
IN *TOUCH*

Newsletter for the families and friends of Our Lady of Mount Carmel School and Parish

Fall 2000 Issue

Graduation 100 years on

Previous generations have established a number of traditions. Today, graduation activities start on Thursday mornings with the presentation of awards and honors. In a more relaxed atmosphere, with students and parents in attendance, the students sing their chosen graduation song and, of course, the school song. The service concludes with the passing of the leadership of the school to the 7th grade class during the candle ceremony.

The 7th grade parents then host a brunch for the graduates and their parents. As far back as the 1940's the graduates have been writing class histories which are now read at the brunch. They also "will" items to the lower class. Signed junior high sweatshirts are often passed down and wills have included helpful hints for 8th grade or that all important hand mirror or hair brush. The day concludes with a celebration disco for 7th and 8th grade students in the evening.

Much has changed since the Notre Dame Academy of 100 years ago but as our graduates move on to high school they remain part of the Mount Carmel family. How many will be returning with their children in years to come?

Class of 1900

On May 31, 1900, the pupils of Notre Dame Academy, Redwood City, invited parents to attend the "Conferring of Honors" for that year's graduating class. The entertainment prior to the presentation of the awards included such highlights as a recitation of "Company's Coming" by the "little boys", a play "The Battle of the Books", and a Tambourine Drill. Amongst the graduates was Miss D. Kearse whose family was instrumental in the opening of the school in 1885. Only a handful of Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur ran the academy that was soon to be renamed Our Lady of Mount Carmel and the graduation reflected the proper degree of pomp and ceremony.

On June 2, 2000 the 35 students of the graduating class sent the invitation to "Remember Us..." to their parents and parish. They were the 114th class to graduate from Our Lady of Mount Carmel in front of the 35 lay faculty and staff who now work at the school. The Graduation Mass itself is still a very formal affair. The graduates entered the church to the strains of Elgar's Pomp & Circumstance dressed in royal blue gowns. Salutatorian Tessa Crompton, greeted the attendees and Brady Sullivan (son of Ray, 1967) gave the valedictorial address. He was one of seven "next generation" Padres to graduate this year.

Congratulations to the Class of 2000, the first of the New Millennium.

A gift to the children

Joe & Valda Britschgi at Mount Carmel's centennial

On July 20, 2000 Redwood City and Mount Carmel lost one of its elder statesmen. At 97 years of age, Joe Britschgi was still very active and played an important role in the lives of Mount Carmel's younger children. Each year Uncle Joe would welcome pre-schoolers from A Kid's Place to his pumpkin patch in the fall and his welcoming yard with a constantly maintained vegetable patch made a ideal site for the spring Easter Egg Hunt as well.

Joe was born in San Francisco and moved to Redwood City as a young child when his father began the Occidental Dairy in Fair Oaks. He worked with his brothers at the dairy until 1957 when it was sold. He then went into the car repair business in which he "dabbled" until very recently.

Joe met his wife, Valda, at

Sequoia High School, from which they both graduated, when she fell in love with his cut down roadster. Joe and Valda married at Mount Carmel Church in 1928; a marriage that lasted for 64 years. Valda was always very active in the Redwood City Community while giving much time to her many grandchildren and great grandchildren. A modest list of her civic and religious accomplishments includes south county chairman for United Crusade, chairman for the Community Chest, Grand President of the Young Ladies Institute, Holy Family Guild, Catholic Social Service Auxiliary, National Council of Catholic Women and Archdiocesan representative of Veterans Administration Services at Veterans Hospital in Palo Alto.

In 1998, six years after her death the Valda Britschgi Child

Development Center was opened. Valda was a champion of children throughout her life and was a co-founder of OICW's first child development center in Palo Alto. This interest in children was also reflected in her involvement with Mount Carmel School which sons Jerry, Don and Robert attended. Today the third generation of the Britschgi family is attending Mount Carmel and this fall two new kindergarten students from the family will join the 18 others who preceded them. Also great-niece Maureen Gallagher works at A Kid's Place and sister Colleen joins the staff every year for the summer camp.

