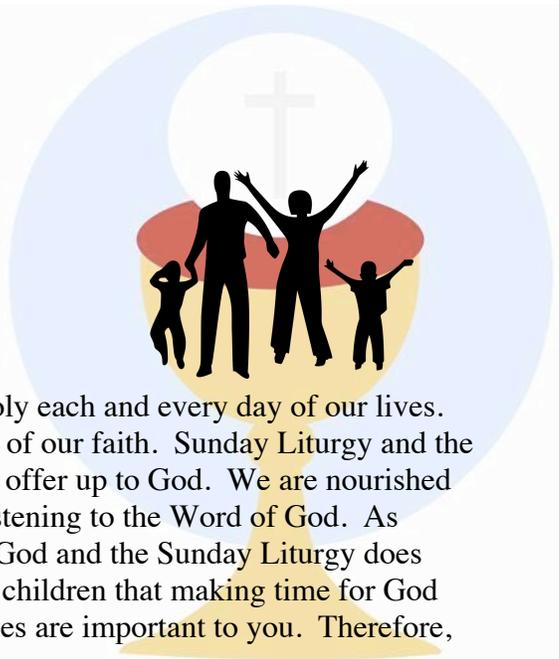


October 22, 2019

Dear Madeleine Parents,



We are called by God to better ourselves by being holy each and every day of our lives. Keeping holy the Sabbath will always be at the heart of our faith. Sunday Liturgy and the Eucharist are the most important prayers that we can offer up to God. We are nourished by attending Mass, receiving Communion, and by listening to the Word of God. As Catholics, we need to spend time reconnecting with God and the Sunday Liturgy does this for us. By attending Mass as a family, it says to children that making time for God and building a community with other Catholic families are important to you. Therefore, it will become important to them.

There are **five important religious feast days and celebrations** during the month of November: All Saints Day is Nov. 1, All Souls Day is Nov. 2, St. Martin de Porres is Nov. 3, St. Cecilia is Nov. 22, and St. Andrew is on Nov. 30.

Our virtue for the month of November is **Gratitude**. Please remember to thank our teachers for all their hard work and dedication.

### **OPEN HOUSE**

The school will again be holding two open houses to welcome new families who are searching for a Catholic school for the 2020-2021 school year. The dates of these are **Monday, November 4** from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and **Sunday, January 12** from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. If you know families who are interested in a Catholic education, please invite them to come to one or both of these open houses. If you are interested in helping us out on either of these open houses by leading a tour, being a greeter, or placing a lawn sign to advertise the open house, please leave your name with the school's front office.

Please consider advertising our open houses on your Facebook, Twitter, or Nextdoor apps.

### **PROSPECTIVE NEW FAMILIES**

As we plan for our open houses and enrollment for the coming school year, we recognize that in the past, some of our **best families have come through referrals**. If you know of a family who has expressed interest in a Catholic education, please share that information with us. **Fill out the referral form in the resource section of SchoolSpeak and send it in**. A special effort will be made to invite them to our open house, offer them private tours during the school day, and help them through the application process.

### **TEST OF EMERGENCY TEXT ALERT SYSTEM**

I sent out a test of our Emergency Text Alert System on **Friday, September 27, 2019**. An email was also sent out to all parents to verify that everyone received the "test". I am hopeful that all families have registered to receive any future emergency texts. The parents who did not receive the text needed to identify their cell phone carrier on SchoolSpeak. Please let us know if you need any help signing up for this important notification. Another test will be sent out soon.

### **FAMILY SUSHI NIGHT—COMMUNITY EVENT**

Our first community event will take place this Wednesday at the Sushi Lounge, 1304 Rosecrans St. in Point Loma, from 4 p.m. until close. This is a fun community event to meet with other school families and to earn money for the school. You can dine in or take out but be sure to let them know you are with School of the Madeleine. 20% of the proceeds from your order will be donated back to the school.

### **FALL FUNDRAISER**

A special thank you to *CJ Finch* and *Kira Espiritu* for co-chairing our fall fundraiser again this year. Deliveries are expected on Thursday, October 24. Thanks to all the families who supported this event. Remember, you can still buy items online through December 31, 2019.



School of the Madeleine's **Ohana Jog-A-Thon** will be held on Thursday, November 15. A special thank you to the committee working so hard to make this year successful: *Mimi McGinty, Amy Pabarcus, and Patty Roe*. The students attended a special assembly on October 3 to learn about all the special prizes available for our 15th annual jog-a-thon. A Hawaiian accessory day will be held on Tuesday, November 5 if we reach \$30,000 toward our goal. Registration packets are available on SchoolSpeak.

