

# The Gator Gazette



Holy Name of Jesus School Parent Newsletter

February 18, 2025

## Principal's Perspective

Dear Holy Name of Jesus School Community,

Mardi Gras Season is Here! Let the Good Times Roll! It's that exciting time of year—Mardi Gras! Our students absolutely love this festive season, and celebrating together is a cherished tradition in our HNJ community. From parades to special events, there's no shortage of fun and camaraderie!

### **Important Parade Impact Information**

As night parades begin, please be aware of changes affecting campus access. This **Friday, February 21**, the Krewe of Cleopatra rolls in the late afternoon, impacting our dismissal schedule. As a result, **Later Gators will not be available.**

- **All PK3–7th grade students must be picked up by 3:30 PM.**
- **Little Gators must be picked up by 3:45 PM.**

Please plan accordingly to avoid any traffic or delays. We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring a smooth and safe dismissal!

### **Men's Club on the Avenue – Saturday, February 22**

Get ready for one of the most anticipated events of the season! The HNJ Men's Club is hosting its annual **Men's Club on the Avenue** event this **Saturday, February 22**. This is a can't-miss celebration filled with great food, fellowship, and fun! We are incredibly grateful to the dedicated members of our Men's Club who put in so much time and effort to make this event a success each year. Be sure to check out the flier below for all the details—we hope to see you there!

### **HNJ Parade – Thursday, February 27**

The celebration continues with our very own **HNJ Mardi Gras Parade!** Mark your calendars for **Thursday, February 27, at 10:00 AM**, as we roll through the **Chiu Family Yard** in true festive spirit. This is always a highlight of the season, and we can't wait to see our students, families, and staff come together for this special tradition. Let's make this Mardi Gras season one to remember! Laissez les bons temps rouler!

God Bless,  
Kirsch J. Williams

To wonder... to achieve... to make a difference... together!



# Important Dates

## Tuesday, February 18

Athletics Mardi Gras Party @ Gilded Perch (see flyer)

## Thursday, February 20

Community Dinner (see flyer below)

## Friday, February 21

School Mass 8:30 AM (HNJ Church) 2nd-7th Grade, families welcome  
Liturgy of the Word (Haase's Auditorium) PK4-1st Grade, families welcome  
No Later Gators (Little Gators - 7th Grade)

## Saturday, February 22

Men's Club on the Avenue (see flyer)

## Monday, February 24

HNJ Spirit Shirt Day

## Tuesday, February 25

Arete Scholarship Deadline (see flyer below)

## Wednesday, February 26

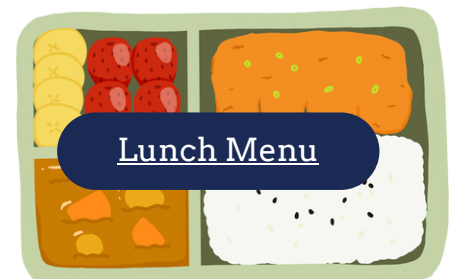
Yellow Shirt Day, following Spirit Shirt Guidelines (see flyer below)  
No Later Gators - Little Gators through 7th Grade

## Thursday, February 27

Little Gators / Early Childhood Mardi Gras Parade, 10 am  
Early Dismissal Little Gators through 7th Grade  
No Later Gators

## Friday, February 28 - Sunday, March 9

Mardi Gras Break





# COUNSELOR'S CORNER

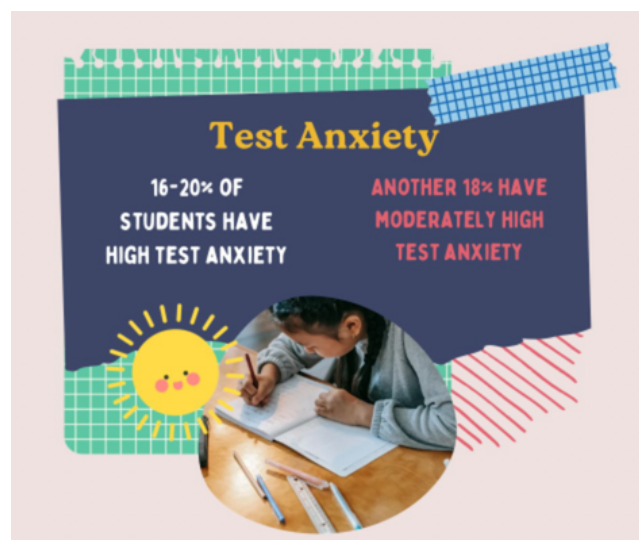
MORGAN SUBERVIELLE,  
SCHOOL COUNSELOR

[msubervielle@hnjschool.org](mailto:msubervielle@hnjschool.org)

## Overcoming Test Anxiety

Test anxiety increases mistakes, reduces reasoning and working memory, creates confusion, and lowers test scores. More importantly, it's harmful to the well-being of our children. Fortunately, there are strategies you can use to help your child feel more relaxed and confident heading into the test.

