

The Gator Gazette

Holy Name of Jesus School Parent Newsletter



AUGUST 22, 2023

PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE

Dear Holy Name of Jesus Community,

Over the last two weeks, I helped move my youngest son into his dorm at LSU for his first year in college, and I watched my middle child pack his car and drive himself back to San Antonio alone for his second year at Trinity University. Then, I received a call from my oldest letting me know she's been promoted to lead teacher in her PK3 classroom at a daycare in Lafayette. It is baffling to me how they are all old enough to be out of the house and figuring out life on their own.

On July 1st, I married my best friend and an amazing partner in our shared ministry of Catholic education. He brings two young men into the fold. One is an established CPA, and the other just started law school at LSU. All 5 of our children participated in our wedding Mass by either reading or singing. All 5 understand the importance of our Catholic faith in our marriage and in our daily lives. I attribute this to the amazing Catholic educators they each had over the years as they attended Catholic schools from PK through high school. I cannot thank their teachers enough for the knowledge and modeling they shared, but more importantly for their partnership in the overall formation of each of our children as an individual child of God with varying gifts and talents. That is what makes Catholic education so special.

Here at HNJ, we strive to create and sustain partnerships with you as our parents to help your children become the kind of people God wants them to be, cultivating their individual gifts and talents. Throughout this school year, if there is an opportunity for us to serve your family, please let us know. We are here to accompany our students and our families on our common journey so that we can work together in the formation and education of each of our students during their elementary years. Before you know it, you will be watching your child take a step in life that you know they are prepared for because of the foundation they received from our amazing teachers at HNJ. Thank you for entrusting your child to the love and care HNJ has to offer. Together, let's strive to form great citizens who are prepared to engage and transform their world with their hearts fixed on heaven.

God Bless,

Kirsch J. Williams

TO WONDER...TO ACHIEVE...TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE...TOGETHER



What's Important This Week & Next

Wednesday, August 23

- Little Gators Picture Day (students and staff)
- Cub Scouts Round-Up Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 24

- School Picture Day (PK3-7th)

Friday, August 25

- School Mass (2nd-7th), Homeroom 7L sponsoring; parents are welcome to join us

Monday, August 28

- PTC Board Meeting, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, August 30

- Room Parent Meeting, 6 p.m.
- PTC General Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, September 1

- School Mass (2nd-7th), Homeroom 6W sponsoring; parents are welcome to join us

- Early Dismissal (Little Gators through 7th)
- No Later Gators (Little Gators through 7th)
- Faculty Professional Development

Monday, September 4

- Labor Day Holiday, No School for all students and teachers

Wednesday, September 6

- Later Gators closes at 4:45 p.m. due to Back to School Night
- Back to School Night (PK3-7th Grade Parent Orientation), begins at 5 p.m. (see flyer)

Friday, September 8

- School Mass (2nd-7th), Homeroom 6Z sponsoring; parents are welcome to join us

Quick Links



ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL POLICIES

Your cooperation regarding all arrival and dismissal policies is crucial for the safety of all students. ***The HNJ carpool line is a cell phone free zone. If you are on your cell phone during carpool, you will be directed to park in order to finish your conversation.***

ARRIVAL

Arrival Map Key

- Drop Off 1 (Staff open car doors)
 - Basement Green Doors
 - All PK3
 - All PK4
 - All Kindergarten
 - 1st-4th Grades who need assistance
 - Blue line
- Drop Off 2
 - Calhoun Pedestrian Gate
 - Bike Riders
- Drop Off 3 (Independent Rider - opens/closes cardoors)
 - Calhoun Red Canopy
 - Kindergarten -7th Grade
 - Walkers
 - Yellow line
- Drop Off 4
 - Cromwell Office Doors
 - **Little Gators Only**
 - Green line

