



St. Mary of the Angels Catholic School NEWSLETTER

Principal's Letter

Have you noticed that the days are getting shorter? Autumn began last Friday and as we mark our progress through the school year, **we see our students settling into their classroom routines with enthusiasm and curiosity.** And this warm, late summer weather -- and a little rain -- has produced beautiful flowers and vegetables that your children and their **gardening teacher have been nurturing to perfection** and selling at our Wednesday Farm Stand. Thank you, Mrs. Scheller!

Check out the beautiful new standards in our back parking lot! **They are designed and made by Beau Johnson**, one of our parents. Thank you, Beau, for an attractive and functional way of defining the safety zone/parking lot for our school!

Our volleyball teams are competing in the Catholic Schools League, winning lots of games and having fun! In addition, our 5th and 6th grade girls scrimmaged with Eagle Peak and Pomolita and won all six games! **Thank you to our amazing and dedicated coaches Michelle Dunncliff, Sarah Lunceford, Belinda Lazarevich, Ginette Rinehart and Greg Cavalin.** And our basketball teams have already started practicing. Go Eagles!!

Our Student Council hosted a **Family Game Night Wednesday, Sept. 27.** Thank you, Student Council, for your leadership and service, and thank you, Kristin Myers, for a delicious dinner!

We are also looking forward to our **Harvest Run on Thursday, October 26.** 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.

We look forward to seeing you at this Sunday's Family Mass on October 1 at 10:00 am.

God bless,

OCTOBER 2017

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| Early Dismissal Days | Oct. 11,25 |
| Family Mass | Oct. 1 |
| Awards Assembly | Oct. 3 |
| Blessing of the Animals | Oct. 4 |
| Writer's Reception | Oct. 5 |
| School Mass-3rd | Oct. 11 |
| Pumpkin Patch- 1-3 | Oct. 18 |
| Ft. Ross Field Trip-5th | Oct. 19-20 |
| St Mary School Foundation Reception | Oct. 22 |
| Pumpkin Patch-K | Oct. 24 |
| School Mass-5th | Oct. 25 |
| Harvest Run | Oct. 26 |
| Halloween Carnival | Oct. 31 |
| Sr. Mary Susanna, O.P.-Visit | Oct. 31 |

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

Beau Johnson and Reliable Mill for the metal standards for the back parking lot

Tom and Mary Thomas for their donation in memory of Eddie Sequeira

Redwood Valley Cellars, Ted Baker Limited and Factory Pipeline for their generous donations to our sports program

Mary Lee and Eugene Davis, and Don and Lynda Coursey for their donations in memory of Pat Gulyas

Lorena and Gil Tournour for their continuous support of our school

Kathy and Jim Bogner for their generous donation

KINDER

The fall season has arrived. Kindergarten is busy with their first lessons in math and language. Our Alpha friends are helping us learn our letter names and sounds. Mimi Mouse was a fast favorite! Are you singing along, too? We are practicing forming letters and numbers, especially the letters in our names. Kindergarten is busy and full of excitement!

FIRST

The first month of school has flown by! It was great to meet all of you at Back to School Night. Thank you so much for coming! Our reading groups are up and running. The kids are learning and loving reading with their friends. If you have signed up to volunteer for reading groups, please let me know if you are not able to come. We are looking forward to our field trip to the Pumpkin Patch in October!

THIRD

We are off to a fantastic start in 3rd grade! We have been working on a narrative writing piece where students created their own underwater creatures. We focused on using colorful adjectives in our narratives. Look for our crazy creatures in the hallway outside of 3rd grade!

FOURTH

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

FIFTH

The 2017 school year is off to an exciting start with even more excitement to come. We are less than one month away from our annual Fort Ross field trip. Now that our roles are established, the class is busy creating our costumes and learning our characters. All of this is not possible without all the hardworking parents helping to make this experience so seamless and enjoyable.

EIGHTH

We are off to a great start in 8th Grade! We have selected our sweatshirt style and are looking forward to some cooler weather. We are also looking forward to our Science Fair in February and Yosemite Science camp in late April early May!

MAY AWARDS

Student of the Month

Dante Giacomini,
Giamanni Zazueta, Sarah McGrath,
Erin Lazarevich, Cameron Hubley,
Alex Castagna, Ava Kindopp

Principal Award

Cody Corippo, Concepción González,
Adelaide Ross, Hailey Lucido, Jonah Myers,
Dylan Wegesser, Kallum Thurston,
Angel Ortega, Kaden Thurston

Personal Success Award

Noah McAvoy, Zoie Black, Andrea Jimenez,
Aidan Rodriguez, Brody Fowler, Laila McAsey,
Alyvia Dyer, Joseph Brackett, Cole Fowler,
Nathan Looney, Zachary Hunter,
Sophia Dunnicliff

Million Word Award

Nathan Looney, Tyler Simerson

Athlete of the Month

Lucy Lunceford, Roman LaBrash,
Alex Castagna

Carousel of Books

Maxemillian Vargas-Sanchez, Cody Corippo,
Bailey Simerson, Concepción González,
Addie Ross, Chelsea Hiatt

