact Mr. O'Keefe in the office at 956-686-3651.

Cheerleading News

Our OLS Cheerleaders competed at Texas State University on Sunday, January 24 in San Marcos, Texas. The girls worked extremely hard all year long for this event, and they won 3rd place in State in their division. Most of our squad is comprised of elementary children—and they competed against 8th graders! Of particular note is Elise Lopez: she is doing a remarkable job being captain for the squad and has shown great leadership throughout the year. Congratulations and May God Bless You.

Mr. Plata

AR Awards—2nd Quarter

5 Point Club

1st Grade

Jade Moreno
Max Al-Ali
Alan Humphrey
Arturo Cantu
Patricia Policapio
Veronica Jimenez
Vanessa Jimenez
Patricia Salinas
Sebastian Garcia
Martin Cuevas
Sophia Gomez
Mia Honrubia
Anna Honrubia
Anthony Vasquez
Alejandra Ramirez

2nd Grade

Regina Ochoa
Alyssa Boek
Alexis Harrison
Marcela Garza
Devin Daley
Jhonier Marin
John Henry Ruiz

3rd Grade

Paulina Elizondo
Joseph Seiba
Pamela Orfanos
Lillian Honrubia
Adrian Gomez
Ivan Rios
Marcela Jarvis
Roberto Olivares
Mia Yarto
John Graham
Ramiro Solis
Paulina Acosta
Ivanna Garza
Isabella Moreno
AnaSofia Flores

10 Point Club

1st Grade

Adriana Kennedy
Nathanial Sanford
Kamila Quintanilla
Vianca Castilleja
Loren Patino
Marina Guerra

2nd Grade

Cody Garr
Madison Slavin
Paolo Penick
Gianfranco Laddaga
Jessica Martinez
Alfonsina Aldama
Valeria Gracia
Camilo Lopez
Jorge Mendez
Eduardo Suarez
Nazier Moore

3rd Grade

Caroline Flores
Carlos Quintanilla
Samantha Garcia
Alejandro Cardenas
Juliana Morales
Gabriela Gomez
Sofia Vasquez
Raphael Boek
Sofia Gonzalez

4th Grade

Annika Rodriguez
Noah Lucio
Angelika Bazan
Eric Cardenas
Fernando Garza
Alejandra Cueva
Luciano Farias
Paulina Sanchez
Mark Gonzalez
Regina Acosta
Ana De Alba
Adriana Minarro
Salvador Moreno
Carlos A. Rodriguez
Diana A. Moreno
Elli Jo Cisneros
Arnoldo Longoria
Diego Zamora
Daniela Zedillo

5th Grade

Andrea Martinez
Sarah Margo
Delicia Rojas
Ray Thomas
Carlos Gonzalez
Mariel Salinas
Marco Serna
Juan Carlos Lozano
Sabrina Guzman
Alma Vaca

Cordelia Balderas
Daniela Garza
Andres Tamez
Mia Quintanilla
Adriana Marin
Palmer Yarto

15 Point Club

1st Grade

Rebekah Rodriguez
Noah Arevalo

2nd Grade

Francesca Turgeon
Alexa Ramirez
Luis Pacheco
Madelaine Guerra
Andrea Espinosa
Jorge Zedillo
Mario Guerra
Marie Helen
Crisostomo

3rd Grade

Ileana Vela
Hanna Ahumada
Guido Herrera
Fernando Lozano
Valeria Argüelles

4th Grade

Ariana Silva
Richard Treviño
Pedro Rojas
Maria Mayorga
Katherine Scalise
Sabrina Pena
Analilia Aldama

5th Grade

Ivan Valdez
Francisco Garcia

6th Grade

Marla Yanez
Javier Holguin
Jasmine Long
Serapio Cantu
Jose Andres Gonzalez
Brittany Hausbeck
Hugo Reza
Michael Mohun
Mary Catherine Es-
guerra

Jose Miguel Pineda
Elise Lopez
Paul Bonilla
Sandra Solis
Diego Quintanilla
Jose Antonio Lopez-
Villegas

7th Grade

Edgar Garcia
Karla Espinosa
Jorge Garcia
Victoria Quaioco
Ana Georgina Garza
Leslie Sanchez
Gabriela Cueva
Margaret Leal
AnaPaula Salinas

8th Grade

Eline De La Fuente
Jorge Cisneros
Valeria Laddaga
Valeria Gomez
Shelseah Leal
Victoria Margo
Victor Jaramillo
Ashwin George

20 Point Club

1st Grade

David M. Garza

2nd Grade

Juan Hector Vasquez
Brittany Hernandez
Roberto Garcia
Huma Ahsan

3rd Grade

Edessa Reyes

4th Grade

Matthew Moreno

5th Grade

Alejandro Arango
Jesus De La Fuente
Teresita Renteria
Luis Cardenas
Carlos Sanchez
Arush Shekar
Brianna Maldonado

