Visitation Academy Weekly Newsletter March 1st, 2023

Dear Visitation Parents/ Guardians,

The Lenten Season is a time of reflection… In his message for Lent 2023, Pope Francis invites the faithful to sow seeds of goodness, so that we might reap a harvest of salvation for ourselves and others… Stressing "Let us not grow tired of doing good." The main goal of our Lenten reflection should be to focus on our relationship with God and with others. A way to put things in order and to prepare our hearts and lives for rebirth. In this busy and stressful time, making the time for Lenten observances and quiet reflection… repairing relationships and starting anew… and looking forward to Easter joy are all ways to find greater closeness with God.

A Lenten Reflection from Pope Francis:
In our Lenten journey towards Easter, let us remember the One who "humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross" (Phil 2:8). During this season of conversion, let us renew our faith, draw from the "living water" of hope, and receive with open hearts the love of God, who makes us brothers and sisters in Christ.

At the Easter Vigil, we will renew our baptismal promises and experience rebirth as new men and women by the working of the Holy Spirit. This Lenten journey, like the entire pilgrimage of the Christian life, is even now illumined by the light of the resurrection, which inspires the thoughts, attitudes and decisions of the followers of Christ.

Therefore, "Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all" (Gal 6:9-10)

It is so important to travel through LENT as a family. Below are some resources which may help your family grow during this Lenten season.

- **Join Relevant Radio every evening as they pray a Family Rosary across the Nation! https://relevantradio.com/listen/our-shows/family-rosary-across-america/**
- **Download the HALLOW APP on your phone or computer for prayers, stories and activities during LENT. https://hallow.com/**
- **Catholic Icing has great crafts and activities to do as a family during LENT. https://www.catholicicing.com/simple-lenten-traditions-for-families-with-little-to-no-prep-work/**

Notable Items This Week:

MAP Growth Winter Testing Results will be sent home via your child's backpack this week in a sealed envelope. A key for interpreting results will also be included.

Trimester 2 will end this Friday, March 3. The PowerSchool Parent Portal will be locked on Monday, March 6 for teachers to complete report cards. Please be sure to check the portal to view your child's current grades before the portal closes.

St. Patrick's Day – March 17th

Grades 1 through 8 – Wear a GREEN shirt and your gym pants! PreK3, PreK4 and Kindergarten wear GREEN!

Fathers' Club News - Check out the flyer below for our Father/Daughter Dance which was re-scheduled to April 29th! You won't want to miss this event! It is a special evening for Dad's and their daughters…a memory to last forever!

Spring Gala – *NIGHT IN PARIS! WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2023 at THE VENETIAN, GARFIELD*

The Gala is our biggest event. In the past we have had over 525 people in attendance and over 300 raffle prizes. It is an amazing event to say the least. In addition to honoring our 8th graders as they walk the runway as fashion models for the night, the tricky tray is a highlight of the night and our biggest fundraiser of the year.

25% of your ticket purchase will be credited to your family obligation!

Any questions, please email:
Chris Twomey - jmac2me@gmail.com
Janina Kusielewicz - kusielewicz@gmail.com

Scan here for reservation form or go to our website!
https://visitationacademyparamus.org/spring-gala-reservations

We look forward to seeing everyone!

FROM THE HSA Gala Solicitation Committee ~ SPRING GALA IS COMING!!!

~Do you have unwanted Christmas presents cluttering your home?
~Duplicate items that you do not need?
~Unopened items you can no longer return?
~Get a head start on Spring Cleaning!

Please consider donating your NEW UNOPENED Christmas Presents/Duplicate items to the Visitation Academy Gala Fundraiser. No item is too big or too small! Send in your NEW UNOPENED donations to the main office with a note indicating "GALA" and your name. Thank you---- HSA Gala Solicitation Committee

Important

GALA Information

Notice

Dear Parents,

We need your help! Our solicitations and donations for the Gala are significantly down this year. As you know the Gala is the HSA's biggest fundraiser which can bring in up to $30,000 towards our parental $100,000 obligation to the diocese. Without enough tricky tray prizes, including: gift cards, small electronics, make-up baskets, purses and the many other prizes that have been donated past years, we cannot have a successful Gala and therefore cannot meet our school obligation to the diocese.

Please consider donating gift cards for restaurants, department stores and cards such as iTunes or Amazon. If you order them through "Shop with Scrip" you can increase your support of the school while also getting credit towards your obligation.