1. **Put Tests Into Perspective** – Encourage students to do their best, but remind children that test scores will not make or break their future. Tell them that they will always be loved and valued no matter what the test scores say. Explain that tests provide helpful information about what they're great at and what they still need to practice.
2. **Help Them Practice** – If your child is nervous, start by asking why they feel nervous. Consider doing practice tests that you can discuss together. Don't push your child to study for standardized tests – these tests are meant to measure what your child already knows.
3. **Provide Useful Test-Taking Tips** – Answer easiest questions first, and mark difficult questions that can be returned to later. Use the process of elimination by crossing off answers they know are incorrect. Read all answer choices carefully before selecting one. Answer all questions, even if you need to make an educated guess.
4. **Teach Calming Strategies** – Practice grounding exercises like the 5-4-3-2-1 method prior to tests. Recite some testing affirmations the morning of a big test. Remind students that they won't know every single answer on the test, and that's okay!
5. **Provide Encouragement** – Counter negative thoughts with a positive and encouraging statement: "You've practiced really hard and learned a lot this year. You might know a lot of the answers and get a higher score than you're expecting."



Biglifejournal.com. "5 Tips to Reduce Test Anxiety in Children." Big Life Journal, [https://biglifejournal.com/blogs/blog/tips-reduce-test-anxiety-children?\\_pos=1&\\_sid=5a59d1265&\\_ss=r](https://biglifejournal.com/blogs/blog/tips-reduce-test-anxiety-children?_pos=1&_sid=5a59d1265&_ss=r).

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK IN HNJ ATHLETICS?



## 4th and 5th Girls Soccer

Congratulations to the 4/5 girls' soccer team for winning the New Orleans Athletic League 5th/6th South Championship with a score of 3-1 against Sacred Heart on Tuesday afternoon. Throughout the season, this talented group of young Gators faced mostly 6th-graders and utilized their aggressive style of play to relentlessly attack the goal. They achieved an impressive total of 23 shots on goal, compared to only 10 shots on goal by Sacred Heart.

Stella Miller opened the scoring by skillfully weaving through the defense to deliver a beautiful goal to the lower right side. Gigi Seerman also made a notable contribution with her goal, outrunning two Sacred Heart defenders to strike the upper left corner of the net. Vivianana de Candia capped off the championship scoring with a rebound goal after several attempts from her Gator teammates.

The Gator defense was strong throughout the game, keeping the Sacred Heart offense largely confined to their side of the field. Virginia Waldron and Olivia Hand performed excellently, conceding just one goal while achieving a total of 9 saves.

This victory marks the first time in seven years that an all-girls HNJ soccer team has won the championship. Let's take a moment to recognize: Vera Bukaty, Viviana de Candia, Laura Dawson, Emery Davis, Mary Ryan DeLucca, Olivia Hand, Marian Keller, Julie Kurtz, Stella Miller, Rebecca Nalty, Stella Ostrow, Gia Phillippi, Gigi Seerman, Joia Sunda-Meya, Grace Vodanovich, Virginia Waldron, Emma Walker, Cora Wolford, and Elise Young.

The Holy Name community is incredibly proud of your remarkable accomplishments.

Go Gators!

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**CLICK TO BUY TICKETS OR  
BECOME A SPONSOR**

EARLY BIRD PRICE \$125 UNTIL 2/21/25 | \$150 AFTER 2/21/25

# Sunset in Sedona

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025  
7PM - 11PM  
VALS ON FRERET  
SOUTHWESTERN CHIC ATTIRE



# BOOTS & Bandanas

THURSDAY | MARCH 20

**All HNJ students will get to have a  
"Boots & Bandanas" Free Dress Day  
following handbook guidelines!**

HNJ Bandanas are available for pre-order for \$12 each. Purchase NOT required to participate in free dress. Proceeds support our Gala! Click flyer to order. Deadline is 2/19/25 at 12 Noon.



