



Old Mission School News

Old Mission Catholic School Weekly Newsletter

OMS website: www.omsslo.com

August 24, 2007

Dates to Remember

Tuesday, August 28
School Advisory Mtg.
Chairpersons Only
4-5 PM, Pavilion

Enrichment Classes begin

Wednesday, August 29
8 AM Mass

Monday, September 3
No School
Labor Day Holiday

Tuesday, September 4
Parent Club Mtg.
1 PM, OMS Campus

Nativity Campus Back to School Night, 6-7 PM

Wednesday, September 5
8 AM Mass

Minimum Day Dismissal

OMS Campus Back to School Night, 6-8 PM

Parent Reception, 6-8:15 PM

Friday, September 7
Nativity Team Mtg.

Dear Parents and Guardians,

"A new beginning" is often the way we describe a new start, a new year, or new phase of our lives. It is also an attitude. It says to let everyone have a clean slate, a first day with no misgivings, a chance to share gifts and talents. Teachers are asked to give every student a new beginning. Parents are asked to give teachers and staff a new beginning. And parents are asked to give each other a new beginning. People who hold onto old grievances, people who have preconceived ideas they insist on believing, and people who won't give others a new chance...these people will never be young. Never. All students, parents, and staff deserve a new beginning. And here we have one: we're calling it the 2007/2008 school year. May it bring joy and peace, and make us young at heart. Jesus was all about new beginnings. God bless our OMS families!

With warmest wishes,

Teri Stegman
Principal

Linda Murray
Assistant Principal
Nativity

Tina Ballantyne
Assistant Principal
OMS

Thank You, Parent Club!

The Parent Welcome Teas on both the Nativity and OMS campus on our first day of school were wonderful! They were both well-attended, beautifully arranged, and coordinators Shane McKeague and Michelle Troy (Nativity campus) did a wonderful job organizing these events. Thank you to each parent who helped them on the committee, and thank you to Brook Salvini, Parent Club President, and her team of officers! A joyful event!

Our next Parent Club social is scheduled during Back-To-School night (September 5 on the OMS campus, September 4 on the Nativity campus) where there will be a parent reception. On the OMS campus, the reception will be on the school playground during the evening's event.

OMS Extended Care Program The OMS after-school care program is available each day unless posted otherwise until 5:00 PM. The cost is \$4.00 per hour per child. The minimum charge will be one hour (\$4.00). Whenever there is no ASA, we will notify parents in the newsletter.

Nativity After School Program This program runs from 7:45 AM to 8:45 AM and 12:15PM to 5:30 PM. Call or see Linda Murray to arrange for after-school care at Nativity. The cost is the same on both campuses.

Additional Newsletter Old Mission School currently provides 239 newsletters for our families and staff. In order to help the school avoid additional costs, we are asking that families requesting a second copy of the newsletter please choose one of the following options: provide a self-addressed stamped envelope for mailing, provide an email address for sending, read our newsletter on our website (www.omsslo.com), or stop by the school office to pick up a copy. Please let us know which option works for you. Call the school office at 543-6019 and ask for BJ, or leave a message at extension 10.

LIVESCAN Fingerprint Clearance Clinic

For the convenience of all our parents, we will have a LIVESCAN clinic on site during both the Nativity Campus Back-to-School Night on September 4, and the OMS Back-to-School Night on September 5. It will cost \$12 (cash only).

Nativity Campus Clinic:	September 4, 2007	5 - 6 PM	Room 8
OMS Campus Clinic:	September 5, 2007	5 - 6:30 PM	Room 9

Of course, you are welcome to go to any LIVESCAN location in the area as long as you have the LIVESCAN form from our office (it has the correct number on it to clear you for our two schools). Remember, once you have successfully completed a LIVESCAN fingerprint, you never have to do it again. However, you need a TB clearance redone every four years.

Packets for driving clearance are also available in the office and are very straightforward. Get cleared this first month of school and you are all set. If a grandparent would like to volunteer at school, they also need to be cleared.