All students who bring in a $25 value gift card may dress down for the week of March 20th. Dress down must follow student handbook guidelines.

At the same time, you can consider bringing in new, unopened gifts such as perfume sets, small electronics and any other tricky-tray type prize!

BONUS: Mrs. Drew will be throwing a pizza party for any class with 100% participation in submitting $25 Gift card donations! *Just be sure to label the donation with your child/children's name and grade!*

Attached also please find the solicitation letter so that you can ask friends, businesses you may know, and others, to make donations supporting our school!

Please send in gift cards labeled with your child/children name and grade "Attn. HSA - Gift Card Gala". **Any other prizes can be sent in to the school office labeled Gala or dropped off at the school during our wrapping evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 pm on March 8th or 14th.**

With gratitude,

Visitation Academy HSA

Visitation Academy
222 Farview Ave. Paramus, N.J. 07652
www.visitationacademyparamus.org

Blue Ribbon School of Excellence
Middle States Accredited

School Year 2022-2023

Dear Friend of Visitation Academy,

The Home School Association of Visitation Academy will be hosting the Annual Spring Gala and Tricky-Tray on March 29, 2023 at the Venetian in Garfield, NJ. Last year this SOLD OUT event was attended by over 500 people from all over New Jersey! It was an amazing event for all involved. It's organizations like yours that keep our community alive and thriving. We appreciate your commitment and we're excited to collaborate with you on such a beneficial event.

The Spring Gala and Tricky-Tray is the school's biggest fundraiser and supports school funding for new technology, school supplies and equipment, educational enrichment programs and school spirit events. In addition to a worthy event, it is a great opportunity to promote your business and expose the attendees to your services and products. All donors will be properly acknowledged in our event literature distributed to all attendees and we will encourage our community to patronize your business. Visitation Academy families sincerely appreciate your consideration in donating to our event.

Donations can come in all shapes and sizes. Gift items, gift certificates, monetary donations, or the purchase of an advertisement in our Gala program are all welcomed. We truly appreciate your time and attention to this matter and are most grateful for your support.

If you would like to make a donation or have any questions, please contact Janina Bucher at hsa@visitationacademyparamus.org or 201-838-8007.

Sincerely,

Janina Bucher and Chris Twomey
Home School Association President and Gala Committee Chairs
HSA@VisitationAcademyParamus.org

Visitation Academy is a non-profit 501(c)(3) Organization- Tax Exempt Number: 221-532-196/000

encounter Lent

CRS RICE BOWL
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Dear Families,

During Lent, Visitation Academy will participate in CRS Rice Bowl, a faith-in-action program that invites us to encounter the needs of the world with the hope of the Resurrection.

We will reflect on how this encounter can be transformative. We will see how our Lenten prayers, fasting and almsgiving can respond to Pope Francis's invitation to *Share the Journey* by supporting those worldwide who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities.

As we prepare for this holy season, it is especially important to come together as a family and reflect on the crosses of hunger, poverty and war that our brothers and sisters experience.

Please consider these suggestions in your family's Lenten plan:

- Use your CRS Rice Bowl to guide your almsgiving.
- Develop a prayer time for your family each day during Lent.
- Prepare simple, meatless meals on the Fridays of Lent to eat in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world.
- Visit **crsricebowl.org** to watch videos of the people and communities you support through your Lenten gifts to CRS Rice Bowl.

We will collect your CRS Rice Bowls on Friday, March 31st, so stay tuned to learn more.

Thank you for participating in CRS Rice Bowl with your family.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Willi

P.S. Did you know that CRS Rice Bowl has a web page specifically for families? Visit ***crsricebowl.org/families*** *for activities that will help your family grow in our Catholic faith this Lenten season.*

CRS Rice Bowl is sponsored by Catholic Relief Services, the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States. CRS is motivated by the example of Jesus Christ to assist poor and suffering people in more than 100 countries, without regard to race, religion or nationality.

crsricebowl.org
crsplatodearroz.org

Families of Visitation Academy,

Have you ever dreamed of being a patron of the arts? Our Drama Club needs patrons to help us purchase costumes, sets, and props for our spring show.

This year's show, "The Snow White Variety Show", is a comedy involving many of your children as cast or crew. Please consider making a donation to help us. All patrons will be acknowledged in the show's playbill.