## HOLY NAME OF JESUS SCHOOL

# Tuition/Cash RAFFLE

Purchase a ticket for a chance to win your choice of either a \$5,000 tuition credit for the 2025-2026 school year OR a \$2,500 cash prize. Winner will be drawn on Tuesday, March 25, 2025. The winner need not be present. Gaming License: G-0004386

**DEADLINE TO PURCHASE  
TICKETS IS MONDAY,  
MARCH 24 AT 11:59 PM**

**\$50 each  
or 3 for \$100**



DONATIONS NEEDED

## Auction 2025



**Beach Houses \* Art \* Vacations \* Jewelry  
Restaurants \* Hosting Dinner Parties  
Fun Family Experiences \* Memberships  
Spa Days \* Gift Cards \* Home Decor Items**

**Click flyer to submit a donation!**

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Congratulations to our Honorable Gator nominees for  
Finding God in Everyone and Everything!  
We are proud of you!



# Safe Path To School

## CARPOOL SAFETY REMINDERS

Sidewalks and crosswalks should be used at all times.  
Follow instructions of crossing guards.

Students should never walk through the car gates on LaSalle Place or Calhoun Street.

Parents may not exit their vehicles while parked on the blacktop. If you need assistance, drive around and go to the walker door.

Children should remain in seat belts or car seats until the car is stopped and they are exiting the car, and again as soon as they get back in the car.

Enter and exit the vehicle from the sidewalk side.

The HNJ carpool line is a cell phone-free zone. Please stay alert at all times to keep our students safe.

Once students exit the building for the day, they will not be allowed to re-enter the building for anything. If you need urgent assistance, drive around and go to the walker door.



## Holy Name of Jesus Joins in "Wear Yellow Day" to Support School Safety

Schools across Louisiana are participating in Wear Yellow Day, organized by The Safe Path to School Task Force, on Wednesday, February 26. Wear Yellow Day spotlights pedestrian safety, with a particular focus on ensuring that all children are kept safe on school campuses. The color yellow is a symbol for safety and warns drivers to use caution. Holy Name of Jesus students are encouraged to wear a yellow top with their uniform bottoms on Wednesday, February 26.

As always, we appreciate our parents' attention in and around our carlines. Please use Wear Yellow Day as an opportunity to reinforce safety messages with your children - from everyday situations in parking lots to the unique circumstances of Mardi Gras. It's also a day to acknowledge and thank those who help to keep our carlines and campus safe: our teachers, administrators, Loyola police officers and HNJ Men's Club members.

Thank you for your support!

[Click this flyer for more information](#)

To wonder... to achieve... to make a difference... together!



Want to shout out some Gators in next week's Gazette?  
Email text and photos to Kaitlin Southwick at [ksouthwick@hnjschool.org](mailto:ksouthwick@hnjschool.org)

# Gator Spotlight

This week's spotlight Gator is **Sanaa Bean**, who is a standout high school basketball player. Sanaa graduated from Holy Name of Jesus in 2020 and began her high school basketball career at Newman before transferring to Edna Karr in the hopes of winning a championship during her senior season.

Sanaa has earned numerous accolades throughout her high school basketball career. She was named to the All-District 1st Team three times, the All-Metro 1st Team two times, and was 1st Team All-State twice in her career. Sanaa also had an Honorable Mention to the All-State Team per LGR and was named Defensive Player of the Year in her sophomore season and Offensive Player of the Year in her junior season. Her stats include over 1,400 points scored, 800 rebounds, and 250 blocks. These accolades led Sanaa to become Louisiana's number four ranked player in the class of 2025 and the state's number one post player. Sanaa's incredible play on the court helped her team reach the semi-finals twice. Outside of her impressive play on the basketball court, Sanaa is excelling in the classroom with a GPA of 3.75

Once Sanaa graduates high school, she will be attending the University of Texas at San Antonio. Sanaa will play on the Roadrunner's basketball team and will be majoring in Kinesiology Pre-med. Congratulations to Sanaa for all of your success. The Holy Name community is extremely proud of all of your accomplishments and the remarkable person you have become!

Go Sanaa and Go Gators!



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# HNJ CAMP GATOR

RIISING PK4-7TH GRADE STUDENTS

JUNE 2-6: MESSY MASTERPIECES

JUNE 9-13: GALACTIC ADVENTURES

JUNE 16-20\*: MID-SUMMER MARDI GRAS

JUNE 23-27: MAD SCIENCE LAB

JULY 7-11: SPORTS MASHUP

JULY 14-18: GATOR BUILDERS

JULY 21-25: ENDING SUMMER WITH A SPLASH

\*NO CAMP ON 6/19 IN OBSERVANCE OF JUNETEENTH

## HOURS

BEFORE CARE: 7:00-8:30

CAMP: 8:30-3:15

AFTER CARE: 3:15-5:30

[Click to Register](#)

## PRICING

\$250/WEEK (\$200 WEEK OF 6/16)

BEFORE AND AFTER CARE \$100/WEEK (\$80 WEEK OF 6/16)

## REGISTRATION

2/17 PRIORITY FOR CURRENT AND NEWLY ENROLLED HNJ STUDENTS

3/10 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



@CAMPGATOR\_HNJ

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Your child may be eligible for a K-12 private school scholarship

**ARETESCHOLARS** provides private K-12 scholarships exclusively to qualifying low-to-moderate-income students. The scholarships empower parents who otherwise have limited options to select a school that best meets their child's unique gifts, talents, and learning needs.