### **THE GREAT MAIN EVENT 2020**

A special thank you to our Main Event Co-Chairs: *Susan Cuttitta, Claire Dahlen, Janel Divona, and Megan Eacret*. Please check out the newest update from the chairs posted on SchoolSpeak.

### **WCEA/WASC ACCREDITATION**

Our school community is preparing for our WCEA/WASC Accreditation February 19-21, 2020. We will keep you informed of our progress and ask for your help with the process from time to time. Our teachers' workday on Wednesday, October 16 was very productive in preparing our Self Study report.

All drafts of the Self Study are available under the resource section on SchoolSpeak. If you haven't read the sections yet, we would still appreciate your feedback. Thank you to all who have already participated and submitted your thoughts.

### **REPORT CARD CONFERENCES**

Report card conferences are scheduled for minimum days on **November 6, 7, and 8** (Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday). It is required by the Diocesan Office for Schools that all parents must make an appointment to meet with their child's teacher to discuss the report card for the first grading period. No report card will be given out without an appointment. You will be receiving a scheduled time for your report card conference appointment on **Thursday, October 24**. Please call the school office if you do not receive a scheduled appointment time.

### **AWARDS ASSEMBLY**

The awards assembly for sixth through eighth grades for the first quarter will be held on **Thursday, November 14** in our parish church at 2:00 p.m. **Merit awards** for fourth and fifth grades will be **given out in the classroom**. Requirements for these awards are stated in the Parent/Student Handbook. Please mark your calendars.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE**

We are excited to continue to update the School of the Madeleine Twitter account and Facebook page. We are posting all of the wonderful events and activities that our school is participating in, both on campus and on field trips. We post many things after the event has passed for security purposes, but we will post announcements about our Open House and other marketing events ahead of time. If you have changed your mind about being included or excluded from social media after turning in your permission slips, please let the office know.

Please follow us on Twitter@sdmadeleine and on Facebook@SchooloftheMadeleine. We look forward to letting others know how great our school truly is!

## **AIR CONDITIONING**

The school's air conditioning is not working consistently in each wing of classrooms. As I had the installers come out to check the discrepancies in the classrooms, it was discovered that we need to redo the duct work. I have scheduled the duct work to be completed over Thanksgiving break.

## **TUITION ASSISTANCE**

**Online applications for tuition assistance** (TADS Program) for the 2020-2021 school year will be available by Thursday, November 8 on [www.tads.com/request](http://www.tads.com/request). All applications should be submitted to the TADS Organization by **Thursday, January 9**. It will take 6 to 8 weeks for this organization to return a report with their recommendations to us. Only second year kindergarten students or returning students in first through eighth grades whose families are in financial good standing with the school can apply. You may also apply for the **Bishop Flores Scholarship Fund** through the TADS application process. If you apply for them both at the same time, you will only need to pay for one processing fee.

## **HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL**

Our Halloween carnival is scheduled for **Thursday, October 31**. Students should wear their costumes to school. Please remember the simple guidelines regarding costumes, which were emailed to families last week and are available under the resources on SchoolSpeak. I am asking you to remember the wide age range of students and siblings attending our Halloween carnival. The guidelines we have set are to keep the carnival fun and safe for all. Scary costumes and the use of fake blood can be very frightening to our younger participants. I would encourage all to consider having students dress as saints on this eve of All Saints Day.

The carnival begins with a **costume parade at approximately 9:30 a.m.** The children will be dismissed from the parade to participate in the carnival's food and game booths. This is a minimum day with **dismissal at 12 noon. Attendance will be taken in each classroom before dismissal!** After the carnival, we need all students to help with the carnival clean up. Please do not take your child home early. Because of safety concerns, we will stagger dismissal! All parents are invited to join us for a fun-filled day! One color wristband will be sold for \$5.00 for a bag of chips, a drink, and all games. A different color wristband will be available for non-Madeleine siblings who wish to participate in the carnival for \$3.00 and do not want a snack. No food will be given out **without the proper colored wristband. These bands will be sold in advance.** The money should be turned into your child's homeroom teacher. Be sure your child's name and grade level are on the envelope. Students should bring a lunch if they are going to stay after school at the YMCA Extended Care. Net proceeds from the carnival support the following: 50% to the Missionary Childhood Association, 25% to the Madeleine's Student Council, and 25% to classroom teachers to be used for their students.

