



# St. Mary of the Angels Catholic School NEWSLETTER

## Principal's Letter

To Praise, To Bless, To Preach – the mission of the Dominican Order!

This year we celebrate with Dominicans around the world the 800th anniversary of the official foundation of the Dominican Order by Pope Honorius III. **St. Mary of the Angels was founded by the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose in 1954**, and we remain an affiliate school. Starting with this newsletter we will have on-going excerpts on the life of St. Dominic written by Sister Margaret A. Palliser, O.P., member of the Dominican Sisters of Sparkill, New York and published in Catholic Digest in March 2011. This year **Sr. Carolyn Marie from the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose** will be visiting our school and talking with our students.

**My Student's Progress is a school wide program** that will alert parents in the event of an emergency, and MSP will allow parents to track their students' assignments, grades and school events. **Advisory Board members were instrumental in implementing this new communication system** and we are excited for families to explore MSP. We are implementing it in stages. Junior high parents/ students are using the system currently. **Starting next week kindergarten through fifth grade parents will have access.**

**Student Council hosted a Family Game Night** featuring water balloons, face painting, sack races, and much more! **Thank you, Student Council, for your leadership and service**, and thank you, Kristin Myers, for a delicious dinner!

We will celebrate the feast of **St. Francis of Assisi with the Blessing of the Animals Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 2:45 pm**. Fr. Oscar will lead us in prayer, and then bless the animals with holy water. **Please join us with your student's pet, a picture of their pet or a stuffed animal.** Remember, all pets need to be either on a leash or in a cage for the safety of all.

Thank you to our junior high students **who volunteered at the Ukiah Triathlon and the Colors For Cancer Fun Run and Walk**. Annually, **our students contribute many service hours to the greater Ukiah Community.**

Keep cheering for our **7th and 8th grade girls volleyball teams!** The playoffs start October 15th. And our seventh grade girls basketball team is already practicing. **Go Eagles!!**

Happy Fall!

## OCTOBER

Early Dismissal Days	Oct. 12,26
Family Mass-4	Oct. 2
6th Grade-Luther Burbank	Oct. 3
Awards Assembly	Oct. 4
Pumpkin Patch-K-3	Oct. 4
Blessing of the Animals	Oct. 4
Writer's Reception	Oct. 6
School Mass, 5th	Oct. 12
2nd Grade-Luther Burbank	Oct. 14
SMSF Harvest Reception	Oct. 16
Harvest Run	Oct. 20
1st Quarter Ends	Oct. 21
Cardinal Newman-Open House	Oct. 24
School Mass-6th	Oct. 26
Halloween Carnival	Oct. 31
All Saints Mass	Nov. 1
Awards Assembly	Nov. 1
El Dia De Los Muertes	Nov. 2

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

**Lorena and Gil Tournour for the continuous support of our school**

**Glen Donalson, Peggy Andersen, Joann Brandt, Joy Howard, Gloria Nordyke, Barbara White, Thomas and Laura Pooler for donations made in memory of Russ Libert**

**Constance Garzini for donations made in memory of Donald Christensen Theodore Christensen Brandon Christensen Richard Christensen**

## KINDER

It’s hard to believe it’s already October. Kindergarten has been working on letter sounds and how to write letters. Keep working at home on the handwriting. Some of the letters can be tricky for little hands. We’ve also been learning how to write our name in lowercase letters with only the first letter as a capital. Use the songs that I emailed home to help with correct letter sounds and identification. In math, students have been counting to 20 and identifying numbers to 10. Count everywhere you go to help reinforce correct counting. You can also use the two songs that I sent home to help learn to rote count. The end of the year goal is 100. Thank you for the apples and apple treats everyone sent in. Our applesauce was so yummy and we loved graphing our favorite color of apple. Look for our October reading project to come home. It’s so much fun and I can’t wait to see what the students will create.

## SECOND

Our year is off to a great start in second grade! We have already been on a field trip to The Heirloom Tomato Exposition in Santa Rosa. In science we are having fun learning about dinosaurs. At the end of this month students will be turning in their first “Dino-mite” book reports. This year we will work hard, play hard and keep reading!

## THIRD

Third grade is busy writing underwater adventures where they meet a new creature. Look for them soon on the class bulletin board!

## FOURTH

Fourth graders have been busy this last month. They have organized binders, memorized prepositions, read Stone Fox and studied food chains and food webs. Thank you to all the parents who joined us on our “living history” field trip to Mission San Francisco Solano.

## FIFTH

Fifth grade is off to a great start. We have just completed our Iowa testing and the students did a great job. Students have been earning “class cash” for being on task and following directions. This Friday, September 30th, will be our first “sale”. Students will have a chance to purchase real prizes with their “class cash”. In the future- we will be going to the local Observatory on a field trip in October and mark your calendars for our Ft. Ross overnight field trip on February 21-22, 2017.

## EIGHTH

Eighth grade is off to a great start! They have selected their new sweatshirts and should have them by the time cold weather arrives. Half day pizza sales will continue through the year and the school’s support of this eighth grade fund raiser has been fantastic-Thank you!!