**Maximum scholarship amounts:** \$4,400 for grades K-8; or \$4,950 for grades 9-12.

**Application period:** February 25, 2025–May 31, 2025 (or until we receive 4,000 applications, whichever comes first)

Note: Applications are first-come, first-served, with priority given to returning students, and students using the Louisiana Scholarship Program Scholarship. An application does not guarantee a scholarship.

**To be eligible** for a scholarship in Louisiana, a student must meet the following income, residency, and prior school year requirements

1. Louisiana resident, *AND*
2. Enrolled in Louisiana public school for 2024-25, *OR*
  - . Entering kindergarten in 2025-26, *OR*
3. Received a TDC or Louisiana Scholarship Program award in 2024-25, *AND*
  - . Family income less than the following maximum amounts:

4

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5

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HOUSEHOLD SIZE	MAX ANNUAL \$
2 People	\$52,875
3 People	\$66,625
4 People	\$80,375
5 People	\$94,125
6 People	\$107,875
7 People	\$121,625



**Instructions to apply:** visit [www.aretescholars.org](http://www.aretescholars.org) or scan the QR code to begin the online application process.

**Questions?** contact Mary Helen at [maryhw@aretescholars.org](mailto:maryhw@aretescholars.org)



# SAVE THE DATE

## '80s Totally Totally tennis

### HNJ SCHOOL TENNIS + PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

March 26th, 2025

[Click Here to Register](#)

# Save the Date for the

## 7<sup>TH</sup> Grade Art Show

Wednesday,  
March 19<sup>th</sup>  
6pm-8pm

### Holy Name of Jesus Church Engraved Bricks & Pavers

Our new entry plaza at Holy Name of Jesus Church will feature an installation of commemorative bricks and pavers that can honor or memorialize loved ones in a special way. Engraved bricks and pavers are the perfect gift for weddings, anniversaries, graduations, or birthdays as well as a meaningful memorial for a loved one who has passed away.

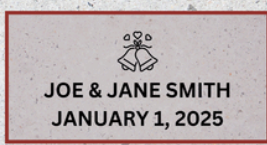
We have two size options available: 4x8 and 8x8. You can choose from several options, including text only or text with a choice of several clip-art icons. Mini replicas are also available for purchase.

**BRICK DETAILS:** The bricks are 4" x 8" and are engraved using state-of-the-art laser technology. The price for a 4x8 brick is \$400.

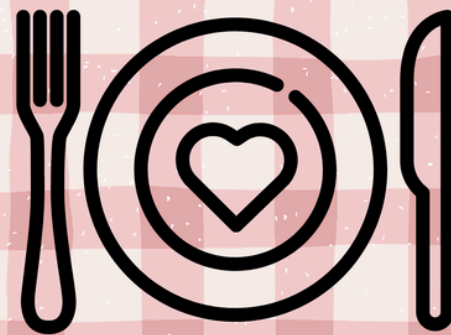
**PAVER DETAILS:** The pavers are 8" x 8" and are engraved using state-of-the-art laser technology. The price for an 8x8 paver is \$800.

**MINI REPLICAS:** Mini Replicas are available for purchase for \$25. The 4x8 brick replica measures 1.5 x 3 inches (about the size of a business card), and the 8x8 paver replica measures 3x3 inches in size. Mini replicas will be shipped to the HNJ Parish Center. You will receive a call from us when they are available for pickup.

Learn more at [hnjchurch.org/bricks-pavers](http://hnjchurch.org/bricks-pavers) or scan the QR code below.



### HOLY NAME OF JESUS COMMUNITY — Dinner —



### FOOD. FELLOWSHIP. FAMILY.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20 AT 6:00 P.M.

HNJ PARISH CENTER

ENTER THROUGH ADORATION CHAPEL DOORS OR BACK PATIO

SPONSORED BY HNJ MEN'S CLUB

To wonder... to achieve... to make a difference... together!