## **HALLOWEEN CANDY COLLECTION**

Again, this year, we have an opportunity for our children to share their Catholic faith with needy children in Tijuana through a program sponsored by the Notre Dame Club. Students may share their Halloween treats with children who have far less. They are also accepting toothbrushes and toothpaste. Halloween candy and toothbrushes may be sent to the office starting on **Friday, November 1** through **Thursday, November 7**. Please see the flyer on SchoolSpeak from the **Notre Dame Club** for more information.

## **THANKSGIVING BASKETS**

During the month of November, each class will be putting together a Thanksgiving basket complete with all the fixings for a Thanksgiving dinner. We will be donating the baskets to **The Center for Community Solutions** who helps local families affected by domestic violence. We are asking each student to bring in \$1.00 to help purchase a turkey and to bring in one assigned food item to contribute toward a complete meal on or before **November 21, 2019**. Please watch for a communication from your room parents coordinating the Thanksgiving basket items and turkey money donation.

## **SERIOUS CONCERN**

On October 2, there was a live wire down on Knoxville Street at the end of the school day. Police officers blocked off the street and were monitoring the traffic at the bottom of Illion Street. Mrs. Amann went down to make sure all the students were safe. During this time, students who walk to the San Diego Tennis & Racquet Club were rerouted to walk around the neighborhood to get to the Club. The police officers spoke to Mrs. Amann about the students who were being picked up at the bottom of the hill. These officers also commented about the students who were walking to the Club that this was unsafe and that “they would never let their **own** children walk to the club or be picked up at the bottom of the hill”. The officers mentioned that the trailer park area on the corner of Morena and Knoxville is a place where they are frequently called to check out when there is trouble in the area. Again, we ask parents not to ask your child(ren) to meet you at the bottom of Illion Street and discourage students from walking to the Club after school. It is clear that this is not safe for our students.

## **SCHOOL SECURITY**

All parents who come onto School of the Madeleine’s campus (this includes preschool and kindergarten) must first stop at the **school office to get a visitor’s badge**. This also includes parents who volunteer in the **kindergarten reading room, hot lunch parents, library, and the 50-Mile Club helpers**. These badges must be worn while you are on campus. When parents are ready to leave the school grounds, they must check out at the office. Parents working in the kindergarten reading room should check out with the kindergarten reading teacher. These procedures will help us to identify unauthorized individuals who may come onto the school grounds and allow us to have a **safer environment**.

Please remember that all parents who volunteer must have clearance **through CMG Connect**. **CMG Connect** includes three steps: viewing the CMG Safe Environment Curriculum, agreeing with the Code of Ethics, and completing the Background Check. Two of these CMG steps require you to print and turn in certificates of completion with the \$20.00 fee made payable to School of the Madeleine. We are finding parents who may have lived in other cities/states may incur an additional fee because the city/state requires a different search process. All volunteers need to be cleared through the **CMG process**.

If you see anything suspicious in the neighborhood or are concerned with traffic on Illion Street, please call the police directly. The school has made many calls lately and has been advised to have you call directly as the person who sees the issue first hand.

### **PICK UP AND DROP OFF**

Drop off is going well in the morning with the help of *Mrs. Norman, Mr. and Mrs. Cowan, and Mrs. Cecy Brigida*. It is necessary for your child(ren) to be able to exit the car quickly and to be able to manage their own backpack in case a helper isn't at your car to assist. It is not the time for good-bye kisses (please give at home), to give your child medicine, or to hand out lunch money. Also, if you are one of the last two cars at the bottom of the passenger zone, it would be better to wait until you move up the line to unload students.

If you are picking up your children in front of school at dismissal, you **may not block the drive through lane going north up the hill** while you wait for a spot to open in the passenger pick up at the curb. This causes a terrible back up down the hill. Those cars are parents trying to go up to the parking lot or are neighbors. In their frustration, they try to go around you by going into the lane coming south down the hill. Because of the steep grade of the hill, this is a very dangerous situation for all concerned. It would be better to wait at the bottom of the hill until you see that the passenger zone is moving. As parents and neighbors call to complain, I am asking them to call the police department directly.

Please do not ask your child(ren) to wait for you at the bottom of the hill after school. I have had reports about students pushing each other into the street as they wait. If you wait in your car at the bottom of the hill until it is closer to 3:00 p.m., the pick up zone is much less crowded.

