

The Gator Gazette



Holy Name of Jesus School Parent Newsletter

August 26, 2025

Principal's Perspective

Dear Holy Name of Jesus School Community,

Updated Academic Goals 2025–2026: This summer, we updated our overarching Academic Goals to build upon the successes of the past and set us up for growth in the future. These goals can also be found on the final page of each Gator Gazette.

Goal 1: Empowering Student Agency through Data-Driven Reflection

Goal: Foster a culture where students regularly engage with their academic, social, and spiritual growth data to set goals, reflect, and take ownership of their learning journeys.

How it aligns: This builds on our original goal of differentiation through data but shifts the power to the student, promoting ownership and a growth mindset.

Goal 2: Cultivating Responsible, Ethical Learners in a Digital World

Goal: Integrate digital citizenship and responsible AI use into instruction to equip students with the skills to think critically, act ethically, and engage safely and creatively with technology in a rapidly evolving digital landscape.

How it aligns: This extends our commitment to collaborative, project-based learning by embedding future-ready skills that are both technical and moral.

Goal 3: Building on Home-School Partnerships Rooted in Cultural Celebration

Goal: Foster a collaborative school community where parents are active partners and diverse cultures, backgrounds, and perspectives are experienced and celebrated to build belonging, respect, and shared understanding.

How it aligns: This evolves our emphasis on community and the celebration of diverse backgrounds by deepening family engagement as a key driver of academic and social-emotional success.

Family Partnership Opportunity: The Advisory School Board meets in committees every other month. One of their goals for the next two months is to begin collecting information from families to support **Goal #3**. If you would like to help us share authentic cultural experiences and lessons with our students, please consider completing this form:

👉 [Click here to share your cultural experiences](#)

It may take us a few months to gather responses and make a plan. Thank you in advance for your patience and for your partnership!

To Wonder... To Achieve... To Make a Difference... Together

God Bless,
Kirsch J. Williams

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





Important Dates

Click Here
to see the
August
Lunch
Menu!

Monday, August 25 - Wednesday, August 27

NWEA Testing (PK4-7th Grade)

New Orleans Speech and Hearing Screenings (see flyers below)

Tuesday, August 26

Grand Gators Meeting, 10:00 AM in Parish Center



Wednesday, August 27

Cub Scouts Roundup Meeting (see flyer below)

Thursday, August 28

Kim4Kidz Occupational Therapy Screening

Friday, August 29

School Mass, 8:30AM at HNJ Church (Kindergarten - 7th Grade, Parents Welcome)

House Meetings (2nd - 7th Grade)

Early Dismissal, No Later Gators (PK3-7th Grade)

Regular Dismissal for Little Gators

Faculty Professional Development (PK3-7th Grade teachers)



Monday, September 1

Labor Day - No School (Little Gators - 7th Grade)

Wednesday, September 3

No Later Gators, PK3-7th Grade

PK3-7th Grade Parent's Back to School Night (see flyer below)



Friday, September 5

School Mass, 8:30AM at HNJ Church (Kindergarten - 7th Grade, Parents Welcome)

Saturday, September 7

Grandparents/Grandfriends Family Mass, 10:30 AM at HNJ Church

Tuesday, September 9

7th Grade Parent Information Meeting, 5:00 PM in Rivas Auditorium

Monday, September 8 - Friday, September 12

Grandparent/Grandfriends Week Lunches (see flyer below)

Friday, September 12

Grandparents/Grandfriends Movie Night (see flyer below)



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HOUSE SYSTEM: MONTHLY CHALLENGES

Click the Poster for each house to find instructions for the house challenge of the month. We look forward to building community with the house system this year!

HOUSE OF TRUTH AND LIGHT

CATECHISM QUEST: BUILDING OUR FAITH FOUNDATION!

Helping children (and adults!) learn and understand key concepts from the Catechism in a fun, interactive way!

MATERIALS NEEDED!

- ST. JOSEPH CATECHISM FOR YOUNG CATHOLICS (PICK THE VOLUME MOST SUITABLE FOR YOUR CHILDREN!)
- INDEX CARDS OR SMALL SLIPS OF PAPER
- PENS/MARKERS
- A SMALL BOWL



HOUSE OF REVERENCE

God's Fingerprints SCAVENGER HUNT

"Finding God in Everyone and Everything - Audobon Park"

