

# OLD MISSION MONTESSORI SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Tuesday, December 18, 2007

www.omms.org



## A Christmas Prayer

by Robert Louis Stevenson

Loving Father,  
Help us remember the birth of Jesus,  
that we may share in the song of the angels,  
the gladness of the shepherds,  
and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate  
and open the door of love all over the world.

Let kindness come with every gift  
and good desires with every greeting.  
Deliver us from evil by the blessing  
which Christ brings,  
and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

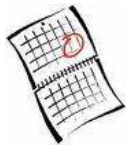
May the Christmas morning  
make us happy to be your children,  
and Christmas evening bring us to our beds  
with grateful thoughts,  
forgiving and forgiven,  
for Jesus' sake.

Amen.



***“The hands are the instruments of man’s intelligence.”***

*Maria Montessori*



### DATES TO REMEMBER!

- **Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**, Jr. Elementary Plans Page of Science Project due
- **Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**, Free Dress Day, 12:30/12:45 pm Dismissal, **NO PM EXTENDED CARE**
- **Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**, Celebrating 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a Priest with Father Michel, Mass at 7:00 p.m. in the Serra Center
- **December 21<sup>st</sup> through January 6<sup>th</sup>**, Christmas Vacation
- **Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**, Students return to School



### Adopted Families' Christmas Baskets

On Thursday morning, December 20<sup>th</sup>, we will be delivering our food and gift baskets to our “adopted families.” Dry goods and Christmas gifts can be delivered to the classroom at any time before December 20<sup>th</sup>. Please deliver all perishable food items to the classroom at drop off on Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. We would like to thank everyone for their kindness and generosity that they have shown these less fortunate families during this holiday season.



### Fr. Michel Celebrates 50 years!

Fr. Michel Gagnon cordially invites you to celebrate his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a priest on Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup> in the Serra Center at 7:00 p.m., followed by a reception in the McKeon Center. All you need to bring is a platter of cookies or sweets to share!

**If you plan to attend and your child is in the OMMS Choir, please notify the school office. The Parish would like the OMMS choir to help in the celebration.**



### Christmas Wishes from the PTG Board

On behalf of the PTG Board, we wanted to let the entire OMMS community know how blessed and grateful we feel during this joyous season.

This has been a wonderful first semester for the PTG Board, and we want to say “thank you”. To all of the parents, grandparents and guardians of our wonderful students, we are honored to know you and to work with you on various projects. Whether you have helped with PTG activities, listened to readers, brought in donations to our adopted families, participated in our fundraisers or constructed gingerbread houses, you have truly made an impact on the lives of our children. Your involvement is truly a gift to all of us.

To our teachers and staff, the PTG Board considers it a privilege to do what we can to enhance your materials. You are a tireless group of individuals dedicated to educating and enriching our children. Your commitment to OMMS never ceases to amaze us. Your willingness to volunteer at PTG events, in addition to all you do in the classroom, is appreciated more than words can describe.

To Anne Virjee and Michelle Shebest, we thank you for finding such innovative fundraisers. You've helped raise funds for OMMS, and you've helped many of us get an early start on Christmas shopping! To Donnah Snaer-Williams, we thank you for all of the stewardship opportunities which have allowed our community to give to others. To Esther Swithenbank, Cheri Bell and Tami Smith, we thank you for the Welcome Back Picnic and for the Horse Drop. Bringing our community together and raising funds for classroom materials through such activities is yet another gift. To BJ Hixon and Dee Hillhouse-Shokes, we thank for all the work you do to count the funds raised and to record the minutes from our meetings. To Cheryl Smith and Heather Escamilla, we thank for all your work coordinating Parent Participation Hours and Box Tops. To Denise Benjamin, as always, we thank you for your commitment to finding donations that keep costs as low as possible for our events. To Riz Bugawan, Anthony Brillo and Mary Oga, thank you for photographing our events so that we will remember them for years to come. Thanks to Hazel Brillo for coordinating the efforts our fantastic Room Parents (we thank you all for the countless hours you devote to the classrooms). Thank you to Joe Davies and John McCoy for all the time that you continue to devote to Recycling and to Lisa Mackey and Carol Madden for all the wonderful uniforms you recycle. Laura Visco and Amy Fatseas, thank you for the truly incredible job you do with organizing Christmas in July!

Thank you to Rachelle Lash for coordinating the beautiful decorations at our Christmas concert and to Patty Fairlie for acquiring donations for the décor. Mary Rudick, you continue to inspire all of us, with the work you put into keeping the gingerbread house tradition alive and well. Ginger McElderry, we thank you for all the assistance you have given Mary with this project.

To our students, we couldn't be more proud of all of you accomplish everyday. You are a gift from God, and you are the reason we all give of our time, talent and treasure whenever we can.

To the OMMS Executive Board, we thank you for commitment and your vision for OMMS.

To Father Peter and to the Parish Staff, we thank for all you do to assist our school. And finally, to Mrs. King, we thank God each and every day for your insight, for your humanity, and for the unconditional love you give to our children and to us.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas, and a 2008 filled with love, laughter and many blessings.

With Warmest Regards,  
Nicki Nugent, PTG President &  
Malou Jacinto, PTG Vice-President



## Cartridges For Kids

Help save the earth and earn cash for our school by donating recyclable items to OMMS:

- ~video game consoles
- ~video games (include case)
- ~empty inkjet cartridges
- ~empty laser cartridges
- ~used cell phones
- ~digital cameras
- ~laptops (include power cords)
- ~PDAs/Palm Pilots
- ~iPods (include all accessories)
- ~DVD Movies (include packaging)

These items can be collected from home, work, businesses, family, neighbors or friends. Thank you for supporting this important fundraiser for our earth and our school!



## Still searching for the perfect Christmas gift... Buick Invitational Golf Tickets Are Available in the School Office

Please stop by the school office and pick up your Buick Invitational Golf Tickets. We are asking each family to purchase or sell two (2) tickets to the Buick Invitational Golf Tournament scheduled for January 21<sup>st</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>. For only \$15, you can purchase a ticket to attend one of the most well known golf tournaments on the PGA Tour - The Buick Invitational. The ticket is good for a one-day entry into the tournament **ANY DAY** during the week long event. This is a significant reduction from the weekend ticket price of \$30 at the gate. Through the Chip in for Charity Program our school will receive 100% of the sale of these tickets. These tickets make great gifts for family, friends, co-workers, and business associates. The tickets are available in the school office. Thank you for supporting this important fundraiser.



## Prayer Corner

Please keep the following members of our school family in your prayers:

- ~ Aurora Solis, Jorge's godmother
- ~ The Paredes Family
- ~ Little Liah Vanessa Aguilera, Carolina and Alex Correa's newborn baby cousin
- ~ The Fairlie Family
- ~ Mr. Don Bell, the Ellison's grandfather
- ~ Mr. Jim Rigg, the Rubio's grandfather
- ~ The Placa Family
- ~ The Hoffman Family
- ~ Our deployed men and women of the armed forces and their families

**WE WILL SEE YOU ALL NEXT YEAR!**