



e-News Update

Email Update

January 21, 2010

In Brief:

- Helping Haiti
- Debut of the Wolf!
- Now Hiring: Teacher Recruitment Day; Bus Drivers Needed.
- JP In the News
- Coming Soon: "A Midsummer Night's Dream"
- El Dia de los Tres Reyes
- Epiphany Party
- Successful Middle School Band Day
- The Way of Beauty
- 40 Days for Life Speaker
- Concession Stand Needs YOU!
- Service Club helps at AIDS hospice
- Options Information Night – February 8
- Admissions Update and Tour Schedule
- E-News Name Contest
- Please Forward e-News!

Helping the People of Haiti

We have found a way to assist the suffering people of Haiti. Students, faculty, staff, and friends are asked to bring in cases of bottled water (not individual plastic bottles), which will be sent directly to Haiti by the organization Food for the Poor. The water can be brought to the main office. Your timely participation is greatly appreciated. Please remember the survivors and the departed in your prayers.

Debut of the JP Wolf!

Student body President, **Matt Haskell**, shoots hoops with new the JP wolf mascot. Go Wolves!



Now Hiring: Teachers and Bus Drivers Wanted!



JP the Great continues to grow! The process for hiring new teachers for next year has begun and we will host our third annual **Teacher Recruitment Day** on Saturday, February 6, 2010 from 10am – 12:00pm. Ideal candidates will have teaching experience, be a practicing Catholic, have experience with using today's technology, able to integrate bioethics into the curriculum and even able to coach or sponsor co-curricular activities. All interested

candidates are encouraged to attend the Teacher Recruitment Day, or to send a cover letter and resume to search.committee@jpthegreat.org.

Please help us grow our exceptional faculty by passing this announcement along to teachers you believe would be a good fit at JP!

Contact Us

jpthegreat.org

info@jpthegreat.org

Ph: 703.445.0300

Fax: 703.445.0301

Office Hours:

M-F: 7:30am – 3:30pm

We also have immediate openings for bus drivers. Qualified part-time bus drivers with a CDL license are encouraged to apply today! Flexible hours with morning, afternoon, or weekend shifts. For more information on the bus driver positions, please contact John Picciano at 703-445-0244 or john.picciano@jpthegreat.org.

JP the Great in the News

Click on the links below to see where we've appeared in the news recently!

All-Area Football Team

News and Messenger / InsideNoVA.com – December 24, 2009

Congratulations to **Mario Genova, Logan Sullivan, Aidan McNulty, and Peter Subacz!**

Virginia school fulfills the need for bioethics at an earlier age

Our Sunday Visitor – January 24, 2010; page 6

Coming Soon: A Midsummer Night's Dream

The JP the Great Drama Club will present Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* on Friday, February 5th, 2010 at 7:00 PM in the theater. Tickets are \$5. The evening will be MAGICAL! Plan to attend!

In the Classroom: El Dia de los Tres Reyes

On January 6, the Spanish 1 classes celebrated Three Kings Day or *El Día de los Tres Reyes*. Part feast, and part lesson, the students learned about the history of the holy day, and the traditions and activities in some Latino countries. Different



students dressed as the Three Wise Men and narrated a story from the book *Three Kings Day, a celebration at Christmastime* by Diane Hoyt-Goldsmith. Following this, the students had a discussion where they contrasted

the American Christmas traditions with those of people from Hispanic countries. While the students ate some refreshments, they had the opportunity to watch the video *Queridos Reyes Magos* which presents vividly the feast day in Puerto Rico. According to an essay by **Skye Johnson, Class of 2013**, "There are many activities that take place on 'El dia de los Reyes', including "*parranda*" which is singing from door to door until the owner of the house comes outside and offers them food and something to drink. And as for the kids, the night of January 5th, they put grass or a cup of water under their beds to feed the camels of the three Wisemen, metaphorically of course! But before any celebrations begin, many Catholics go to Mass because it is a Holy Day of Obligation."

Epiphany Party and Collection



On January 5th, Pope John Paul the Great students took a break from their exams to celebrate the feast of the Epiphany with an Epiphany party. Students brought in baby items to be donated to St. Margaret of Cortona Transitional Residences, which provides temporary housing to homeless families previously staying at an emergency shelter. These gifts were put under a Christmas tree next to a small Nativity scene, symbolizing gifts being brought to the Christ child at the Epiphany. In this picture, students are gathering the gifts so they could be delivered to St. Margaret of Cortona Transitional Residences.

Middle School Band Day Strikes a High Note!



On Saturday, January 9, 2010, twenty-five middle school students from around the Diocese joined the JP Wolf Band for a day of music. In addition to sight-reading and later performing a large number of pieces, the students were joined by several music teachers, two from the "President's Own" Marine Band, for small group lessons. JP parents provided a wonderful dinner after the concert. The day was a huge success for both increasing musical ability of all students as well as providing middle school students a glimpse into the JP High School Band program.



