



The Good News

Summer 2014

HCCS Graduates Three; Big Celebration Takes Place on May 22nd with the Knights of Columbus in Full Regalia to Send Them Out in Style!

Maria Alonso

Maria came to us in 6th grade and has been a long-time choir member and a person who loves her Catholic faith. During her 8th grade year, Maria progressed academically, earning recognition for greatest improvement in Math and Composition at the Awards Ceremony. She also played a starring role in Mid-summer Night's Dream (Helena) and played a major role in the production of the yearbook. Maria will be attending St. Pius X school next year.



Dylan Figge

Dylan has been in our school since the 3rd grade. During his academic career, he was a Presidential Scholar (2013-14), a Duke scholar participant, and was the first HCCS student ever to go to the Science and Engineering Research Challenge State Finals. He has long been a dedicated altar server. Dylan has a great talent in music, as evidenced by his performance in Youth Choir, particularly at the Youth Choir's Christmas Mass and at the Fine-Art nights where he was able to show off his great skills as a drummer. Dylan will be attending Estancia Valley Classical Academy next year.



Andrew Housman

Andrew has been in our school since the 3rd grade. Andrew has been a long-time altar server. We got just a taste of his great talents in music at the Fine Arts nights each year where Andrew displayed his lead guitar capabilities on just about anything he has heard. He also played a leading role in Midsummer Night's Dream and he participated in just about anything we asked him to over the years. Andrew will be attending Estancia Valley Classical Academy next year.



HCCS Golf Tournament on July 28th: Paako Golf Course: Mark Your Calendars!

Three R's program coming to Holy Child

The Catholic Three R's: Respect, Reverence and Responsibility will be implemented at Holy Child Catholic School this coming year.

The program is a framework for developing community norms for ideal behavior, best-parenting and teaching practices, and responsibility/accountability for all. We are going to start off our year on August 14th with an introductory meeting in which parents and facilitators will forge an agreement on what it means to be a member of the HCCS community.



First Communicants: Nathan Arritt, Vivian Grogan, Nicholas Ortle, Adela Coombs, Alex Schneller and Remi Bellemare

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Major End-of-the-Year Awards

Principal's Awards (extraordinary overall achievement and HCCS spirit)

Primary: Adela Coombs



Intermediate: Jacob Weber



Mid-School: Liam Fogarty



Presidential Scholar Recognition (all A's)

Dylan Figge



Joseph Grogan



Reuban Coombs



Recap of Academic Awards and Special Recognition From Earlier in the Year

Duke Scholar Qualifier: Abby Valdez

Math Counts Sweet 16: Joseph Grogan

Albuquerque Area Private and Parochial Schools
Spelling Bee: 4th Place Abby Valdez

State Geography Bee Finals: Tied 11th Place : Joseph Grogan

Regional Science and Engineering Research Challenge: Honorable Mention: Best in Category : Dylan Figge and Joseph Grogan. State Qualifier: Dylan Figge

Art and Violin Programs

For this next year, we will again have Mrs. Daugherty teaching art for all students. We will also bring back the violin program. Mrs. Emily Gray will be the new violin teacher. Classes will be offered on a group basis one day per week in lieu of vocal music and one day for each group at the end of the school day. We anticipate that there will be two sections, a novice section for those who have already had violin, and a beginners section. Parents are encouraged to sign-up for at least some type of individual lessons at least bi-weekly in order to keep the momentum going on progress.

Mid-summer Night's Dream

Critics raved over Damian Sagastume's production of *A Mid-summer Night's Dream* staged at the Blessed Miguel Pro Hall on May 14th. Holy Child's cast of thespians pulled off a minor miracle with much of the original script presented in a theatre-in-the-round-format with many props and wonderful costumes but no stage background. Sagastume's interpretation of Shakespeare's riotous romp proved to be the ideal type of constant action for what the young actors could make coherent. Andrew Housman, Emily Valdez, Maria Alonso and Joseph Grogan played the quartet of confused and misused lovers, each having their moments of letting loose an eerily realistic barrage of verbal missiles. Rosie Plass, Dylan Figge, and Nathan Aritt provided even more intrigue and humor with their masterful renditions of Puck, Peter Quince and Nick Bottom. The audience chuckled time and again at Bottom's inanities (including a few scenes with him donning a donkey's head), Quince's inspired and energetic plotting and scheming, and Puck's mischievous behind-the-scenes manipulations.