TOOLS



HOW TO PLAY

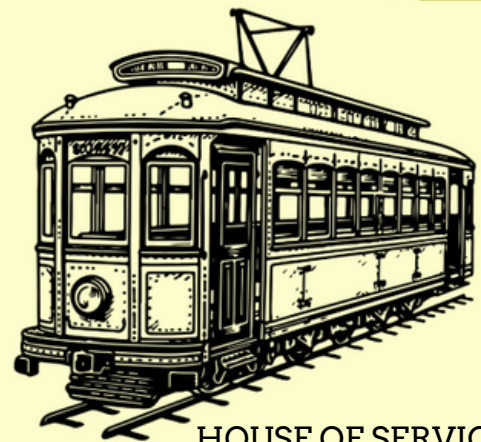
- 1) Make sure you have an adult with you
- 2) Look closely: Walk slowly and look all around you - up in the trees, down on the ground, in the bushes, etc.
- 3) Find the "Fingerprints": When you see something on your checklist, mark it off!
--Draw or describe the thing you found: For most items, draw a quick sketch or write a few words about what you found next to the item on your list
--Collect (if allowed): If the item has already fallen, you can gently place it in your bag
- 4) Think about God: As you find each item, take a moment to think about how it reminds you of God. Does it show His power? His beauty? His creativity?

HOUSE OF EXCELLENCE



The Five-Star Family Meal

Teaching that excellence is a habit of doing your best in everything you do, and it's a quality that can be practiced and perfected together as a family!



HOUSE OF SERVICE

The Streetcar Meal Express

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WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK IN HNJ ATHLETICS?

Dear Gator Parents,

Fall sports are officially underway at HNJ! If your child is interested in joining a team, we still welcome new participants. Available programs include:

- Cross Country (Coed, 3rd–7th)
- Flag Football (Coed, 5th–7th)
- Golf (Coed, 3rd–7th)
- Swimming (Coed, 3rd–7th)
- Volleyball (Girls, 5th–7th)

To sign up, please email me at lterrel@hnjschool.org.

We're excited for another great season ahead! HNJ Athletics – it's bigger than just sports.

Go Gators!
Coach T



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COUNSELOR'S CORNER

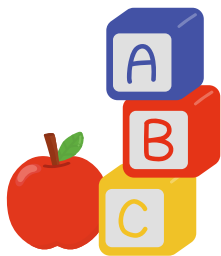
MORGAN SUBERVIELLE,
SCHOOL COUNSELOR

msubervielle@hnjschool.org

The ABCs of School Success begins at home!

While your child is learning their ABCs, 123s, and much more, they can get the year off to a great start with these other ABCs.

1. **Attend every day!** More time in class = more learning. Help your youngster attend school regularly by scheduling doctor appointments and family vacations outside of school hours. Also, you can cut down on sick days by eating fruits and vegetables, washing hands often, and getting plenty of physical activity.
2. **Be organized!** Forgotten homework? A backpack that doubles as a black hole? Good organizational skills prevent those problems. Together, brainstorm ways for your child to get—and stay—organized.
3. **Check in daily.** Designate a time each day to sit down with your youngster, talk about what they did in school, and review papers they brought home. You might read a story they wrote or look over their math test, for example. This simple routine shows her that you care about what they're learning. Plus, you'll notice where they're doing well or if they're struggling with anything so you can follow up with their teacher.



Home & School Connection. (September 2019). Working Together for School Success.

"Am I Ready to Learn?"

Strategies To Be Responsible and Start the School Day Right:



The night before...

- Finish all homework
- Put homework into backpack and place backpack in a spot that's "ready to go" (i.e. by the door)
- 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 8:00am

morning
routine

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

Gator Spotlight

This summer, two HNJ alumni, **Jackson Barnes** (Class of 2023) and **Miles Goudelocke** (Class of 2024), traveled with the Jesuit Cross Country team to Flagstaff, Arizona for two weeks of high-altitude training. Only the top 12 runners were selected for the trip. Jackson was one of just three sophomores invited, while Miles was the only freshman to make the cut.

The Jesuit Cross Country program is among the best in the nation, finishing the 2024 season ranked as high as 14th nationally. In this year's preseason rankings, the Blue Jays are listed 7th, 11th, and 11th across three different national publications.

Both Jackson and Miles are already making a mark individually:

- Miles ran 11:14 for 2 miles during his 8th-grade season.
- Jackson posted times of 16:35 for 3 miles and 16:43 for 5000m as a freshman.

All three performances rank among the very best in Louisiana for their grade levels. In addition to cross country, the two also competed for Jesuit's track and field team this past spring, continuing to build on their success.

We are proud of our Gator alumni as they continue to excel and represent HNJ at the highest level of high school competition!



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BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

09.03.25

5:00 PM: PK-3 through Kindergarten

5:30 PM: 1st - 4th Grade

6:00 PM: 5th - 7th Grade

Parents will meet in the Rivas Auditorium for a brief presentation and then proceed to their homerooms to meet with their teachers.