The Way of Beauty

By invitation of JP art department chair, Mr. Bill O'Connor, Professor David Clayton of St. Thomas More College visited JP the Great to present a lecture to faculty on Sacred Beauty. Mr. Clayton is an Englishman who was trained in Oxford and



Florence and also has a master's degree in Engineering. He took up the position of Artist-in-Residence at Thomas More College of Liberal Arts, Merrimack, New Hampshire. Prior to moving to the US he taught at the Maryvale Institute, Birmingham, England, where was part of the team that designed their art-theory course, Art, Inspiration and Beauty from a Catholic Perspective. As an artist his work includes commissions for the London Oratory, Pluscarden Monastery in Scotland, and the Maryvale Institute. He is also on the board of the [Foundation for Sacred Arts](#). It was a blessing to have Mr. Clayton with us. Our thanks for his time and inspiration!

40 Days for Life Founder Meets with JP Students

On January 15, 2010, Mr. David Bereit, founder of the 40 Days For Life movement, visited JP the Great. During a brown-bag lunch meeting, Mr. Bereit addressed members of the Life Savers pro-life club with an inspirational overview of pro-life



efforts in America. Then, in a special assembly in front of the entire student body, Mr. Bereit continued to share his insights and experiences. 40 Days For Life started in 2004

as members of a small town in Texas struggled with how best to help reduce abortion in their area, and today thousands in more than 156 cities participate in the prayerful effort. They are dedicated to prayer, fasting and peaceful witnessing to the sanctity of human life.



Concessions Needs YOU!

Did you know that a profitable concessions operation helps to fund sports, music, and other clubs and activities at JP? Parents and JP supporters, your help is needed now to keep the concession stand open on a regular basis, including after school, at games, and at other events. Please email Gerry Hoffman (g-phoffmann@comcast.net) for more information or with your questions. No experience necessary! It's fun and an important service to the students and JP! [click here for more details.](#)



It's fun and an important service to the students and JP! [click here for more details.](#)

Service Club helps at AIDS Hospice

Submitted by JP students Laura Boak and Mariah Naegle: "Have you ever washed clothes by hand? And not had the convenience of a dryer? This is the daily experience of the Missionaries of Charity at the Gift of Peace AIDS Hospice in Washington, D.C. On Saturday, January 16, the JP Service Club had the opportunity to participate in the work of these Sisters. Not only did volunteers do laundry and clean, but also spent time with the residents. Students played cards (and lost!), played the piano, and prayed with the people at the hospice. One student even assisted a patient in writing a letter to her son. The outing concluded with the Mass in the upstairs chapel, offered by the Service Club's leader and JP Chaplain, Fr. Zuberbueler. Altogether, the experience was a powerful and fruitful way to spend a Saturday morning."

Options Program Information Night

**Join us Tuesday, February 8 at 6:30 p.m.
to learn about this unique special education program**

Pope John Paul the Great Catholic High School is proud to offer the *Options Program*. The Options Program provides the opportunity for students with cognitive disabilities and/or significant learning disabilities who cannot access the general curriculum to grow socially, spiritually, and academically alongside their peers in a Catholic environment. The program focuses on academic as well as vocational skills, with each student's education plan being highly



individualized. A primary goal for each student is to be as fully integrated as possible into the total life of the school community.

We are currently accepting applications for the 2010-2011 school year. If you are interested in attending the informational meeting please RSVP to Miss Megan Battle, Director of Special Services: (703) 445-0235 or megan.battle@jpthegreat.org

Admissions Update / New Tours Scheduled

Applications are still being accepted for the 2010-2011 academic year. All rising 9th, 10th and 11th graders are encouraged to apply today. Please visit the **Admissions** page of our web site for important details, dates, and to access our on-line application. ****Please Note: We welcome applications after the deadline, though they will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis.***

Important Dates:

January 25, 2010:	Application deadline*
February 26, 2010:	Admissions decisions mailed to applicants
March 11, 2010:	Registration Night from 6 – 7:30pm
March 20, 2010:	Diocesan Registration Deadline

Tours of JP the Great:

If you've not yet seen our beautiful campus, or have questions about admission to JP, please join us for a tour! Current dates include:

- Tuesday, January 26: 2:50pm Mass followed by 3:15pm tour
- Tuesday, February 2: 2:50pm Mass followed by 3:15pm tour
- Thursday, February 4: 3:00pm tour
- Friday, February 5: 1:00pm tour, followed by 1:50pm pep rally. (You must come to the tour if you'd like to attend the pep rally.)
- Friday, February 5: 5:45pm tour (prior to the 7pm performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.)

JP Parents: Powerschool Reminder

Families with students currently enrolled at JP the Great are reminded to check your Powerschool account regularly! Links to Powerschool (and Moodle) are now posted on the home page of www.jpthegreat.org. Each day important announcements are added to the Daily Bulletin. As a reminder, your Username is *FirstName.LastName* (of student). You will also need your personalized password. This is your official source of communication with the school.

A New Year Calls for a New Name for e-News

Let's take e-News to the next level by giving it a name that better reflects who we are at JP the Great! All ideas are welcome! Please e-mail your ideas to: info@jpthegreat.org and be sure to put "e-News Name Contest" in the subject box, and include your name and contact info in the message. The winner will be acknowledged in a future issue when the new name is announced!

Please Forward e-News!

Thank you for helping us share the good news about our school! (Those with AOL e-mail accounts: please mark us as "safe" so e-News will be delivered to your in-box!)