Through Valda and Joe's friendship with Sr. Mary Grace Foley, principal for many years, the seeds were planted for the Valda Britschgi Scholarship Fund set up upon her death. Throughout the last eight years the fund has continued to grow through gifts from Joe and his friends and family as they celebrated Joe's birthdays. Through their lifetimes Valda and Joe gave so much to the children of our community and their legacy to our school ensures that they can continue to give to future generations.



Spirit Festival Trophy returns to Mount Carmel

On May 21st, in soaring temperatures, at the annual Pensinsula Parish School League (PPSL) Spirit and Track Festival students of Mount Carmel excelled on the track, on the field and in spirit.

Under the leadership of parent Miriam Lacues and 7th grade teacher, Gina Bellatorre Furrer, '82, the 8th grade cheerleaders and students in grades 3 through 8 produced a perfect routine. They were rewarded by their first place in the Spirit Competition. This spirit tradition began 40 years ago and in 2000 the perpetual trophy was returned to Mount Carmel for the first time since 1987.

The celebrating continued as the track team placed 8th, receiving the award for Most Improved School for the second year in a row. The 7th grade girls also celebrated 3rd place in their division. Sports teams at Mount Carmel are now open to students who attend C.C.D. classes at Mount Carmel and St. Matthias parishes. Sport at Mount Carmel is most definitely a community event today.

Congratulations to all our students and the many volunteers who ensure that we can continue to offer our sports program to so many children.

A Stroke of Genius

As the Class of 2000 graduated they joined the rest of the children in wishing goodbye to their Art teacher of 8 years. Kathleen McKibbin has volunteered at Mount Carmel since her daughter Leah, a second generation Padre, entered Kindergarten nine years ago. In time she was teaching art in every classroom and the classrooms and corridors were filled with exciting and inspiring art work. Below is a short excerpt from her letter to the school that shows the effect that she and the school had on one another.

"When I first walked Leah onto the Mount Carmel schoolyard 9 years ago to start her first day of Kindergarten, I knew that this would be a big part of her life and to some extent of mine. However, I had no idea that by the end of those 9 years, such a huge part of me would be wrapped within those walls and how much leaving so many dear people would affect me. You have given me so many memories. Watching you grow and seeing your artwork develop has been a joy. Your enthusiasm, your gorgeous masterpieces and all those smiles and laughs along the way have filled up my heart. Thank you for such a wonderful experience."

Kathy, your gift of time and talent can never be repaid. Thank you for all that you have given to our children.



Annual Statement

The donations listed below were received during July 1, 1999 & June 30, 2000 fiscal year.

Gifts in memory/honor of loved ones are shown in bold print. All those listed are entered in our Remembrance Book and are remembered at our school liturgies.

Tuition Assistance Fund

The following gifts have been made to the Tuition Assistance Fund through the Parish School Support program:

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 Eden Gloria, '99

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Yolanda Peralta

Domenic & Molly Rossi

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 during The Today's Students
 Tomorrow's Leaders Education
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Joseph Britschgi's 97th birthday

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Gertrude Sullivan

Deceased members, Class of 1948

Aldo & Marilyn Bini, '48 Argenti
Don & Lilia Ramos, '48
Margot Casanova Wells, '48
Marylou Cattich Freeman, '48
Robert Gianuario, '48
Richard & Joan, '48, Hill
Raymond Hoffman, '48 & family
Anne Kennedy, '48
Patricia McGaffigan, '48
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Henry S. Morello, 48
Patricia Renfrew Hoffman, '48
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Virginia Unger, SND, '48
Dolores Vogl Centis, '48

Deceased members, Class of 1949

Mary Bozzo Martin, '49
Ann Diedricks De Santis, '49
Raymond Facciano, '49
Katherine Fox Davinroy, '49
Robert Gaughran, '49
Timothy Goode, '49
Teresa Hanners McPartlan, '49
Leroy Harbaugh, '49
John La Torre, '49
William Madden, '49
Marina Merlet Panontin, '49
Rolla Somer Del Sarto, '49