PARENTS ONLY



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HNJ Family Masses

Mark your calendars for our Family Masses featuring family and child-centered liturgies.

September 7 ~ Grandparents Family Mass, 10:30 a.m.

September 21

HNJ School 7th Grade Retreat Family Mass, 10:30 a.m.

November 9 ~ Family Mass, 10:30 a.m.

December 24

Christmas Eve Masses – 4 p.m. & 6 p.m.

January 25

Catholic Schools Week

Family & Alumni Mass, 10:30 a.m.

March 15 ~ Family Mass, 10:30 a.m.

April 5 ~ Easter Family Mass – 11:00 a.m.



LUNCH PROGRAM UPDATE



WELCOME BACK! 😊

We're so excited to be back for our second year of serving lunch at HNJ!

We also listened to your feedback from our recent parent survey, and we're introducing something new... SECONDS! ←

Students will now have the option to purchase seconds on entrée items for \$2 each.



What's for Lunch!? 💡

This year, we've added a Suggestion Box for students, faculty, and parents to share their ideas! We love hearing from you!

For more information about our program:
HNJ Lunch Program
Monthly Lunch Menu

If you ever have questions, comments, or concerns email us at: hnlunch@messinascatering.com.



**HNJ GRANDPARENTS
FAMILY MASS
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7
10:30 A.M.
HOLY NAME OF JESUS
CHURCH**



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



GRANDPARENTS / FRIENDS LUNCHESES

Grandparents and friends are invited to bring a lunch to share with their students in the HNJ Parish Center.

Note that there is no catered option this year.

Limited Parking is available on the HNJ Blacktop.
Additional Parking is available in the neighborhood.

SEPT
8

PK-3 ~ 10:45 - 11:45
3RD GRADE ~ 12:30 - 1:30

SEPT
9

PK-4 ~ 10:45 - 11:45
4TH GRADE ~ 12:30 - 1:30

SEPT
10

KINDERGARTEN ~ 10:45 - 11:45
5TH GRADE ~ 12:30 - 1:30

SEPT
11

1ST GRADE ~ 10:45 - 11:45
6TH GRADE ~ 12:30 - 1:30

SEPT
12

2ND GRADE ~ 10:45-11:45
7TH GRADE ~ 12:30 - 1:30



Pat Garin will be on site to take portraits of Grandparents with their students

THE GRAND GATORS INVITE YOU TO THE FIRST
ANNUAL GRANDPARENTS



MOVIE NIGHT

ENJOY A MOVIE NIGHT WITH YOUR GRANDCHILDREN

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM

TOY STORY BEGINS AT 6:30 PM IN THE RIVAS AUDITORIUM
MOVIE SNACKS ARE PROVIDED

LIMITED PARKING AVAILABLE ON THE BLACKTOP
ADDITIONAL PARKING IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

COST: \$5 PER PERSON



REGISTER HERE



The sky's
the limit
AND THEN
SOME

Ready for action that's out of this world?
Join Cub Scouts for adventures that go above
and beyond anything you've done before.

COME JOIN PACK 55!



**It's a great time to be a Scout!
Come Join Pack 55 at Holy Name of Jesus!**

When: Wednesday, August 27th at 6:30pm.

Where: Holy Name of Jesus School Basement

For more information, contact:

Jimmy Treadway (Cubmaster): jttread1@hotmail.com

Santi Iturralde (Treasurer): santi120@gmail.com

Cub Scout Pack 55 is for boys in K-5th grades.

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



Holy Name of Jesus PTC

BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ

Bring your blanket or chairs and
enjoy a back to school BBQ
dinner with HNJ families!



FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 26
6:00 - 9:00
VOLUNTEER SIGN UP



DINNER ORDER



PLEASE PRE-ORDER MEALS. A LIMITED NUMBER OF
MEAL TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT.
DRINKS AND DESSERTS MAY BE PURCHASED AT THE
EVENT. BEER AND WINE AVAILABLE WITH DONATION.



HOLY NAME OF
JESUS SCHOOL
A LOYOLA UNIVERSITY PARTNER



Men's Club General Meeting Steak Night!



Thursday September 11th at 6pm
HNJ Parish Center across from the school
Meeting starts at 6:30pm
Parking available at school

Join us for the first Men's Club meeting of the school year.
Come meet the new dads and find out what we do and
how to get involved.

Please be sure to *pay your dues* on the website,
hnjmensclub.org, to reserve your steak.