Rounding out the cast were Vivian Grogan, as the robotic Francis Fruit/Thisbe, Jakob Schneller as Egeus, Susanna Grogan at Titania the fairy queen, Jacob Weber as Oberon, Rueban Coombs as Theseus,

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Holy Child Holds Its 2nd Annual 5 K Run

On May 17th, the students and some brave adults participated in the 2nd annual 5 K run and fun run.

Once again, Jose Perea came in first place in the 5 K run, followed by Joseph Grogan, Alejandro Perea, Jacob Weber and then Jim Grogan. This year's times were very similar to last year's very fast times (even though the first part of the course includes a very steep hill). Abby Valdez came in 7th and was the first girl.

The fun-run was held before the 5 K and Thomas Weber of the 1st grade won that, followed by Dominic Teeters and then Vivian Grogan.

This year we didn't get to train as much in PE, so we allowed students to do a 2.5 K run as well. Kameron Valencia won that, followed by Andrew Housman.

Highlights of the Year at HCCS

Thank you students, parents, teachers and benefactors for another great year at Holy Child Catholic School. Every year we can look to the spiritual formation of our students as the most important measurement of how we are doing. Once again, our students enjoyed a well-rounded program of spiritual formation, including many opportunities to serve both the local and universal Church, including the most needy. Academically, the year was highlighted by stellar performance on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (we achieved the percentage gain goals we had set for ourselves) and now can boast that in most grades (even with our small class sizes) we are sailing right past the Diocesan averages. However, as a classical school, the real measurement of our success is whether or not our students thrive in the classical Trivium. I think the jury is in on that, too, with the kind of year our students had in the classroom and in academic competition. Soon we will be able to have longitudinal data on our graduate's performance in high school, and specifically within the advanced placement categories of those results. Below is our preschool class at the end of the year. Mrs. McCleave has built that program to be of the same high caliber as we are aiming for K-8.



Kindergarten through 2nd grade students get ready for the fun run!

Midsummers Night's Dream (cont.)

Arianna Housman as Queen Hippolyta, Cole Podzemny as Snout, Alexander Schneller as Snug, Father Mark Granito in a cameo appearance as Philostrate, and Adela Coombs, Jacinta Sagastume, Evalia Sagastume and Natalie Arritt as fairies. Thanks so much to Kathleen and Remi Bellemare for costume and prop design and to Mary Fick for assisting Mr. Sagastume and her mother, Karen, for providing the cast t-shirts. Finally a great big congratulations and thanks to Mr. Sagastume.

A little background: HCCS's theatre troop started working on this production in October as a part of their Thursday afternoon drama club. With only a few slightly experienced actors (either from local theatre or our own Robin Hood production from two years ago), the cast grew exponentially in knowledge of the difficulty of memorizing lines. They were also the beneficiaries of a crash course in how to emote. All would not have been possible had not the young cast, the majority of whom were 8 to 11 years old, had the good fortune of training in poetry memorization and classical history. Although it was difficult, I think the entire cast was able to enjoy a great sense of achievement in this high-culture that even adults have trouble comprehending.

Knights of Columbus Grant

Our local Holy Child Knights of Columbus Council has awarded us a grant of \$2,000 for expenditures on science and history books and curriculum. Thank you Brother Knights for your generosity.

Thank you all benefactors for your support this year! Thank you also St. Vincent de Paul Society for providing the leadership for allowing our students to give back!

Yearbook Production

- Thank you all who contributed to our wonderful yearbook this year.
- Advisors Karen Rice & Lisa Sanchez; students Maria Alonso, Cole Podzemny, & Abby Valdez.

