



OLD MISSION SCHOOL
PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK
2018-2019

Non-Discrimination Policy for Old Mission School

Old Mission School in the Diocese of Monterey, mindful of its primary mission to be a witness to the love of Christ for all, admits students of any race, color, national and/or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to the students at the school. Old Mission School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and/or ethnic origin, age or gender in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs. While Old Mission School does not discriminate against students with special needs, a full range of services may not be available. Likewise, Old Mission School does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment on the basis of gender, age, disability, race, color, and national and/or ethnic origin. Old Mission School reserves the right to be the sole judge of merit, competence and qualifications, and can favor Catholic applicants and co-workers in all employment decisions, especially in those positions that have direct bearing upon the pastoral activity of the Church.

Old Mission School Parent/Student Handbook

The Old Mission School Parent/Student Handbook is published as a guide for parents and students to understand their responsibilities and obligations, as well as statements of policy and procedure that enhance the educational ministry of Old Mission School. Old Mission School standards and administrative operations are also included. Policy statements are necessarily general and *the administration reserves the right to make adjustments as circumstances arise*. We ask that you read this handbook carefully and keep it for reference.

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MISSION STATEMENT

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

SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

The philosophy of Old Mission School focuses on working cooperatively to develop three ideals: 1) spirituality; 2) academic excellence; 3) integrity. Recognizing parents as primary educators, we work cooperatively within the Mission Parish to achieve an innovative and disciplined school environment. While emphasizing core curriculum, we encourage discovery, challenge, high academic standards, and service to others.

We strive to model for one another Christ-centered integrity, becoming spiritually enriched for encounters with the Living Christ. Each child has a right and responsibility to develop his or her full potential as a child of God - spiritually, intellectually, socially, emotionally, and physically.

We embrace and support the following attributes of Catholic education:

The Catholic school affords a particularly favorable setting for catechesis with its daily opportunity for proclaiming and living the gospel message; for learning and appreciating the teachings of our Church; for acquiring a deep understanding, reverence, and love of the Liturgy; for building community; for prayer; for proper formation of conscience; for the development of virtue; and for participating in Christian service. In addition, Catholic schools strive to relate all of the sciences to salvation and sanctification. Students are shown how Jesus illuminates all of life – science, mathematics, history, business, biology, and so forth.

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
Washington D.C., 2005

VISION

In partnership with families, Old Mission School instills Catholic values and educates each child for life: academically, personally, and spiritually.

School-wide Learning Expectations

As a graduate:

Spiritual: I know and live the spirit of Jesus.

- I can tell the story of Jesus and how he directs us to treat others.
- I will play and work cooperatively with others and realize how my choices affect those around me.
- I will respect myself and each person in my school community as demonstrated by how I speak and behave throughout each day.

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

- I will be proficient in writing a complete sentence, strong paragraph, and well-written essay employing correct grammar and punctuation.
- I will gain knowledge and an appreciation of the world's diversity through language acquisition, investigative reporting, and an awareness of current events.
- I will develop an appreciation for reading by choosing to read a variety of literary genre with demonstrated comprehension.
- I will master the basic mathematical operations and explore the realms of science and math through real-life application, laboratory experiences, and cooperative-learning opportunities.
- I will learn and apply a variety of conflict-management strategies when I am having difficulty with another.
- I will understand and accept the consequences for my actions.
- I will apply my problem-solving and critical-thinking skills to a variety of scholastic endeavors, *e.g.*, Science Fair, science labs, and enrichment programs.

Service and Global Awareness: I serve the local and global community with honor and dignity.

- I will participate in service and recycling projects, recognizing my responsibility for the well-being of all Earth's people, animals, and resources.
- I will demonstrate my involvement by actively participating in the Families for Families program, St. Vincent de Paul food drive, OMS tithing and Christmas gift program, and Operation Rice Bowl.
- As a seventh and eighth grader, I will, with the help of my advisor, select an individual service project which positively impacts the community.

ACCREDITATION

Old Mission School is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and the Western Catholic Educational Association (WCEA).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Personnel

1) Pastor

The pastor of Old Mission Parish, directed by the Bishop and canon law, is directly responsible for all parish endeavors. One such major endeavor is the parish or area school. The pastor can render service and leadership to the parish or area school by being a religious leader, community builder, and administrator, working together with the principal, faculty, parents, and other parishioners in a joint effort to advance the education of the children. He is also responsible for the

hiring of the principal and the renewal or non-renewal of the principal's employment agreement.

2) Principal

This position of administrative responsibility carries with it a unique opportunity for shaping a climate of Catholic/Christian values and an atmosphere for learning that will nurture the growth and development of each person. The principal fosters community among faculty and students. S/he understands the Catholic school is part of larger communities, both parish and civic. The principal collaborates with parish, area, and/or diocesan personnel in planning and implementing policies, programs and/or the use of the facilities and grounds.

3) Faculty and Staff

The faculty forms a faculty/student/parent community in the school to develop an atmosphere where the religious faith of each student, along with his/her intellectual, moral, physical, and creative capacities may be developed and strengthened. The faculty makes a commitment that in every classroom a caring teacher helps every student learn, grow and feel welcomed. Staff members are responsible to the principal for the efficient operation of the school and for their performance according to each job description.

4) School Secretary/Administrative Assistant

The school secretary is responsible to the principal for the efficient operation of the school office and for the performance of secretarial, clerical, and other duties related to the principal's office. The secretary is responsible for welcoming those who enter.

5) Bookkeeper/Student Records

The school bookkeeper is responsible to the principal for the efficient operation of the business office and for assisting in billing and bookkeeping records.

6) Director of Marketing and Enrollment

The school registrar is responsible to the principal for the efficient operation of the registrar and for the performance of assisting families with school information, applications, registrations, contracts, tuition and ASA accounts. The registrar is also responsible for welcoming those who enter.

ADMISSION POLICIES

Admission to Old Mission School is a multi-step process. New applicants for transitional kindergarten, kindergarten, and grades one through eight will be screened and interviewed before their names are placed in an eligibility pool for admission. Once accepted, all families complete and submit a signed Admission Contract before students. Students will be admitted who, in the judgment of the administration, can successfully

have his/her needs met at Old Mission School.

Admission Procedures

1. Admission is established each school year in the spring after the screening process is completed. Consideration for admission is generally given to:
 - a) Continuing students enrolled in Old Mission School.
 - b) Siblings of students who have re-enrolled.
 - c) New Catholic students from Old Mission Parish.
 - d) Catholic students from surrounding parishes.
 - e) Other new students.

2. Documents required at the time of application include copies of the social security card, birth, baptismal, and First Eucharist certificates for all Catholic pupils. For all non-Catholic pupils, copies of the birth certificate and social security card are required.

3. Academic records must be presented at the time of application:
 - a) Standardized test scores and report cards (for grades two through eight) from the current academic year and two (2) previous academic years
 - b) Disciplinary records

4. Certification of required health records must be completed upon acceptance before a child may attend school:
 - a) Physician's health form verifying completion of a physical exam within the last 12 months.
 - b) Annual immunization record signed by child's physician. Any child who has not been immunized must follow the diocesan procedure before acceptance (the registrar's office has the appropriate information and procedure).

5. Class size will generally not exceed thirty-two (32) students in kindergarten, grade one, and grade two and thirty-five (35) students for grades three through eight.

6. All enrollment fees are due at the time of registration. A returning student will be placed on a class list once all overdue fees are paid and tuition is current.
Registration fees are non-refundable if you decide not to enroll your child in Old Mission School.

7. Students entering kindergarten must be 5 years of age before September of the school year as stated by California state law.

8. Placement in kindergarten will be recommended by early childhood staff to the principal. Staff may recommend a child's placement in the transitional

kindergarten program to best serve his/her needs. Preschool and parent input is welcomed. *Old Mission School reserves the right to make the final placement decision.*

ATTENDANCE POLICIES

Purpose

Regular and prompt attendance is essential to successful schoolwork and fosters the values of responsibility and reliance. It is difficult for children to successfully keep up with class work if attendance is irregular or if students miss school for reasons other than illness.

Absentee Procedures

When your child is absent, please call or email the school office before 9:00 A.M. to report the absence (bjwoods@omsslo.com). If the office staff is not notified by 9:00 A.M., they must set aside time to contact you to verify the absence. A written note from a parent or guardian is required by law for readmittance. Returning without a note will result in an unexcused absence. A readmit slip will be provided to the student by the office to give to his/her teacher.

Please contact your child's classroom teacher to pick up work for your student to be completed at home during an absence. Middle school students are encouraged to call a class study buddy to get a head start on make-up work, and then check with their teachers upon return to school.

All absentee work will be made up promptly after students return to school. A student has as many days to make up work as s/he was absent (up to five days). For example, if a student missed three days of school, he/she will have three school days to make up work for full credit.

In grades three through eight, participation will comprise 10% of your child's grade in every subject, and this is the only part of the grade that generally cannot be made up or excused after an absence (Each student is provided two free days each trimester in which (s)he will not lose participation). This grade is given to all students who are present in class, on time, prepared with materials, attentive to the presenter, guest, debate, class activity, film, or discussion.

All students leaving the campus during school hours must be signed out in the office by parents or guardians. Students must obtain a readmit slip from the office and be signed back into the school by the parent if they are returning the same day, or be sent to school with a parent note the following morning.

Excused Absences

Excused absences are those taken with the permission of the school and the parent for personal illness, medical appointments, death of an immediate relative, or whenever the administration considers that exemption from attendance is in the best interest of the pupil.

