



St. Mary of the Angels Catholic School NEWSLETTER

Principal's Letter

What a winter we've had! Our prayers to help end the drought in California have been answered.

We were able to test our **new school-wide communication system, My Students' Progress**, during the week of January 9th. The system proved an effective way to disseminate information to our families. **Thank you to Advisory Board for their thorough investigation and to the Mission San Jose Dominican Sisters for their financial support of our new system.**

We are extremely proud of our amazing school where our students are **nurtured by a passionate faculty, enriched by strong, religious values and able to meet high academic standards.**

This is why we are able to deliver a solid, faith-filled, Catholic education that demands academic excellence. As they graduate, we see our students leave with the tools necessary to become **leaders of competence, conscience, and compassion.** They acquire the knowledge and faith to build a more humane, just, and sustainable world. Nationwide, we celebrate this mission during **Catholic Schools Week, January 29- February 3rd.** Student Council organizes events that celebrate St. Mary's parish, parents, students and faculty. Please join us during Catholic Schools Week and be part of our celebration.

Mardi Gras is our major fund raiser that **bridges the gap between the amount of tuition parents pay and the actual amount that it costs to educate a child.** Thank you to the dedicated group of parents who serve endless hours on the Mardi Gras board making this spectacular event happen. As a school **we are blessed to be the recipients of the generosity of the entire Ukiah Valley.**

I look forward to celebrating **St. Mary's School with you at Mardi Gras Saturday, February 25th and at the Mardi Gras Family Carnival, Sunday, February 26th.**

God bless,

FEBRUARY

Early Dismissal Days	Feb. 8, 22
Catholic Schools Week	Jan. 29- Feb. 4
CSW- Family Mass-Student Council	Jan. 29
CSW- Parent Day	Jan. 30
CSW- Grandparent/Special Person	Jan. 31
CSW- Alumni Day	Feb. 1
CSW- Teacher Day	Feb. 2
CSW- Student Day	Feb. 3
Family Mass-3rd, 4th	Feb. 5
December/January Awards	Feb. 7
School Mass- 5th	Feb. 8
Writers Reception	Feb. 9
Symphony-Kinder, 3rd	Feb. 10
Presidents Day-No School	Feb. 20
It's a She Thing-Women Only	Feb. 21
Fort Ross- 5th, 6th	Feb. 21-22
School Mass- 7th	Feb. 22
Chowder Feed-Men Only	Feb. 23
3rd Qtr Progress period ends	Feb. 24
Mardi Gras	Feb. 25-26
Fat Tuesday Pancake Breakfast	Feb. 28
Ash Wednesday	Mar. 1

St. Mary's School would like to thank...

Michele and Patrick Coleman for their donation of a new vacuum for Kid's Club

Peggy Andersen for her generous donation to our school

Keyes Family Trust for their generous donation to our school

Lorena and Gil Tournour for their continuous support of our school

KINDER

January got off to a good start. Kinders are doing a good job with spelling. We will continue spelling and reading short vowel words. You can help with this at home by reading the spelling list and playing fun games to spell the words. There is a pattern for each spelling list and the point is to learn to spell and not to memorize. Have them say each sound in the word and then write. We do this in class by tapping our thumb to a finger for each sound. We are also starting to write simple sentences using sight words. Practice reading the sight words at home, as everyone should be able to automatically read each word by the end of the year. In math, students are working on numbers in the teens by identifying, writing, and order each number. By now your child should have a firm grasp on numbers 0-10 and understand less than and greater than. Practice counting to 100. This is another end of the year goal. Keep up the great work. Make sure you are turning in your homework each week and include the Book Wagon forms filled out.

THIRD

We are glad to be back from a restful break! We are focusing on reading comprehension strategies and multiplication. We are also getting ready to transition into cursive! Look for our California tribal shelters on display in the hall soon!

FOURTH

The fourth graders are busy building their mission models and writing their research reports. Be sure to explore St. Mary's "El Camino Real" outside the fourth grade classroom during Catholic Schools Week.

FIFTH

After completing the Ft. Ross training, I am very excited about our upcoming trip on February 21st and 22nd. There is lots to do, so start preparing as soon as you can. If you have any questions or concerns about your student's Progress Report, please feel free to e-mail or call me.

SIXTH

In middle school English classes we have been focusing on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have A Dream" speech. The students have been writing their own "Dream" speeches with an emphasis on civil rights and the betterment of the country, world, and its people. I know I already have some great writing here that will be presented at our next writers reception!

NOVEMBER AWARDS

Student of the Month

Samari Bakker, Concepcion Gonzalez,
Adelaide Ross, Sarah McGrath,
James Rodrigue, Isaac Hedges,
Nathan Looney, Ava Kindopp, Lukas Gott

Principal Award

Harlow Hudson, Aaliyah Wilson,
Ollie Adams, Brody Fowler, Alice Ostrom,
Tessa Jahnke, Zachary Hunter,
Elise Martinez, Josie Woldemar

Personal Success Award

Zoie Black, Brody Coleman, Ryan McGrew,
Chase Hanelt, Cael Phenicie,
Abraham Kircher, Gisele Alvarez,
Addysen Ford-Barrera, Gavin Gonzalez,
Dylan Wegesser, Jordan Rodriguez,
Juan Alvarado-Mendoza, Taylor Kesler,
Alex Castagna, Kaden Thurston,
Lauren Lazarevich

