



# St. Mary of the Angels Catholic School NEWSLETTER

## Principal's Letter

Happy fall to all,

With the daylight hours getting shorter, we'll soon turn back the clocks and settle into a season of repose. Our campus is alive and thriving, with whispers of Halloween, Días de los Muertos, Feasts of All Saints and Souls, and a transition into Advent, preparing the way for the Lord.

By the time you read this, the fifth grade will have traveled to Fort Ross and back. Several classes will have taken their pumpkin patch pilgrimages, our Halloween carnival will have returned after a year-long hiatus, and the seventh grade boys will open their basketball season in Healdsburg.

We congratulate our St. Mary's student victors of the Pumpkinfest coloring contest. Way to go Lucas Huble, Xavier Gonzalez, and Dre White!

On the horizon, the faculty prepares for our school's accreditation, our students will run, run, run to raise some funds, the seventh and eighth graders travel to majestic Yosemite National Park, the first trimester ends, and our crucial parent-teacher conferences take place.

We will give thanks, as family members, as a school community, as global citizens, and as children of God, in a time when a shift in the perspective of our many blessings might be in order.

We are so grateful for our tireless and faithful faculty and staff, for our supportive families and friends, and most of all, for the glimmer of promise and hope found in each one of our student's eyes.

We remain cautiously optimistic that the worst is behind us, that recent COVID trends hold, and that the end of the pandemic is in sight. We celebrate the success of all of the inconvenient but necessary protocols to guard against illness and spread. We look forward to each day with a promise to get better.

The proposed vaccine mandates in California have raised much concern. We share the concern, and consider the ultimate outcomes of a potential mandate for students and staff at our school. We offer this preliminary guidance from our diocese;

"At this point, all we have are the outlines of the Governor's proposal. The State has yet to prepare an official Public Health Order to this effect. When they do, our diocesan leadership will review it to understand the implications for our Catholic schools. We will be guided by the same three principles that have governed our decisions throughout the pandemic: adherence to Catholic moral teaching; protecting the health of our students, faculty and staff; and respect for the law.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership, flexibility, and understanding as we navigate this situation. We promise to keep you informed as we learn more.

**May Christ the Teacher continue to bless and protect our Catholic school."**

Our prayers remain with you, our partners and companions on this journey. Please continue to pray for us.

## NOVEMBER 2021

Teacher Inservice-No school	Nov. 1
Dia de los Muertos	Nov. 2
Trimester Ends	Nov. 5
Daylight Savings	Nov 7
Harvest Run	Nov. 10
Veteran's Day-No School	Nov. 11
Picture Retake/Make Up	Nov. 12
Yosemite Science Camp	Nov 15-19
Parent/Teacher Conferences	Nov. 17-19
Thanksgiving Break-No School	Nov. 22-26
School Resumes	Nov. 29

**Awards Week November 2-5**

**Please help us with our upcoming fundraisers the Harvest Run**

**visit our website at [www.stmarysukiah.org](http://www.stmarysukiah.org)**

**and the Holiday Bazaar**

**<https://auctria.events/2021HolidayBazaar>**

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

**Lorena and Gil Tournour for their continued support**

**Dawson Family for their donation of Chromebooks to the second grade class**

**Anonymous donation for transportation for our Yosemite field trip**

## KINDERGARTEN

Happy Halloween! Kindergarten has been busy learning about pumpkins! We took a trip to the pumpkin patch where we picked our own pumpkins, we learned about the life cycle and the parts of a pumpkin, we read some pumpkin stories, and we made some pumpkin art. We have also been busy blending and segmenting onset and rime, blending sounds, identifying letter names and sounds, and reading and writing the high-frequency words I, like, the, and, see, we, a, and to.

## FIRST

Beginning reading is the name of the game in first grade! We are learning sounds, blending and enjoying good literature. In math we are learning + and - and number relationships. We are of course excited about Halloween and our trip to the pumpkin patch on Oct. 28. We are looking forward to playing in the falling leaves.