Unexcused Absences

Unexcused absences are those taken with the permission of the parent, but are not considered by the California school code to be excused. Examples are: family trips, recreational events, staying home to complete assignments, sleeping in after activities the night before, etc. No assignments will be given prior to any absence. Teachers are available during tutoring for make-up work and scheduling of tests upon the student's return.

Any student who misses six or more days of school during any academic trimester may receive a grade of incomplete for each subject on his/her report card for that grading period. These incomplete grades must be made up within ten days of the student's return. All missing work is to be turned in and graded for a student to be promoted. Any student who misses 18 or more days of school during any academic year (or six or more days per trimester) may be retained in his/her current grade for an additional year. Also, in the case of long-term absences, the school may choose to designate "credit" or "no credit" in lieu of grades. Old Mission School follows the California guidelines for attendance as stated by the California Department of Education.

Truancies are absences of any length from school or from a class with neither parental nor school approval/knowledge. Truancies will result in serious disciplinary action, and students cannot make up missed work for the time they were gone.

Medical and Dental Appointments

Please schedule medical, dental, or orthodontic appointments outside school hours to avoid disrupting the child's learning.

Tardiness – OMS Campus

Old Mission School strives to develop a sense of responsibility in our students and to maintain a classroom environment conducive to learning. Students arriving to class tardy causes a disruption in the learning goals. A student may also be marked tardy for failing to report to class on time after recess or when changing classes. Students receiving three tardies in any one class or subject during a trimester will be required to attend OOPS!, or detention. Parents of students with five unexcused tardies within a single trimester may be asked to meet with an administrator.

School begins at 8:15 AM with Morning Assembly and are expected to be in their class lines. Students who arrive at school after the morning bell must go to the office for a tardy slip. Students may present a note from the parent to the school office explaining such tardiness. Only unavoidable circumstances will be considered *excused* tardiness.

Tardiness - EEC Campus

School begins on the EEC Campus as 9:00 AM and are to be signed in by parents each morning. Persons authorized to remove a child from EEC campus are to be listed on classroom records. No one other than those listed may take a child off campus without *written* parental permission.

Parent Deliveries Policy

The Old Mission School campus will not accept parent delivery of papers, books, reports, projects, etc. for students who have forgotten them. We encourage student responsibility; any assignment turned in to the office will be given to the teacher and will be considered late.

Parents may drop off lunches with clearly written names. Lunches will be placed outside the office on a lunch table.

CURRICULUM

Preschool through Transitional Kindergarten (EEC Campus)

The EEC Campus prepare the whole child for his/her later years in school. Emphasis is placed on spiritual, physical, academic, social, and emotional development.

Kindergarten through Eight (OMS Campus)

Old Mission School campus continues to support the policy of educating the whole person, and all programs are aimed at this development. Such education embraces value-centered Catholic education including religious education, family life and Christian service. It develops the building blocks of reading, literature, grammar, writing, mathematics, spelling/vocabulary, science, as well as offering classes in Spanish, computers, music, art, enrichment topics, and physical education. We are a Catholic school committed to spiritual growth and academic excellence.

Conference Schedule (Information for both campuses)

Teacher conferences are formally scheduled and occur soon after the issuance of the first trimester report card. On the OMS campus, these conferences are student-led conferences with parents and teachers. Student progress will be discussed, along with a

helpful exchange of information for making education a truly successful experience. In the case of a family with shared custody, only one conference will be scheduled, and parents are asked to make the experience positive and profitable. Conferences in the Spring are optional at the OMS campus and occur at the request of teacher, parent, or student.

On the EEC campus, parents are provided formal fall and spring conferences.

Christian Service

Old Mission School encourages every student to be involved in Christian service projects. During the academic year, each class designs and participates in service projects. Seventh and eighth grade students propose their individual service projects, and outline them according to the expectations and rubrics given in Middle School. They present their completed projects formally in the spring.

TECHNOLOGY

The computing environment of Old Mission School emphasizes information access, analysis, and dissemination by students and staff. The technology program provides K – 8th grade students daily one to one technology use. Students learn how to effectively integrate computer and telecommunication technologies into their daily lives. GoGuardian, a safety program, is installed on student devices and is monitored by our Technology Team and teachers. A signed OMS Internet Usage Policy may be required before students access the Internet.

Old Mission Policy Regarding Student Chromebooks

Old Mission School has established chromebook usage standards, which cover procedures and requirements for using the device. Before being issued a chromebook, to comply with the school's chromebook rules and regulations students and parents must complete the OMS Chromebook Participation Forms required before chromebooks will be issued to a student.

One to One Chromebook Program

1. The chromebook issued is the property of Old Mission School, and is made available as a tool for learning.
2. The chromebook is assigned to a student like textbooks or any other school property and **MUST** be returned to the school at the end of the school year or upon withdrawal or transfer. Students who purchased their chromebook and are

- paid in full own the chromebook and may take the chromebook home for the summer.
3. Students must not leave the chromebooks unattended at any time while at school or must follow all school procedures for securing unattended chromebooks when necessary (athletic activities, etc.)
 4. Loss/theft of a chromebook will result in parents being charged full replacement cost. Parents are financially responsible for repair of damaged chromebooks as a result of neglect.
 5. Inappropriate use or neglect on a chromebook/textbook violates OMS's Acceptable Use Policy and can result in limits or loss of use of the chromebook.
 6. It is the expectation that students will bring the chromebook fully charged to school each day.
 7. Students are not permitted to sync with a personal device or "jailbreak" the device to alter the configuration or functionality that has been established by OMS.
 8. The chromebook comes pre-loaded with all software you will need for your classes. Students are not allowed to uninstall or modify any application or the operating system in any way.
 9. File-sharing, including downloading music, or any other activity that violates copyright laws is not permitted. Any music or other commercial files installed on the chromebooks must be legally owned by the user.

Unacceptable behaviors that may result in the forfeit of usage privileges and/or disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion include:

- Sending, displaying, or downloading offensive message, language, or pictures.
- Harassing, insulting, or threatening others.
- Damaging of computer systems or computer networks.
- Submitting documents from the Internet as a student's personal work.
- Using another person's sign-on and/or password or trespassing in someone else's folder, work, or files.
- Using the network for commercial purposes.
- Revealing a personal phone number, name, or address of one's self or another.
- Using the internet, programs, or equipment inappropriately.
- Printing copies of anything without teacher's permission.

Cyberbullying

Neither the school's network nor the broader Internet (whether accessed on campus or off campus, either during or after school hours) may be used by any OMS student or family for the purpose of harassing others connected with OMS, including other students, parents, families, teachers, staff members, or other OMS employees. All forms of harassment in cyberspace, often called cyberbullying, are unacceptable.

Cyberbullying includes, but is not limited to, the following misuses of technology: harassing, teasing, intimidating, threatening, or terrorizing another person by sending or posting inappropriate and hurtful email messages, instant messages, text messages, digital pictures or images, or Web site postings (including blogs). Often the author (sender or poster) of the inappropriate material attempts to disguise (logged on) him/herself as someone else.

Students or families who feel they have been the victims of such misuses of technology should save and print a copy of the material and immediately report the incident to the school administration. All reports of harassment in cyberspace will be investigated fully. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, the loss of computer privileges, suspension, expulsion, or involvement of the local police.

Cell Phone Policy

Old Mission School maintains a no cell-phone policy for the safety of its students. Students are asked to turn off their phones upon entry onto campus and store them safely in their lockers until the school day has ended. Student use of a phone during school hours will result in its confiscation for the duration of the day and its return to a parent at the end of the day.

Social websites

Old Mission School asks parents to monitor any sites like facebook, twitter, snapchat, etc. where students register information, take photos, talk about where they live and go to school. Personal information about themselves or their families can put students at risk.

Emailing and Internet

Emailing and online usage at OMS occurs daily. It is requested that parents directly supervise the use of the Internet in their home. Please contact us if you have questions or concerns about this policy. Together, we hope we can keep kindness, decency, and protection of privacy a high priority in the lives of our children.

Family Life

Old Mission School offers a comprehensive Family Life program (3-8) with an emphasis on self-respect and Christian values in relationships. A written request and/or an interview with an administrator are required to exempt students from any part of the program, and excused students will be assigned to work on an alternate project in another classroom (for full credit).

Fine Arts

Old Mission School values the importance of art, movement, drama, and music appreciation in a student's development. The fine arts curriculum provides a breadth of educational experience and exposure to arts. Music, drama, and art feed the soul!

Physical Education

Old Mission School maintains a comprehensive physical education program taught by qualified instructors. Emphasis is placed on the development of small and gross-motor skills, coordination exercises, cardiovascular endurance, good sportsmanship, and the theory and practice of a variety of sports and games.

Spanish

A conversational Spanish program is introduced in kindergarten and is expanded during the elementary grades. The course covers oral language development as well as the history, customs and celebrations of Spanish-speaking countries. A one-year Spanish I program is presented in eighth grade. This program emphasizes speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish. Students may test for advanced placement in Spanish at their respective high schools.

Educational Field Trips

Each class participates in field trips that supplement the curriculum. Field trips are privileges given to students. Field trips are arranged at the discretion of the teacher with prior administrative approval, and supervised by the teacher and parent volunteers. Transportation on field trips is generally provided by classroom parents or by bus. Each student must have a permission slip signed by a parent or guardian to participate. Phone calls granting permission are not acceptable. Signed faxes of the permission slip are permitted. If students do not accompany the class on the field trip, they remain at school and complete an alternative assignment. Students may be denied participation in the field trip if they fail to meet the academic and/or behavioral requirements.