CASH ONLY CASH ONLY CASH ONLY CASH ONLY CASH ONLY

Hot Lunches and Cold Milk/OMS Campus Student lunches are available. The price is \$3.00 and includes white milk. If your child would like chocolate milk with his/her lunch, the price is \$3.25. Menus will come home each month. You may send in a check and begin a lunch account, and Mary Martines will monitor your lunch account. Your child will still decide when he/she is having a hot lunch. Or you may send in money with your child on a day-by-day basis. Milk is available on the OMS campus at recess and lunch. Both white and chocolate milk will cost 30 cents when you are buying only milk. As you know, the milk prices are volatile and we will keep you informed if there are any further changes.

Thanks, everyone!

Traffic Patterns Schedule - OMS

Campus The safety of our students requires everyone to adhere to safe traffic patterns during school hours. Please recognize the posted parking. Please keep your staggered pick-up schedule handy throughout the year. The safety of your children is our first concern. Let's be patient and flexible since this will be a challenge until we adjust again. **Stay in your car.** Arrive a couple minutes after your scheduled time. (grades 3-8). Thank you.

OMS Campus Absentee Procedures If your child is ill or cannot attend school, please call the school office at 543-6019 before 9:00 AM on each day of the absence. This is very important. BJ will have to call you if you do not call in, and you can help her avoid a cumbersome task. So we thank you in advance for teaming with her to protect your children.

OMS Campus Safety Parents who volunteer or visit classes on the Old Mission School campus are required to sign in and out every time they come. This policy was implemented to improve safety on the OMS campus, and it enables school staff to know who is on campus at all times. Please help us protect your children by complying with this policy. After 2:45 PM, parents are welcome to enter the side gates to wait for their children by their classrooms if they are not parked in a 3 minute zone.

Volunteer Clearance 2006/2007 Parent volunteers need fingerprinting (one time only) and TB clearance (every 4 years). If you plan to transport students, you will need to hand in a copy of your license and complete a driving form from our office. Call BJ at 543-6019 with questions and try to get your volunteer clearances early in the year.

Dear OMS Friends,

I am thinking about all of you this first day of school, realizing what a wonderful year you are beginning filled with enrichment and adventure. Learning new things is truly the key to youth! I send you my love and best wishes for a delightful year. You certainly have the finest team of professionals at your disposal. Of this, I know from personal experience! Let them work their magic.

I am also writing today to say to each of you the goodbye I was not quite ready to do in June. I had a few too many goodbyes on my plate at that time, and all were quite tender. But I wanted you to know how wonderful I think you all are! I have twenty-seven years of spectacular memories to carry me through my retirement. Naturally, the OMS family will always be present in my thoughts and prayers. I actually do plan to pop in from time to time, so I will look forward to catching up on details then.

Have an awesome school year! (to quote my room 9 roommate)

With love,

Cathy Hallock

Handbooks

The Parent/Student Handbook has been included in your Friday envelope. Please read it with your child. There is new information included. Please return the handbook agreement page before the second Friday of September.

Cell Phone Policy

We are happy to allow students to carry cell phones in their backpacks as long as they are turned off throughout the school day. Many families feel it is a great way to stay in touch if there is an emergency or if a student needs to call back and forth after school. However, if a student's cell phone rings, vibrates, or is used during a normal school day, the phone will be sent to the principal's office and may be retrieved by the student with his/her parent after arrangements are made. If this occurs a second time, the student will lose the privilege of having the cell phone with him/her. Thank you for supporting our cell phone policy.

School Holiday Monday, September 3, school will not be in session due to the Labor Day holiday. Enjoy your three-day weekend!

STUDENT EMERGENCY CARDS Enclosed with this week's newsletter you will find two emergency cards for each child in your family. Please fill out completely the front and back. If your child/children reside at more than one address, please provide both addresses. **Return the completed cards in your Friday envelope or bring to the school office no later than Friday, September 7.**

We keep two cards for each child. One card is kept in the school office; the other card is kept in the student's classroom. These cards are very important for the safety of your child in the event of an emergency. Be sure to list any health condition that may affect your student's education such as asthma, allergies (especially to bee stings) and any medication they may require. Thank you for attending to this vital issue.