## SECOND

It’s hard to believe that October is already over! Our first field trip to Pirate Pete’s Pumpkin Patch was a success! We had a great time picking out pumpkins and having a piece of normalcy in second grade. We also got to make sugar skulls in Spanish for the first time and they all turned out wonderful! Thank you for all you do as parents and please continue to work with your children at home on reading and math facts. God bless!

## THIRD

Third grade really enjoyed the month of October with lots of Halloween themed projects! We wrote narrative haunted house stories focusing on sensory details. Students also drew a haunted house to go along with their narrative. In music, students learned the song “Oh My Darling Frankenstein” and made Frankenstein masks in the classroom. They presented their song to the school at assembly and to parents in the parking lot. We are so happy to continue this third grade tradition.

## FOURTH

In Fourth grade we have been busy working hard and having fun. In Language Arts we have been writing “Pet Monster” stories and working with our story structure, creative writing, plot and character development, and descriptive writing skills. Students illustrated portraits of their pet monsters and they are amazing! We are reading Island of the Blue Dolphins as a class and have also been reading about traditional tales and performance arts. In Social Studies we are learning about how California’s geography impacts the climate, vegetation, population, and lifestyle of Californians. In Science we are studying ecosystems with their living and nonliving parts. In Religion we have been working with prayer, how to pray the Rosary, and each student received a special blessed Rosary of their own. In Math we have been reviewing multiplication and division facts, analyzing and generating patterns, studying place value and the different ways we can write numbers in our base ten number system.

## SEPTEMBER AWARDS

### **Student of the Month**

Axel Fontana, Caleb Bushway, Jaclyn McGrath, Elizabeth Trigg, Isaiah Aboytes, Tulsi Bixler, Bailey Simerson, Addie Ross, Andrew Salas

### **Principal Award**

Noah Llamas, Zosia Fetzer, Tucker Woodall, Audrina Armas, Kaylani McAsey, Hunter Salas, Emma Rodrigue, Annie Degallier, Sarah McGrath

### **Personal Success**

Marina Pacheco-Nascimento, Dashiell Parkinson, Grace Fontana, Jack Mulholland, Everett Coughlin, Penelope McCollough, Hector Gonzalez, Sophia Ortega, Enoch Collins, Giada Giacomini, Skylar Marston, Gwyn Furey, Jax Keffeler, Tyson Woodall, Dylan Morris, Caleb Hubley, Molly Kaluna-Jones, Delaney Kornegay

### **Language Arts**

Carolina Kircher, Clark Dawson, Lucas Hubley, Emilia Mulholland, Addison Campbell, Violet Dawson, Cord Phenicie, Derek Herring, Rohan Halady, Sarah McGrath

### **Athlete of the Month**

Evelyn Miller, Robert Fetzer, Derek Herring

### **Accelerated Reader Stars**

Tucker Woodall, Clark Dawson, Jaclyn McGrath, Catherine Trigg, Francis Collins, Emilia Mulholland, Elizabeth Trigg, Lucas Hubley, Trustin Finley, Gage Mahan, Violet Dawson, Kaylani McAsey, Addison Campbell, Enoch Collins, Tulsi Bixler, Cassidy Geimer, Gio Fernandes, Cord Phenicie, Nathalie Rabor, Tatiana McAsey, Bailey Simerson, Annie Degallier, Connor Quigley, Addie Ross, Sarah McGrath

**Million Words** Connor Quigley

**FIFTH**

WOW! What an amazing, successful and inspirational trip to Fort Ross. All the preparation and hard work paid off and proved to be a wonderful and memorable experience. The end of the first trimester is right around the corner and I am looking forward to meeting with parents at Parent/Teacher Conferences. We are very excited for the Harvest Run, November 10th. We cannot wait to show our school spirit and raise money for St Mary’s!