Dorothy Maughan

Jim & Dolores Miguel

Elsa Rattazzi

Italian Catholic Federation

Eugene Cahill, '67

Ann Gaddy, '67

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Theresa Buickerood
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Steve & Barbara, '71, Goggiano
Italian Catholic Federation
Louise Liberati, '58
Domenic & Molly Rossi
Val & Louise Stepisnik
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Nancy Van Tricht

For her family

Shirley Ceirante

Fr. Sean Corcoran

Ivan & Lillian Dei Rossi
Robert Nurisso family
Leo & Pat Walsh

Frank Verducci

Emelia Nava

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Viola Albertoli Gomes, '41

Gerald A. Wall

Dr. Pat Wall, '64

Gertrude Beyer

Virginia Ploeser

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Frank & Jean Harrison
Randy & Melanie Tabing

Henry Morello, 1948

Italian Catholic Federation

Jessie Burns

Frank & Jean Harrison, '46

Joan Bordenave Gould, 1947

Helen Fantozzi Flory, '47
Frank & Jean Harrison, '46
Norma, Jim & Diane Kearns, '47
Bob & Carol, '50, McAdams
Sharon Winklebleck Coles, '47

John Bensen

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John Domecus

Emelia Nava

John J Sullivan

Joan Sullivan, '74

John Kolbmann

Norma Stuckert

Jules Zimmerlin

Abbey family
Bruce & Teresa Anthony
Alex & Deanna Belyavski
Bunker family
Buselli family
James Clifford family
Coquillard family
Correia family
Prato Davis family, '62
Dematteis family
Dugandzic family
Driscoll family
Felise family, '78
Frank Gonzales family

Guida family, '69

Jacuinde family

Ken & Linda Lydon

McLinden family

Merslich family

Meza family

Jim & Dolores Miguel

Molina family, 75

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Leo & Pat Walsh

David Wigton

Wille family

Karl Vollmayer

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 Dan & Carol Johndrow
 Virtue Kamler
 Davida McCarthy
 Kent & Lucie Muhlker, '62
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Marie Murphy

Jules Zimmerlin

Marie Murphy

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Lorraine Bisetti
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 Marie Murphy
 Grace O'Keefe
 Mary Pagendarm
 Barbara Royer Greenalch, '44

Rose Mary Zarri

Marie Murphy

William J O'Keefe

Lorraine Bisetti
 RoseMarie Marinsik Ferrando, '46
 Wanda Kucich
 Henrietta MacDonald
 Marie Murphy
 Mary Pagendarm
 Barbara Royer Greenalch, '44
 Catherine Vollmayer

Sports Program

Fred Nurisso, 80

Technology

Ian & Vanessa Johnstone
 Chris & Julia Tollafeld
 Veronica "Connie" Vigil D'Amico, '53
 Domenica Castello, '90
 Karen Enriquez, '90
 James Klimowski, '98
 Stephen Klimowski, '93

In honor of Evelyn Salamone

Elizabeth Salamone Pisacane, '69

In honor of Henrietta Mac Donald

Maureen MacDonald Russell, '64

P.E. Dept.

Catholic Daughters

Hugo Dallimonti**Library Fund**

Mae Dallimonti

Library*In honor of Pat Walsh*

Mike & Judy Bursak

Karl Vollmayer

Chris & Julia Tollafield

A Kid's Place

Ian & Vanessa Johnstone

Dear Alumni and Friends of Mount Carmel School,

I hope that this Annual Report has given you an idea of how many lives you have enhanced by your gifts of time, talent and treasure. Thanks to your generosity during the 1999/2000 school year our students are using 19 new IMAC computers. They are playing with new volleyball equipment and the large hall has been fitted with new sports mats for their protection.