Unlike field trips, our outdoor school experiences are part of the 5th and 7th grade curricular experience and are included in each student's assessment. Students may be exempted for medical reasons, and alternative assignments will be given.

Middle School Science Experiment Night

Students in grades seven and eight are required to participate in the Middle School Science Fair /Science Challenge as part of their science assessment. Students are involved in scientific research, experimentation, and report writing. Each student is prepared to give an oral presentation of his/her findings. Parents and families are encouraged to attend.

Textbooks

Teachers follow Common Core State Standards curriculum approved by the Diocese of Monterey. Materials are selected at the discretion of the principal and faculty of Old Mission School.

All school textbooks must remain covered throughout the school year, and students are required to show proper care for these books. Students will be charged replacement costs for lost, stolen, or damaged textbooks.

Students with Exceptional Needs

Old Mission School endeavors to meet the needs of all its students. Academically talented students as well as students having difficulty in particular subject areas may receive additional instructional assistance from classroom teachers. Students with special needs may be referred for professional diagnostic evaluation, followed by the creation of a collaborative educational plan at OMS. Students evaluated with recommendations are eligible for modification and accommodations. Report cards will show modifications have been made in individual classes.

Liturgical Participation

Throughout the school year, students will be introduced to and will participate in various liturgical celebrations and activities (*i.e.*, Mass, reconciliation services, retreats, Scripture services, and prayer experiences). Weekly Masses are held each Wednesday at 8:30 AM. Students attend with their classes. Special celebration Masses will be held for the Back to School, Thanksgiving, Advent, Ash Wednesday, and the End of the Year.

Students of other faith traditions are expected to respectfully attend all required liturgical celebrations as part of their education at Old Mission School.

EEC students take part in “Gathering Days” in the EEC of Our Lady Church. On these occasions, classes meet in the church to discuss and celebrate Holy Days under the guidance of the parish priest or a classroom teacher.

Home Study

Homework is often invaluable for student practice, reinforcement, and mental discipline and studying skills are taught and nurtured. Students are responsible for using their homework time productively, correctly recording daily assignments, gathering necessary materials, and completing assignments.

Parents can assist their child with homework by:

- providing suitable study conditions.
- checking that homework is completed.

- encouraging the student in a positive and supportive way.
- expressing an interest in the child's work.
- insisting that poorly done work be redone.
- cooperating with the school's homework policy.
- encouraging a nightly study/quiet reading time, even if assigned work is "done."
- helping plan long term assignments by helping to schedule work in segments.
- refraining from doing any part of the homework or the project assigned solely to the student.

The following is a guide for the amount of time *the average student* should spend on home study each day:

Grade 1-2	generally thirty minutes
Grade 3-5	generally one hour
Grade 6-8	generally not to exceed two hours

Please inform teachers if your student continually spends more or less time on homework than is listed; there may be a unique situation requiring assessment. Students will usually be assigned homework Monday through Thursday. Long range assignments or make up work may require weekend homework to be completed. Generally, grades 1 – 3 will not have weekend homework or test preparation assignments.

Grading Policy

Progress reports and report cards serve to inform parents and students on academic progress and communicate the child's conduct and effort.

Kindergarten, first, and second grades receive a report card in the middle and at the end of each year. A standard report card is issued for grades 3-8 at the conclusion of each trimester. Conferences will be scheduled in the fall and spring.

- Participation credit will comprise 10% of your child's grade in every subject (grades 3 – 8), and it is the only credit (besides in-class work) that generally cannot be made up after an absence. (Please see Absentee Procedures)
- All other assignments and tests may be made up after an absence (except after a truancy). (Please see Absentee Procedures)

Old Mission Campus Grading Scale

The following grading scale has been approved by the Diocese of Monterey for academic subjects:

Grades K-2

Students will be issued a standards-based report card that informs parents that the student is approaching, or has mastered, set standards.

Diocese of Monterey Grading Scale: Grades 3-8

A	97 – 100	B-	83 – 85	D+	68 - 69
A-	94 – 96	C+	79 – 82	D	65 - 67
B+	90 – 93	C	74 – 78	D-	63 - 64
B	86 – 89	C-	70 – 73	F	0 - 62

The following point scale will be used to calculate grade point average:

A	4.00	C+	2.33
A-	3.66	C	2.00
B+	3.33	C-	1.66
B	3.00	D	1.00
B-	2.66	F	0.33

The values of the respective grades on the report card are as follows:

- “A” This is an unusual grade. It is reserved for the very highest quality of work that must include excellence in careful preparation, accuracy, and content.
- “B” This is highly commendable, and indicates that the student is doing above-average, quality work. Industry, interest, and perseverance will earn such a grade.
- “C” This is a satisfactory grade. It is a commendable grade for those working to ability, and for those applying a high degree of effort and interest to their learning.
- “D” This grade indicates below-average achievement, a lack of effort, or lack of improvement. It is a warning that there must be improvement if the student is to pass the subject.
- “F” This is a failing grade. It indicates unsatisfactory scholarship, effort, and/or progress. It is never given to a student who is working to the best of his/her ability.
- “M” Some students, who are working to the best of their ability, and yet are unable to achieve at grade level, may receive this symbol with a grade in one or more subjects. It indicates that this student is being graded in a modified program on a different grading scale for this subject. However, this student will be ineligible for honor roll status, since honor roll is based on the diocesan grading scale.
- “Cr/No Cr” In very unusual circumstances (such as long-term illness), teachers may give Credit/No Credit to show that the student has passed or failed the class.

Academic Probation/Progress Reports Policy

The purpose of this policy is to identify students who are not meeting grade level academic standards. Once identified, we will use our available resources to assist these students to regain satisfactory academic standing. If a second grading period has elapsed and the student has not responded to these efforts, a change to a learning environment in another school may be required to help the student succeed.

Students whose cumulative grade point average falls below 2.0 for a grading period will be placed on academic probation for the following trimester. Grades from the following core subjects will be used to compute the grade point average: religion, math, spelling/vocabulary, English grammar, English composition, social studies, reading/literature, Spanish (grade 8 only), and science. Students will remain on probation until the next report card is issued. If a student's grade point average falls below 2.0 at the end of the third trimester grading period, (s)he will be placed on academic probation for the first trimester of the following year.

Academic progress reports will be issued near the sixth week of each trimester for any student receiving a grade of C- or below in any subject, as well as for all students on academic probation.

After School Study Hall (OMS campus)

OMS teachers will hold after school study hall for students who have been asked to attend by appointment only. Each study hall session will begin following the teacher's crossing duty schedule. All students who stay after school must be signed into either extended care (ASA) or attend tutoring. Students may be **requested** to attend study hall if a student's work habits are causing lowered grades. Parents will be notified.

Falcon Awards (Grades K-5)

"Falcon Awards" are our weekly encouragement awards at the elementary level, given in recognition of student progress or success that deserves special attention. A Falcon Award may be given for many reasons (character recognition, academic prowess) by the classroom teacher. These awards deserve a special place in your home and heart.

Achievement Awards

Students at Old Mission School are involved in the pursuit of academic excellence and the development of their spiritual, intellectual, emotional, and physical potential. At the end of each year, the school will recognize those students who have demonstrated superior work. Commendations are made through the Principal's Honor Roll in grades 6-8, General Excellence in grades 6-7, Christian Spirit in grades 6-8. The following general criteria are used in the selection process:

Academic Honors (6-8)

Academic Honors will be awarded at the conclusion of each trimester for grades 6 – 8.

Principal's Honor Roll

Students who achieve a cumulative 3.75 grade point average (no “unsatisfactory in conduct”) at the end of the academic year will be eligible for the Principal’s Medallion (gr.8). Student who receive a 3.75 grade point average at the end of each trimester in grades 6/7 are eligible for the Principal’s Honor Roll. The following core subjects will be used to determine honor roll eligibility: religion, math, English grammar, English composition and literature, social studies, science, and Spanish (8th only).

First Honors

Students who achieve a grade point average of 3.50 – 3.74 at the end of each trimester (no “unsatisfactory in conduct”) will be eligible. The following core subjects will be used to determine honor roll eligibility: religion, math, English grammar and spelling, English composition and reading/literature, social studies, science, and Spanish (8th).

Second Honors

Students who achieve a grade point average of 3.25 – 3.49 at the end of the trimester (no “unsatisfactory in conduct”) will be eligible. The following core subjects will be used to determine honor roll eligibility: religion, math, English grammar and spelling, English composition and reading/literature, social studies, science, and Spanish (8th only).

In addition, two major awards are given to grades 6 and 7 at the conclusion of each year:

General Excellence (6-7)

Two students who demonstrate the following attributes will be considered for the General Excellence Award: outstanding effort and conduct, demonstrated leadership skill, positive school attitude, superior academic performance, high level of classroom/school spirit, high level of initiative, and good self-control.

Christian Spirit (6-8 grades)

Students who demonstrate the following attributes will be considered for the Christian Service Award: prayerfulness, kindness, respect for others, a willingness to participate in school celebrations and services, generosity, demonstrated knowledge and understanding of Christian principles, and involvement in community service.

Testing

The Renaissance Learning STAR Assessments has been mandated by the Diocese of Monterey, is computer-adaptive, and is administered to students in grades K-8. This testing takes place three times during the school year. The STAR Assessment is a nationally normed test, and provides significant information on a student’s growth.