**SIXTH**Ropes Course Trip:

The 6th and 7th Grade field trip to the Ropes Course was fantastic! This was a day full of fun and adventure. It was so good to see the students have some time in a beautiful, outdoor space overcoming both physical and personal obstacles as they climbed high up into the redwoods, then jumped or ziplined back to earth. Thanks to everyone for helping make this such a memorable day.

Junior High Dance:

The middle school students gathered for the first school dance in almost two years last Friday evening. It was such a joy to see them having fun on the dance floor...or in this case, the outdoor basketball court! So nice seeing this St. Mary’s middle school tradition return for our students.

**SEVENTH**

In seventh grade we will be exploring the ancient world of Africa. Diving into the kingdoms of Ghana, Mali and Kush. Sixth grade will be transported to ancient India, learning all about old religions and cultures. In eighth grade we are on the road to the Constitution test. Eighth graders will be dissecting the roles and branches of government as well as the articles of the constitution. For sixth, seventh and eighth P.E all classes will be participating in kickball! Middle school will enjoy taking advantage of our baseball diamond. Please bring your water bottles!

**EIGHTH**

Eighth grade is looking forward to Yosemite science camp. Their classroom science curriculum is taking them on an adventure through the periodic table and the fundamentals of Chemistry. In religion we are discussing Church history in relation to salvation history and have started discussions on the reasons for believing in the existence of God.

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

Fr. Peter Reddy

**Principals**

James Caruso, Andrea Keffeler,

Sam Kircher

**Kindergarten**

Katie Carlsen

**Grade 1**

Rosemary Janiak

**Grade 2**

Julie Wilson

**Grade 3**

Dana 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 Aides**

Kenzie White, Emily Scaturro

Kathi Gower, Breanne Land

**Kid’s Club**

Maggie Selzer, 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**

The music building continues to bustle with rhythm, melody, and much more. Kindergarteners are aurally identifying relative pitch (high/low) and playing sol-mi-la songs like Rain, Rain, and Ring Around the Rosie on Orff instruments. First graders are hand jiving to Ms. Mary Mack, and singing in unison, echo, and call-response with Down By the Bay. The second grade is working on staff concepts (ascent/descent, intervals, lines/spaces) and applying them with paper and pencil and mallets and keys. In third grade, the class is adding waltz time (boom-chuck-chuck) rhythmic accompaniment to their halloween song, and even providing chordal harmony with resonator bells. The fourth graders wrapped up their Beethoven study with a concert poster project, and a creative writing assignment on the composer. They are now beginning to compose melodies of their own. Fifth grade has completed their first round of ukulele instruction, and are strumming away on all kinds of songs with five different chords. Next up are the blues. In sixth grade, students are hearing, reading, and composing original melodic sequences repeated at different pitch levels to flesh out tunes. Next up are the Beatles. Seventh graders are reading and playing ensembles for Orff instruments with soprano, alto, tenor, and bass parts. The eighth grade is taking their study of chord theory and transferring their triads and arpeggios to the keyboard. There’s never a dull moment, and the music in the air lifts the hearts of all who play and hear it, especially me!

**SPANISH**

In Spanish K-6 your students have decorated sugar skulls in grades 2-6 and have decorated cheery calcicas (skeletons). In grades K-1 we are excited to be celebrating with our students their deceased ancestors and pets on Tuesday, November 2nd. We invite all parents to visit our gym on Wednesday, November 3rd between 12:30-6:00 pm to view our beautifully decorated altares( ofrendas). Your children will enjoy Mexican chocolate and pan de muertos on November 2nd. They will carry their newly made masks to the gym with their class to share with each other the stories of deceased pets or family members. Thank you for your support of this traditional cultural celebration. The movie Coco has been enjoyed by all classes also. Thank you in advance to our parent volunteers who will help set up from the 30th-1st in the gym.

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**The Harvest Run is November 10th!**

**This is a great fundraiser for our school that also emphasizes the importance of health and exercise! Please encourage your children to collect pledges prior to the event. Donations can be collected through <https://secure.givelively.org/donate/st-mary-of-the-angels-catholic-school/st-mary-s-school-harvest-run-2021>**



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