



Volume I Number VI

OLMatters

“To Educate the whole person for global understanding”



Educate the whole
person for global
understanding!

Rio de Janeiro – April 2006

SPIRIT, SEMINARS AND SUSPENSIONS

Editorial – *John J. Majka*

Over 25% of the expected high school student body decided to be absent from part or all of the *Science, Technology and Humanities Week* conferences. Twenty-nine bi-lingual suspension notices were sent at the speed of e-mail to the offending students’ parents.

The controversial action caused an uproar of righteous indignation by some students and the apparent consternation of some teachers and staff. Some students waited to enter class the following Monday until they were heard and some answer given them by Ms. Claire Collins, the Supervisor.

Most importantly, however, a clear message was sent out to the OLM Community: we are a center for learning with the mission toward global understanding. We take the spirit of that mission seriously.

For OLM the bi-annual *Science, Technology and Humanities Week* symbolizes the school’s commitment to teaching more than books, to going beyond the limitations of the school’s teachers, classrooms, labs, recreational facilities, library and chapel for learning experiences.

OLM reached out to take advantage of professionals who dedicate themselves to bettering the world and give themselves generously to get out their message or their cause, in the hope of preparing the next generation to accept the responsibility for a new standard, for higher objectives. The late Pope John Paul II untiringly called the youth of this age to be “artisans of a new civilization of love”.

The school is too expensive for all of us-- parents, students, teachers and staff-- not to be held into account as stewards of all the resources we have. We have to learn from each other and teach each other as much as possible with the means at our disposal. OLM will do whatever it takes to fulfill its mission.

The suspensions were a strong, forceful cry for the school’s full program to be taken seriously by its entire community. Our Lady of Mercy School was an option taken at registration time by parents for their children. From that point on the programs are not optional and deliberately absenting oneself should be an exceptional, profoundly considered decision. After all, our mission is serious, right?

Congratulations to Senior *Maria Clara Antero* for her acceptance to the best Medical School in the world: Johns Hopkins University! People at Johns Hopkins are honored to have you study there.

Second Graders Around The



World

Adele Nader and Ana Carolina Machado('17)

Second Graders were introduced to research through the “Countries Project”. For a month they “traveled” around the world and shared important information with their peers. To culminate the unit, each group prepared a successful presentation for their parents and classmates. It sure was a fun and “tasty” experience, since goodies from the countries researched were served after each presentation!

In Second Grade we learn a lot. Sometimes we play. We also do many projects. We had fun doing the “Countries Project”.

It was very nice!

We hope we have more projects soon!

Science, Technology and Humanities Week at Our Lady of Mercy School

Ms. Claire Collins

Our Lady of Mercy High School sponsored its fourth *Science, Technology, and Humanities Week* between March 20 and March 22 of this year. Ms. Claire Collins, the Middle and High School Academic Supervisor, organized and hosted the event. Experts at the top of their careers in the areas of Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Music, and Community Service came together to share their knowledge with the High School students.

Among the distinguished guests were:

- Dr. Mario Moscatelli, biologist and specialist on ecological questions of the city of Rio de Janeiro;
- André Trigueiro, renowned journalist, author, and creator of “environmental journalism”;
- João Carlos Farias da Rocha, coordinator of the Brazilian Institute for Defense of the Rights of the Physically and Mentally Challenged;
- Father Edmund Leising OMI, Recipient of the Award, “Outstanding Citizen of Rio de Janeiro”, founder and creator of international ONG’s, Associations, and Foundations that work to teach the impoverished how to build up their own communities;
- Marcelo Camera Fernandes Pinto, the “other OLM Music Teacher”, philosopher, mathematician, computer specialist, and counselor;
- Dr. Henrique Lins de Barros, famous physicist and professor of the Brazilian Center of Studies in Physics who explained the phenomena of the development of the airplane and the work of Albert Santos Dumont.

OLM’s *Science, Technology, and Humanities Week* was a three-day event held in the main auditorium of the Colégio Brasileiro de Cirurgiões in

Botafoogo. It was a pleasure and an honor for the school to introduce the High School students to outstanding professionals who were willing to share what they know. It is a rich enhancement of the education Our Lady of Mercy School offers; the event is the only one of its kind in the city of Rio de Janeiro. OLM takes pride in being a vanguard in creating an event to publicly address different viewpoints of current crucial issues which affect the quality of life in Brazil and worldwide.

Gente que Faz Diferença!

Jornal “O Globo”



Os jornalistas Jason Vogel e Adriana Barsotti entregam o prêmio para Pauê, campeão mundial de triatlo para biamputados.

Welcome **Ms. Camila Romulo** as an Administrative Assistant in the Middle and High School Supervision Office.