Arrival Procedures

1. Students who are sick must stay home.
2. Morning carpool will be 7:40-8:00 am. (See [Early Gators](#) for morning care information.)
3. To the greatest extent possible, children should be seated on the right hand side of the vehicle to expedite the process.
4. For the safety of our students, the doors and gates close at 8:00 am.
5. Students who arrive after 8:00 am will be counted as tardy and should be escorted to the office doors on Calhoun by their parent/guardian for check in following the [visitor guidelines](#).
6. **Sidewalks and crosswalks should be used at all times.**
7. **All Little Gators must be walked in and signed in at the Cromwell Office Doors.** Little Gators arrival procedures refer to [addendum](#).
8. **Only Little Gators Families can turn Cromwell Place. Do not turn on Cromwell unless you are dropping off a student Little Gators.**



DISMISSAL

Dismissal Map Key (PK3-7th)

- Proceed on Calhoun follow red line (cross Freret).
- *Do not try to cross Calhoun from the stop sign at LaSalle and Calhoun - no one is directing traffic and it skips the line.*
- A faculty member will be standing at the corner of LaSalle reading carpool signs. Hang your carpool sign in your windshield, clearly visible, for the **entirety** of the carline (hang it on your rear-view mirror on a hanger).
- Turn right on LaSalle; enter the yard through the **first** gate.
- Proceed to the main basement door (highlighted in blue); teachers will be waiting to help your child into the car.
- If you need to help your child with their seatbelt or car seat, **pull to the middle** of the yard to do so. Do **NOT** get out of the car when you are still in the line.
- Proceed out the gate on Calhoun St. and turn right to exit.
- *Cars without a visible sign and or with a driver on the phone will be redirected to the middle to park until the end of carpool where someone can then safely assist.*
- *Do not get out of your car and approach the staff while they are monitoring carpool. This is a major safety hazard as they are monitoring the movement of multiple students at once.*
- Families living within a 1-mile radius of campus may walk to pick up their children from school from the main office door (circled in yellow on map) on Cromwell.



Dismissal Map Key (Little Gators)

- Follow the green line. Enter the carpool line via LaSalle Place turning left onto Calhoun. Then, turn right onto Cromwell.
- Park and walk in to sign your child out.
 - If you have older children, pick them up first. Otherwise, return to Freret St to re-enter the carpool line.

Dismissal Procedures

1. Notify the office IN WRITING if a child is to follow a different routine than normal at dismissal. 2. Notify the school office before 2:55 pm to ensure changes will be communicated to the students during announcements. Changes after 2:55 pm will not occur. In rare instances, if a parent must sign out a child early, this must be done in the school office by 2:55 pm.
3. The office is closed for safety reasons during dismissal from 2:55 pm - 3:30 pm.
4. **Sidewalks and crosswalks should be used at all times.**
5. After 3:30 pm, any child who is not picked up will be sent to Later Gators, where policies and fees apply. **6. On days when there is no Later Gators, if a child is not picked up by the end of carpool, families will be charged a \$5/minute per child once carpool ends.**
7. Middle School students must have a written note on file to be allowed to leave campus without an adult at dismissal. Parents must submit a written and signed note (email will not be accepted) of permission to the school office for students to walk or bike ride alone.
8. Make your child/children aware of who will pick them up each and every day. If someone else is picking up, (grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc.) they must have a card with your name on it.
9. **Only Little Gators Families can turn Cromwell Place. Do not turn on Cromwell unless you are dropping off a student Little Gators.**

Counselor's Corner

"Am I Ready to Learn?"

Strategies To Be Responsible and Start the School Day Right:

The night before...

- Finish all homework. Create an environment that is conducive to doing homework (i.e. well lit and quiet, without the distractions of the other children playing or people talking on the phone.)
- Put homework into backpack and place backpack in a spot that's "ready to go" (i.e. by the door) Checklists, timers, and parental supervision can help overcome homework problems.
- Shower or bathe so you don't have to in the morning
- Get clothes ready for the next day
- Make lunch if you don't get a school lunch