Your gifts have generated almost \$100,000 during 1999/2000 of which over \$67,000 was given to our Endowment Fund which now stands at \$286,000. This includes the first payment of \$45,000 from the Archdiocese's Today's Students, Tomorrow's Leaders campaign. After three years our Memorial Tuition Assistance program now funds about 20% of the \$43,000 tuition assistance awarded to our families each year. The friends and family in whose names these gifts are given are remembered in our prayers at monthly school liturgies.

This development effort together with annual fundraisers run by our parents, generates 33% of the annual tuition cost for each student. Your generosity is an investment in the future of today's students and tomorrow's students at Mount Carmel School.

Julia Tollafield
Development Director

Operating Budget 1999/2000		Development/Fundraising Summary	
<u>Revenues</u>		A Kid's Place	\$500.00
Tuition & Fees	\$1,079,823.00	Auction	\$49,177.00
Parish Subsidy	\$20,000.00	Endowment Fund	\$67,549.00
A Kid's Place	\$26,000.00	Fall Fundraiser	\$24,484.00
BASIC Fund scholarships	\$3,992.00	Festival	\$37,369.00
Archdiocese scholarships	\$1,435.00	Fitness Athon	7,796.00
Development & Fundraisers	213,127.00	Library	\$135.00
Net Assets released from restrictions	\$18,272	Memorial Fund	\$8,583.00
		for Tuition Assistance	
		Parish Support	\$12,996.00
		for Tuition Assistance	
<u>Expenses</u>		Scrip	\$65,000.00
Personnel Costs	\$1,046,251.00	Sports programs	\$4,250.00
Transportation & Travel	\$1,146.00	Technology	\$5,539.00
Education Expenses	\$86,218.00		
Furniture/Fixtures	\$51,106.00	Total Raised	\$283,378.00
Property Costs	\$59,228.00		
Administrative & other			

Awards abound at Mount Carmel

Congratulations to Mr Jim Kason and the 6th grade for their winning entry in the 34th Annual California Student Media and Multimedia Festival. Their project on Egypt was cited as the top History/Social Studies entry in the Middle School division, where projects in thirteen different categories were recognized. There were over 7000 elementary through high school students with entries in this Festival. On Saturday, June 3rd at Foothill College in Los Altos, schools received their plaques. The Festival “strongly encourages project-based learning and meaningful work in media and exists to acknowledge and reward successful classroom work.” If you would like additional information about the festival, please go to their website at: www.mediafestival.org.

May 28, 2000 at St Cecilia Church, San Francisco, a Rite to Life Mass was held at which Mount Carmel’s Jimmy Gonzalez, Class of 2000, joined award winners in the annual Respect Life Essay Contest. Jimmy received the First Prize in the Junior High division for San Mateo County. Maritza Galindo and Maddy Tabing also received honorable mention in the grades 1-2 division of the Respect Life competition.



The eScrip Program is easy

Benefit our school as you shop by
Registering with eScrip
At 1-800-592-0942
Our Group ID: 135419998

*A percentage of your purchases
 will be donated to Mount Carmel
 on a monthly basis.*

Participating merchants include:

Safeway & Vons
 Eddie Bauer
 Chevron
 Eddie Bauer
 American Airlines
 Fresh Choice
 Choice Hotels
 Big O Tires

Grants & Matching Gifts received during 1999/2000

Bay Meadows Foundation
 \$1,000 for Tuition Assistance

Bank Of America Foundation
 \$700 for Endowment Fund

Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation
 \$1,000 to Endowment Fund

Carl & Celia Berta Gellert Foundation
 \$2,500 to Technology Program

The Gap Foundation
 \$4,000 for sports mats in the large hall

Peninsula Conflict Resolution
 50% funding from Sand Hill Foundation
 for training for faculty, staff & school community

Peter Uccelli Foundation
 \$250 to Endowment Fund

Wells Fargo Foundation
 \$75 to Endowment Fund

*You're going to
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Just shop online through
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 and up to 20% of the price of your
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 school.