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

FEBRUARY 23, 2025

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**A GOOD MEASURE,**  
PACKED TOGETHER,  
SHAKEN DOWN.

— LUKE 6:38 —

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### MASS TIMES

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

#### RECONCILIATION

Wednesday & Thursday 7:30-8:00 a.m.  
(Adoration Chapel)  
Saturday 3-3:45 p.m.  
Sunday 8:15-8:45 p.m. (Loyola 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-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
(closed 12-1 p.m. for lunch)  
Phone: 504-865-7430  
Email: holynamename@hnpjchurch.org

#### ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

WWW.HNJCHURCH.ORG

# The HNJ Yearbook Committee needs your photos!

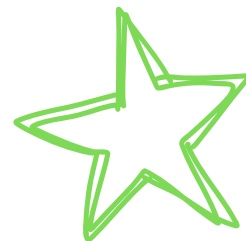
We need pictures from this school year! If you have photos from any of these past events, or any future HNJ events, please submit them to us!

- HNJ Athletics
- Gator Fest
- Back to School BBQ
- Class Parties
- Field Trips
- Pure Imagination
- Choir
- Other HNJ Events!

**GOOD TIMES**



Click the camera icon to upload your photos directly to our yearbook photo library!



## INTRODUCING THE ALL NEW HNJ SQUADLOCKER SHOP!

LOOKING FOR MORE HNJ GEAR?

THIS CONVENIENT ONLINE STORE IS ALWAYS OPEN! NO DEADLINES OR ORDER WINDOWS.  
ALL SHOP PRODUCTS CAN BE CUSTOMIZED USING ANY OF THE BELOW NEWLY DESIGNED LOGOS.

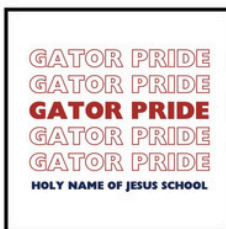
SHOW OFF YOUR GATOR PRIDE EVERYWHERE YOU GO!

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO SEE ALL THE GREAT OPTIONS!

ADULT, YOUTH, INFANT, AND TODDLER SIZES AVAILABLE



SWEATSHIRTS  
TSHIRTS  
SHORTS  
SWEATPANTS  
WATER BOTTLES  
AND MORE!



NOTE: THESE ITEMS ARE NOT SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS.  
SQUADLOCKER TSHIRTS ARE ALSO NOT CONSIDERED A SPIRIT SHIRT FOR SPIRIT DAY.



**JLNB**  
**DIAPER BANK**  
Diapers • Period Supplies  
Adult Incontinence Products

## Diaper Need Defined

Diaper need is the lack of sufficient supply of diapers to keep an infant or toddler clean, dry & healthy.

**1 in 2**



1 in 2 U.S. families cannot afford enough diapers to keep their infant clean, dry & healthy

**3 in 5**



3 in 5 parents miss work or school because they can't afford diapers to leave their baby in childcare

**28%**



28% of parents experiencing diaper need reported skipping meals to afford diapers

Did you know?  
???

Without diapers, babies cannot attend childcare.

Without childcare, parents cannot attend work or school.

Diaper need has adverse health risks for children and stress, anxiety & depression for parents.

Little Gators will be collecting diapers for the Junior League drive for the next couple of weeks. Please drop diapers off at the Little Gators Entrance (Cromwell Pl) OR the Front Office (Calhoun Red Canopy)

Email Stephanie Rios for more information  
srios@hjnjschool.org

To wonder... to achieve... to make a difference... together!



# Let's Make a Difference... Together!



We are in an exciting time of growth here at Holy Name. Our enrollment is growing; our students are excelling academically and are being accepted into their high schools of choice; and this fall we will break ground on a brand new Little Gators Early Childhood Center, along with the first phase of our new school gym!

Our Annual Giving Appeal is something we do every year to support the school's annual operating budget. We rely on your gifts to help bridge the gap between what parents pay for tuition and what it actually costs to educate each student. This campaign is separate from our Capital Campaign, which raises funds for capital improvements. Gifts to the Annual Fund help support our Mission, including:

- Attracting and retaining highly qualified teachers with competitive salaries,
- Providing tuition assistance for families who need it,
- And equipping our students with the resources they need to strive for their personal excellence.

[Make a Gift!](#)

[View Our  
Gift Catalog  
Here!](#)

[Read the full letter from  
our Annual Fund  
co-chairs here!](#)

To wonder... to achieve... to make a difference... together!





# 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](http://www.hnjschool.org)**

**504-861-1466**

**To wonder... to achieve... to make a difference... together!**