- Set alarm clock

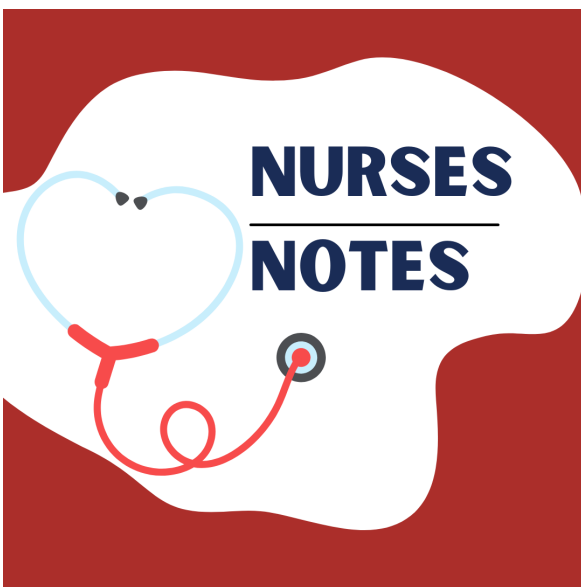
- Turn off electronics

- Get a good night sleep

The morning of school...

- Get up right when the alarm goes off or when parent/guardian comes to wake me up
- Get dressed right away
- Clean up and brush teeth
- Eat breakfast or pack a breakfast for the trip to school
- Help others who need support getting ready (i.e. siblings)!
- Grab my backpack (with my homework inside).
- Leave enough time to drive or walk to school
- Arrive to school no later than 8:00 a.m.

Nurse's Notes



Current COVID-19 Protocol:

There are no requirements for testing. If symptomatic, students are required to follow the same rules for other illnesses and return only after being free from fever/vomiting/diarrhea without any medications for 24 hours.

As a reminder, parents are to inform Nurse Abby whenever lice is found and your child is treated. Because we've had several cases within the same grade since starting school, we need to monitor the spread within the grade levels.

Other communicable diseases that should always be reported to Nurse Abby in order to inform the class include pinworm and hand, food, and mouth disease.

As always, please reach out to Nurse Abby (adonnelly@hnjschool.org) for anything medical.

HNJ Open House Coming Soon!

Dear HNJ Parents,

Our Open House for prospective families is Thursday, October 5 from 4-7 p.m. This is a huge event for HNJ Admissions, and kicks off our application process for the 2024-2025 school year. I am sure that many of you attended this event prior to joining our community, and know what a big impact it has!

I need YOUR HELP to promote our school! It is so nice to have current parents at this event to give tours to our prospective families and tell them about all the great things we offer here. You will be given a tour "cheat sheet" with all the talking points. Whether you are a new family this year, or have been here for generations, I know you can give a great tour!

If giving tours does not interest you, there are other ways you can help! We will need help setting up before the event (2:00-3:30 p.m.), cleaning up afterwards, or even donating decorations. We also would love to have some students to help welcome our new families into the event.

If you are available to help in these, or any other ways, please complete this form! If you have any questions about Open House, feel free to reach out!

Help us show the community why it's a great day to be a gator by clicking [here](#)!

Thank you!

Kaitlin Southwick, Assistant Principal of Student Life and Admissions

ksouthwick@hjnjschool.org

GATOR ATHLETICS

Last Week TO Sign Up FOR Fall Teams!



Welcome back Gator fans! HNJ Fall sports sign-ups continues through the end of this week. If your child would like to sign up to participate in sports please contact Coach T (ltterrel@hjnjschool.org).

Our fall sports teams include Cross Country (3rd-7th), Flag Football (5th-7th), Swimming (3rd-7th), and Volleyball (5th-7th). An email will be sent out with details to those who sign up.

We are looking forward to yet another great year in the New Orleans Athletic League and can't wait to see our Gators compete on the field! Go Gators!

PTC MEETING

PLEASE JOIN US!

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023

6:30 P.M.

HOLY NAME OF JESUS SCHOOL

WILLOZ FAMILY AUDITORIUM

FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER CHRISTINA JONTRA WHO WILL DISCUSS THE IMPORTANCE OF TEACHING OUR KIDS HOW TO BE SMART AND SAFE ONLINE!

