



Old Mission School News

Old Mission Catholic School Weekly Newsletter

OMS website: www.omsslo.com

September 21, 2007

Dates to Remember

Monday, September 24

OMS Pizza

Iowa Test of Basic Skills

Tuesday, September 25

*SAC Meeting, 4-6 PM,
Pavilion*

Iowa Test of Basic Skills

Wednesday, September 26

No Mass

Iowa Test of Basic Skills

Thursday, September 27

Iowa Test of Basic Skills

Friday, September 28

*Jeans with WAT shirts
(optional)*

Iowa Test of Basic Skills

Progress Reports

Dear Parents,

I thought I'd take this space to introduce myself to those of you I have not yet met. I'm Tina Ballantyne and the new assistant principal on the Old Mission School campus. I will make my best attempt to try to fill the shoes of Cathy Hallock. Any of you who are fortunate to be acquainted with her know that is an impossible task. Luckily for me, Cathy has made my transition smooth with her mastery of organization. Because of her foresight and guidance, I have yet to make a mistake I couldn't undo!

I began teaching here at OMS in 1992 and moved into room 7 one year later. I taught middle school literature, composition, and grammar (with an occasional math or social studies class thrown in) for all these long years. If I taught your child, you know that grammar is my passion. I truly believe that the disintegration of the English language will result in the fall of civilization! (How's that for hyperbole?) I love my job, and I am grateful that I still have the privilege of teaching grammar to the seventh and eighth-graders.

Speaking of loving my job, I am so happy to be Teri Stegman's right-hand woman. We work well together and seem to balance each other. Teri has been very supportive of me during this transition time, and I am looking forward to a long and cordial working relationship.

My goals for this position are similar to those I have in the classroom. I am fair as well as firm with my interactions with your children. I have high expectations and it my experience that in most cases, students rise to the challenge put before them. I hope all students who attend OMS have a happy, loving, and safe experience each and every school day. I am available to you as well as your children. Please don't hesitate to call with a question or a concern. There are many of you whom I have not yet met. Stop me and introduce yourself if you see me. And be patient with me as I take on this position...those shoes of Cathy's feel like stilettos!

Sincerely,

Tina Ballantyne
Assistant Principal

A Welcome Invitation from MCP Athletics

OMS students can attend MCP home athletic events (CIF playoffs not included) with no admission fee as long as they are wearing an OMS walk-a-thon T-shirt, OMS sweatshirt, etc. identifying them as an OMS student.

Welcome New Staff Members!

On the OMS campus, we are very pleased to welcome Nicole Ironside. She is a Cal Poly student, loves children, and is very supportive of their after-school activities. We would also like to thank Mary Martines, who was the ASA backbone while we awaited Nicole's clearance. Thank you, Mary! And thank you, Stefani Higuera and Jillian Iverson, who assisted Mary.

On the Nativity campus, Robin Allen has joined the ASA team, and she is a welcome, enthusiastic addition! She also is a student who loves to work with the children and provide a safe environment for them. Welcome!

Our Donut Angel We would like to thank a very special school benefactor, Ken Porche. He is the owner of Charles Shoes here in San Luis Obispo, and both his children and some of his grandchildren attended Old Mission School. Mr. Porche was the person who suggested donut days for students after some of the masses years ago. He dropped by yesterday to give us a check so that the donut/juice/milk tradition could continue! Thank you, Ken Porche!

School Pictures School pictures for the OMS Campus will be taken on Thursday, October 4. Pictures for the Nativity campus will be taken on Wednesday, October 3. Please watch for picture information to be sent home.



Falcon Awards

Creativity

Samantha Martin, Carly Kasey, Caroline Rossi, Jackie Maddelena, Cooper Locke, Meghan Fox, Nolan Ramos, Ciara La Puma, Tess Boehm, and Jack Fisher.

Change on school's master calendar:

Rancho El Chorro
(Outdoor School), Grade 5
May 7-9

The Tour of California
Wednesday, February 20
(Minimum Day Schedule)

Next Scrip Preorder

Monday, September 24, 2007

Scrip is available Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM in the office.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR
UPCOMING PIZZA DAY MONDAYS**

SEPTEMBER 24

OCTOBER 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29

NOVEMBER 5, 19 and 26

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR
UPCOMING JAMBA DAY FRIDAYS**

SEPTEMBER 28

OCTOBER 5, 12 and 26

Old Mission Church - YOUTH CHOIR Youth Choir at Old Mission Church welcomes new members! If you are 8-18 years old and love (and know how) to sing, come and join our youth choir! Youth choir will sing every first Sunday of a month at 9 AM mass at Old Mission Church. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 3:15 - 4:15 PM at the church (only two rehearsals a month.) The Youth Choir will also sing at the 4 PM Christmas Eve Mass, and at Scripture and Carols (Christmas Program) on Sunday, December 16, 2007 at 3 PM. We are training new youth cantors, too. To sign up and for more information, please call Mrs. Iva Svitek, Music and Choir Director at Old Mission Church, at 781-8220 Ext. 38 or e-mail at iva@svitek.com.

HELP YOUR CHILD DO WELL ON ITBS TESTS (grades 2-8)

- Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep before every test.
- Provide a light, healthy breakfast on test day.
- Have your child dress comfortably and arrive at school on time.
- Send your child off to school with confidence-building words of praise and support: You'll do great! Believe in yourself! I LOVE YOU!
- Suggest that your child breathe deeply to relax before and during the test.
- Remind your child to read directions carefully and look at all the answers before choosing one.
- Tell your child to check his or her answers before turning in the test.
- Do not schedule trips, dental or medical appointments or early pickups for testing days.
- We do not have make-up tests. However, we do test every year (most schools test every other year).

P.S. Don't forget that we are very careful never to interrupt any classroom during testing. Students are not called to leave for appointments because you so very kindly and carefully schedule all leavings after lunchtime or after the testing week concludes. Thank you for attending to this....testing goes until lunch each day for grades 2 – 8.
