



October 1, 2021

Dear Old Mission School Parents,

Happy October!

Our students are continuing to have great success in raising pledges for our Walkathon! Students have raised over \$53,000 already and sponsorships have exceeded \$23,000 with four weeks still to go! It looks like we are well on our way to exceeding last year's amount; WAY TO GO OMS!

The Falcon Games competition winners today in each bracket were as follows: second grade, fifth grade, 7G, and 8B! Congratulations!

In addition to reviewing our Mission, Philosophy, and Vision Statements during our accreditation self-study process, we also assess how effective we are in helping our students achieve our Schoolwide Learning Expectations (SLEs) and integrating our SLEs into learning and instruction. Last week, I included an attachment that delineated our Mission, Philosophy, Vision and SLEs (also found in our Handbook). I will review each of the SLEs in my next three letters. Our first SLE (and the indicators) is as follows:

I know and live the spirit of Jesus.

- I can tell the story of Jesus and live the Gospel values.
- Demonstrate compassion, care, love, and kindness to everyone while playing and working.
- I will respect myself and each person in my school community as demonstrated by how I speak and behave throughout each day.
- I take responsibility for my words and actions.
- I celebrate life joyfully.
- I am a peacemaker.
- I am a child of God with unique gifts.

Our teachers and staff work together (and partner with you as parents) to foster and encourage our students to achieve the SLEs through direct instruction, curriculum and resources, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, and daily interactions on our campus. We are so grateful to be part of a school community that goes beyond academic objectives and helps form good people and good relationships.

I am preparing my annual "OMS by the Numbers" slideshow which gives an overview of enrollment and budget for the current year. I plan to attach the slideshow to next week's Principal's Letter. I will follow up in June with a budget vs. projected actual as we get closer to the end of our fiscal year. I hope you find the information helpful as we continue to work toward transparency and effective communication.

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.

This Monday, October 4th - the Feast of St. Francis - we will celebrate one of our favorite traditions - Blessing of the Animals! Remember, all pets must be leashed or contained, and no hooved animals are allowed. MCP is generously allowing us to use their field and we must be respectful guests and pick up after our furry friends. All attendees must be masked as this is typically a pretty large gathering. Parents must accompany and bring home pets immediately following the blessing. No pets on main campus please. We will assemble at 8:15 on the MCP field (students should drop off backpacks/supplies and wait until attendance is taken before heading to the field). We should finish by 8:30/8:40 or so. Once again, there is NO parking in the drop-off zone; rather, please park on surrounding streets not requiring permits or in the parking structure on Palm. This is a student and teacher favorite! We are so happy to be able to continue this celebration.

Thank you to all who contributed to the first grade St. Francis Towel Drive service project benefitting Woods Humane Society.

Look for mid-trimester progress reports coming by the end of the day. The trimester ends on November 11th and Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held November 15-17th.

Upcoming events:

October 1	First Fri. Birthdays, Minimum Day dismissal
October 4	Feast of St. Francis, Blessing of the Animals
Oct. 17-23	Character Counts Week
Oct. 25	No school, accreditation work day
October 29	Walkathon, Minimum Day dismissal
November 4	Picture retakes
November 5	First Fri. Birthdays, Minimum Day dismissal

Have a great weekend.

-Shirley Gray



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