### **JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY TALENT SEARCH**

We are pleased to inform you that School of the Madeleine will be participating in the **Johns Hopkins University Institute for the Academic Advancement of Youth**. Johns Hopkins University sponsors the 2019-2020 academic Talent Search for qualifying students in seventh and eighth grades. The purpose of the Talent Search is to identify, assess, and recognize the academic abilities of highly able students. To qualify for the Talent Search, a student must have scored in the 95 percentile or higher in a single area (mathematics or reading) on a nationally normed, standard aptitude or achievement test. We have researched and assessed our seventh and eighth grade students and have found **18 students who qualify!** If your child qualifies for this special honor, you should receive a letter home this week. We are very proud to be participating in this prestigious program. In the past, many of our students have received high distinctions on these tests.

### **LABEL SCHOOL UNIFORMS AND SUPPLIES**

I ask you to **label all articles of clothing, supplies, water bottles, and lunch boxes with your child's name and grade**. Each day, many school items are left on the playground. A genuine attempt is made to return articles to the students on a daily basis. It is very frustrating when most of the lost items do not have names and grades on them and, as a result, end up in our lost and found box. This box is already over-flowing! Most of these school items will have to be sent to Saint Vincent de Paul because the uniform exchange cannot use them all. **I encourage all parents to check the lost and found box on a weekly basis and label all your child's school items.**

### **COACHES NEEDED FOR OUR WINTER SPORTS**

If you are interested in coaching one of our winter sports teams, please contact Coach O'Neal in the P.E. office (619) 276-6545, ext. 227 or at [moneal@schoolofthemadeleine.com](mailto:moneal@schoolofthemadeleine.com). The teams we need coaches for are: **1st-8th grade girls soccer, 1st-4th grade boys soccer, and 5th-8th grade boys basketball.**

Please remember that all parents who volunteer must have clearance **through CMG Connect.**

### **Amazon Smile**

The Amazon Smile program is a great way for our school to make money while you shop on Amazon. Simply enter <https://smile.amazon.com> and choose School of the Madeleine as your charity and .05% of every dollar you spend will go to our school. With the holiday shopping season coming up, this will be a great way to earn money for our school without doing much! See more information in the resources on SchoolSpeak.

### **PLEASE PRAY**

Please continue healing prayers for *Carter Santos*, brother of Josie (alumna) and Peyton (5B), and *John Nolan*, father of Gabriel (3B) in our Madeleine community.

Remember to support our teachers in their tireless efforts in educating your children. I am so proud of their hard work and dedication. Be sure to thank them for all they do!

God Bless,

*Jean*

Jean Coleman

### **THANK YOU TO:**

*Fourth Grade Parents*—for providing lunch for our teachers on *Wednesday*, October 16. It was delicious!

*Julie Grooms, Mary Conroy, and Denise Bryar*—for their work on preparing new flyers for local preschools and new banners to promote our upcoming Open House.

*Nina Morrison* (mother of Genevieve Smith)—for the delicious chocolate chip pumpkin bread for the office staff.

*Daniella Cramp* (mother of Aaron and Matthew)—for the yummy chocolate cupcakes for the office staff.

*Mary McCormick Whitehouse* (grandmother of alumnus, Camden McCormick) for the donation of a color printer.

*Marga Perez* (mother of Mariana)—for the yummy doughnuts for the office staff.

*Bayne Family*—for the delicious French Macarons for the faculty and staff.

*Paola Gistaro* (mother of Micaela and Julian)—for the delicious homemade brownies for the office staff.



Remember the past with Gratitude.  
Live the present with Enthusiasm.  
Look forward to the future with Confidence.

~ St. John Paul II

# School News

October 22, 2019

## **VIRTUE FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER**

With the holiday of Thanksgiving approaching, this month is a perfect time to focus on our monthly virtue of “**gratitude**”. Our students are learning how they can be more appreciative of the many gifts that God has given them. To show appreciation to God, our students and their families will be giving money to the Missionary Childhood Association from the Halloween Carnival and will be working to put together Thanksgiving baskets for the needy. Our students are encouraged daily to treasure the many blessings and the gifts they receive from God.