6th Grade

Megan Mikulik
Maheen Khizar

7th Grade

Ma. Victoria Garza

8th Grade

Oscar Espinosa

25 Point Club

1st Grade

Pablo Ramirez

2nd Grade

Rajiv Swarup
Arturo Fuentes
Marcelo Guerra
Daniel Gonzalez-Franco
Michael Morales

4th Grade

Renata Nava
Kristen Morales
Montserrat Longoria
Diego Mendez
Philip Garcia

5th Grade

Isabella Penick
Norisha Quaioco
Alfredo Perez
Regina Meade
Marina Urias
Pablo Herrera
Paulina Camara
Jack Wang
Elsa Zamora
Luis Salinas
Sara Vann
Nicholas Villarreal

6th Grade

Kathleen Guerra
Yuria Paez
Alejandro Ramirez
Esmeralda Mendez

7th Grade

Fabiola Lopez-Davila
Paulina De La Fuente
Christopher De La
Rosa

(Continued on page 4)

AR Awards—2nd Quarter

(Continued from page 3)

Kristen Pena
Kiara Olmeda
Miguel Ramirez

8th Grade

Aurelinda Ortega
Ailyn Barragan
Marcela Trevino
Marijose Garza
Etienne Sunday
Melanie San Roman
Alec Padron
Valeria Reza

50 Point Club

1st Grade
Alvaro Mayorga

2nd Grade

Javier Mayorga
Cody Castillo

4th Grade

Theodore Morales
Sabrina Ochoa

5th Grade

Gabriel Ramirez
Luis Pineda
Marian Guerra
Kayla Hickle

6th Grade

Diana Moreno

7th Grade

Mariana Rojas
Luisa Fernanda Gutierrez
Silvia Camara

8th Grade

Cristina Hernandez
Ryan Henry
Caroline Harms
Natalia Meade
Valeria Sanchez
Anagretel Lozano

100 Point Club

5th Grade

Francisco Salinas
Luis Gutierrez

6th Grade

Madelyn Guerra

7th Grade

Yaelis Avila

8th Grade

Ariana Pearson
Casey Vasquez

Top Readers

by grade level

1st Grade

David Matthew Garza 20.4
Pablo Ramirez 25.0
Alvaro Mayorga 50.2

2nd Grade

Michael Morales 42.9
Javier Mayorga 72.6
Cody Castillo 82.9

3rd Grade

Fernando Lozano 17.6
Valeria Argüelles 18.4
Edessa Reyes 21.3

4th Grade

Philip Garcia 47.0
Theodore Morales 52.6
Sabrina Ochoa 81.2

5th Grade

Kayla Hickle 68.8
Francisco Salinas 107.4
Luis Gutierrez 125.3

6th Grade

Esmeralda Mendez 39.4
Diana Moreno 81.4
Madelyn Guerra 104.9

7th Grade

Luisa Fernanda Gutierrez 79.3
Silvia Camara 81.1
Yaelis Avila 105.8

8th Grade

Anagretel Lozano 86.3
Ariana Pearson 106.2
Casey Vasquez 117.9

Reading Lab

Congratulations to the students who completed Reader's Workshop and Initial Reading courses in the 2nd quarter!

Reader's Workshop

6th Grade

Alejandro Ramirez
Amy Wong
Araceli Adame
John J. Ingram
Diego Quintanilla
Jamie Sandoval
Michael Mohun

5th Grade

Paulina Camara
Francisco Salinas
Andrea Garza
Nora Anda
Gabriel Ramirez
Luis Gutierrez

4th Grade

Daniela Trevino
Fernando Garza

Initial reading

2nd Grade

Turgeon Francesca
Samuel Salts
Rajiv Swarup
Roberto Garcia
Marcelo Guerra
Arturo Fuentes

Math

5th Grade

Arush Shekar

Oral Spelling Bee

Congratulations go out to the winners of the Oral Spelling Bee School-Level Competition held on January 14, 2010:

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------|
| 1st Place | Arush Shekar |
| 2nd place | Casey Vasquez |
| 3rd Place | Silvia Camara |
| 4th Place | Christopher de la Rosa |
| 5th Place | Mary Catherine Esguerra |
| 6th Place | Francisco Salinas Jr. |

Arush Shekar will compete in the 2010 Rio Grande Valley Regional Spelling Bee on March 6, 2010 at South Texas College – Weslaco Campus.

Dear Parents,

**How would you like to see your child's name
in lights?**

Well now you can!

**For \$10, you can have your child's name
on the school marquee for their birthday!**

**Just fill out the attached Birthday Order
Form with your child's name and birthday
and turn it in to their homeroom teacher.**

More order forms are available at the office.

**Thank you,
Student Council**



Birthday Order Form

**Have your name on the school marquee
on your special day!**



Children's Names

Birthdays