GARDENING

As we welcome the cooler temperatures with the beginning of fall we finish harvesting the last of the summer produce. The kids have been busy cleaning out the vegetable beds and refilling them with a donation of fresh compost from North American Organics in Redwood Valley in order to prepare them for our winter garden. Our garden wouldn't be as successful as it is without their generous donations to our garden! The next Garden Stand will be Wednesday, September 27th at 12:30-1:00 by the back gate. The 2nd and 3rd grade classes will be in charge of running the stand this week. As always we appreciate any donations of extra produce or baked goods you may have or want to bake to supplement our stand. The last Garden Stand will be October 11th and the 4th and 5th grade classes will be in charge. During the week of October 9th we will have class salsa competitions! I would love to have a parent from each class come in and help their class during gardening to help create their salsa for the competition. Please let me know if you would be interested in helping out with this fun event.

LIBRARY

The library is off to a great start. All classes are scheduled for a class period each week. I will be collecting the summer reading logs before the October Awards assembly. Thank you for reading with your children through the summer. Our annual Scholastic Book Fair will be the week of November 6th. Several parents have already signed up as volunteers. I will be contacting you soon to schedule your hours. This is an important funding source for our school library. Many thanks for your support.

SPANISH

During the month of September we studied vocabulary related to objects in the student's backpacks. En mi mochile hay... We also reviewed in 1st-6th vocabulary "en el aula" or in the classroom. The kindergarteners are working on los colores, las numeras y las saludas. Grades 1-4 are working on saying their age and expressing their feelings. They are becoming proficient in saying the date and the days of the week. We just finished a cultural discussion of Mexican Independence Day on the 16th of September and tasted treats of Michoacana popsicles or "palitas". During "Otono" and the month of October we will begin preparations for our celebration of Dia de los Muertos here at school on November 2nd. Thank you for your continued support of the Spanish Program. 5th and 6th graders are doing well in their new workbooks!

**St. Mary's School
Faculty & Staff****Pastor**

Fr. Oscar Diaz

Principal

Mary Leitter Thomas

Kindergarten

Maria Oberti

Grade 1

Christina Wilson

Grade 2

Julie Wilson

Grade 3Dana Geimer/
Andrea Keffeler**Grade 4**

Johanna Lopez

Grade 5

Jack Brown

Grade 6

Jim Caruso

Grade 7

Rick Cleland

Grade 8

Dan Vilotti

Music

Sam Kircher

Spanish

Kathy Shipley

Gardening

Jill Scheller

Librarian

Marilyn McGrew

Title 1

Carl Morgensen

Kitchen

Kristin Myers

Classroom Aides

Beth Pacheco, Allie Skipper,

Chrissy Galletti,

Kathi Gower

Kid's Club

Beth Pacheco, Nicole Quigley,

Lulu Jimenez

Finance

Lisa Cavalin

Secretary

Kris Scaturro, Jasmine Boek

Athletic Director

Michele Bodnar

Maintenance

Jim Werner

Development Director

Mary Golden

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

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.
- Scholastic Book Fair November 6th -10th. All proceeds go directly to our school library.
- Thank you, parents, for scheduling appointments so students did not miss any testing! We finished our nationally normed standardized testing, the Iowa Assessment, this week and will have the results for you at our Parent/Teacher conferences in November. We also finished our baseline STAR Read and STAR Math assessments. These assessments will be given three more times this year. These assessments allow us to track student progress, identify needs, and then tailor instruction and interventions in the classroom. Parents also will receive these results of the first two STAR assessments at the parent teacher conferences. This is our fourth year of using STAR assessments, and our 15th year with Iowa Assessments.
- We will celebrate the feast of St. Francis of Assisi with the Blessing of the Animals, Wednesday, October 4th at 2:45. Fr. Oscar will join us and lead us in prayer, and then he will 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 the people and the animals.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING

Go to www.CMGConnect.org

EVERYONE MUST RE-NEW THE COURSE THIS YEAR

IT IS A NEW COURSE

Under Diocese choose: Santa Rosa

Setup an account with a log-in and password

The required course is Safe Haven-It’s Up to You

IF YOU ARE ONLY RENEWING YOUR COURSE REQUIREMENT-

DO NOT SET UP A NEW ACCOUNT.

USE YOUR PREVIOUS LOG-IN AND PASSWORD.

IF YOU NEED HELP LOGGING IN PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE.



Dominican Corner

There are four Dominican Pillars of Dominican life-Prayer/Spirituality, Study, Community and Preaching/Service.

St. Mary of the Angels was founded by the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose in 1954, and we remain an affiliate school and share in making these pillars a part of the formation of our students. With the pillar of Preaching, St. Dominic recognized that we show God to others by how we are and how we act. Dominicans call that preaching. In the classroom, our teachers are the guides and guardians of your children here at school.

Our teachers are charged with this holy work- to form the hearts and minds of students, producing diligent learners, globally aware citizens, and people of faith. We thank you for sharing with us the gift of your wonderful children.



ST. MARY of the ANGELS
CATHOLIC SCHOOL