## **SIGNING STUDENTS OUT EARLY**

If you are signing your child out early, a written and signed request must be sent to your child’s teacher before the start of that day. We understand that sometimes signing out early is not planned, so it is a good idea to arrive at the school a few minutes early to allow your child to be called from their class and gather their belongings. Please don’t call the office to have your child ready for you when you arrive. Your child will not be called out of class until you are here. Please expect to pick up any homework after school in the office, unless an agreement has been made with your child’s teacher in advance.

## **ABSENCES DUE TO ILLNESS**

Please remember that state law requires a written excuse be given to the school whenever a child is absent. This note must be presented to the homeroom teacher and should include the name of the pupil, date the child was absent, and a parent signature. In addition, a phone call must be made to the school office each day that your child is absent. A message directly to the teacher does not replace a call to the office.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC PROBLEMS**

To keep the after school traffic flowing on Illion Street, please remember that if your child has not come to your car by the time you reach the top of the passenger zone, you will need to circle so as to not block a space for others. Please do not and get out of your car while picking your child up as this slows down the pick up line.

In addition, please do not use the driveway between the rectory and the hall for pickup or drop off. This prevents the priests from being able to move in and out of the driveway.

It takes all of us to follow the rules and be good neighbors to the homes that surround the school.

## **SECURITY GATE**

When visiting the school, please remember to say your first and last name after the office responds to your call at the gate, and always report directly to the office first to sign in and get a name label. Your name label lets our students know that you checked in to the office. Following this practice lets our students and staff know that you are safe to be on campus. It is also important that you ensure the gate is closed behind you. If you let anyone inside the gate with you, please be sure they are also signing in at the office. Thank you!

## *Christmas Programs*

### **PRESCHOOL**

Preschool Christmas pageant will be on **Friday, December 6 at 10:00 a.m.** in our parish hall. Please mark your calendars.

### **KINDERGARTEN**

Kindergarten Christmas pageant will be held on **Thursday, December 19 at 1:30 p.m.** in the parish hall.

### **GRADES 1-8**

There will be **two productions** of our Christmas pageant for first through eighth grades. The first production will be on **Thursday, December 12 at 1:30 p.m.** This production will be for those families whose last name starts with A through J. The second production will be on **Friday, December 13 at 1:30** for families whose last name begins with K through Z.

## **SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR**

The Book Fair is coming! The Book Fair will be held in the library the week of November 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>. Book Fair hours will be from 8 – 4:30, Monday through Thursday. Please look for the teacher book bins and purchase a book for your child's teacher to add to their classroom library! If you are unable to attend the Book Fair, or just want to keep shopping, be sure to visit the Book Fair online at <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/schoolofthemadeleine>. This link will be available from October 27<sup>th</sup> to November 9<sup>th</sup>. When online shopping, check out the Library Wish List of books. These are titles I would like to add to our library to keep the students excited to read!

I would like to thank Amy Latta for volunteering her time to help with the 1<sup>st</sup> graders in the library and to the Balkenbush family for their donation of books!



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN THE NURSES OFFICE**



If you are available, have clearance through the CMG process, and would like to help us in the nurse's office between 11:30 am and 1:00 pm to earn service points, please consider signing up to help on any available day using this [LINK](#) or by calling the school office at (619) 276-6545.

We do not have a registered nurse on staff at the school and rely on parent volunteers during our busiest time of the day to help children who may be sick or perhaps have a scrapped a knee or elbow.

Your help is greatly appreciated!

## **THE GREAT CALIFORNIA SHAKEOUT**

School of the Madeleine students and staff participated in the Great California Shakeout, along with 10 million Californians, on Thursday, October 17. Federal, state, and local emergency experts agree that "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" is the appropriate action during an earthquake. The Great California Shakeout is an annual event that highlights the importance of knowing the most current "best practices" for surviving an earthquake. School of the Madeleine has been part of it for at least the past six years. Part of this drill is to evacuate the school, take attendance, arrange the students into family groups, initiate search and rescue, set up a first aid center, and arrange a procedure to reunite parents and their children.

## **LOST AND FOUND**

Please encourage your children to visit the lost and found to recover their lost items or visit the lost and found after school. It is located between the girl's restroom and 6B. It is filled with lost sweaters, hoodies, and lunch boxes. The lost and found will be cleaned out on a monthly basis. Uniform items that are not labelled will be given to the uniform exchange. Other items not labelled will be donated.