REFRESHMENTS/SOCIAL FOLLOWING MEETING

[CLICK HERE TO PRE-REGISTER FOR CHILD CARE \(\\$5 PER CHILD\)](#)

Save the Date!

Back to School

BBQ



Friday, September 15
6:00-9:00 pm
in the Chiu Family Yard

**Bring your picnic blanket
or chairs and celebrate the
start of the school year
with HNJ friends!**

TO WONDER...TO ACHIEVE...TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE...TOGETHER



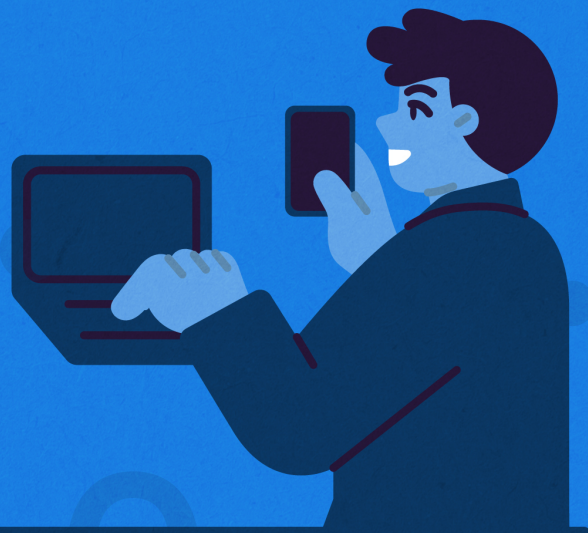
LEARN MORE ABOUT KEEPING YOUR STUDENTS SAFE ONLINE WITH NEPTUNE NAVIGATE!

**AUGUST 30,
2023**

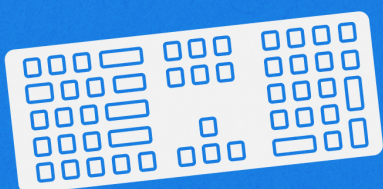
**AT 6:30
PM**



**WILLOZ
FAMILY
AUDITORIUM**



**JOIN US AS NEPTUNE NAVIGATE CHIEF
NAVIGATOR, CHRISTINA JONTRA, DISCUSSES
THE IMPORTANCE OF TEACHING OUR KIDS
HOW TO BE SMART AND STAY SAFE ONLINE.**



 **neptune
NAVIGATE**

TO WONDER...TO ACHIEVE...TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE...TOGETHER



Parent Teacher Club Updates

Volunteer Interest Form

HNJ is extremely fortunate to have an amazing community that is able to produce fantastic events that benefit our students and families. However, these events cannot happen without help from parent volunteers. We know your time is precious and limited, and your support and help to make these events happen is greatly appreciated not only by the event chairs but by our children. Volunteering for HNJ events is also lots of fun; new friends are made and good times are had by all. All of these events are open to all families at HNJ (all are family friendly except the Tennis Tournament and Gala, which are for adults only!).

The school is asking all parents to consider becoming a volunteer to help plan and execute school events. We have created a Volunteer Interest Form so you can indicate specific areas of interest.

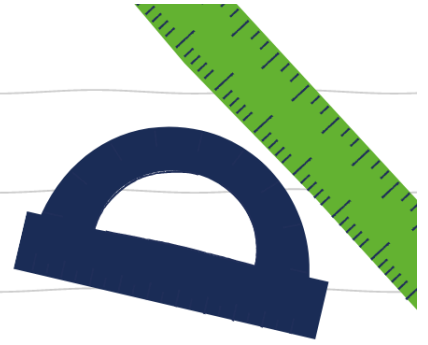
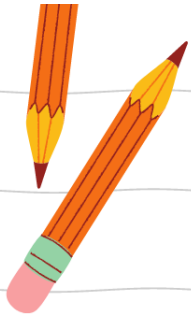
NOTE: this form is NOT the official volunteer sign-up form for the events. The specific event sign-ups with time slots will be sent out closer to the events. This form is a planning tool for the PTC and event chairs to help us recruit leaders and committee members.

