

The Gator Gazette



Holy Name of Jesus School Parent Newsletter

May 20, 2025

Principal's Perspective

Dear Holy Name of Jesus School Community,

We've had another wonderful week full of memorable events that reflect the spirit and heart of our school community.

Gator Run Success: A huge thank you to Coach T and our incredible athletic department for organizing a fantastic Gator Run! Students had a blast participating, and the event served as a powerful culture builder for our campus.

Men's Club Crawfish Cook-Off: The Men's Club hosted a successful Crawfish Cook-Off this past weekend. Families enjoyed delicious food, and students had a great time on the water slides while parents relaxed and connected. It was a true celebration of community.

Grad Walk – A Heartfelt Tradition: Last week, we welcomed back HNJ alumni who are graduating from high school this year for our annual Grad Walk. Watching these former students walk the halls of their grammar school while current students cheered them on was an incredibly moving experience—many eyes were filled with tears of joy and pride.

Farewell to the Class of 2025: As the school year winds down, we are preparing to say goodbye to our 7th-grade students, the Class of 2025. This is their final week, and they will be deeply missed. We are proud of the leaders they have become.

Candle Mass – A Beautiful Tradition: This Friday at 8:30 AM in the HNJ Church, we will hold our Candle Mass. In this special ceremony, our 7th graders will pass candles to the 6th-grade students, symbolizing the passing of the torch of leadership. It is always a touching and meaningful moment for all involved. All are invited to witness this special Mass.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. As we head into the final days of the school year, we are grateful for each member of our HNJ family.

God Bless,
Kirsch J. Williams

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





Important Dates

Wednesday, May 21

Faculty vs. 7th Grade Basketball Game

Thursday, May 22

Athletic Awards, 1:15 - 2:45 PM in Haase's Auditorium, Parents Welcome

Friday, May 23

7th Grade Last Day of School

Candle Mass, 8:30 AM at HNJ Church (1st - 7th Grade, Parents Welcome)

Later Gator Music Recital (see flyer below)

Monday, May 26

No School Little Gators through 7th Grade, Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 27 - Wednesday, May 28

5th and 6th Grade Exams

Tuesday, May 27

7th Grade Promotion Ceremony, 6:30 PM at HNJ Church

Wednesday, May 28

PK3/PK4 Last Day of School

Last Day of Later Gators (PK3-7th Grade)

Thursday, May 29

Kindergarten Closing Ceremony, 8:30 AM

No Later Gators (K-7th Grade)

Friday, May 30

1st-6th Grade Last Day of School

Closing Mass and Awards Ceremony 8:30 AM at HNJ Church (1st-6th Grade)

Early Dismissal (Little Gators - 6th Grade)

No Later Gators (Little Gators - 6th Grade)



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK IN HNJ ATHLETICS?



On Saturday, May 17, the 44th edition of the Lee Gardemal Gator Run took place at Audubon Park. This year, 73 runners participated in three different distances. Notably, Stella Miller, a 4th grader from HNJ, secured 1st place in both the 1.9-mile race and the 5K race, completing the two events with only an 8-minute break in between. Additionally, Dominic Rizzo became the first PreKindergarten 4 student to finish in the top three. A special thanks goes out to the 2025 sponsors, the Gator Run committee, the Grand Gators members, as well as the students, parents, and friends of the HNJ community. Here are the top performers in each category:

3rd and under - 1 mile

Girls

Maggie Baxter - 1st - 7 mins 51 secs
Vivian Harrell - 2nd - 9 mins 37 secs
Hattie Miller - 3rd - 9 mins 38 secs

Boys

Sebby Miller - 1st - 7 mins 47 secs
James Keller - 2nd - 7 mins 50 secs
Dominic Rizzo - 3rd - 8 mins 44 secs

4th through 7th - 1.9 miles

Girls

Stella Miller - 1st - 14 mins and 37 secs
Catalina Rice - 2nd - 16 mins and 57 secs
Anna Gay - 3rd - 20 mins and 10 secs

Boys

Andrew McCormick - 1st - 12 mins and 23 secs
William McCormick - 2nd - 14 mins and 56 secs
Banks Lunsford - 3rd - 15 mins and 24 secs



Open - 5K

Women

Stella Miller - 1st - 26 mins 57 secs
Jill Donnelly - 2nd - 28 mins 55 secs

Men

Michael McCormick - 1st - 20 mins 01 secs
Michael Dewenter - 2nd - 26 mins 37 secs

Faculty

Women

Andrea Dewenter - 1st - 36 mins 32 secs
Katie Gallagher - 2nd - 37 mins 13 secs
Kirsch Williams - 3rd - 41 min 55 secs

Men

Anthony Chatham - 1st - 20 mins 21 secs

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





Please support our students and come to their piano, voice,
and guitar concert. Free admission!