## **COLLECTION FOR CCSA**

During the month of November, St. Mary Magdalene Parish is asking for donations of \$10.00 gift cards from McDonalds, Rite Aid, Jack in the Box, Subway, and Vons for Community Christian Service Agency. These gift cards will be used to fill gift bags for homeless individuals at Christmas. We ask that Madeleine families please bring these donations to the school office or drop them off at the rectory office between 8:00 am & 4:00 pm.

## **ANNUAL NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS**

In accordance with Federal asbestos regulations, our school maintains a file with the results of asbestos surveys in various building materials at our school. This file is available for review with prior appointment.



## KINDERGARTEN

Our field trip to the pumpkin patch is Thursday October 24<sup>th</sup>. We have been busy learning about the lifecycle of pumpkins. We also measured and weighed our pumpkins. The best part of our pumpkin week was making pumpkin slime with Mrs. Flippin. We will be able to observe everything we have been learning about pumpkins at the pumpkin patch. We will each bring a pumpkin back to school and decorate them with our Big Buddies on Friday. The Halloween carnival is on Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. We can't wait to see everyone's costume! **We strongly suggest that parents come to the carnival or arrange someone to walk around with your children. It is very overwhelming for these students.**

In math we have been focusing on shapes, patterning, and positional words. In practical life we are learning about autumn, bats, spiders, and pumpkin life cycles, skeletons, and Halloween. In Religion we have been learning about the Creation Story. God created this beautiful world for us to enjoy and take care of it.

Our students are so motivated to read and are keeping us busy in the reading room. Please consider signing up to help our students in the reading room.

A big thank you to all of our reading room helpers and to our room moms for helping us organize all of these exciting events!

We hope you have a wonderful and safe Halloween. Boo!

## FIRST GRADE

First Graders are getting ready for Halloween! We are decorating, and reading, and writing Halloween stories! The children are excited about their costumes, and the Halloween Carnival! We are also learning about how Halloween came to be! It was the celebration of "All Hallow's Eve" in preparation for All Saints Day! The word "Hallow" means Holy! Everyone came dressed as a particular Saint, to honor all of the men and women who have gone before us, who strove to be holy along their earthly journey, and now reside in the Kingdom of Heaven! We PRAY for "all souls!" We celebrated the Feast of the Holy Rosary on October 7<sup>th</sup>! The children are learning the meaning and value of the Rosary as Our Blessed Mother has explained to us when she gave it to St. Dominic, and asked that all of her children on earth, pray the Rosary, especially as a family, for PEACE! The children are being challenged with math as they problem solve! They have to explain why they are performing certain operations in their calculations! They have been up for the challenge!! We have also supplemented their reading with Chapter Books to increase their vocabulary, and to further challenge their reading skills! The children are getting better at understanding sentence structure, and are able to recognize mistakes, and to correct them!

## SECOND GRADE

Second grade has been hard at work every day practicing their addition and subtraction facts in the Xtra Math computer program while fearlessly attacking problem solving and number concepts in their daily math classroom work. These students have read and discussed both fiction and nonfiction texts about bullying, heroes, space exploration and friendship. They have learned about cause and effect relationships, worked to identify main events and details, explain the author's purpose and tirelessly practiced the skill of finding evidence for their answers in the text. As writers they are crafting more complex sentences and utilizing graphic organizers to construct paragraphs with clear topic sentences and detailed supporting ideas. They have been busy growing seeds into plants, studying about animal biodiversity and thinking like scientists who gather information, hypothesize and observe and report results. Their reward for all this effort and hard work was an amazing field trip to the Rueben H Fleet Science Center in Balboa Park. They can't wait for more learning and adventure ahead!

## THIRD GRADE

Third Grade is celebrating "Socktober" by collecting socks for the people being served at Father Joe's Village. We have collected over 300 pairs of socks and have one more week to go!

We have decorated our rooms with Halloween art, Spooky Cinquains, and "The Best Part of Me" photography and short essays.

We are memorizing multiplication facts, learning about landforms, animal habitats, and more. The end of the quarter is fast approaching, and we are doing our best to meet our Renaissance Reading goals.

We are practicing the Great Commandment in our daily lives and doing our best to be kind to one another. Our school-wide earthquake drill and rosary were memorable events this month.

We are looking forward to the Halloween carnival. It is always so much fun!

## FOURTH GRADE

Fourth Graders have continued to grow and each day. The teachers in 4<sup>th</sup> grade are emphasizing how our SOM Student Learning Expectations are a part of our daily routine and we recognize what we have learned as a part of the overall learning expectations.