## **MAY AWARDS**

### Student of the Month

Concepción González, Tatiana McAsey,  
Caleb Hubley, Brody Fowler, Kate Schat,  
Shawn Harmon, Trenton Ford,  
Emilio Chavez, Emersyn Sawyers

### Principal Award

Montgomery Johnson, Dylan Morris,  
Adelaide Ross, Jacob Lunceford,  
Gavin Looney, Tyler Long, Saicahi Bills,  
Kylie Mavrakis, Cannon Johnson,  
Zachary Hunter, Julianna Jimenez,  
Alex Morfin

### Personal Success Award

Antonio Maciel-Suarez, Anna Dunicliff,  
Lucy Lunceford, Jimmy Martin,  
Delaney Kornegay, Gavin Gonzalez,  
Dylan Wegesser, Carson Murray,  
Jordan Rodriguez, Nicholas Larson,  
Kallie Groff, Cameron Hubley,  
Hudson Ford, Abigail Augustine,  
Felix Slotte, Lauren Lazarevich

### Language Arts Award

Isaac Hedges, Austin Pardini

### Athlete of the Month

Shaylee Pardini, Vaughn Pena,  
Landon Degallier, Chase Barbieri

### After School Program

Khloe Sanchez, Alekii Sandoval

### Carousel of Books

Bailey Simerson, Ryan McGrew,  
Drake Porter, Delia Madrigal, Austin Ross

**SPANISH**

!Bienvenido de nuevo! ¿Que tienes en tu mochila? During the early days of school, the children have been working on vocabulary associated with items in their backpacks. They received packets with vocabulary and their own backpack to design. Please come by the Spanish room to view them! The second through sixth graders successfully mastered a written quiz on this vocabulary! Congratulations to all!! The kindergartners and the first graders continue to shine in their mastery of los colores, through song and identification, using animals. The older students have identified “Mi color favoritos...”, and colored beautiful flowers identifying these colors. Ask your children to say apple and pumpkin in Spanish...(we are still working on pumpkin!) Culture is a big part of learning any foreign language and September 16th marked the first big cultural event in Mexico called “el grito de Dolores”, or Mexican Independence Day. The children in first to fourth grades received libritos, or little reading books in Spanish, to explain this important celebration which they may design themselves. The fifth and sixth graders received more detailed packets with a lectura in Spanish, explaining in more detail this very important day in Mexican history. We look forward to the month of October and “el dia de los muertos”. Thank you to all who signed up (on Back to School night) to help set up on Tuesday, November 1st in the gym. The entire month of October will be spent doing art work, las máscaras, el papel picado and calaveras de azúcar. A more detailed letter will be coming explaining this celebration! Saludos!

**GARDENING**

October is upon us already! The summer garden is winding down and the kids will be slowly replacing it with fresh soil and a winter garden.

We had a successful summer garden with huge yields that provided a lot of cooking and farmers market experiences for the kids.

We are still working toward a green house that will help make the garden even more successful! Money from the Garden Stands go toward that so thank you for your continued support and donations during the Garden Stand sales. With profits from the last garden sale we were able to put in an outside hand and vegetable washing station. THANK YOU!

**LIBRARY**

The school year has begun with each grade scheduled in the library one period each week. The kindergarten through second grades have stories read to them before they check out favorite books to take home. The library is open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday until 1:30pm. Many students visit the library before school as well as during recess and lunch. It is a pleasure getting to know our children and to learn what subjects interest them.

**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**

Mathew 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 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!
- A reminder for visitors: If you plan on coming to the school any time during the day, please make sure that you go to the office and sign in. They will give you a lanyard to wear. Please wear this so that staff in the school know that you have signed in at the office. Anyone who is seen not wearing a badge will be asked to go back to the office to sign in. Please understand that this is for the safety of your child and others.
- We finished our stanardized testing, the Iowa Assessment, this week and will have the results for you at our Parent/Teacher conferences in November. Thank you, parents, for scheduling appointments so students did not miss any testing.
- We are also looking forward to our Harvest Run on Thursday, October 20. Kristina Ford is organizing this fundraiser that combines health and competition. Students reach out into the community through relatives, friends and neighbors to sponsor the laps they will run or walk. Prizes will be awarded for the most laps completed and most money raised. A flyer with more details will be sent home and information will be posted on the website.
- We have our acclaimed Halloween Carnival and Costume Contest for students at school on October 31st! Parents and siblings are welcome!
- 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.

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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](http://santarosa.cmgconnect.org)



**ST. MARY of the ANGELS**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



### DominicanCorner

Who was Dominic? The son of noble parents, Dominic de Guzmán was born around 1170 in the small town of Caleruega in the kingdom of Castile in Spain. The young Dominic studied under the guidance of an uncle priest, eventually entering the University of Palencia to prepare for the priesthood.

As a student, Dominic was quickly distinguished for his interest in the study of Sacred Scripture and his genuine love for people, especially his deep compassion for the poor and unfortunate. To aid the victims of the 1191 famine in Spain he sold his furniture, clothing, and even his most precious possessions—his theology books. Twice he even tried to obtain the release of slaves held captive by the Moors by offering himself in exchange for their release.

In 1204, after 10 years as a priest at the Cathedral of Osma, Dominic made a journey as a diplomatic envoy with his bishop and encountered the Cathars, a heretical sect widespread in southern France.

Seeing that many Christians in the region were adopting some of their false teachings (e.g., that the created material world—including human beings—is evil),

Dominic got the idea to begin a new order devoted to combating such heresies through preaching the truth: the goodness of creation, the beauty of the human person made in the image of God, and the compassionate mercy of God.

More about Dominic next month!