STAR test results will be presented at the end of each trimester with report cards. The testing program is used as a diagnostic tool for the teacher.

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

Ethical student behavior in the Catholic school is considered an essential aspect of Christian development and moral guidance. The discipline program at Old Mission School strives to define the ideals of Christian discipleship, to provide school and classroom settings conducive to learning, to help students become self-disciplined, and to build a sense of Christian community. We are endeavoring to make Old Mission School a place where students and staff members treat one another with respect and dignity and take on the responsibility of their own actions. By registering at Old Mission School, students and parents indicate their intention to accept and observe the school's regulations.

Parents are encouraged to follow the grievance procedures outlined in this handbook if they have a concern regarding school discipline policies.

Early Education Center Campus Guidelines

Preschool and transitional-kindergarten students are expected to follow an age-appropriate set of behavioral guidelines. Students at this level are expected to:

1. Follow the instruction of staff members.
2. Refrain from ridicule, profanity, and rudeness.
3. Refrain from aggressive or other hurtful behavior.
4. Play or work in a manner that will not interrupt the concentration of others.

OMS Campus Conduct (Department) Guidelines (Grades K-8)

Students will begin each trimester with a satisfactory grade in conduct (department) and effort. The goal is to work toward good or outstanding effort and conduct. Students who fail to follow the school's code of behavior or who exhibit a general lack of effort will have this reflected in reports to parents and/or will meet with the administrator. Conduct referrals, missing work notices sent home for parent signatures, and unclaimed lost and found items indicate improvement is needed and will help make up the conduct/department mark. Dress code violations, playground notices from the yard supervisors, and disciplinary referrals will also result in conduct/department marks that indicate improvement is needed or behavior is unsatisfactory.

Appropriate conduct at Old Mission School means having a positive, respectful attitude toward self, staff, visitors, and fellow students. Some behaviors that are not appropriate and that may result in lower grades and/or disciplinary procedures/OOPS!, or detention, are the following:

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1. Willful disrespect or harassment toward students or staff.
2. Behavior that detracts from or interferes with the school's learning environment
3. Eating in inappropriate areas or at inappropriate times.
4. Chewing gum on school grounds at any time.
5. Games, toys, radios, or other electronic equipment brought from home to school.
6. Littering or throwing food of any kind.
7. Fighting.
8. Inappropriate language or profanity and/or drawings.
9. Defacing property of school or others.
10. Disobedience to a staff member's directives.
11. Failure to complete or return notes sent home, or other assignments.
12. Repeated failure to bring needed materials to class.
13. Unexcused absences.
14. Uniform or dress code infractions.
15. Tardiness.
16. Riding skateboards or bicycles on school grounds.
17. Overly aggressive play.
18. Unkind, hurtful or bullying behavior (see bullying policy) towards others.
19. Cheating or plagiarizing on work, homework, or tests. (This will also result in a zero grade for the assignment or test.)
20. Texting or calling on his/her cell phone. Students in grades 6 – 8 may store cell phones only in their lockers and always turned off while on campus. If younger students have phones (not recommended), they must keep their phones turned off and in their backpacks.
21. Inappropriate display of affection.
22. Misusing the bathroom facilities.
23. Leaving school grounds without permission.
24. Other offenses incompatible with Old Mission School's goals for student conduct.

The administration will meet with students at their discretion during the school day to address violations of the conduct code.

Order of Penance (OOPS! Grades 4-8)

Students receiving three conduct referrals within a trimester will be assigned OOPS! during lunch recess. This will consist of a written reflection on the school's Schoolwide Learning Expectations and campus beautification (trash pick up).

Conduct Referrals (Grades K-3) and Parent Conferences (all grades)

If a child in grades one through three demonstrates inappropriate behavior, a phone call, a notice, or a conduct referral may go to the home of the child's parents. Students receiving notices are to take them home the same day to be signed. This procedure will give parents the opportunity to correct behavior the day it occurs. The signed notice is to be returned to the office the following school day.

If a disciplinary problem is deemed to be serious in nature or if a student does not correct

a problem brought to his/her attention, a request for a parent/administrator conference will be made.

Please Note: If any student hits, hurts, kicks, pushes or pinches anyone, that student may not be allowed to finish the day on campus and may also be given suspension the following day(s). Parent communication will be required. Additionally, violence, or threats of violence of any kind will not be permitted at Old Mission School, and may result in suspension or expulsion.

Bullying

Bullying is unfair and one-sided. It happens when someone keeps hurting, frightening, threatening, or leaving someone out on purpose.

Bullying Behaviors

1. Physically hurting or threatening to hurt someone
2. Social exclusion
3. Insults
4. Name-calling
5. Mean gossip or rumors
6. Sexual bullying
7. Cyber bullying

Retaliation

1. Retaliation is unacceptable
2. Any student who retaliates against or attempts to retaliate against a target student or a student who reports bullying behaviors shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Student Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the student to participate in the educational program of the school, to help maintain an orderly learning environment throughout the school, and in no way deprive other students of their right to an education. In order to accomplish this, the student must observe the following standards of behavior:

1. Modeling Christ's teachings about love for one's neighbor in all interactions, treating others with respect at all times.
2. Arriving to school on time.
3. Following all school rules and upholding the Schoolwide Learning Expectations
4. Respecting all property, including books, desks, bathrooms, school buildings and playgrounds.
5. Asking (teacher or administrator) for a conflict-management meeting when another student's behavior is causing difficulties for you. This is a safe way to resolve problems without anyone being in trouble.
6. Speaking honestly and respectfully of others.

7. Understanding that private information shared with the school will be kept private.
8. Calling home only for sickness, emergency, or problems with dress code.
9. Modeling good sportsmanship in word and deed.
10. Accepting differences in others and including others in daily activities

Suspension

Students involved in major infractions of school rules may be suspended from school for a period of time determined by the principal. Suspension will usually be for a period of one or two days; however, for more serious offenses, a student may be suspended for longer periods. The administrator will contact a parent prior to the start of any suspension. Students will be allowed to make up all missed work in a manner prescribed by his/her classroom teacher. For incidents of hitting, pushing, biting, bending fingers, or other physical mistreatment, a student may immediately be sent home for the rest of the day or for the following day.

Expulsion Because of Student Behavior

Expulsion is an extreme but sometimes necessary disciplinary measure for the common good. Expulsion from school occurs when all other discipline procedures have failed to bring about the desired changes in a student's behavior or when the behavior seriously threatens the health or safety of another person. The following offenses are examples of the type of offenses committed by a student while under the jurisdiction of the school. They are grounds for expulsion and may also be referred to appropriate authorities:

1. Actions gravely detrimental to the moral or spiritual welfare of the other students.
2. Continued willful disobedience.
3. Use, sale, or possession of alcohol or drugs.
4. Vandalism or theft of school or other's property.
5. Possession /use of weapons on school grounds or at a school function.
6. Assault or battery or any threat of force or violence directed toward any school personnel or student.
7. Smoking cigarettes or possessing paraphernalia related to fire; or setting something on fire.
8. Sexual harassment.
9. Sustained bullying of others.
10. Illegal activities in or out of school.

Sexual Harassment Policy Statement

The Catholic schools of the Diocese of Monterey have adopted a written policy against sexual harassment as it pertains to students.

Sexual harassment is defined in California Education Code Section 212.5 as ...unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature made by someone from or in the...educational setting, under any of the following conditions: ...(c) The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact upon the individual's...academic performance, or of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive...educational environment.

Examples of behaviors which are considered sexually harassing include:

- pinching, grabbing or cornering another student
- sexual comments toward or taunting of another student
- pulling down pants and/or underwear of a student or snapping a bra
- use of derogatory words or phrases or body language directed to another
- assaulting or molesting another student
- writing or drawing of a sexually explicit nature
- calling names or using labels of a sexual nature

If the school receives and verifies a report of sexual harassment from a parent or a victim, the penalties for sexual harassment by students are numerous and severe. First, a student who has sexually harassed someone may be suspended from school or expelled. In addition, there are three different sets of monetary fines that can be assessed against the parents of a child who has sexually harassed another person. Police are often included in issues of sexual harassment.

Under the California Civil Code, a fine can be assessed against the parents of a minor who causes injury to another student. This fine cannot exceed \$10,000.00. In addition, under the California Education Code, a second fine can be assessed the minor's parents. Finally, if a reward is given for information leading to the identity and apprehension of a minor who has willfully caused injury to another, the California Government Code provides that the minor's parents are to be held liable for the amount of the reward, not to exceed \$10,000.00

It is possible that if your child sexually harasses another child, your child may be expelled and you may be personally liable for the total sum of \$30,000.

To educate students on proper and improper conduct, Old Mission School will provide awareness training in religion classes. In addition, we encourage you to discuss this serious subject with your child.

DIOCESAN STATEMENT OF CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES

All schools in the Diocese of Monterey are intended to be environments that educate, nurture and support students according to the basic Christian principles of charity and love of neighbor. Everyone involved in the development of children and youth – teachers, administrators, parents, family and friends – is required to behave in accordance with these principles. These Christian principles include but are not limited to the following:

1. Parents, family members, child care providers and friends (including but not limited to grandparents, stepparents, siblings) are expected to work courteously and cooperatively with the school in **all** areas of the school and student life. This principle is intended to broadly apply to all on and off campus behavior that affects the school in any way.
2. Students, parents, family members and friends must act and speak with integrity, respect for others and always use good manners and a cooperative and helpful tone of voice.
3. Students, parents and family members may respectfully express their concerns about the school operation and its personnel. However, they may not do so in a manner that is discourteous, scandalous, rumor driven, disruptive, threatening, hostile or divisive and must use appropriate channels of communication to raise these concerns. Appropriate channels of communication include contacting the teacher or staff member or the principal directly by phone or email. Inappropriate channels of communication include posting information on Facebook or similar social media, using the school's contact list to email or text others not directly involved in the area of concern. Such channels of communication are considered divisive and not calculated to lead to a resolution of the issue in the most respectful and Christ-centered manner.
4. A parent with concerns regarding the behavior of another student must direct the concern to the classroom teacher or a staff member, not to the child or the child's parents.

