



October 8, 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 \$62,000 already and sponsorships have exceeded \$23,000 with three weeks still to go! We have exceeded last year's amount and I will be wearing a uniform for the entire 2nd trimester; WAY TO GO OMS!

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

In continuing our review for accreditation, the second of our School-wide Learning Expectations (SLEs) and the indicators is as follows:

I am a self-directed learner and strive for personal excellence.

- I communicate effectively in speaking and writing.
- I will gain knowledge and an appreciation of the world's diversity through curiosity and my studies.
- I solve problems creatively and thoughtfully.
- I will understand and accept the consequences of my actions.
- I think critically and use evidence to support my ideas and advocate for myself.
- I work collaboratively and demonstrate academic excellence.
- I demonstrate passion and perseverance for long term and meaningful goals.

As I indicated in last week's letter, our teachers and staff partner with you - the parents and primary educators. Together we 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 have attached my annual "OMS By the Numbers" slideshow which gives an overview of enrollment and budget for the current year. As you will see in the information, one of the reasons our Walkathon and other fundraising events are so important is that our tuition does not cover the cost to educate our students. We appreciate the support of our families and community. I will follow up in June with a budget vs. projected actual when 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.

As the Walkathon falls on the Friday before Halloween and our “normal” activities continue to be impacted by COVID, I wanted to fill you in on our plans for that day. While we usually allow for costumes for the day and have hosted a “trunk-or-treat” event for the students, that will not be the case this year. We want to continue to celebrate the fun of Halloween, but this year will be a bit different. We will send home the WAT tee shirts on Thursday and ask that students come dressed in their WAT tees and shorts for the event. They may wear a costume over their WAT gear for our annual parade at the beginning of the day (which we will video and share). We will then have students remove costumes and stow them in a bag to keep them safe for Sunday. Students will then proceed with the WAT and following their turn on the course, some of the younger students will have a Halloween party in their classrooms. Any treats provided must be individually wrapped per our guidelines. The school will also be providing a Halloween treat bag for all students. Thank you for helping us make this a special day for our students and our school. I’ve attached costume guidelines for the parade.

Look for information on Character Counts Week with my letter next week.

Upcoming events:

Oct. 17-26	Character Counts Week
Oct. 21	Wake Up Early with Tess and Shirley! (Parent Club-sponsored coffee and pastries in the Mission garden) 8:30-9:30
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
November 11	End of Trimester 1
November 12	Teachers in uniform, Students get free dress
Nov. 15-17	Conferences, Minimum Dismissal Days
Nov. 22-26	Thanksgiving Break

Have a great weekend.

-Shirley Gray



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