Platinum Patron	**$100 donation**
Gold Patron	**$50 donation**
Silver Patron	**$25 donation**

Thank you as always for your continued prayers and support.

EASTER BASKET RAFFLE

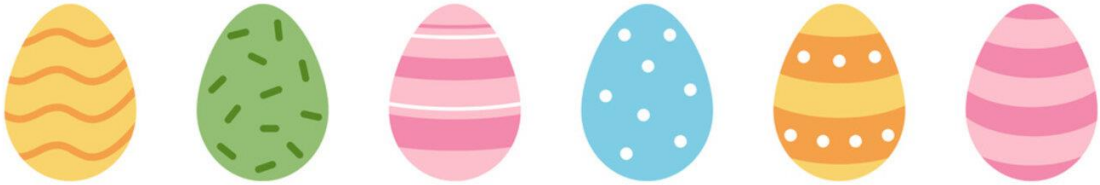
TO BENEFIT OUR "Drama Club!"

Basket includes: $25 Visa gift card and Easter goodies!

$5 per raffle! Receive a N.U.T. (No Uniform Today) pass with every raffle purchased to be used on Tuesday, March 21st.

Raffle winner will be pulled on 03/21/23

Send $5 in an envelope to the attention of Mrs. Flager c/o Easter Basket Raffle.



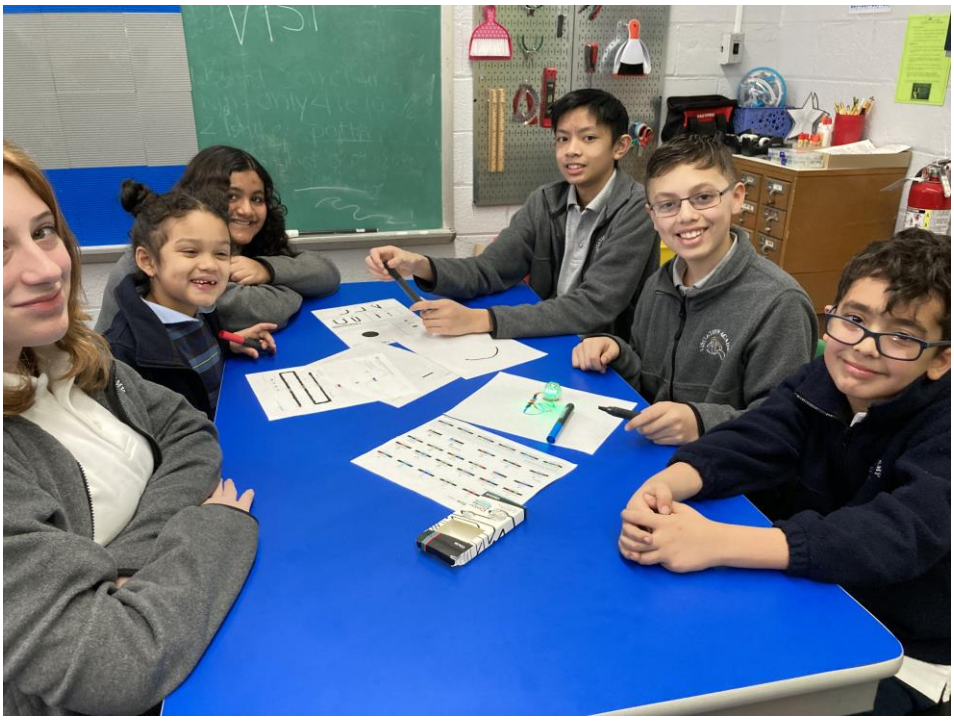
Learning is Fun in the Makerspace!

3rd Grade students worked cooperatively in groups using Squishy Circuits. They learned that Playdoh conducts electricity. Each group member took turns attaching a battery back, LEDs, propellers and sound components to the Playdoh. They needed to identify the positive and negative wires and connect them correctly so the electricity could flow from the battery pack to the components on the Playdoh to make the circuit work.

PreK students used Playdoh and popsicle sticks in MakerSpace to create letters, words and shapes!

<u>6th Grade students worked with their Kindergarten prayer partners</u> using Squishy Circuits!
The 6th graders taught Kindergarten how Playdoh conducts electricity and how to attach components to the Playdoh to create a circuit. They created designs that light up, make sound, and made a propeller spin!

<u>7th Grade students worked with their First Grade prayer partners</u> using Ozobot! 7th Graders taught the first graders how to program the tiny robot by drawing color codes to make it spin, dance and speed up!