Parents, guardians or other responsible adults who violate these Christian principles may be asked to withdraw their student from the school. Conduct that materially disrupts class work or extracurricular activities or that involves substantial disorder will not be tolerated. These expectations for students, parents, guardians or other responsible adults include, but are not limited to, all school-sponsored programs and events (e.g., extended care, athletics, field trips, etc.). The school reserves the right to determine, in its discretion, when conduct is of such a nature as to warrant any action including asking that the parent withdraw his/her student(s) from the School.

It shall be an express condition of enrollment that the students and parents or guardians shall conform themselves to standards of conduct that are consistent with the Christian principles of the school, as determined by the school in its sole discretion.

Statement of Parent Responsibilities

1. Support the educational, social and spiritual development of your child:
 - a. Uphold the school's policies and rules
 - b. Make sure that your child is responsible for completing homework assignments in a timely manner;
 - c. Ensure that your child is ready for school each day by being appropriately dressed, having a nutritious lunch and all necessary supplies
 - d. Hold your child responsible by not bringing items he/she forgot to school;
 - e. Involve yourself in the spiritual life of the school.

2. Respect the school calendar and hours:
 - a. Ensuring that your child arrives on time for school each day
 - b. Calling in if your child is sick
 - c. Scheduling vacations around the school calendar rather than during school periods.

3. Work cooperatively with your child's teacher and the principal
 - a. Be judicious in speaking with your child or allowing your child to overhear conversations that are negative about the school, the teacher, the principal or another student.
 - b. Be available for conferences or meetings with your child's teacher.
 - c. Read all communications that come from the school.

NOTE: Please check that you are receiving the newsletter on-line, or contact BJ Woods for an email address correction.

Grievance Procedures

The purpose of these procedures is to secure equitable solutions to the problems that may arise from time to time affecting the welfare of students and teachers.

- A parent-teacher conference should always be the first level of this procedure.
- If an agreeable solution cannot be reached at the first level, a parent-administrative team conference or a round-table conference may be arranged. These procedures will be kept as confidential as possible. All parties will be appropriate in communication, and keep in mind the overall goal of strengthening the school community. In such incidents, we reserve the right to interpret school rules and guidelines fairly based on our best knowledge of truth and justice. The ultimate goal is the child's well-being and provision of an optimal learning environment.

Withdrawal Based On Parental Behavior

The education of a student is a partnership between the parents and the school. Just as the parent has the right to withdraw a child if desired, the school administration reserves the right to require the withdrawal of a student if the administration determines that the partnership is broken. Parental/guardian/family member actions that negatively impact the school may also be cause for withdraw from the school. Such actions include, but are not limited to, the following: actions that cause negative publicity to the school, its personnel, parent disregard of rules and procedures, and/or school community and hostile behavior or actions toward the school, its personnel, and/or school community; or parent disregard of the rules of good sportsmanship.

In addition, further information is available in section 5750 of the Administrative Handbook of the Diocese of Monterey.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Early Education Center Campus

Acceptable dress on the EEC campus reflects our concern for safety, grooming and Christian values. In general, clothing must be clean, in good repair, sized correctly, and weather appropriate. Modest shorts and sundresses are permissible; bare midriffs and scanty sunsuits are not. Shirts or jackets with any kind of emblem, picture, writing or symbol that is incompatible with Christian values are not acceptable.

Shoes: EEC students are *active*. Footwear should be sturdy and suitable for running and climbing. Beach sandals are neither safe nor appropriate. Dress shoes should be reserved for special occasions only.

Jewelry: Girls' earrings must be small and not hang below the earlobe. This is a safety issue and will be strictly enforced.

Hairstyles: Hair should be of neat, uniform cut. Unconventional cuts, styling and coloring/bleaching are not permitted.

Hats: To better protect our students from the sun, caps may be worn during outdoor activities. Caps are to be worn with the visors forward.

Specific interpretation of the dress guidelines will be left to the discretion of the administration. Your support and guidance in selecting your child's wardrobe are appreciated.

Uniform Code Kindergarten through 6th Grade

Students are best prepared for school when they are properly dressed and groomed. Old Mission School students are expected to follow standards of cleanliness, neatness, and modesty in everything they wear. Uniforms are compulsory for both girls and boys in grades K-6. Families may purchase designated uniforms from French Toast or other retailers (such as Target, Old Navy, Lands End) However, we ask that you please match the styles we've chosen on the frenchtoast.com website. All girls' plaid and solid Navy Blue jumpers/skirts/ scooters must be bought from French Toast. All outerwear is to be ordered through J. Carroll. By registering a child at Old Mission School, parents indicate their intention to accept and observe the school's uniform dress code.

Grade K-6 Clothing (ALLOWED):

- White or light blue polo shirts (with or without Old Mission School logo), short or long-sleeved (undershirts are permitted under polo shirts). White or light blue collared blouses with short or long-sleeves (girls only).
- Navy blue shorts, pants, skirts, scooter or plaid Jumper or plaid skirt (scooters, skirts, shorts and jumpers should be no more than four inches above the knee)
- A solid-colored navy blue, brown or black belt is to be worn with pants or shorts that have belt loops.
- All outerwear (sweatshirts, jackets & vests) must have school logo. No other outerwear will be allowed. Old Mission school insignia outerwear can be purchased at the OMS Student Store on the J.carroll website
- Socks must be solid white, gray, navy blue or black and visible above shoe line (small logo such as a nike swoosh is acceptable).
- Tights, leggings and knee high socks in solid navy or white.
- Closed, casual shoes or athletic shoes in predominantly white, black, brown, gray or blue. (no embellishments) Tennis shoes mandatory on PE Days.
- Navy blue Old Mission School insignia hats (Hats are to be removed when students enter any building, and during morning assembly prayer and flag salute. The hat bill is to be worn forward).

Grooming for Boys and Girls

Hair:

- Boys' hair length must be above shirt collar and off ears; eyes must be visible
- Girls' hair must be cut or styled so eyes are visible; girls may wear traditional

headbands, clips, and elastic bands in black, dark brown, light or dark blue, and white only

- Hair coloring and distracting haircuts are not allowed

Jewelry:

- Girls may wear stud type earrings (one pierce allowed)
- No earrings for boys
- Crucifix, cross, or medal (of safe length)

Makeup:

- Clear nail polish
- Clear lip balm or lip gloss
- No visible tattoos

Neatness:

- Shirts must be tucked in at all times (except PE and recess).
- All uniforms must be in good condition (no tears, stains, or rips) and not be excessively faded.

Specific interpretation of these dress guidelines will be left to the discretion of the administration. If you have any dress code questions, ask an administrator before your child wears the item.

Spirit Wear Days

Spirit wear days are a time to allow students to show their school spirit!

Spirit Wear Days dress code (ALLOWED):

- Old Mission School Spirit wear, Walk-a-Thon or Mission College prep spirit wear with jeans or uniform bottoms

Dress Code Seventh and Eighth Grade

Students are best prepared for school when they are properly dressed and groomed. Old Mission School students are expected to follow standards of cleanliness, neatness, and modesty in everything they wear. By registering a child at Old Mission School, parents indicate their intention to accept and observe the school's dress code and/or uniform code.

Standards for Old Mission School Junior High Dress Code are as follows:

Seventh and Eighth Grade (ALLOWED)

- **BOYS**
 - Collars and sleeves must be worn at all times (shirts may be worn out or tucked in, T-shirts are not permitted)
 - Pants, slacks or shorts with a button and zipper closure (relaxed or straight fit) If belt loops are visible, a belt must be worn
 - Athletic shoes or low heeled shoes or sandals with a back or back strap

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- Navy blue Old Mission School insignia hats and beanies (outside only)
- All outerwear (sweatshirts, jackets & vests) must have school logo. No other outerwear will be allowed. Eighth graders may wear **navy** Mission College Prep outerwear

- **GIRLS**

- Sleeves are to be worn at all times (High crew necklines, modest “v-necks” or collars are allowed)
- Slacks, capris, and or walking shorts (should be no more than four inches above the knee) Pants must have a button and zipper closure - Pants and shorts may be cuffed 1-2 times but must be the required length after being cuffed.
- Skirts are to be worn at the natural waist and should be no shorter than 3 inches above the middle and back of the knee. Straight/fitted skirts and dresses must hit the top of the kneecap.
- Leggings may be worn under appropriate length skirts and dresses
- Cardigans
- Athletic shoes or low heeled shoes or sandals with a back or back strap
- Navy blue Old Mission School insignia hats and beanies (outside only)
- All outerwear (sweatshirts, jackets & vests) must have school logo. No other outerwear will be allowed with the exception of eighth grade students who may wear **navy** Mission College Prep outerwear

Grooming

Hair:

- Boys’ hair length must be above shirt collar and off ears; eyes must be visible
- Girls’ hair must be cut or styled so eyes are visible; girls may wear traditional headbands, clips, and elastic bands
- No coloring of hair is allowed
- Traditional hairstyles

Jewelry:

- Girls may wear stud type earrings (one pierce allowed)
- Crucifix, cross, or medal (of safe length)

Makeup:

- Clear nail polish
- Clear lip balm or lip gloss
- No visible tattoos
- Grades 7-8 may wear cover up over blemishes

DRESSY/OPTIONAL DRESS DAYS:

- All shirts, tops, and dresses must have sleeves, even if a cardigan is worn

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- Boys must wear a collar
- Straight-hemmed shirts or tops may be worn out or tucked. All other shirts must be tucked in
- Slacks, pants (with button and zipper closure), capris, and dressy walking shorts may be worn at the natural waist (no jeans)
- Belts are required if belt loops are visible
- Skirts and dresses must fall 3 inches from the middle of the knee
- Flat shoes, sandals (must have a back strap), and low heeled boots (1 inch or less) are permitted. No heels higher than one inch. No flip-flops or slippers permitted.