*Please note that **all families** at HNJ are asked to work **two 2-hour shifts** at Gator Fest. Selecting "Gator Fest" on this form notes that you are interested in a more specific leadership role (booth chair or co-chair, committee member, etc.). The Gator Fest sign-up form will come out in October.*

Thank you in advance for your help and support! Reach out to PTC President Ana Rice (anaerice@gmail.com) with any questions. Thank you for your consideration!

[Click here to become a volunteer](#)





Back to School Night

Learn about your child's classroom, teacher, and the exciting learning opportunities planned for the year!

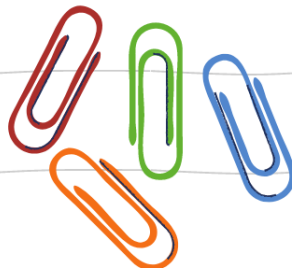
Willoz Family Auditorium

Wednesday, September 6

Early Childhood(PK3-K)- 5:00 PM

Lower School (1-4)- 5:45 PM

Middle School (5-7)- 6:30 PM



Parents Only



WICKED

THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE WITCHES OF OZ

HNJ NIGHT @ THE SAENGER

WHAT: WICKED

WHEN: TUESDAY DECEMBER 5, 2023 @ 7:30 PM

WHERE: THE SAENGER THEATRE

TICKETS : www.showtix4u.com/events/hnj

Come see WICKED with the HNJ Community as we take a field trip to the Saenger on December 5, 2023.

We sell out every year so get your tickets before they're gone!



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW MANY TICKETS CAN I PURCHASE?

You may purchase as many tickets as you would like (yes, including parents/adults) However, only HNJ families may ride on the provided buses to and from the theatre.

WILL THERE BE TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED?

Buses will be provided to and from the Saenger to HNJ. Your ticket includes transportation. However, you may opt out of riding the bus and drive to and from the Saenger on your own.

HOW MUCH ARE TICKETS AND WHERE ARE THEY LOCATED?

There are two tier prices available for purchase : \$110 and \$100. The \$110 tickets are located in the middle Orchestra C,R,L section and the \$100 tickets are located in the rear Orchestra C,R,L section. You will be seated with your entire party.

WILL THERE BE CHAPERONES?

There will be 8 HNJ chaperones accompanying the group to the performance. Parents are encouraged and welcome to attend with their child, but you may purchase a single seat for your child and they will be looked after. If you decide NOT to accompany your child to the show, please email Mr. Greg after your purchase so he can notate that your child needs a chaperone.

HOW LONG IS THE SHOW AND WHAT TIME CAN I PICK UP MY CHILD @ HNJ?

Wicked runs approximately 2 hours and 45 minutes (Including intermission) The buses will depart the Saenger immediately following the performance. You should expect to pick up your child between 10:45pm and 11:00pm in the Big Yard.

Feel free to reach out to Mr. Greg with any and all questions!
gkata@hnjschool.org

Looking forward to another awesome evening at the Saenger!
See you there!



Flourish Prep 2023

Catholic High School Placement Test Prep



Prep Classes: 6:00-7:30 pm

Tuesday, Nov. 28

Thursday, Nov. 30

Tuesday, Dec. 5

Thursday, Dec. 7

Tuesday, Dec. 12

Thursday, Dec. 14

Location: 6325 Cromwell Pl,
New Orleans, LA 70118

Available to all students

Entrance Fee: \$250

Practice Test: 8:00-11:00 am

Saturday, December 16

Class materials will
be provided



Register Online at flourishprep.com

For More Info Call: (504) 400-7308

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Back to School Social Skills Group

✱ Every Tuesday
starting
Sept 19th-Oct 17th

✱ 5:30-6:15

✱ Ages 4-6

✱ \$70 per session

VaughnTherapeuticCollective

Flexibility

Communication

Empathy

Taking Turns

Initiating
Play



Call 504-224-7582 or email
kgilmore@vaughntherapeuticcollective.com

TO WONDER...TO ACHIEVE...TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE...TOGETHER