Language Arts Award

Jacob Wegesser, Kennedy Wellington,
Ainsley Harris, Anabella Dobson,
Hailey Lucido, Aidan Rodriguez,
Bryce Van Patten, Austin Pardini,
Kallum Thurston, Taylor Kesler,
Angel Ortega, Emersyn Sawyers,
Elise Martinez, Angela Passalacqua

Athlete of the Month

Chase Galletti, Cole Fowler,
Alex Morfin

Carousel of Books

Cassidy Geimer, Bailey Simerson,
Cael Phenicie, Delaney Kornegay

EIGHTH

St. Mary’s Science Fair is upon us! All projects are due the morning of February 15th; please bring projects to the auditorium when you arrive at school Wednesday morning. Remember this year you must have an abstract of your project on the board; please follow the information in the MCOE Science Fair Handbook. The link to the handbook is as follows:

<http://www.mcoe.us/files/user/3/file/Science%20Fair/2016-2017/Mendocino%20County%20Student%20Science%20Project%20Handbook.pdf>



A FUNDRAISER TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL & THE COMMUNITY

FEB 25 & 26

SAT

5:30 PM - 12:30 AM
GROWN-UP FUN
DINNER★DANCE
AUCTION★GAMING

SUN

11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
FREE FAMILY FUN
FOOD★CARNIVAL
AUCTIONS

UKIAH FAIRGROUNDS

Student Learning Expectations

A St. Mary of the Angels Student is a child of faith who:

Respects all of God’s creation, Lives the Catholic faith and traditions, Serves others

A St. Mary of the Angels Student is a lifelong learner who:

Succeeds academically, Communicates effectively, Integrates technology efficiently

A St. Mary of the Angels Student is responsible citizen who:

Demonstrates leadership skills, Appreciates and respects diversity,
Exercises self respect and self discipline

St. Mary’s School Faculty & Staff

- Pastor**
Fr. Oscar Diaz
- Principal**
Mary Leitem Thomas
- Kindergarten**
Amanda Velasco
- Grade 1**
Christina Wilson
- Grade 2**
Julie Wilson
- Grade 3**
Dana Geimer/
Andrea Keffeler
- Grade 4**
Johanna Lopez
- Grade 5**
Matthew Alaniz
- Grade 6**
Jim Caruso
- Grade 7**
Rick Cleland
- Grade 8**
Dan Vilotti
- Music**
Sam Kircher
- Spanish**
Kathy Shipley
- Computers**
Peter Marshall
- Gardening**
Jill Scheller
- Librarian**
Marilyn McGrew
- Title 1**
Carl Morgensen
- Kitchen**
Kristin Myers
- Classroom Aides**
Beth Pacheco, Debbie Brutocao,
Allie Skipper, Chrissy Galletti,
Kathi Gower
- Kid’s Club**
Beth Pacheco, Kelly Mavrakis,
Jill Scheller, Lulu Jimenez
- Finance**
Lisa Cavalin
- Secretary**
Kris Scaturro, Jasmine Boek
- Athletic Director**
Michele Bodnar
- Maintenance**
Jim Werner
- Development Director**
Mary Golden

Information & Reminders

- Please remember to not park in the church lot across the street on Dora.
- Remember no parking in the fire lanes south of the gym.
- Remember **NO PARKING** in the Mardi Gras designated spot.
- Be sure that the back gate shuts behind you when you enter or exit the school through the gate by the music room. Help keep our school safe!
- Back Parking lot safety: Please remind your children to use the cross walk and grass to walk to and from cars. Students may not walk across the pavement between the field and the creek. Parents must be parked to load and unload children. Parents may not stop and drop off by crosswalk. Exception: Before 8am, parents may drop off Spanish/Kid’s Club students by the music gate.
- Kathi Gower and Heather Woldemar are our yearbook editors! If you have pictures from field trips or school activities please submit the pictures to smsyearbook@smsukiah.org. You can also upload pictures to our St. Mary’s Facebook page.
- Does anyone have a used cyclone gate they are not using? Mr. Werner needs a cyclone gate that is 4-5 feet high and 10 feet long. Please call the office if you have one you wish to donate.
- We have reusable St. Mary’s water bottles for sale in the front office for \$5.00. We encourage students to use water bottles that can be refilled in our hydration station. They can leave these water bottles by their desk, and when they return from recess and lunch they can have a drink of water while getting right back to work- therefore losing less class time. This also helps with our school wide goal of having no plastic water bottles on campus.
- In order to work in the classroom, drive on field trips, coach teams or participate in any classroom activity you **MUST** have completed your live scan fingerprinting **AND** completed the on line training at santarosa.cmgconnect.org.

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ST. MARY of the ANGELS
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Dominican Corner

SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER

For Dominicans, compassion for humanity manifests itself as an attitude of availability in service to others, a reaching out to a world in need. Dominican spirituality is about bringing the light of truth to those who are in a position to make the world a better place. Perhaps the 17th-century French Dominican Henry Lacordaire expressed it best when he said, “I venture to say that I have received from God the grace to understand this century, which I have loved so much, and to give the truth a complexion which will touch the hearts and minds of a great many people.”

The list of Dominicans who have fearlessly spoken truth to power includes luminaries such as St. Thomas Aquinas, who brought the riches of Aristotelian thought to the West; St. Catherine of Siena, who dared to challenge kings and even the pope; Dominique Pire, whose work helping post-World War II refugees was recognized with the Nobel Peace Prize in 1958; and Louis-Joseph Lebret, whose experience with poor fishermen in France led to his leadership in crafting Catholic social teaching on economic development based on human needs rather than on profit.

