



Our Lady of Grace School Alumni & Friends Newsletter

www.olgchicago.org

2014-2015 Annual Report

Fall 2015

You were made to make a difference.

OLG alumni and friends donated a total of **\$63,512** to the 2014-15 Annual Fund! Not only did your donations help us **say yes** to more families, your continued support made the building of the **OLG playground** a reality! Thank you!

Your generosity allows for the children of Our Lady of Grace School to receive an **award-winning education** in a safe and faith-centered environment.

OLG received the **Polk Bros & Big Shoulders Fund Leadership Award** for the 3rd year in a row in recognition of our curriculum and commitment to families.

We thank you for your dedication and the **positive impact** you have on the lives of our students and their families.

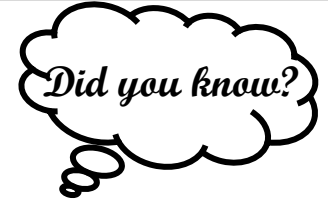
You make the difference!



With 27 graduating students, the class of 2015 is now representing Our Lady of Grace School in high schools such as St. Patrick High School, St. Josephinum, Holy Trinity, Depaul College Prep and Lane Tech



Your **continued commitment** to providing OLG students with a **quality playground** was demonstrated this past Spring when your efforts were brought to life.



Your donations to the **Tuition Assistance Fund** allowed us to say yes to more families, thereby **increasing enrollment** for the 2015-2016 school year by **9 %**

Polk Bros & Big Shoulders
Leadership Award Winners
2004, 2008, 2010,
2012, 2013 and 2014



Thanks!

~A Special Recognition~

We would like to thank all who made a donation in memory of a loved one.

Memorial Donations
2014-2015

Anthony & Phyllis Dina
Caroline V. Kokkelenberg
David Kania '75 and Mary Kania '76
Dennis Martin Kelley
Dolores Gorski
Domenica & Arthur Riffer
Edward Bartmann
Francis W. McLean
Gerard & Adeline Deinzer

J. Walter & Irene Gewartowski
John B. Zeller
John P. Lyons '56
Kevin Patrick Kelley
Lavern & Henry DeBacker
McCann Family
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Draper
Mrs. Mildred Kraft
Norbert Gorski

Pamela A. Heider
Patrick John Savage
Phyllis Luczak Owen '56
Tom and Fran Mathis
Viola Kerrigan Lally '25
Walter and Phylis Sowa
Wanda and Charles Thomas

YOU DID IT!



The OLG Playground Inauguration was held on April 18, 2015. We had parent volunteers, board members and friends help us rake in woodchips in the early morning to provide students with a



secure play area. We then joined together for the Blessing of the Playground where Fr. George Schopp led the ceremony.

The playground was made possible by the generous donations of 160 donors and over \$10,000 in donations from our alumni and friends.

Thank you.

Summer Happenings

A group of five students from OLG went to a summer learning camp in **Brush Creek Ranch** in Wyoming with our 7th grade teacher, Mrs. Williams. The students enjoyed academic and social enrichment activities.



This was possible through the generosity of Bruce and Beth White, patrons of **Big Shoulders Fund**, a non profit organization dedicated to supporting Catholic schools in the neediest communities of Chicago.



"Do The Write Thing"

Our 8th grade students participated in the "Do the Write Thing" statewide essay contest. Among the 100 finalists who were honored at an awards ceremony were eight students from OLG! Furthermore, **2 of our students were in the top 10!**

Abner, now a 7th grade student, was chosen as one of the 12 sixth grade finalists in the **State of Illinois in the Illinois Fatherhood Essay Contest**. He was recognized at a White Sox game!

Be a superhero to a child and make the difference!

I wish to make a tax-deductible gift to Our Lady of Grace!

Enclosed is my gift of \$_____ to the 2015-16 Annual Fund!

Choose the options that best fit your inner superhero!

Name — How do you want to be addressed?

