



St. Mary of the Angels Catholic School NEWSLETTER

Principal's Letter

We offer a joyful and glad post-Easter greeting to all our families! These spring months are abuzz with revival, rebirth, resurrection, and some regret. May will deliver our long-awaited Open House, the Spring Auction and Tri-Tip fundraisers, a plethora of educational field trips, multiple opportunities to worship together. A number of our students will make their First Communion. Others will produce a spectacle of musical theater. More still will put their skills to the test in a friendly Diocesan track and field competition.

This remarkable 2021-22 school year will near its end with so much gratitude and appreciation on the part of your humble administrative team. We count among our many blessings the amazing faculty and staff members who have joined our team this year. We welcome all of the new families who found their way to St. Mary's, and salute the stalwart faithful of you who have stuck with our school and our mission through thick and thin.

We give thanks to God for answering our prayers for a talented, qualified, and eager administrator in the form of Mr. Andrew Soria, whom we will welcome to the principal's office at the year's end.

As for the regret, a few of our stellar faculty have chosen not to continue in their current roles for the coming school year.

After 16 years, Mr. Dan Vilotti, our resident officer, gentleman, and deacon, will retire from his post in our junior high. He leaves behind a void that will be filled, but never fully replaced. We wish Mr. Vilotti all of the best on his well-earned (and third!) retirement. We have no intention of bidding him farewell, however, as his post in our parish will keep him well within reach of St. Mary's School and its students, staff, and families.

Likewise, our gracious and gifted gardener, Mrs. Jill Scheller, will be hanging up her rake and shovel at the year's end. She leaves some rather large muck-lucks to fill, and has blessed a whole generation of students with an appreciation for nature, the earth's bounty, nutrition, and good old-fashioned elbow grease. Jill's legacy will remain in the form of sprouting seeds, bountiful blooms, and the rich soil of both the garden space, and the space between her students' ears.

Two years ago, Rosemary Janiak rescued our first grade by stepping up to the most challenging circumstances a teacher could ever face. Her breadth of experience, faith, commitment, and professionalism have accomplished certain results in the most uncertain times. While she leaves the full-time helm as a first-rate first grade teacher, we are pleased to announce that she will remain a part of our team as a master teacher and mentor on a part-time basis.

Such are all cycles. As endings are cause for beginnings, challenges must always be approached as opportunities. We look forward to staffing these vacancies with quality candidates who answer the call to work in Catholic education. We welcome any assistance our families might have to help attract any potential applicants to these unique and rewarding opportunities.

We salute these three, and all who make the sacrifice and commitment to engage in our mission. Their efforts are on occasion tiresome and under appreciated. The fruits thereof, however, are always essential, enduring, and priceless.

Thank you, and God bless,
St. Mary's Administrative Team

MAY 2022

Family Mass-3rd	May 1
Family Work Day	May 1
Hector's Snow Cones-6th	May 5
Open House	May 5
Spring Auction-On line	May 5-7
Hector's Snow Cones-5th	May 6
MacKerricher Tidepools-3rd	May 9
School Mass	May 11
Safari West-2nd	May 11
Hike to U-6th	May 12
Spelling Bee	May 12
Tri Tip Drive Through Dinner	May 12
First Communion	May 15
Awards Week	May 16-20
Petrified Forest/Geysers-6th	May 19
Alumni Day	May 20
Diocese Track Meet-Cardinal Newman	May 22
Mendocino Headlands	May 24
Giants Game-4th	May 25
School Mass	May 25
13 Colonies Play-5th	May 26
Memorial Day-No School	May 30

Upcoming Events

Scandia-6th	June 7
Hendy Woods-3rd	June 9
Last Day of School	June 10
Graduation	June 10

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

Lorena and Gil Tournour for their generous donation to our school

All of our amazing donors that gave generously to our Mardi Gras 'Unevent' Our community donated 25,521.43!! Thank you so much!!

