



KOSTKA

PUBLICZNE GIMNAZJUM JEZUITÓW
IM. ŚW. STANISŁAWA KOSTKI W KRAKOWIE

Dear Friends of KOSTKA!
Jesuit Junior High School
Saint Stanisław Kostka in Krakow

Advent/Christmas AD2012

First I would like to share with you my joy which arises from the fact that our school – KOSTKA, the first Jesuit Public Junior High School, “St. Stanisław Kostka” - has been in operation for a little over three months. Who would have supposed in May 2012 that the image of the school at 5 Spółdzielców Street has changed so much and the building has been filled by students? During the summer holiday months of July and August we managed to renovate nine classrooms, equipped IT classroom and language laboratory and furnished staff room.

KOSTKA has already been visited by many guests from aboard including close co-workers of the Superior General of the Jesuits from Rome. Among them was Father Jose Mesa, S.J., from Columbia who is the Jesuit General Secretary for Secondary Education. He visits Jesuit schools, which altogether number over 3000, in every part of the world and among these KOSTKA is the youngest one.

On November 12th, the long expected school canteen was opened. Every day over 60 dinners are served: 50 for students and additional dinners for teachers and elder inhabitants of “Na Kozłówce” (the name of the neighborhood) housing estate. Students in difficult situations receive grants from MOPS (a national social organization) or directly from KOSTKA. Every day there is a special event at school called ‘You are hungry, come to soup’ – students who participate in afternoon classes, ‘KOSTKA-MAGIS,’ take advantage of this event. At the end of November the students of KOSTKA received school uniforms. So far we have collected a little over 50% of the uniform costs (the set includes 2 T-shirts, polo and sweatshirt). However from the beginning we have had the great dream of each student having a school uniform. On December 6th there were 111 students in KOSTKA and there are 24 students in the first three classes – so we are at 100% capacity! You can follow our school life on www.kostka.edu.pl, which is published by both teachers and students.

Christmas and the end of the year provide a special opportunity to wish you dear Friends of KOSTKA all the best. Thanks to your support KOSTKA is developing all the time and looks ahead to the future with hope. Through the efforts of the Development and Promotion Office we are trying to raise money in 2013 which will allow us to renovate the roof, the fence, and the ground floor and prepare for school year 2013/2014. Who knows how many students there will be in KOSTKA next year? In this context I encourage to look at the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas. It is He who during all his life sacrificed in his service to other people. Jesus is the example for us of how to love and respect human life. He teaches how to protect the right to life, the right to education and the right to have a true family. This sensitivity to social issues, which is a hallmark of current Jesuit pedagogy, is at the center of our pedagogical activities. This approach helps students, parents and workers of KOSTKA to consciously become people for others, to create with others a community which is responsible to Poland, our country, and the Earth, whose citizens we are.

I hope, my dear Friends of KOSTKA, that by looking at our students you will feel joy and pride. I will try to ensure that everybody who comes to KOSTKA, will find here the ability to receive an education, help in confronting difficulties and satisfaction in everyday work. I am grateful for the support you are giving KOSTKA. I promise my prayers, recommend you to the Holy Family and wish you a very Happy New Year 2013.


Fr. Paweł Brożyński SJ

President