- Use your **Superman**-like might to bridge the gap in education. Give life-changing education by donating to the **Tuition Assistance Fund**.
- In the spirit of **Wonder Woman**, protect the innocents. Give to the **General Service Fund** and cover the books & technology fee for students. A \$200 donation covers the fee for one student for one year.
- Team up with a student** and make a big **Batman and Robin**-styled bam! A \$4,100 donation will cover the student's tuition for one year.
- Use your **Spidey sense** and protect the playground. Give to the Playground Fund so that we can continue to upgrade and maintain a safe play area.
- Keep your true identity secret. You can make **anonymous** gifts to OLG.

Maiden Name and/or Class Year



**WHAT
KIND OF
SUPERHERO
ARE YOU?**

Street Address

City, State and Zip Code

Phone

Email

Subscribe me to the OLG Alumni e-News!

Introducing OLG's newest members!

Ms. Andrea Heniff received her BA in Early Childhood Education from the University of Dayton in Ohio. This is her first year teaching Kindergarten at OLG. When she is not busy teaching, she likes to spend time with her family and friends, shop and read. Her favorite foods are pizza and cookies and she is a fan of the Chicago Bears, Cubs and Notre Dame Football.

Ms. Andrea Johnson attended the University of Missouri- Columbia where she received her Bachelors in Secondary Education. This is her first year being the 8th grade homeroom teacher and the 7th grade math and science teacher. She previously taught at Saint Clement before joining the OLG family. In her free time, she enjoys running, reading and spending time outdoors. Her favorite food is tomatoes and she is a fan of the Saint Louis Cardinals.

Mr. Ramon Goggins completed his Masters in Education from the National-Louis University. This is his first full year being the 6th grade homeroom teacher as well as the Language Arts & Social Studies 5th grade teacher. Mr. Goggins is the foster dad to 3 young boys, ages 3, 4 and 11. When he is not busy keeping up with his sons, he likes to play guitar, read and cook. He loves all types of seafood and is a fan of the

Mrs. Liz Many received her BA in Biology and MA in Elementary Education from St. Xavier University where she also played basketball on an athletic scholarship. This is her first year being the 5th grade homeroom teacher and teaching math and science to 6th grade at OLG. She is originally from Michigan which is where she got married this past summer. She likes to spend time with her family, coach, eat pizza and cheer on the Michigan State Men's Basketball team.



Our work is only possible thanks to dedicated teachers, staff members, Dominican Sisters, members of the parish, volunteers, and supporters like you!



Farewell and Thank You.

With heavy hearts we said goodbye to three wonderful teachers. Mrs. Wells who taught Kindergarten for 17 years, retired and is now living in Florida with her husband. Mrs. Sekoguchi, our 8th grade teacher for 12 years, is now teaching closer to her home in Streamwood, IL. Although our fifth grade teacher Mr. Meneghini was only with us for a year, he left big shoes to fill. He is now back in school furthering his education. Sixth grade teacher, Sr. Myra, retired last year and is now living at the Dominican Sisters' Motherhouse in Springfield. We wish you all many blessings and thank you for your commitment to the children of OLG throughout the years.

Where are they now?



Would you like us to share your story in our newsletters and website?

Complete the OLG Alumni Survey (if you haven't already) and send us your photo to jmoran@olgchicago.org

Visit <http://bit.ly/OLGAlumni> for more information and to access the survey.

We would love to hear from you!

OLG Upcoming Reunions !!

Class of 1965 - 50th Class Reunion - November 2015

Class of 1986 - 30th Class Reunion - May 2016

For more information visit <http://bit.ly/OLGReunions> or contact Jennifer Moran at 773-384-2177 or by sending a message to jmoran@olgchicago.org





Our Lady of Grace School

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An education that
opens doors and
sets a foundation
for life.

Your 2014-2015 Annual Report is here!

**Dedication of School Library
Andrea Grabowski
OLG Librarian from 1971-2013**

"One hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the type of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove, but the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child."

Our Lady of Grace dedicated the school library to OLG alumna, donor and librarian, Andrea Grabowski '51 on January 27, 2015.

Andrea dedicated herself to her children, her family, her friends, her coworkers, her parish and OLG students. We were blessed with her life and company.