*HND School
Presents*

Music Concert

Two recitals on Friday, May 23, 2025

5:30-6:30pm

7:00-8:00pm

Reception to follow each recital

Guitar, piano, and vocal
performances featuring students
from our Later Gators program

Haase Family Auditorium

Please wear concert attire



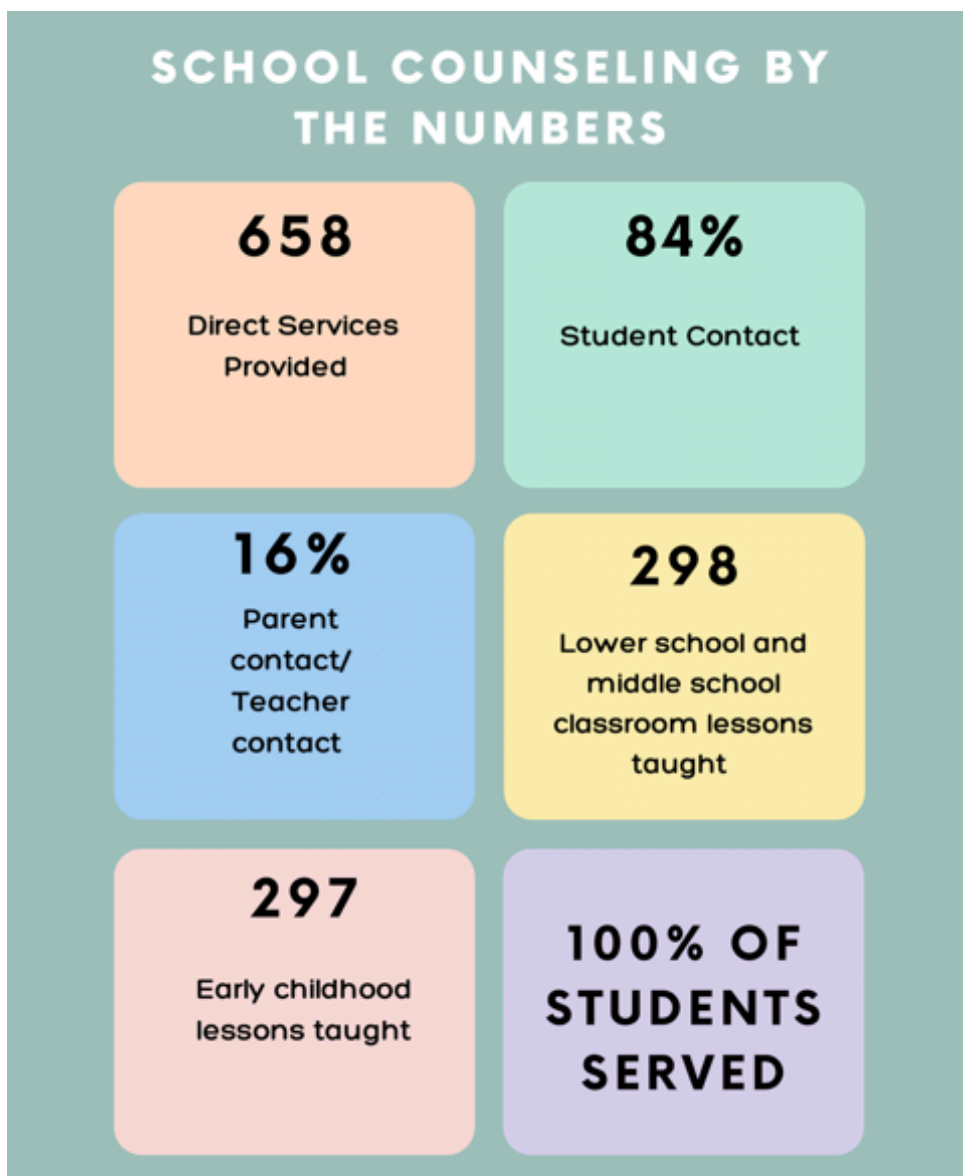


COUNSELOR'S CORNER

MORGAN SUBERVIELLE,
SCHOOL COUNSELOR

msubervielle@hnjschool.org

The Counseling Department at HNJ had a fantastic year! Within our comprehensive school counseling program, we develop strategies to work with students both in groups and individually. Together, Ms. Morgan and Ms. Angelle, our Social Emotional Learning Teacher provided over 658 student services this year! Students were referred to the counseling department by teachers/faculty, parents, and themselves. The top reasons students were referred to the counselor this year include: coping skills/emotional regulation, impulsivity, feelings/mood/affect, peer relations, and friendship skills.