Both classes are in the process of learning to write paragraphs that have complete sentences and use correct grammar and punctuation. This skill is needed in every subject.

In Social Studies we are continuing to learn how to use the iPads with the modules from St. Mary's Press, as well as our book. Our next topic is to learn about all of the European explorers that came to California.

In science we are learning about animal structures. We enjoyed our class o fish diversity at Birch Aquarium. Thank you to all the parents that drove on our field trip.

Happy Halloween!

## FIFTH GRADE

Welcome Autumn! Our class is moving right along in our studies. Many have eased into the routine seamlessly. Others still need to be sure studying is done in spelling and mastery of the multiplication tables, since we are learning long division now. We are learning about Matter and how to identify different things in Science. Social Studies class is concentrating on the arrival of the earliest settlers. We are keeping up with our Renaissance Reading points too. We are preparing to for the rosary on Friday. Each student has a prayer to say. This rosary is especially for those afflicted with cancer. We are praying for all of the survivors, their families, and friends that endlessly support and comfort them. We always pray for family members and neighbors who are ill . Your children are very caring and include many people in their daily intentions, adding to our prayer list. We'll see all of you at the Halloween carnival!



## SIXTH GRADE

Sixth graders are building friendships, knowledge, and experience as we end our first quarter of the school year together. Our recent social studies topics include the ancient civilization of Mesopotamia and its many technological advances including the wheel, sail, plow, and irrigation systems. In science we are moving and shaking; we are studying how earthquakes help shape Earth's surface and have been working to create family emergency plans. In literature, our focus has been comparing fiction and nonfiction texts, as well as studying the use of symbolism in short stories by Ray Bradbury and Sandra Cisneros. Our writing organization is improving as we compare texts and support our ideas using text evidence. Our religion studies this month focus on the story of Exodus. We related God's delivery of the Hebrews from slavery to how Jesus delivers us from sin and to Eternal Life with Him. Lastly, we can't wait to celebrate Halloween with our classmates and to decorate pumpkins with our buddies this week!

## SEVENTH GRADE

In the past few weeks of school, 7th grade has learned many things. In Social Studies, we have been learning about the Islamic world and have been taking Cornell notes. Currently in English, Mrs. Czerniak has been teaching us about descriptive writing. Mrs. Czerniak is also teaching us about Figurative Language in Literature. In Spanish, the whole 7th grade is learning about how to say the months and seasons. In Advanced Math, we are learning square roots, and in Regular Math, we are learning about inequalities. In Science, we are learning about genetics and working on our Science Fair Project on fingerprints. And finally, in Religion, we are learning about the 10 commandments and continuing student-led prayer. We have learned so many amazing things and we cannot wait to learn more this year!

## EIGHTH GRADE

Time is flying! The 8<sup>th</sup> graders are finishing the first quarter and getting ready to apply to our future high schools! Over the past few weeks representatives from Saints, OLP, and Cathedral Catholic visited our school to tell us about their schools, and we have toured the Academy of Our Lady of Peace and Saint Augustine High School. We will visit Cathedral Catholic High School on October 29<sup>th</sup>. In addition to visiting schools, we are starting our preparatory classes for the upcoming High School Placement Test in January.

This quarter has also introduced us to many interesting topics in our classes. In Spanish we are learning about possessive adjectives, house vocabulary, and how to conjugate verbs. In PE we have finished our Presidential Testing and have run two one-mile runs already. Whew! In science we are studying the Periodic Table of Elements and how they interact with each other while we are starting our Science Fair projects. In math we are learning about equations and the mathematical properties, and in algebra we are learning how to solve and graph functions. We are writing adjectives in English and finishing up our class book, *Fahrenheit 451*, in literature. In social studies we are studying the United States Constitution and how our country's government works, and we are learning about the beginning of the Catholic Church and how the Holy Spirit's guidance helped the early Christians in our religion class.

We had a great time at our first dance of the year, and we are looking forward to dressing up for and having fun at our final Halloween Carnival. See you on the 31<sup>st</sup>!

By Winter Moritz

# FAMILY SUSHI NIGHT



- Experience an amazing family meal
- Earn money for the kids and school
- Dine In OR Take Out
- Upon order or seating, let them know you are with School of the Madeleine
- 20% of proceeds from your order will be donated back to school for fundraising

**Wed - Oct 23 @ 4pm until close**  
**Sushi Lounge Point Loma**

*1304 Rosecrans St*  
*San Diego, California 92106*