KINDERGARTEN

In kindergarten, we are learning to do our best. Different people do better at different things. Some people do better at reading; some do better at math. Some people are great artists; some do well in sports. However, we all can learn how to do these different things through hard work and practice. This week we read *The Little Engine that Could* by Watty Piper and *You Can Do It, Curious George!* by Margaret and H.A. Rey. Both books led to discussions about asking for help, helping others, believing in ourselves, and trying our best. In language arts, we are identifying letter names and sounds, blending words, reading and writing high-frequency words, and writing sentences. In math, we are exploring measurement and shapes.

FIRST

First graders are branching out into reading short chapter books, learning to take AR tests and expanding our writing about what we have read. We are learning 2 digit addition and subtraction with “carrying” tens. First graders are continuing to enjoy drawing lessons with much success. We are looking forward to a teddy bear picnic sometime in May.

SECOND

As we grow physically taller in second grade, we also grow in our knowledge and academics. In science we have been learning about insects and their life cycles. Our classroom pets for the last couple weeks have been ladybugs and we have been able to observe three stages of their unique life cycle. We anxiously await to see their eggs, which is the last stage we need to observe. Silk moth eggs from last year were just taken out of the refrigerator and we are hoping for larva to appear soon so we can explore the life cycle of a silk moth. In Religion, we are preparing for First Communion and learning how we can share God’s love with others. God bless and keep reading at home!

THIRD

Third grade is very busy! In science students are making comic strips to show their understanding of solids, liquids and gases. In social studies students are beginning their study of the U.S. Presidents. Students are eager to share their final reports with the class and parents! We look forward to seeing you all at our Open House on Thursday, May 5, 2022 from 5:30-7pm!

FOURTH

I hope everyone had a blessed Easter filled with health and happiness! In fourth grade we have been learning about California’s gold rush and formation as a state. We look forward to our gold rush field trip where students will experience first hand what we are learning about in our books. We are studying rocks and minerals in Science, a perfect accompaniment to our study of the gold rush in Social Studies. Speaking of reading books, I am so proud of our hardworking fourth grade students-together they have read over 17,301,474 A.R. words as a classroom community! In fourth grade Math we are working with fractions, equivalent fractions, converting fractions, as well as factors and prime numbers. Fourth graders participated in our school wide devotions of Stations of the Cross and Holy week. We also participated in Saint Mary’s “Pinwheels for Prevention” display on the front lawn by writing words of love, peace, and light on ribbons tied to pinwheels blowing in the breeze-shining lights of awareness on April’s Child Abuse Prevention month. Thank you for the gift of working with your children.

MARCH AWARDS

Student of the Month

Liam Greaney, Caleb Bushway, Mason Scott, Junior Gonzalez, Giada Giacomini, Tulsi Bixler, Clayton Petri, Caleb Hubley, Laila McAsey

Principal Award

Victoria Gonzalez, Presley King, Jacob Rinehart, Audrey McCarty, Penelope McCollough, Robert Fetzer, Andrew Hanna, Galilea Aparicio, Jacob Rinehart, Abraham Kircher, Trenton Barsos

Personal Success

Noah Llamas, Reese Pool, Camden Strangio, Shawn Orozco, Noah Morris, Benson Zhao, Norma Feather, Ryder McMenomey, Xavier Gonzalez, Cord Phenicie, Cody Corippo, Preston Richardson, Rohan Halady, Connor Quigley, Delaney Kornegay

Language Arts

Axel Fontana, Evelyn Miller, Jack Mulholland, Brayden Harmon, Everett Coughlin, Toby Guo, Isaiah Aboytes, Ava Sublet, Brody Coleman, Tyson Woodall, Cael Phenicie, Laila McAsey

Athlete of the Month

Langley Barron, Audrina Armas, Tyson Woodall

Million Words

Emilia Mulholland-2,502,065
Violet Dawson-1,069,198
Addie Ross-1,232,722

Kid’s Club Award

Brayden Harmon

FIFTH

Fifth Grade is looking forward to May! We began our Social Studies segment on the American Revolution War. We are learning all about the lead up to the Revolutionary War, as well as the many prestigious personalities of the era. Along with the classroom curriculum, the 5th Graders are preparing for our class musical, 13 Colonies. The students are perfecting their musical acts and honing their acting skills with Sr. Kircher, and we are all very much looking forward to the performances on May 26th. Also, we are also very excited to begin our Endangered Species project. Each student will complete a 5-paragraph report on an endangered species of their choosing, along with a short presentation to the class. As you can see, there is a lot to be excited about and it is hard to believe that there are only a handful of weeks before these kiddos are in Junior High!!