In addition to meeting with students individually or in small groups, the counseling services at Holy Name of Jesus include Life Skills lessons to promote positive personal growth and school-wide safety skills. Topics included: Empathy, Identifying Feelings, Calming "Big" Feelings, Interpersonal Communication, Conflict Resolution, Problem Solving, Careers, and more. Thank you all for supporting our school counseling program!

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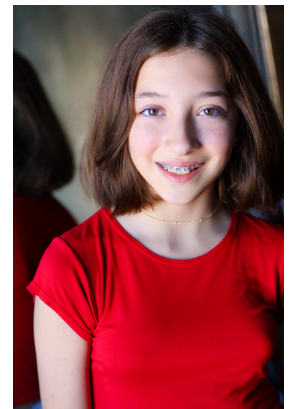
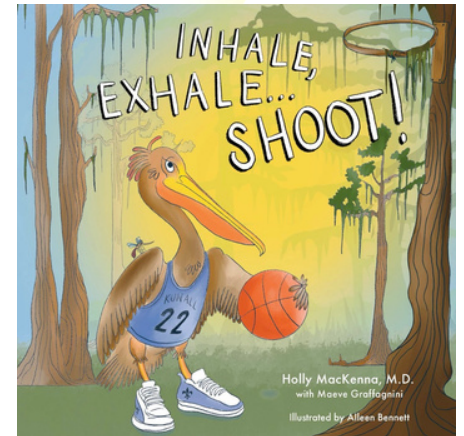
Want to shout out some Gators in next week's Gazette?
Email text and photos to Kaitlin Southwick at ksouthwick@hnjschool.org

Gator Spotlight

7th Grader **Maeve Graffagnini** and her mom, Holly MacKenna, wrote a children's book, *Inhale, Exhale... Shoot!*, which uses basketball to help kids learn to handle big feelings. Maeve dedicated it to Jack and "all children with anxiety".

Inhale, Exhale...Shoot! follows Kunall the Pelican, a talented young basketball player who loves the game—but when it's time to take the big shot, anxiety creeps in. His wings tremble, his belly tightens, and his mind fills with doubt. What if he misses? What if everyone is watching? Set in the colorful heart of New Orleans, this beautifully illustrated picture book offers more than just a story about sports. It gently introduces children to mindfulness and breathwork as tools for managing stress, self-doubt, and performance anxiety—on the court and in everyday life. With encouragement from his coach and support from his teammates, Kunall learns to center himself, take a deep breath, and trust in his abilities.

[Click here to purchase the book online!](#)



4th Grader **Harry Suire** was selected for the LA Fire Elite Clubs National League (ECNL) soccer team. ECNL is a national league known for its high-level competition and is considered the top tier for youth soccer. Harry will have the opportunity to play against top soccer teams from around the country.

Congratulations, Harry!



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



Please join us for
Candle Mass

*Come see our 7th Grade students pass
candles to the 6th Grade students,
symbolizing the passing of their
leadership role to the next 7th Grade class.*

Friday, May 23, 2025

8:30 AM

Holy Name of Jesus Church

**THANK
YOU!**



HNJ families donated 1,850 diapers for families in need for the Junior League Diaper Drive this year. This is worth \$627.34! This is also more than any of the Junior League's other daycare partners! Thank you to all who donated!

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HOLY NAME



BOWLING

TOURNAMENT

SPONSORED BY HNJ ALUMNI

OPEN TO PARENTS, ALUMNI & FRIENDS!

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2025 | 6-9 PM

ROCK-N-BOWL

LIVE MUSIC: THE MIXED NUTS STARTS AT 8:30PM

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

MAY 25, 2025

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**I WILL
COME BACK
TO YOU.**

JOHN 14:28

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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. (Church)
Weekdays 12:30 p.m. (Loyola Chapel)
Saturday 8:30 a.m. (Church)

RECONCILIATION
Monday & Thursday 7:30-8:00 a.m. (Church)
Saturday 3:30-4:45 p.m. (Church)
Sunday 8:15-8:45 p.m. (Loyola Chapel)
(when Loyola University is in session)
(or by Appointment)

6367 St. Charles Avenue
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: holyname@hnjchurch.org

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

WWW.HNJCHURCH.ORG

**Ponseti's
SHOES**

Uniform School Shoes Since 1965
3501 Severn Ave. Metairie La 70002
504-354-9692

Back To School SALE!

**Holy Name of Jesus
School Shoes 10% Off**

Regular Price

During July, 2025

Come in-store for the perfect fit!
Know the Size? Visit our website:
www.ponsetis.com
Free in-store pick-up
Free shipping on orders \$99+
Discount applied automatically



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!



**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



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

504-861-1466

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