NOT PERMITTED:

- Boots, UGG-type shoes, or slippers
- Socks that are distracting, loud socks, and tube socks
- Clothing with holes, patches or frayed edges; clothing that is too tight or too baggy
- No jeans, skinny pants overalls, track pants, cargo pants/shorts, pajamas, leggings, yoga pants, pajama or sweats (PLEASE NOTE: Students must be able to “pinch an inch” without stretching the fabric below the knees of the pants. Pants that do not adhere to the “pinch an inch” rule must be paired with a long top.)
- Sheer, lace, boat neck, crop tops, tank tops, halter tops or camisoles worn as a top
- Clothing exposing midriff, cleavage, and/or underwear

PE DAY GUIDELINES:

Seventh and eighth grade students are allowed to change into OMS PE attire prior to PE. Rubber soles and/or athletic shoes are to be worn on PE days.

**PLEASE NOTE: IF AN ITEM IS NOT LISTED IN EITHER THE DRESS CODE
OR UNIFORM CODE,
IT IS NOT TO BE WORN TO SCHOOL**

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Athletics

Old Mission School sponsors after-school athletic programs for its middle school students designed to teach skills, encourage good sportsmanship, and build self-confidence.

The following sports will be offered:

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Grade levels</u>
Volleyball (school sponsored)	7-8
Basketball (school sponsored)	7-8

Cross Country (school sponsored) 5-8

Track (school sponsored) 6-8

The youth basketball, football, and soccer program (grades K-6) is organized through the San Luis Obispo Recreation Department and/or AYSO.

Students accepted to play on any school team in seventh and eighth grade will pay a sports fee. Preparation for participation in high school sports is created. We try to blend our “everyone plays” philosophy with the reality that the games are more competitive. Consequently, seventh and eighth-grade students may receive varying amounts of playing time during games. The playing time will be determined by the coaching staff. Athletes are asked to consistently attend practice and put forth their best effort, enjoy the experience and learn more about the sport.

The athletic program is designed to help athletes develop their physical skills and self-esteem. It places emphasis on teamwork, good sportsmanship, effort, safety, encouraging others, and having fun. We ask all parents to be role models and support the OMS philosophy while attending games and practices and supervise and transport their student during these activities.

NOTE: Students must attend a full day of school to be eligible to practice/play in any extracurricular athletics or activities later in the day. Exceptions may only be made by the administration and appointments require a doctor’s note with dates and times.

Class Parties (OMS Campus)

Four school-wide class celebrations will take place during the school year on the OMS campus. These celebrations are scheduled and planned by the classroom teachers with administration approval and assistance from parents.

Personal party invitations *may not* be distributed at school-sponsored functions unless all class students (or all the boys, or all the girls) are invited to participate.

NOTE: Communication by school parents to others in the school community may only be distributed at school with prior-approval by the administration.

Associated Student Body Council

Student government develops responsibility and is organized and developed to provide service to the school and community.

Those who are eligible to run include:

- Students in grades five through eight may be student council representatives. Students who wish to run must have earned at least a 2.0 grade point average and may not have received F’s or unsatisfactory in any subject or in department

during the previous academic year, or during the year of holding office.

- Seventh and 8th grade students may run for student government positions such as president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary. Students who wish to run for ASB president or vice-president must have maintained a 3.0 grade point average (with no F's, no "unsatisfactory") the previous academic year. All other positions require a 2.0 grade point average without any F's or unsatisfactories in a subject or department.

Middle School Social Activities

Approximately five events will be held during the school year for students in grades seven and eight and, when appropriate, grade six. The following guidelines govern all events:

1. Appropriate dress will be specified before each activity. It should always be modest, neat, and clean, with no holes or tears.
2. Teachers (and sometimes, parents) will chaperone the activities.
3. No one will be admitted late to the event unless s/he has obtained permission from the administrator. Whenever specified, students will not be permitted to leave the activity until their parents come to pick them up *at the door*.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Health Information

Emergency Cards

Please be sure that your Emergency Card phone numbers and alternative care givers' names and phone numbers are kept current. Each year two cards are filled out per child within the first two weeks of each school year. One set is kept in the school office; the other is kept in the appropriate classroom. **Please let the office know if there is a change to your emergency card.**

Please include any medical condition pertinent to the school, such as allergies (insect stings or foods), diabetes, or cardiac conditions.

Health Screenings - Visual, hearing, scoliosis, and dental screenings are performed annually.

Injuries - All school injuries must be reported to the school office within twenty-four hours. First aid will be administered for minor injuries. The physician listed on the emergency card, or 911, will be contacted in the case of a serious injury if parents are unable to be immediately reached.

Insurance - All students in parochial schools must take out student accident insurance with the insurance carrier chosen by the Diocese of Monterey. The insurance premium is

paid from your registration fee. When a student has sustained an accident that is covered under the terms of the policy, parents may request a claim form from the school office to reimburse co-pays or other expenses not covered by the family's primary health provider. (In addition, parents are given the opportunity to purchase additional, optional insurance at the beginning of the school year for a nominal fee).

Medications - Prescription or over-the-counter medication to be administered during school hours by school personnel requires a medication administration form from the parents and signed by a physician. Parents may and dispense meds to his/her child during breaks. Students may not keep medications (except inhalers with permission of their physician and parent) with them. All medication must be left in the original packaging with the student's name and directions clearly marked with the office staff or, (on the EEC Campus), with the classroom teacher. **Exception:** Students may have cough drops held in the classroom with a parent's note.

Medical Release For Contagious Illnesses - Students who contract a reportable communicable illness (chicken pox, measles, etc.) must obtain a medical release certifying their fitness to return to school. This release must be presented to the school secretary *before* a child will be readmitted to his/her classroom. This policy has been designed to protect health of Mission's students and staff.

Doctor's Directives – After an injury or certain health problems, the school may require a doctor's directive regarding physical activity before a student may participate.

Immunizations - A student's immunization record must be up to date and submitted to the school prior to attendance. Specific immunization requirements are provided for parents of new registrants as well as for parents of continuing students who must comply with additional immunization requirements as they arise (e.g. kindergarten and 7th grade vaccinations).

Health Forms - A report of health examination form must be completed by a physician within twelve months prior to school entry. In addition, state law requires a physical exam within eighteen months prior to entering first grade.

Nutrition – In order to limit the amount of processed foods and sugar during the school day, Old Mission School has adopted First Friday Birthday Celebrations. On the first Friday of each month (or the second Friday if the first Friday is a holiday), we will honor all children celebrating a birthday that month. In May, we will also celebrate June and July birthdays and in September we will honor August birthdays as well. Room parents will coordinate with parents of our birthday honorees with a single class treat to be served after lunch. Birthday celebrants will be honored at our morning assembly. No other birthday treats will be allowed during the month.

Health Guidelines for Attendance (Both Campuses)

The State of California licenses our school for well-care only. Your child may not attend school if any one or more of the following conditions are present:

1. A fever during the previous 24-hour period.
2. The child began taking an antibiotic less than 24 hours previously.
3. A thick, heavy, yellow or green nasal or eye discharge of any kind.
4. Severe, persistent cough that has not been evaluated by a physician.
5. Unexplained rash or skin eruptions.
6. Red throat and/or swollen neck glands.
7. An untreated earache, causing extreme pain and/or irritability.
8. Unusual fussiness, crankiness, fatigue, drowsiness, etc.
9. The child is not well enough to participate in all school activities (unless we are waiting for a doctor's directive).

Bicycle Safety – OMS Campus

Traffic laws that apply to automobiles also apply to bicycle riders. Please be sure your child understands the rules of safety. Bike helmets are to be worn to and from school. All bikes must be locked while on campus and must remain in the bicycle racks until students are dismissed to go home. Because of serious safety issues, bicycles may not be ridden on the school grounds or sidewalks and must be walked off campus.

Fire/Earthquake/Disaster Preparedness

Safety drills are held on a regular basis. Yearly reviews and revisions of the emergency plans ensure drills, procedures and policies are current and fulfill safety standards of the Diocese of Monterey. Parents may ask to review the school's emergency plan in its entirety.

Skateboards and Roller Blades

Skateboards and roller blades are not used on campus at any time. They are to be stored in a classroom or upside down on top of the lockers.

Traffic Guidelines

At the Old Mission School campus, students may be dropped off and picked up on Broad or Peach Streets. Vehicles are restricted from parking any longer than is posted. To ensure the safety of the children, vehicles should never be double parked when children are entering or exiting the vehicle. Children must use crosswalks at all times and obey the directions of supervisory personnel. Extended Care students may be picked up on Mill Street only when a marked parking space is available next to OMS. Please do not

pick up on Mill Street as this will block MCP's entrances or fire lines.