Scan or click the QR code to pay your dues



GATORS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

HOLY NAME OF JESUS SCHOOL

GATOR FEST 2025

NOVEMBER 14-16, 2025

**WE ARE SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR
LEADERSHIP POSITIONS ON OUR
GATOR FEST TEAM!**

Your gift of service is what makes this
amazing event run smoothly, providing a
fun, safe, enjoyable experience for our
community. We are seeking volunteers to
serve in various leadership roles to help
organize and manage our event.



Scan QR Code or visit
hnjschool.org/gator-fest



GATORS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

HOLY NAME OF JESUS SCHOOL

GATOR FEST 2025

NOVEMBER 14-16, 2025

**SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
ARE NOW OPEN!**

Holy Name of Jesus School is hosting its
42nd Annual Gator Fest, Gators Under
Construction, November 14-16, 2025.
We are inviting businesses and families
to partner with us in hosting this event,
which supports the mission of our
school.



Scan QR Code or visit
hnjschool.org/gator-fest

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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 24, 2025

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil 4 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.
University Mass 5 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)

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: holynam@hnpjchurch.org

RECONCILIATION

Monday & Thursday 7:30-8:00 a.m. (Church)
Saturday 3-3:45 p.m. (Church)
Sunday 4:15-4:50 p.m. (Loyola Chapel)
(when Loyola University is in session)
(or by Appointment)

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

WWW.HNJCHURCH.ORG



Dear Holy Name of Jesus School Parents,

We're excited to announce that we've partnered with MySchoolBucks to provide a convenient and secure way to manage your child's school meal payments. With MySchoolBucks, you can easily handle meal payments using a credit/debit card or electronic check.

Using MySchoolBucks you can:

- Add funds to your student's meal account
- View meal balances & cafeteria purchases
- Receive low-balance alerts

Getting Started is Easy:

- Download the mobile app or visit myschoolbucks.com
- Click "Sign Up for Free" icon
- Fill in your information
- Get Started
- Select your state (Louisiana) and district (Holy Name of Jesus)
- Create your free account
- Add your student
- Add funds to your student's meal account

If you already have a MySchoolBucks account:

- Log into your existing account
- Click "District" at the top of the page
- Click "Add Another School District"
- Select your state (Louisiana) and district (Holy Name of Jesus)
- Add your student
- Follow account setup steps

If you have any questions about getting started with MySchoolBucks call (855) 832-5226. For any general questions please contact hnlunch@messinascatering.com



MESSINASCATERING.COM | 504.469.7373 | 916 DAKIN ST. JEFFERSON, LA 70121

Save the Date

HNI GRANDPARENTS AND
GRAND-FRIENDS WEEK 2025

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Family Mass, 10:30 am at HNJ Church

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

PK3 and 3rd Grade Lunch with Grandparents

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

PK4 and 4th Grade Lunch with Grandparents

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

K and 5th Grade Lunch with Grandparents

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

1st and 6th Grade Lunch with Grandparents

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

2nd and 7th Grade Lunch with Grandparents
Grandparents Movie Night, 6:00 PM

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW



2025 - 2026 CATERING



We're thrilled to return to Holy Name of Jesus School for another amazing year! Messina's Catering is proud to once again partner with the school to provide a delicious and nutritious lunch program your students will love.

WHAT'S ON THE MENU?

Our school lunch program features a variety of meal options to keep your child excited about lunchtime, including:

HOT LUNCH HANDHELD LUNCH FRESH SALAD
HAMBURGER CHEESEBURGER

PRICING

PK3 - K: \$5.75/ meal

1st - 7th Grade: \$6.25/meal (larger portion)

All meals include a choice of
white milk or chocolate milk.

Hot, Handheld, Cheeseburger, and Hamburger Lunches include daily sides of: Vegetable, Starch or Fruit/ Dessert

1ST SEMESTER PAYMENT:

PK3 - Kindergarten: \$465.75
1st - 7th Grade: \$506.25

FULL YEAR PAYMENT:

PK3 - Kindergarten: \$977.50
1st - 7th Grade: \$1,062.50

Take Advantage of Our Convenient Pre-Payment Options!
Semester or full-year payments must be made by check only and are due by August 15. Please make checks payable to Messina's Catering & Events and include your child's name and grade in the memo line.
For daily lunch purchases, please create an account through MySchoolBucks at myschoolbucks.com. Instructions to follow soon.

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:

2025-2026

GOAL #1

Empower Student
Agency through
Data-Driven
Reflection

2025-2026

GOAL #2

Cultivate
Responsible, Ethical
Learners in a
Digital World

2025-2026

GOAL #3

Build on Home-School
Partnerships Rooted
in Cultural
Celebration

Learn more about Holy Name of Jesus School

www.hnjschool.org

504-861-1466

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