<u>8th Grade students worked with 2nd graders</u> to help them create a paper circuit Robot light-up card. They worked together to apply copper tape, a coin cell battery, and an LED to create the card and even named their robots!

RAISE DAYS

MAR 2 - 3

Earn with big bonuses on eGift cards and reloaded gift cards

Keep your earning for 2023 going strong with the first Raise Days of the year.

Get a Sneak Peek of all Raise Days bonuses

Exclusively in the RaiseRight mobile app, Wednesday, March 1

"I love these big bonus days. We're stocking up for spring break and our upcoming home projects. It makes earning so easy."

- *Chris T.*

How to participate

Already have a RaiseRight participant account?

View and shop bonuses March 2 - 3 on the RaiseRight mobile app or at **RaiseRight.com.**

Don't have an account yet?

Follow the easy steps to get started at **RaiseRight.com/m/StartEarning**.
Check with your program coordinator to get your organization's unique enrollment code.

RaiseRight.

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

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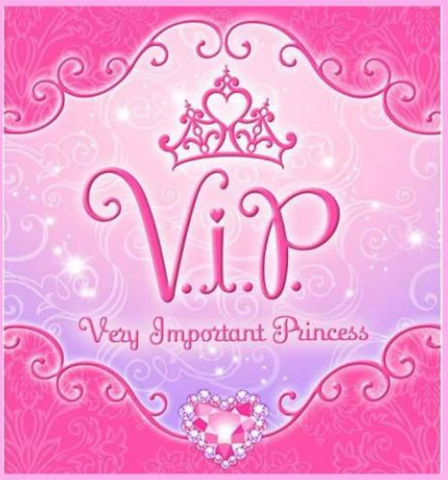
The OLV Father's Club Presents

Very Important Princess

Father / Daughter Dance

April 29, 2023



- **Professional DJ w/Lightshow**
- **Photobooth**
- **Catered Hot Buffet Dinner**
- **Desserts**
- **Party Give-Aways**

Visitation Academy

...we are called to act justly, to love tenderly, to walk humbly with our God.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to make lasting memories with your little girl(s).

Join us as we transform the OLV gymnasium into a magical dinner dance filled with music, lights, and fun!

We'll have a star-studded, VIP (Very Important Princess) red carpet entrance for your 'star' to arrive on, party give-aways, and more!

Please RSVP by March 31, 2023

Tickets are PRICELESS!!

Open to Visitation Students Only

See website for details – Dads, Grandpas and Father-Figures Welcome!

Scan QR Code to Purchase Tickets

Or Visit

http://visitationacademyparamus.org/fathers-club

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Class information

School Name: **VISITATION ACADEMY**

Dates: **03/16, 03/23, 03/30, 04/20, 04/27**
05/04, 05/11, 05/18, 05/25, 06/01

NO CLASS ON: **04/06, 04/13**

Class Day and Time: **Thursday, 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

Total # of Classes: **10 weeks**

Location: **School Campus**

Price: **$220**

Open to Grades 1st to 6th

Limited Spaces Available

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PROGRAM INFORMATION

ZINEniac is a STEAM after school academic enrichment program.
Scholars create a character and earn rewards based on their accomplishments.
Activities include writing stories, exploring science, working with technology, creating works of art, & dueling utilizing mathematical principles to win.
Scholars become published authors & their characters legendary as trading cards!

THE CHALLENGE

Play your part in the ZINEniac League by creating your own character and becoming the ultimate champion! Earn cool rewards, learn wicked strategies and secrets, and meet new friends as you start your journey to be Master of the ZINEniac Universe. Join in awesome S.T.E.A.M. activities to build up your character's abilities and master the game. What will be your destiny?

Science
Technology
English
Arts
Mathematics

Dates:
03/13, 03/20, 03/27, 04/03,
04/10, 04/17, 04/24, 05/01

Day: Mondays **Length:** 8 weeks

Time: 3pm - 4:30pm **Price:** $170

Location: Visitation Academy

Open to Grades: 2nd - 8th
Limited Spaces Available

CONTACT US TO REGISTER

(201) 362- 3462
Text or Call
ZINEniac@gmail.com

ZINENIAC
After School Program

Are you looking for an enriching S.T.E.A.M. program for your child?

www.ZINEniac.com

Date Change: School is closed April 10th.
Make-up class will be scheduled.