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 Disneystore.com
 Webvan
 1-800-Flowers.com
 Starbucks



Alumni News

J. Flagg Kris (aka James Kreiss), '49, has recently moved to Waikiki, Honolulu after five years in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. A retired librarian, he has worked in academic/research libraries in San Francisco, New York, Chicago, Washington, DC as well as Saudi Arabia, Kenya, Kuwait, India and Turkey. His travels have taken him to 100 countries.

Maureen Griffin White, '73, and husband, Chris, have 4 children Robert (age 18), Ben (age 17), Caitlin and Jennifer (2 year old twins). They live in Los Altos and Maureen is a Product Marketing Manager at Cisco Systems in San Jose.

Maria "Tisha" Fonseca McLaughlin, '74, wrote to say that "both of my sons, Luis, 17, and Joe, 16, were confirmed at St. Edwards in Newark on May 6th by Bishop Cummins of Oakland. Sponsors were Mary Harrison Pickens and Joseph Tommei. Luis graduated from Bridgeport High School shortly thereafter, one year early!

He will be attending Ohlone College in the fall. We are all very proud."

Kimberley Harm Mila, '77, writes that she discovered earlier this year that a co-worker also graduated from Mount Carmel. She and vice principal Sophie Nemeth, //, broke into the school songs that they knew from Mount Carmel and Notre Dame, Belmont. What a small world that they both ended up in a small valley town together teaching at Riverbank High school!

Steven Borg, 1978, is pleased to announce the birth of their first child Noel Marie Kapvanani Borg on March 1, 2000. He and wife, Betsy Fabro-Borg, say that she is a real joy and a blessing.

Karen Nurisso Morris, '82, has lived in Danville with husband, Tim, for three years. She is a stay at home mom but remains busy

with children Kiely, five, and Zachary, three.

Abigail Bursak, '92, graduated this past May from College of Notre Dame, Belmont, with a Bachelor's in Fine Art in Painting & Photography, Summa Cum Laude. She is working for an art and antique appraisal firm, Lyons Appraisals, in Menlo Park. She hopes to be exhibiting her photography and paintings this fall at the College of Notre Dame Gallery and Library.

Kenneth Nurisso, '94, graduated from the Business College at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo with Magna Cum Laude honors in 1998. He has been employed by Ernst & Young Accounting since 1997. He received his CPA this year. Ken lives and works in Palo Alto and continues to participate on local basketball and baseball teams.

Lisa Harm, '96, daughter of Kimberley, graduated with honors from Riverbank High school and will be attending University of La Verne in So. California. She will play volleyball there and hopes to be an elementary school teacher.

JeAnne Reyes, '96, has just graduated from Woodside Priory. She was Salutatorian at this year's graduation and received a Redwood City Rotary club scholarship. She is very excited to be heading for Haverford College in Pennsylvania in the fall.



Archive Committee still needs your help.

As we begin the new school year the Archive Committee has moved to the next stage in their preservation project. Archival albums, folders and boxes have been purchased and each item has been cataloged. We now have photos of almost every graduation class since 1930 and many before that date. However we are still looking for 1931, 1932, 1942, 1944, 1967 and 1969. We would also welcome any photos taken in the classrooms or school yard prior to 1960. If you can help us in our search, please call Marie Murphy at 364-7138. Photos will be copied and returned to you as soon as possible. We would also love to add to our collection of uniforms and we are particularly looking for uniforms worn in the twenties and thirties.

Don't forget that we would love to show you around the school at any time. Please call me at 366-8817 and I will make sure that I am available when you visit.

