



September 3, 2021

Dear Old Mission School Parents,

Today is our first First Friday. As I mentioned in last week's letter, every first Friday of the month during the school year we celebrate "First Friday Birthdays". The students and staff can wear Spirit Wear, and parents sign up to bring treats (individually wrapped) for the class (sign-ups are on the [OMS volunteer website](#)). On First Fridays, we have [Minimum Day dismissal](#). Teachers meet in data teams on those afternoons.

We are also kicking off Walkathon today. This is our largest school fundraiser and is a success because of the efforts of our students, parents, volunteers, and our coordinator, Charlotte Ornellas! Last year students and sponsors raised over \$80,000, well in excess of our goal. This year our goal is \$60,000 and, to meet that goal, we ask each student to raise \$200 in pledges before the event which will be held on October 29th. One great tool to achieve this goal is Pledgestar, an online platform for raising pledges, taking payments, and tracking progress. Students can even send an email to family and friends to invite them to support them with a pledge. Be sure to enter your child's size for his/her free Walkathon t-shirt on Pledgestar when you register. Please see the digital packet being sent home today for more information including t-shirt sponsorships.

There are a number of incentives for students throughout the eight weeks of the event including Spirit Wear days every Friday up to the event, a free dress pass for every \$50 raised, class competitions with Falcon Games, and more. If our school raises \$50,000, the teachers will come in uniform while students receive a free dress day, and if we reach the \$80,000 mark, I myself will dress in uniform for the entirety of trimester 2 (except on free dress days). Thank you in advance for helping support your school and bridge the gap between tuition and the cost to educate our students!

Speaking of uniforms, we have been giving reminders to our students these first couple of weeks to get everyone on track so we can focus on learning and building community. Now that we are heading into week three, we are starting to record uniform and dress code violations. Our Parent/Student Handbook outlines our uniform and dress code policies and a link was sent out prior to the start of the school year for parents and students to review (it is also found on our website [www.omsslo.com](http://www.omsslo.com)). Please know that we are compassionate and understanding with our students while also firm in our expectations. We appreciate your partnership in helping us move forward toward a positive and productive school year.

**Upcoming events:**

September 6th	Labor Day, no school
September 9	Parent Club meeting (12:45-1:45)
September 13-24	STAR Testing
September 27	Diocesan Professional Development Day, no school
September 29	Mid-trimester 1
September 30	Picture Day
October 4	Feast of St. Francis, Blessing of the Animals

Have a great weekend. -Shirley Gray



The Old Mission Catholic School community is dedicated to the development of socially responsible citizens who are spiritually enriched, academically empowered, and morally accountable for their actions.