



Week 10 Newsletter
November 1, 2023



All Saints Day - 4th Graders

Principal Message

Greetings Holy Family,

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints - All Saints Day. This day, and the school mass we share, is a favorite of mine because our sponsoring class dresses as saints! Our fourth graders gave a special

presentation today in honor of the saints, and it was a blessing for us all. We talk about saints a lot, and for good reason, they are God's gift to us. These extraordinary individuals used their life to serve God, help others, and show us how to be in relationship with God and His creation. I believe that there is a little "saint" in all of us and the Holy Spirit helps us shine that part of us at just the right times and for all the right reasons. It is a daily prayer of mine that we might recognize this in others but especially in ourselves.

Today we move into the month of November, and so we are switching our School-wide Student Learning Expectations. For these next few weeks we are focused on becoming **Engaged Learners** who "*Have knowledge of basic academic subjects*" and "*Demonstrate the ability to problem solve and make independent decisions using reflective and critical thinking skills*" In more relatable terms, we are striving to Learn one new thing each day and Use strategies to problem solve. By this point in the year we have learned our routines, finished our review of prior learning, and are going forward with new learning. It is marvelous to watch our students and teachers apply what they know to new things. Students throughout the building are showing the awe and wonder of learning and problem solving with creativity and grit.

God bless you all,
Mrs. Day

Upcoming Events

Here are a few upcoming events. Check out the full November calendar in envelopes today.

- Nov. 3 - Free Dress with Food Drive
- Nov. 6 & 7 Circle of Grace Classes
- Nov. 7 - 5th & 6th grade Field Trip
- Nov. 8 - Parent Club Meeting - In person, all are welcome- 6:30 PM School Library
- Nov. 9 - School mass sponsored by 5th grade
- Nov. 9 - Veterans Day celebration - 2:05 PM in the Church
- Nov. 10 - NO SCHOOL

School Announcements:

Mid-Term and Conferences

This week marks the middle of our first semester. Our 4th-8th grade classes will receive progress reports through Alma. My hope is to have them available this week, but with the new system our teachers may need an extra day or two to finalize the reports.

Parents are encouraged to log into Alma (hfsauburn.getalma.com) to see current grades. There were some glitches this month with how to access grades, but this has been fixed as of Monday.

In your classroom and weekly newsletter next week will be the links to sign up for conferences the week of Thanksgiving. Fall conferences are required each year and it is important that every family do their best to find a time on Monday or Tuesday (11/20-21) to meet with their child(ren)'s teacher(s).

Special Thanksgiving and Christmas Project

During the weeks before Thanksgiving and leading up to Christmas, we will take part in a special outreach program in our community, collecting food and hygiene items for the needy. This week we are collecting "Boxed Items" such as CEREALS, PASTA, BEANS, RICE, ETC. Please make sure food items are not past the expiration dates. Next week we will be collecting Baking items such as: flour, sugar, muffin mixes, Bisquick,

etc. Without our help St. Vincent de Paul would not be able to service the needy families in our community. A special service project calendar is enclosed in your envelope today, so you can plan for each weekly theme.

Veterans' Day

Next week we are hosting our annual Veterans' Day Celebration. The 2nd grade and the music/band department have prepared the grand event. Be sure to extend an invitation to the beloved Veterans in your lives in the hopes that they may be able to join us and be thanked for their service. Mark your calendars for Nov. 9th @ 2:05 PM.

Fulcrum Tuition Assistance Grant

The Fulcrum Tuition Assistance Grant Program for the 2024-2025 school year application window opened October 1, 2023, and closes Wednesday December 13, 2023. The website is www.fulcrumfoundation.org, scroll down and choose "Tuition Assistance Program".

ATHLETICS Update - Cross Country

Celebrating a Wonderful Season!

Dear Holy Family School Community,

We are thrilled to share the news of a fantastic season for our Cross Country team. It's been a journey filled with commitment and enthusiasm, and we owe it all to our amazing athletes, coaches, and the unwavering support from our parents.

A Season of Achievements:

Our Cross Country athletes have shown tremendous dedication in each and every race. They embodied the values of sportsmanship, teamwork, and hard work throughout the season. Their commitment to improvement and their efforts were truly inspiring. This season was about more than just winning; it was about personal growth, forming friendships, and embracing the values that Holy Family School holds dear.

A Thank You to Parents:

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the parents who supported us through thick and thin. Your presence at the races, your encouragement, and your commitment to creating a positive environment for our students were crucial to our success. You play a vital role in our team, and we thank you for your ongoing support.