Julia Tollafeld
Development Director



Reunion Dates

Class of 1940

We would be delighted to welcome the Class of 1940 to a small reception to celebrate the anniversary of their graduation. Please contact Julia Tollafeld at (650)366-8817 for further details

Class of 1951

It's time to start planning and we'll be pleased to help.
Call Jean Johnson Harrison at 368-2787
or Julia Tollafeld at 366-8817

Class of 1970

The year 2000 is the time for your 30th reunion. Jenny Stafford-Sportorno would love to hear from anyone interested in setting a date or has information on "missing" classmates.
She can be contacted at (650)364-3704

Class of 1975

The 25th anniversary of your graduation is fast approaching and Meredith Sanders is hoping to welcome you all back to Mount Carmel. If you would like further information or volunteer your assistance please contact Meredith at (650)365-3318 or at msanders@fostercity.org.

If you would like to plan a reunion for your class, please contact Jean Harrison, Reunion Coordinator, at (650)368-2787 or the Development Office.

Join us for
Our Lady of Mount Carmel's

2000
Grand Auction

At Crowne Plaza Hotel, Foster City
On Saturday, November 4th at 5:30pm

Live & Silent Auction
Dinner & Dancing

\$50:00 per person

Hotel Accommodation available
(Call 1-800-CROWNE2 for Mount Carmel's special rate)

For reservations, please call
Vonnie Bassett at 369-0891
or Kathleen Britschgi at 369-0821

Shuttle Service available from Mount Carmel
(Space limited so make your reservation early)

Calendar

Oct. 19 11:00 am
School Liturgy

Nov. 4
Grand Auction 2000

Nov. 6 – 9
Book Fair

Nov. 16 11:00 am
School Mass

Nov 19
Craft Fair

Nov. 21 7:00 pm
"The Eagle & The Turkey"
Gr. 1 & 2 Thanksgiving Play

Dec. 7 11:00 am
School Mass

Dec. 13 7:00 pm
"Three Wisemen & A Baby"
Gr. 3, 4 & 5 Christmas Play

Dec. 14 7:00 pm
Christmas Caroling

Jan. 18 7:00 pm
"Sing and Celebrate
the 20th Century"
7th Grade musical

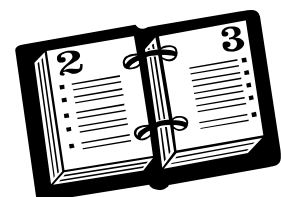
Jan 28
Open House and Science Fair
10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Feb. 11
Confirmation

Feb. 15 11:00 am
School Liturgy

Feb. 24 6:00 pm
Past President's Dinner

For further information on any of
these



In Memoriam

Mary Aguis-Sinerco
Mother to Alfred, '66.

Margaret Argenti
Mother to Jerry, '59, & Mary Larwood, '56.

Joe Britschgi
Father to Jerry, '43, Robert, '44 & Don, '47.

Rev. Sean Corcoran, C.S.Sp.

Earl Jenkins
Father to Elizabeth, '91.

Don Millard
Father to Edgar, '72, Sherrie, '80, Carol, '77 & Cynthia, 78.

Your thoughtful donation to our Memorial Tuition Assistance Fund, made in remembrance of your family or friends, becomes a living memorial touching the lives of our students.



A GIFT TO OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL SCHOOL TUITION ASSISTANCE FUND

From _____

In memory of _____

Send Memoriam Card to _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Thank You

All memorial gifts are tax deductible by law.

*For your convenience, memorial booklets are available
from the Development Office
or at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church.*

**NEWSLETTER FOR THE FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF
OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL SCHOOL AND PARISH**

Julia Tollafield, Development Director
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
301 Grand Street
Redwood City, CA 94062

Phone: 650-366-8817 Fax: 650-366-0902
Email: ctolla@aol.com

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*Parents of alumni:
Please forward this publication. If your child
no longer maintains a permanent address at
home, Please notify the Development Office of
their new address.*

Please keep "In Touch"

It is always great to hear from old friends and classmates. So, please take time to fill in a little information about yourself. We are also pleased to add parents and grandparents to our mailing list, so that they can also keep In Touch.

Name: _____ Class of: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone #: _____ Work Phone #: _____ E-mail Address: _____

News that you would like to share: _____

*Please return to:
Development Office, Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, 301 Grand St., Redwood City, CA 94062*