SIXTH

In Algebra-1 the students are nearing the finish line of the curriculum, solving quadratic equations. They just completed the first solving method, factoring standard form trinomials. Next method, graphing nonlinear equations. We will conclude with the quadratic formula and operations with algebraic fractions.

In Middle School ELA, the 6th Grade is wrapping up their investigation into The Westing Game and are actively putting together their Proofs of this multilevel who-done-it. The 7th and 8th Grades have completed their reading of William Shakespeare’s Hamlet and created two wonderful story boards which now hang in the middle school hallway. The 7th Grade has just begun their reading of S.E. Hinton’s The Outsiders, and the 8th Grade has begun their reading of Jerry Spinelli’s Milkweed. The 8th Graders have all passed the written portion of the Proteus Project, and are now onto the presentation portion. They will present their projects to a panel of judges the second week of May.

SEVENTH

For the month of May, 7th grade will be studying the cultural world of the early civilizations in Mesoamerica. We will be covering the Olmec and the nations after them. 6th grade will be studying more of the Roman World, learning all about the Fall of the Roman Empire. 8th Grade will be transitioning from the Jackson Era of our Republic Nation to our Republic Nation expanding West, exploring the Mexican-American War. For P.E., We are going strong with Ping Pong! Middle School will be getting ready for tournaments at the beginning of May. Please bring your water bottles! Go Eagles!

EIGHTH

8th Grade is preparing for a strong finish to the year. We are looking forward to our upcoming field trips to Mendocino Headlands, Hendy Woods and the traditional end of the year eighth grade trips. As a reminder we will have an 8:30 am Awards Prayer Service in the church on June 10th followed by the graduation diploma Mass in the late afternoon or evening.

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

Fr. Peter Reddy

PrincipalsJames Caruso, Andrea Keffeler,
Sam Kircher**Kindergarten**

Katie Carlsen

Grade 1

Rosemary Janiak

Grade 2

Julie Wilson

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

Nicole Quigley

Grade 5

Jack Brown

Grade 6

Jim Caruso

Grade 7

Shannon Whetzel

Grade 8

Dan Vilotti

Music

Sam Kircher

Spanish

Kathy Shipley

Gardening

Jill Scheller

Librarian

Marilyn McGrew

Computer

Joe Selzer

Kitchen

Kristin Myers

Classroom AidesKenzie White, Emily Scaturro
Kathi Gower, Breanne Land**Kid’s Club**

Joanna Trigg, Alexis Martyn

Finance

Lisa Cavalin

Secretary

Kris Scaturro

Athletic Director

Katie Ford

Maintenance

Mike Myers

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,

MUSIC

Joyful choruses of Alleluia resound in the music building as we enter the Easter season, and the full splendor of spring. There is so much to share, as we look forward to doing at our upcoming Open House, which will include some “impromptu” singing sessions to mark the occasion. Our return to school masses has prompted a return to liturgical music, using one of God’s most precious gifts to honor and praise His name. The fifth grade’s Thirteen Colonies musical production, and the eighth grade’s preparation for their awards service, and graduation ceremonies are other spring traditions that we are so pleased to see back on the table. How can we keep from singing?

SPANISH

¡Felices Pascuas! We are now officially in the Easter season! Your students happily learned about the tradition of breaking “cascarones” filled with confetti on the heads of some students and yes also on some of our teachers. This tradition at Easter time symbolizes friendship and brings luck and happiness to the receiver of this fun activity. Some of your students are already cashing in their lenten coins for sombreros and other fun rewards. The fifth and sixth graders are looking forward to their May 5th or 6th trip to Hector’s. We will be working on proper politeness in ordering sno-cones and food in Spanish. The changes in weather have increased the vocabulary for your students. They should be able to successfully describe the weather. Please ask them in Spanish ¿Que tiempo hace hoy? (what is the weather?) They should be able to respond with a short response... “Está lluvioso...Hace sol... Está soleado... Está frio... Está nublado. Happy Easter to all! ¡Resucito!