Thank You to Our Coaches:

We must also extend our deepest appreciation to our dedicated coaches, Zach and Elissa. Their expertise, guidance, and amazing commitment to our students have been instrumental in our season's success. Their coaching has not only honed our athletes' skills but has also instilled important life lessons. Thank you, Zach and Elissa, for your invaluable contributions.

Let's take pride in the fantastic achievements of our Cross Country team and the spirit of togetherness that makes Holy Family School so special.

Thank you to each and every one of you for making this season truly memorable. Your collective efforts have brought us success and have created lasting memories for our students.

Questions about the HFS athletic program can be directed to Chris Csonka at athleticdirector@hfsauburn.com.



Accreditation Parent Survey - still time to share your feedback

During the fall of our self-study year we take a long look at our mission statement, vision, philosophy, and school-wide learning expectations. We ask the questions of: do these statements align with our mission as a Catholic school? How do these foundational documents evident in the program? Are the SLEs attainable and measurable? In answering these questions we make choices on what we carry forward and what (if anything) needs updating. Our staff and school commission will be answering these questions at upcoming meetings, and I will be including it in my time at our November Parent Club meeting on 11/8 as well. Please plan to join the conversation.

As part of our self-study process this year we will be gathering information from all parents, students, and staff. This is done first through surveys and then through specific task groups. Our accrediting body, WCEA, has created the different surveys based on the National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Schools (NSBECS). Visit this site for a review of the [NSBECS](#).

This survey is designed to help our school shine a light on all that we are doing well and bring to the surface the areas where we can grow. There are five sections to the parent survey, one section to tell us who you are, and then four asking 42 specific questions in reference to the standards. The final question allows for a free response.

Completing the survey in one sitting is ideal, so before you take the survey I request that you create a space and time for yourself to really pray and discern your responses considering all that you have experienced with and know of our school.

[STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE PARENT SURVEY](#)

THIRTY-ONE wonderful families have completed the survey!!!!!! - [THANK YOU!](#) Can we get ten more?

There is still time and opportunity for us to hit our super goal of 41 responses!

- ❖ When we reach 26 - the whole school will have extra recess.
- ❖ When we hit 41, we will have a free dress day and treat party!

Parent Club News

Fall Harvest Teacher Gratitude Luncheon

As the Fall season approaches, we would like to express our gratitude to the incredible staff at HFS who work tirelessly to create a nurturing and inspiring learning environment for our children.

On Thursday, November 9th, we invite you to join us in showing our appreciation by participating in a Fall Harvest. This wonderful opportunity for us to come together as a community and share our thanks.

We are seeking volunteers to contribute dishes and help set up/tear down the luncheon. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

[Holy Family School \(Auburn, Wa\): Fall Harvest Teacher Gratitude \(signupgenius.com\)](#)

Raffle Sale

Looking for an opportunity to sell your raffle tickets, sign up to sell after mass!

Please remember students must be supervised by an adult.

Tickets can only be sold to those 18 years of age or older and CASH sales.

Any questions, email Melissa Patrick memamo77@msn.com.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0949ADAF2DA7FD0-45503006-raffle>

Development News

HFS Auction

Our High Hopes Auction is our annual largest fundraiser. Parents Club raises approx 70k at this auction that goes towards the 115k that Parents Club gives to the school for the current year operating budget. This year we are a smaller school but still need to raise the same amount of money, or even more.

Weekend or week trips/getaways are what always sell very well at our auction, most of the time way over the value. The natural question is "Why don't we include more of these in the auction?". The answer is that they

are hard to get. Airlines & cruise ships rarely donate, and hotels unlike other businesses don't get a tax credit for donating.

This is where you come in. Do you have a second or vacation home that you would be willing to donate a weekend or even week stay? Or do you own a timeshare and could donate a week somewhere? Or perhaps you don't own these items yourself, but a good friend or family member does and you could ask them to donate? Whether you or a friend/family member donate, this would count as your auction donation.

If you are able to help us get a getaway donation for the auction, please reach out to Gretchen to let her know.

Auction Volunteer Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050445ADA62EA7FC1-peace> to sign up.

Auction Item Input Link: [Auction Donations \(ejoinme.org\)](https://www.ejoinme.org)

Enclosures/Attachments

Oh No Snow!

Auction flyer

Scrip News

SCRIP Order Form

Parent Club Statements

HFS Ladies Bunco Night flyer

Holy Family Parish Advent Family Night flyer