SPELLING BEE – March 24, 2006

Beginning

Mr. John Majka

4th Grade **Champion:** Fabrício Dorin da Costa

5th Grade **Champion:** Larissa Freire

6th Grade **Co-Champions:** Bernardo Marques & Amanda Esteves

Intermediate

7th Grade: Amanda Brasil Leigh - **3rd Place**

8th Grade: Kim Colin Vieira Gomes - **Champion**

9th Grade: Pedro Henrique Galhego – **2nd Place**

Advanced

10th Grade: Marina Sodr  – **2nd Place**

11th Grade: Georgina Gomide - **Champion**

Editor’s note: upon being impressed by the respectful attitude of certain students during the monthly school Masses, especially the non-Catholics, I asked the author to write his thoughts and he graciously accepted. (*Ms. Xavier*)

Why Respect the Catholic Church

Alex Saltz ('07)

Respect is a basic attitude that any citizen should assume in his/her daily life. In regard to participation in church duties, this rule also applies. As a member of a Jewish family, I am not “obliged” to participate in Mass and to perform liturgical gestures. As a believer in sciences, I do not believe in transubstantiation or in the presence of God, for there is no God in my opinion. Although I was born into a Jewish family, I didn't chose to be Jewish and so I don't adopt the Jewish culture in my daily life. Even though I have absolutely no links to the Catholic religion, I assume a respectful manner when in church or when in any religious site be it Jewish, Islam, Protestant, or any other.

For me, respect is an essential foundation of a civilized world. I see many of our students performing these liturgical gestures and I cannot see myself performing them, but still I understand our differences and respect their choices. It is true that many of the mysteries behind faith will never be clear to me since I have none and maybe that is why I respect church itself. We read in the newspaper everyday about those church gatherings where hundreds of men and women are cured from diseases that physicians could not cure. Of course some are cured by the placebo effect but most really do receive a blessing from a greater force that, at least until now, no science can explain.

And so, I believe that the mystical side of faith and the fact that in a civilized world each human being understands his/her neighbors are good reasons to respect the Catholic Church, its followers, and its ceremonies.

Is There Chocolate in Heaven?

John J. Majka

Horatio, I'm dead.

I see my whole life before me, from conception to death, on a 360° screen. I don't have to turn around nor is it spinning before me: it just is, before me and within me.

I'm in the circle of my life, eternally immersed in my life and yet outside the circle, objectively enjoying it-not judging, just being a part of it and apart from it, liking what I see, who I am.

I not only watch the scenes of my life but also the alternatives to what happened, had I made other possible choices or taken other immediately realizable decisions. I look with love, and recognize the love in my life that I didn't always see before.

Before me I watch on as everything I should have done, or could have done, looms before me, without accusation or blame. No regrets, no disappointments, no shame.

I embrace whoever and whatever hurt me. No resentments, no bitterness, no fear, no residual anger. I look on those I hurt and their love forgives me. Automatically we are healed, a fast-forward to harmony and integration, without skipping anything, nor stopping at any point to change or excuse something.

There are no memories, no vestiges and no hopes, no expectations either. What happened, happened. The future is now.

I'm dead but bathed in the Light that creates me. I'm dead but the breath of the Word calls me onward. I'm dead but, as the Anointed One before me, on the wings of the Spirit I have passed over from life to **Life**.

Now... forever now... all is love... all is alive... all is all...all is well.

Oração da criança com necessidades especiais

Extraído da publicação "Informaciones para padres de niños y jóvenes con necesidades especiales" - Serrano, J.A.

Bem aventurados os que compreendem o meu estranho passo ao caminhar.

Bem aventurados os que compreendem que, ainda que os meus olhos brilhem, minha mente é lenta.

Bem aventurados os que olham e não vêem a comida que eu deixo cair fora do prato.

Bem aventurados os que, com um sorriso nos lábios, me estimulam a tentar mais uma vez.

Bem aventurados os que nunca me lembram que hoje fiz a mesma pergunta duas vezes.

Bem aventurados os que compreendem que me é difícil converter em palavras meus pensamentos.

Bem aventurados os que escutam, pois eu também tenho algo a dizer.

Bem aventurados os que sabem o que sente o meu coração, embora não o possa expressar.

Bem aventurados os que me amam como sou, tão somente como sou, e não como eles gostariam que eu fosse.

Livro falado para cegos

Ms. Xavier

A casa de Rui Barbosa, em Botafogo, oferece, a partir de abril, a oficina do Livro Falado. O projeto Livro Falado, em que fitas cassetes são gravadas por voluntários, permite que crianças com deficiências visuais tenham a chance de conhecer a obra de autores nacionais como Ziraldo, Érico Veríssimo e Ana Maria Machado, entre outros. Maiores informações: 2568-5350 e 3106-3250 ou projetolivrofalado@gmail.com

Museu de alta tecnologia para a Língua Portuguesa

Ms. Xavier

Geograficamente distantes, os oito países em que se fala o português — Portugal, Angola, Moçambique, São Tomé e Príncipe, Guiné Bissau, Cabo Verde e Timor Leste, além do Brasil — estão agora mais próximos. Instalado no prédio da plataforma de trens da Estação da Luz, no Centro de São Paulo, o Museu da Língua Portuguesa (primeiro museu de idioma do mundo) apresenta à população alta tecnologia a serviço do idioma.

Vamos ao Teatro?