OMS campus staggered dismissal - Students will be taken to the designated pick-up areas by staff for loading into parent vehicles. All students in kindergarten and even-numbered grades will be picked up in front of the school on Broad Street. All students in odd-numbered grades will be picked up on Peach Street. This will be a **loading zone only**. Please do NOT exit your vehicle in these zones during the drop off/pick up times. Students who have older siblings may wait in Extended Care (free of charge) until the older child's departure time, or during a parent/teacher meeting after school. Except for kindergarten, first and second grade, please arrive 5 minutes after your child is released to ensure traffic flow.

Students are expected to sit or stand quietly while waiting for rides and if not picked up at the end of sidewalk patrol (3:10 P.M. on regular days, 12:40 P.M. on minimum days, and 2:40 P.M. on early release Wednesdays), they will be checked by a staff member into the extended-care program.

On the EEC campus, parking is available in the lot adjacent to Daly Street. Parents are to escort their children onto campus through the front gate only. Please observe the five miles-per-hour speed limit in the parking lot.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Access to Student Files

Old Mission School will not permit access to or release of school records to unauthorized persons without the written permission of the parents. This authorization must be in writing, signed, and dated by the parent/guardian giving consent. It must include a specification of records to be released, the reasons for release, and the names of the parties to whom the records will be released. Discipline notes are not included in a student's cum file.

Animals on Campus

Animals may be brought to school at the school's request if they are part of the educational ministry in the classroom, or if they are part of a special activity. An adult must accompany them at all times.

Appointments with an Administrator

Parents are always welcome on both campuses to come by to say hello before and after school or to sign up to volunteer in the classroom. To treat a parent's individual concerns, the principal would like to set aside a 20 or 30 minute appointment time. Please arrange these appointments with the school secretary at least a day in advance and include the topic of the meeting. If a parent has a classroom, grade, or homework

concern, please contact the teacher by voicemail or email first to resolve a class issue.

Parent Drivers

Parents who are drivers during a class activity must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Be at least 25 years of age.
2. Provide annually a photo-copied proof of a valid California driver's license.
3. Provide annually a copy of the insurance policy coverage for your vehicle and its expiration date
4. Complete the driver's safety video Be Smart Drive Safe found on the website <https://monterey.cmgconnect.org> and provide a copy of the certificate
5. Complete the driving information questionnaire form
6. Complete the online VIRTUS class every three years
7. Provide fingerprint clearance.

Classroom Volunteers and Chaperone Guidelines

In accordance with Diocesan policy, the following guidelines will apply for all individuals chaperoning school functions:

- Must sign in and out in the office **and wear a volunteer badge** at all times.
- Must be at least twenty-one years of age and be willing to assume the responsibility of supervising students.
- Must maintain vigilant control of students under their supervision.
- *May not consume tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs* prior to or during a school function or school sponsored event.
- Are required to read the Chaperone Guidelines and sign a Chaperone Agreement Form each school year.
- Acting as drivers must fulfill the requirements as Parent Drivers and never use a cell phone or text while driving.
- Are asked to wear apparel both functional and reflective of the school environment.
- Are asked to refrain from chewing gum.

NOTE: Except in an emergency, chaperones (especially drivers) are required to make no other stops than those arranged by the teacher.

Custody of Students

In order to cooperate with student and family needs, the school should be informed of any custody arrangements. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to inform the school of custody status and subsequent changes and/or arrangements. A copy of legal

custody documents must be submitted to the school office. **NOTE: All custodial parents will be invited to attend the same formal parent/student/teacher conference.**

Extended-Care Programs

Complimentary supervised care is available from 7:45-9:00 A.M. on the EEC campus. Complimentary supervised play is available at Old Mission School from 7:45-8:15 A.M. *Please do not drop students off before 7:45 A.M.*

After-school extended care is available from dismissal to 5:30 P.M. on the OMS campus for students in grades K-8. A snack will be provided for students signed in to ASA.

These programs provide structured play, rest periods, and supervised homework time. Students enrolled in the extended-care program are also served a snack. Students on the OMS campus who have not been picked up within 10 minutes after the last dismissal will be signed into the extended-care program and will be billed at the hourly rate of \$7. All children at the **EEC campus** must be picked up no later than **5:30 P.M.** All children at the **OMS campus** must be picked up no later than **5:30 P.M.** Parents are to use the key pad on the Mill St. door to pick up children from ASA. You may get the code from the ASA director or from BJ in the school office.

Failure to arrive before these deadlines will result in significant financial penalties (currently \$1 per minute). Please contact ASA as soon as possible if an issue arises.

Food Service

The OMS campus school lunch program, operated through Mission College Prep, provides well-balanced, nutritious lunches for students in grades K-8. Menus are sent home monthly. The lunch prices do not include milk. Milk may be purchased separately at a nominal cost at recess, lunch, or after school. Those students who choose not to participate in the lunch program must bring a sack lunch. Parents are asked not to include food or drink in glass containers. All lunch containers should be clearly marked with the child's name. If a child does not have a lunch, the school will contact the parents or charge parents for a school lunch order, since healthy nutrition is a serious matter.

The school requests that parents refrain from delivering "fast food" lunches to their children or taking their children out to lunch except as a **rare occurrence**. It is good practice for students to learn to pack their own lunches. Students (or parents) are not permitted to order any food to be delivered to the school.

School Newsletter

Old Mission School strives to maintain a high level of parent-school communication. As mentioned in the Statement of Parent Responsibilities section of this handbook, please refer to the weekly newsletter sent via email to all school families who have given us

their email address to stay up to date on special announcements, calendared events, flyers, and notices. It is also posted online on the school's website (www.oldmissionschool.com).

Lockers

Students in grades 6-8 use lockers assigned to them. The locker is school property and on loan for the year, and the student is responsible for its treatment, condition and contents. Students are requested to safeguard their locker combinations and **never** share them with anyone. If a student enters another student's locker, he/she may forfeit the privilege of using a locker.

Lost and Found

On a weekly basis, items with names are returned to the classroom teachers and a record will be kept of items belonging to students. This record will be used to determine responsibility department marks indicated on report cards. All unclaimed items without names will go to the Old Mission School Thrift Store. Old Mission School is not liable for lost or stolen student items.

Parent Information Meetings

An annual parent Back-To-School Night is held at the beginning of the school year on both campuses. Parents have the opportunity to visit their child's classroom to hear a presentation from the classroom teacher regarding curriculum, textbooks, program, etc. Parents are asked to attend this informative evening presentation (and to meet the Parent Club officers at the social that is part of the evening's activities).

Information regarding dates, times, and places of these events appears in the school newsletter.

Parent Service Hours Introduction

Your parent service commitment is an integral part of our school. We rely on your talents, service, and generosity to benefit students and the school community as a whole. The minimum service hour commitment is 25 hours per year per family when you have any student on the OMS campus. (20 hours if your children attend only the EEC campus). **Service hours are reported throughout the year using a service hour form available in the office. Please turn in your service hour forms throughout the year, immediately after each event or trimester.** The service commitment must be satisfied by May 6th for all families of students in grade seven or younger of each year (for administrative purposes). Families of eighth grade students will need to have all service hour requirements in by April 26. All other families will need to have their service hour requirements in by May 6. After May 6th, all service hours arranged through the thrift store will be applied to the following school year.

Parent Service Hours Particulars (OMS Campus)

Families with children enrolled in grades kindergarten through eight must contribute 25 hours of service; at least 15 hours of this total must be contributed to the Old Mission School Thrift Store during the months listed under Thrift Store. Service at the Thrift Store (Monday-Saturday) is the primary area of need, and it is a happy place and a solid community resource. There are a wide variety of assignments available at the Thrift Store.

A \$20.00 per hour (\$500.00 maximum) will be assessed to families who do not complete their service hours.

Parent Service Hours Particulars (EEC Campus)

Families with children enrolled only in the preschool and transitional kindergarten program must contribute 20 hours of service; 10 hours of this total must be contributed to the Old Mission School Thrift Store. If a family has a child enrolled in the preschool or transitional kindergarten program *and* a child enrolled in grades kindergarten through eight, that family must complete 25 hours of service.

Thrift Store/Parent Volunteer Hours Required

The Thrift Store is staffed by a manager and paid staff, as well as volunteers; it provides valuable financial support for the school and a needed service for the community. Please adhere to the Thrift Store class schedule for completing your hours, or **arrange during your assigned month** on a mutually-agreeable alternate time with the Thrift Store manager. Remember to take care of it during your assigned month because thrift store hours are billed throughout the year, at the conclusion of each assigned period. Payment for incomplete Thrift Store hours will be due at the end of each assigned period. When you are making your volunteer arrangements, please contact the Thrift Store manager at 544-0720. Active members of the School Advisory Council and Parent Club Officers are required to serve five hours at the Thrift Store to fulfill their service hour requirement and have first-hand knowledge of this very important arm of the school's fundraising.

Volunteer hours at Mission Thrift MUST be completed by a family member over the age of 21.

Also, please be aware that, for the safety and convenience of our thrift store operation, the premises are under electronic video surveillance, and notices are posted in the thrift store to this effect.

NOTE: Summer hours in June and July are reserved for parents completing their thrift store hours ahead of the new school year that begins the following August.