HNJ PARISH UPDATES



HOLY NAME of JESUS CHURCH
A Community for Others

6367 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118
On the Campus of Loyola University • www.hnjchurch.org

AUGUST 27, 2023

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**21ST SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

"I will give you the keys
to the kingdom of heaven.
Whatever you bind on
earth shall be bound in
heaven; and whatever you
loose on earth shall be
loosed in heaven."
- Mt 16:19

MASS TIMES
Saturday Vigil 4 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.
University Mass 9 p.m. (Ignatius Chapel)
(when Loyola University is in session)
Weekdays 7 a.m. (Church)
Weekdays 12 p.m. (Ignatius Chapel)
Saturday 8:30 a.m. (Church)

RECONCILIATION
Tuesday & Thursday 7:45-8:15 a.m.
Saturday 3-3:45 p.m.
Sunday 8:15-8:45 p.m. (Ignatius Chapel)
(when Loyola University is in session)
(or by Appointment)

PARISH CENTER
6220 LaSalle Place
New Orleans, LA 70118
(located 4 blocks north of St. Charles Ave.)

OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
(closed 12-1 p.m. for lunch)
Phone: 504-866-7430
Fax: 504-866-3391
Email: holyname@hnjchurch.org

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS
Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Altar Servers Needed

Holy Name of Jesus is in need of altar servers for its 4 p.m. Saturday Vigil and Sunday 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Masses. It is a wonderful, graced ministry that is open to children who have received the Sacrament of Eucharist. We will train you and offer opportunities for community-building among the servers. Please contact altar server coordinator Kristy Christiansen at kristy.christiansen@gmail.com or Diane Blair at dblair@hnjchurch.org for details!

Coming soon: HNJ GrandParents Club!

Holy Name of Jesus School will be announcing its brand new Grandparents Club very soon! The purpose of the club will be to give our grandparents an opportunity to become involved in the life of the school through volunteering, fundraising, event planning, and more. If you are interested in becoming involved, please complete the form linked below, and share your contact information with us. Thank you for your interest!

**Click here to get involved with our
Grandparents Club**

Families: Keep your Grandparents informed! Make sure to update your family's RenWeb account to add Grandparents' contact information so they can receive updates from HNJ.

Fall Tee Ball

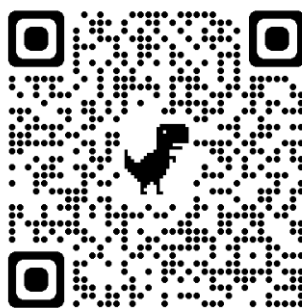
Thursdays September 14- October 26 for 5-6:15pm

Where: **Larry Gilbert Stadium, 8400 Olive St**

Who: Boys & Girls ages 4-6

How much: \$10 registration fee, due at 1st session

Sign up here:



Gary Ptak, Head Coach, Site
Supervisor
914-505-3556





HOLY NAME OF JESUS SCHOOL

A LOYOLA UNIVERSITY PARTNER

Mission

Holy Name of Jesus School is an inclusive community dedicated to teaching children confidence, compassion, and integrity while staying committed to academic excellence and the Catholic faith.

Core Beliefs

- Find God in everyone and everything
- Strive for personal excellence
- Are boys and girls for others
- Open eyes with faith, open ears with truth, and open hearts with love

Academic Vision

Holy Name of Jesus School fosters academic excellence in an inclusive environment where our community celebrates and supports all members through student development, innovation, and social justice.

Motto: To wonder, to achieve, to make a difference, together

Decisions: Student-centered

In implementing this academic vision, Holy Name of Jesus School is committed to:

GOAL #1

Meeting the needs of ALL students by utilizing data to differentiate instruction in order to grow as individuals academically, spiritually, and socially

GOAL #2

Delivering engaging, collaborative, project-based opportunities where students develop an inquisitive approach to learning

Goal #3

Providing ongoing opportunities to highlight, promote, and celebrate our own and other's backgrounds, cultures, and differences

Learn more about Holy Name of Jesus School

www.hnjschool.org

504-861-1466