

# Visitation Upper School News

Renee Genereux, Upper School Director

## Spring Comes to the Upper School

### Upcoming Events:

March 12: Upper School  
Band Concert

March 13-14 Junior Retreat

March 20-28: Easter/Spring  
Break

April 1-3: Grades 9-11  
Course Registration for  
2008-2009

April 7-11 Justice Week

April 12: Junior/Senior  
Prom; Freshmen Fling

April 25-27; May 2-4:  
Spring Musical: *Into the  
Woods*

April 28: No classes:  
Teacher Comp Day

Just in time for St. Patrick's Day, the Corda Mor Irish Dancers are performing at an Upper School Convo on March 13. We are very grateful to the **Fine Arts Society** for sponsoring this uplifting and enjoyable performance.

Spring at Visitation's Upper School means **Course Registration**. We have begun the process in classrooms and homerooms by advising students to choose the courses that meet their interests and college application goals and fulfill Vis' graduation requirements. I encourage all parents and guardians to discuss course selections with your student so that she makes wise choices for the 2008-2009 academic year. A special note to junior parents: We recommend that students register for no more than three AP courses. If a student wishes to take a fourth AP course, she needs to consult

with me. I will then speak with your daughter's teachers and college counselor. Course Registration worksheets with all required signatures are due to homeroom teachers on **March 18**. Students will then register in school online, April 2-4.

**Senior Parents:** In the next Visline which you will receive during Spring Break, we've included information on all the activities leading to and culminating in the June 1 Graduation. I encourage you to keep this issue close at hand. We will also post this information on the Visitation website in mid-April.

**Junior Retreat, March 13 and 14** is an important time for students to focus on prayer, spirituality and relationships as well as preparing to be the leaders of the school in 2008-2009.



*Corda Mor Irish Dancers*

## The Variety of Learning Experiences.

- ◇ The AP Government class will learn about the Minnesota Legislature up close and personal on their field trip to the State Capitol on March 14.
- ◇ We're excited to inaugurate the World Language Lab this spring. Through a generous donation, we were able to build and equip this language lab

near the classrooms on second floor. Use of the lab will give students the opportunity to practice their language during classes and free periods and receive immediate feedback from teachers.

- ◇ In addition to reading about and discussing their lived experience of faith, Senior Seminar

vocations and financial responsibility and planning.

- ◇ Visitation art students are featured in the Best 100 Juried Art Exhibition at the AZ Gallery which will be on exhibit through March. Congratulations to Emily Arata, Anna Nguyen and Mary Beth Bigelow and their art teachers.



*Upper School Orchestra*

## Student Activities

**Into the Woods:** The VISTA theater and performing arts department is busy rehearsing for the Spring Musical, *Into the Woods*. Inspired by Bruno Bettelheim's *The Uses of Enchantment*, this musical intertwines the plots of several Brothers Grimm fairy tales and follows them further to explore the consequences of the characters' wishes and quests. The production debuts April 25 and continues, April 26, 27, May 2, 3 and 4. Don't miss it!

### Upper School Athletics

Congratulations to the hockey, Alpine and Nordic ski, and basketball teams for completing successful seasons. Spring Sports begin in mid-March. We wish the Golf, LaCrosse, Softball, Track and Field teams and their dedicated coaches good weather and the best of luck.

### The Robettes

After a successful trip to the St. Louis Robotics competition, Visitation's Robettes will participate in a Minnesota robotics competition at the University of Minnesota March 27-29.



## Parent Corner

### Parent Partnering with Visitation

We are so grateful for the many ways you participate in your daughter's education at Visitation:

- ◇ Your collaboration with teachers, including a record attendance at the February conferences.
- ◇ Your thoughtful responses to our request for input on the 2008-2009 calendar.
- ◇ Your generosity, especially in the hours of volunteer work you do at activities, in the dining room and for Merrie Market. This year's Merrie Market was a beautiful, celebratory event. The Commers Gym and lobby utterly transformed into an Annecy village scene.

On behalf of the Upper School faculty, staff and students who so benefit because of the time you give and your thoughtful participation in your daughter's education, I thank you for all that you do.

## Salesian Corner

*As we have passed the half-way mark of Lent, it is sometimes difficult to keep our eye on our initial Lenten resolutions. St. Francis de Sales words offer some encouragement to help us:*

*"It is always very difficult to hit the bulls-eye of our target. It is certainly true that we all must have the intentions of piercing and hitting the center of a virtue which we ought to desire most dearly, be it humility, heartfelt love or others. But more especially, we must never lose courage when we do not attain the heart of the virtue nor must we be overwhelmed, provided that we hit the target, i.e., as close to the bulls-eye as we can. For the Saints themselves could not gain all the virtues perfectly." (Conf. 10, p. 112)*

***"Humility is true knowledge."***

***Saint Francis de Sales***