Ms. Xavier

A companhia mineira Ekilibrio Cia. apresenta-se pela primeira vez no Rio de Janeiro. Entre os bailarinos dos espetáculos "Sente-se" e "SEM nOME" estão portadores de deficiência mental, visual, auditiva e motora. O espetáculo mostra que as diferenças contribuem, e que, na sociedade, todas as pessoas têm que estar juntas. "Sente-se" tem como principal elemento coreográfico a cadeira e é uma pesquisa sobre o sentir e o sentar. Já "SEM nOME" é um estudo sobre o que o nome representa na sociedade, já que acabamos nos transformando em número, em código.

10th Grade & First Humor Festival of Rio de Janeiro

Ms. Xavier

George Sauma Neto won the 1st prize for the best scene among 32 participants. Congratulations!

ÁGUA – Antes de abrir a torneira...

Escovar os dentes por 5 minutos com a torneira aberta gasta 12 litros d'água. Caso você more em um apartamento, essa quantidade pode subir para 80 litros. Mas, se você fechar a torneira enquanto escova os dentes, vai gastar só 1 litro de água.

Você sabia?

Homework on line at www.colegio24horas.com.br

Resolução da equação Matemática e o Amor

$(AM + BC) \cdot X = AM$ $(X + BOC) - BCTE$	Fazendo mmc no 2º membro e eliminando os denominadores.
$AMX + BCX = AMX + AMBOC - BCTE$	Aplicando a propriedade distributiva
$BCX = AMX - AMX + BC(AMO - TE)$	Fator comum
$BCX = BC(AMO - TE)$	Isolando o X e simplificando
$X = AMO - TE$	

“?Abas Spañol?”



www.todohistorietas.com.ar/tiras2.htm



propriedade de Joaquim Salvador Lavado (Quino)

Quote of the Month!

To Ms. Claire Collins

“... So you think you can tell ME what to do?
You are NOT my mother! THANK GOD you are NOT MY MOTHER!...” - By a Senior BMOG

Reafirmando nosso compromisso com o Fórum PSTC

Rodolfo Porto D’Ave

O PSTC é formado por todos os membros do corpo docente e discente da OLM. Anualmente, são eleitos Pais e Mães representantes de todas as turmas. Esse Grupo de Representantes acompanha as operações da Escola no que diz respeito à qualidade dos serviços prestados, acomodações, custos de mensalidades e custos em geral, investimentos, soluções acadêmicas, interlocuções com as Coordenações e Superintendência e promove e participa em eventos de integração da Comunidade docente e discente da Escola. Mensalmente há reuniões quando são debatidos temas de interesse de Pais, Alunos e Professores, aspectos didáticos e comportamentais e feitas comunicações relevantes da Superintendência da Escola. Fundamentalmente o PSTC é um Fórum onde todos os Pais podem expressar suas dúvidas e expor suas demandas.

Há um endereço pstc@olmrio.com para o qual podem ser dirigidas dúvidas de caráter mais geral e os Representantes estarão à disposição, com seus e-mails pessoais, para discutir idéias mais específicas em prol de sua Turma. O PSTC tem funções distintas e interessantes a cada série de seus filhos na Escola:

O PSTC na Pré-escola: Tem um acentuado papel importante de ser mais um local físico para inter-relação e engajamento social dos Pais de alunos. Promove isso em conjunto com as reuniões de entrega de Avaliações e com os dias dos Pais e das Mães e com eventos sociais na Escola.

O PSTC do Elementary ao Middle: Serve como um fórum onde Pais, Professores, Administradores e outros discutem maneiras de promover educação de qualidade, expandir e incentivar as artes, encorajar o envolvimento dos Pais, sugestões e melhorias nas instalações e facilidades e serve como local para discussão sobre temas de interesse geral como saúde (abuso de drogas, DSTs, gravidez indesejada) e hábitos de educação social.

PSTC no High School: Deve ser um facilitador em dar aos jovens a oportunidade de desenvolvimento de liderança, aprendizagem do processo legislativo, trabalho em conjunto, aumento da auto-estima, e incentivar a contribuição para com a Escola. Deve ser o canal sempre aberto para discussão das escolhas dos jovens quanto ao vestibular, ENEM, SAT. Para os Pais é a oportunidade de conhecer melhor a juventude e seus hábitos e participar do momento importante da vida de seus filhos. O PSTC apoiará a promoção de programas que venham a desenvolver nos Pais e Alunos a consciência do alcance do potencial total de cada indivíduo. Incentiva a Escola a trazer palestrantes e cursos. Participa e incentiva os esportes e com a diversidade de cultura, etnia, crenças políticas e religiosas de nossa Comunidade aproveita a oportunidade de usufruir do melhor do não-sectarismo e do pluralismo.

Esse é o PSTC moderno e funcional e ativo que devemos ter em mente e procurar sempre.

Imagem & Palavra

Ms. Miranda



Jéssica Marrucho ('14)

Editorial Board:

Teachers: John Majka, Kátia Souza, Sandra Xavier

Students: Maria Florência Monsalve, Samantha Guimarães

Parents: Marizi Carneiro, Rodolfo Porto D’Ave