Parent Service Hours/Thrift Store Assignments

If your oldest child is enrolled in:	Your assigned service months are:
Grade 7 or 8	May-September
Grade 5 or 6	October-November
Grade 3 or 4	December-January
Kindergarten, TK, Pre 1, Pre 2,	February-March
Grade 1 or 2	February-March

Acceptable service projects for satisfying the remaining parent hours following the Thrift Store hours include:

- Member of the School Advisory Council
- Member of the Parents Club Advisory Council
- Teacher-requested assistants, classroom volunteers, field trips
- School-requested assistants: Office helpers, school fundraising, playground supervision, extended-care assistance, chaperones for middle school social activities, labor around building and grounds, marketing committee, athletic assistants, team transportation (at least three team members), athletic event supervision room mothers/fathers, service on Parent Club activity committees, donated materials with dollar equivalent of \$20.00/hour, other principal approved projects

Attendance at athletic events, school, and Parents Club functions do not fulfill the service hour requirement. Time used preparing or providing food for class parties or school activities does not apply to parent hours. Other projects in lieu of service hours must have the prior approval of the principal.

Parents Club

The Parents Club is organized to build community among the parents of Old Mission School, and to assist in fundraising efforts for the school. The Parents Club will endeavor to become a welcoming community where the love of Jesus Christ is evident. Its complete purpose is school support, community building, parent education, friend-raising, and fundraising. All parents, guardians, faculty, and staff interested in the welfare of Old Mission School are automatically members of the Parents Club. General monthly meetings are announced in the school newsletter. Come join us!

Privacy Notice

Addresses and phone numbers of students and parents will only be released to authorized persons for the purpose of conducting school business. Information will not be released for any other reasons. Honoring privacy laws, addresses or phone numbers of parents, faculty and staff members cannot be released *by the school*. Parents and community

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members are asked to contact staff members during school hours, or leave a voicemail or an email to them at any time of the day or night. *Please do not call faculty/staff members at home.*

School Addresses

Old Mission School
761 Broad Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 543-6019
(805) 543-6246 fax

Early Education Center Campus
221 Daly Avenue
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405
(805) 549-8819

Mission Thrift
2640 Broad Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 544-0720

OMS Business Office/Annex
772 Palm Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 543-2165

Email address: first letter and last name of staff member@omsslo.com (for example: ejones@omsslo.com). The school's web site address: www.oldmissionschool.com

School Office Hours

The OMS school office is open for business from 7:45 A.M. until 3:45 P.M. each day that school is in session and is located at 761 Broad Street.

School Schedules

EEC Campus: Preschool/TK

7:45-9:00 A.M.	Complimentary supervised play
9:00 A.M.	Preschool opens
12:30 P.M.	Half-Day Program Dismissal
5:30 P.M.	Full-Day Program Dismissal

OMS Campus: Kindergarten/Elementary/Middle School

7:45 A.M.	Playground Opens; complimentary supervised play
8:15 A.M.	Bell for morning assembly
8:17 A.M.	Morning assembly
10:00-10:15	Recess, grades K-2
10:15-10:30	Recess, grades 3-5
10:30-10:45	Recess, grades 6-8
11:45-12:30	Lunch, grades K-2
12:00-12:45	Lunch, grades 3-5
1:00-1:45	Lunch, grades 6 - 8
2:00	Dismissal, Kindergarten
2:30	Dismissal, grades 1 – 2

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2:40	Dismissal, grades 3 – 4
2:50	Dismissal, grades 5 – 6
3:00	Dismissal, grades 7 – 8
2:30-3:00	Complimentary supervision of siblings
3:00-5:30 P.M.	Extended Care Program

OMS Campus **Minimum Day Schedule**

8:15 A.M. Bell for morning assembly
No lunch break
Staggered Dismissal
Kindergarten 12:15
Grades 1-8 between 12:30-1:00 P.M.

Wednesday **Faculty Development Schedule**

8:15 A.M. Bell (No morning assembly)
8:30 A.M. Mass
Staggered Dismissal
Kindergarten 1:30
Grades 1-8 between 2:00 – 2:30 P.M.

School Advisory Council

The School Advisory Council (SAC) is an advisory body/school board assisting with the operation of the educational facilities at Old Mission School. Meetings are held each month of the school year and all parents are invited to attend the open portion of any meetings; please call the school secretary at least two days in advance of a scheduled meeting if you wish to attend or be on the agenda. The SAC consists of the pastor of Old Mission Parish, the OMS principal, eight to nine voting members appointed from the school community for a three-year term, and an optional faculty representative. The elected officers of the council are the chairperson and second chairperson. The minutes of each meeting are taken by the school secretary.

NOTE: SAC does not address school rules or personnel issues.

School Yearbook/ Pictures

The Mission School Yearbook is published in the spring by the publication class and copies are available to all students online(Preschool-8). Online orders should be placed mid-year when information appears in the school newsletter. Limited copies will be available for purchase after online orders have closed. Please plan to purchase your annual prior to its deadline. School pictures are taken of all school students in the early fall and are used in the school yearbook. Parents order school and class pictures at the time school pictures are taken. Further information may be found in the school newsletter.

Student Visitors

Guests are permitted to visit Old Mission School only with the permission of the administration. Requests must be made at least one day in advance. The guest should be in the same grade as the host student and should be dressed appropriately for school. A note is required from the guest's or host's parents with emergency medical information and contact numbers, and the guest must remain in classes all day with his/her host. Students from other local schools may only come for a short visit accompanied by their parents.

School Visits

Parents are always welcome to stop by the school or drop in for a short (10 min.) observation. These observations are not "conference" times, and the teachers have been asked to direct all their time and conversation to the students during class time. Parents are welcome to make an appointment with the teacher through the school office for a one-on-one meeting.

Parents interested in enrolling a student are also welcome. Several guidelines must be followed to ensure orderly school operation:

- Parents with no children enrolled at OMS must contact the school registrar to arrange an observation.
- Observations are about 20 minutes in duration.

Please assist us with our efforts to provide a safe environment for your children by following this directive conscientiously.

To enable teachers to begin a smooth school day, parents of EEC students campus are asked to say "goodbye" to their students by 9:00 A.M. unless special arrangements are made with a teacher. Parents at the OMS campus are asked to say "goodbye" at the end of the morning assembly unless they have arranged to be a classroom volunteer.

During school hours, the gates and side doors will be closed once school is in session, and *visitors will be required to enter and exit the campus through the school office.*

Please never request that a student open the side doors for you when school is in session.

Supplies

Each teacher on the OMS campus will provide students with a list of necessary materials. All students are responsible for purchasing their own supplies. Parents are encouraged to label supply items with the student's name.

Telephones/Messages

Phones are available on the OMS campus in the school office and in individual classrooms. Students may use these phones for emergency calls during the school day, and for all calls after dismissal. Telephone use requesting delivery for forgotten materials is discouraged.

Calls to parents to report an injury or illness are only made in the office.

To reduce the need for office phone use, please make after-school arrangements with your child before s/he leaves for school. *It is the school policy not to interrupt classes during the school day. Please limit the number of calls to emergency or change of plan notices for your children.*

Tuition and Fees

Families may pay tuition Annually, Semi-Annually and Monthly. Annual and the first Semi-Annual payment are due August 10. The FACTS Tuition Management System processes all tuition accounts and determines handling fees to all families.

Payment Policies

School fees include charges for tuition, extended care services and fees for Thrift store and parent service hours. Invoices are mailed out no later than the 10th of the month and are due within 30 days. Payments on accounts are to be made no later than 30 days from the mailing date. The office keeps a monthly aging report with the date of invoice mailing. **Delinquent accounts are subject to late fees.**

Over 30 Days Past Due:

Any family account with a balance over \$100 and over 30 days will be assessed a \$30 late fee.

Over 60 Days Past Due:

If an account becomes over 60 days past due, another \$30 late fee will be assessed. If a payment is not received within 5 days after the statement mailing, office personnel will call to arrange payment brought into the school office.

Removal from School or Grades:

If it becomes necessary, student(s) may not attend school until the account is brought up to date. At the end of each trimester, grades cannot be completed and report cards cannot be finalized for any student until the family account has been cleared.

End of the Year

Fees are billed in May for incomplete parent service hours and incomplete Thrift Store hours. Students will not be cleared to participate in end-of-year events if an account is still delinquent. Eighth grade promotion fees paid must be paid and cleared with the bookkeeper before students may participate in promotion ceremonies.

Bounced Checks

A bounced check for payment will be assessed a \$30 late fee. Money orders or cash payment may be required if there is more than a single occurrence.

Tuition Assistance

Tuition assistance is available to families who enroll their children in Old Mission School. Parents must apply for this assistance and meet the announced deadlines. Assistance is granted to Mission parish families with students in grades K-8 first (we are a parish school and Mission parish subsidizes our program), before consideration is given to other parishes or to preschool requests. Please contact the school office staff if you would like a Student Aid Form or more information about the program. Funds are allocated based on demonstrated need and are disbursed directly to tuition accounts at the beginning of each school year. We ask families to notify the school if their financial situation improves during the school year so that tuition assistance may be adjusted to create additional dollars for other families who need assistance. Families who belong to parishes other than Mission Parish are encouraged to seek financial assistance from their home parishes in addition to submitting a request for assistance to the school. In addition, limited funds are available from the Knights of Columbus. Contact your parish Knights of Columbus for information.

Tuition assistance is awarded for one academic year. For continued assistance, a new application must be filed each school year (for specific dates, see the newsletter each spring). A review of the previous year's payment and parent involvement record will be taken into account prior to granting a new request.