

# Did You Know...

Visitation of Our Lady School  
*Inspiring Catholic Faith and Principles While  
Encouraging Academic Excellence*

## **Visitation of Our Lady teachers continue with their education by attending workshops, conferences, and seminars.**

- Rebecca Rogers (1st), April Clark (1st), Jenny Doskey (1st), Louann Marchand (2nd), Connie Breaux (5th), Jeanne Lamia (6th and 7th), Grace Hicks (7th and 8th) attended a 6 hour workshop entitled *Increasing Reading Comprehension with Higher Order Thinking* on June 20, 2008. The objective of this training was for the teachers to gain an understanding of what higher order thinking is, how it impacts reading comprehension, and strategies that can be used in the classroom to increase reading comprehension.
- In July the following teachers attended *INTECH*, a workshop sponsored by Jefferson Parish School Board: April Clark (1st), Jenny Doskey (1st), Louann Marchand (2nd), Jennifer Anderson (3rd), Amy Frederick (4th), Connie Breaux (5th), Rhonda Dumas (5th), Cheryl Bertoniere (6th), Watiki Sauerwin (6th), Kathie Lamy (7th), and Gary Ledet (8th). This two day workshop focused on the use of WEB 2.0 tools and their integration into everyday classroom activities.
- Carol Mine and Pam Lorio, members of the Visitation Administrative Team, attended a week long *Institute of Catholic School Leadership* at Loyola University in New Orleans. This institute was sponsored by the Archdiocese of New Orleans. The sessions were presented by many national experts on the best practices for educational leaders.
- Pam Lorio (Middle School Honors Math) and Julie Lamy (Middle School Math) attended the *Louisiana 7th Grade Comprehensive Math Curriculum Training* sponsored by the Archdiocese of New Orleans. This started with a 4 day summer workshop and will be ongoing throughout this school year.
- Visitation of Our Lady School adopted a new reading series. All of the Language Arts teachers from Kindergarten through 8th grade attended Reading Street Introductory Workshop and/or the Holt Literature series. These workshops helped the teachers become familiar with the new series and how to implement the reading/literature series in the classroom.
- Each of the Visitation teachers attended a summer in-service presented by Mr. George Kocke, our computer administrator. In this workshop Mr. Kocke helped the teachers design new webpages and brought the teachers up-to-date with the new technology here at Visitation.
- On Saturday, September 27th, Mrs. Donna Bruce, PreK-3 director, attended a three hour workshop sponsored by Positive Steps/Agenda for Children. This workshop focused on the use of learning centers. At the end of the workshop each participant was presented with a \$1,500.00 grant from United Way to purchase learning center materials.

**Every year Duke University sponsors a Talent Search for qualifying students in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.** This school year the following 7<sup>th</sup> graders qualified to take the ACT or the SAT college entry exam: Ian Aquilar, Danielle Bourg, Craig Braud, Kalli Champagne, Jarett Chastant, Allison DiMaggio, Enrique Harold, Melissa Le, Cora Hicks, Katie Lang, Ashley Leco, Mikki Loga, Mindy Parker, Brittany Plaisance, Caitlin Reneman, Raelynn Scioneaux, and Samantha St. Pierre. Congratulations to all of these students.

**Sicily's Pizza Day is an ongoing fundraiser for Visitation.** Sicily's Italian Buffet will donate to VOL 25% of the qualifying tickets tallied. All purchases throughout the day – even carry-out orders- are eligible. August's total donation from Sicily's was \$139.01 and September's total donation was \$294.62. Enjoy a good meal and help the school. See the monthly calendar for our scheduled day.

**Another easy, ongoing fundraiser for VOL is through Office Depot.** When you or family and friends shop at Office Depot give Visitation's school ID number: 70042259. Visitation will earn 5% of qualifying sales. For the sales period of April 1 through June 30, 2008 Visitation received a check from Office Depot in the amount of \$135.68. When shopping at Office Depot, please continue to give Visitation's ID number.

**General Mills Box Tops for Education Program** presented Visitation with a check in the amount of \$661.00 for the box tops submitted on our behalf. We would like to thank Mrs. Debra Loga, a VOL parent, for handling this program for us. Please continue to send in General Mills box tops.

**Target's Take Charge of Education** program presented our school with a check in the amount of \$147.36.

Please visit Visitation of Our Lady School's website and click on Fundraisers and then Community to see the many different ways you can help earn funds for our school simply by shopping.

**The Parenting Center at Children's Hospital in New Orleans is offering two worthwhile programs.** *Growing Up for Boys* is a two hour program for boys ages 10 – 13 and their fathers on Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:30 at the Metairie Parenting Center. The cost is \$20 per boy. *Growing Up for Girls* is a two hour program for girls ages 9 – 12 and their mothers on Tuesday, Oct. 21st or Tuesday, Dec. 16th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Children's Hospital Auditorium. The cost is \$20 per girl. Both programs require pre-registration. Call 504- 896-9591.

**We received a check for \$33,229.78 from KidCam** as a result of the summer camp. Feedback concerning the camp was very positive. Thanks to the families who participated and to the teachers who worked the camp. All involved made this a successful endeavor.