

OLD MISSION MONTESSORI SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

www.omms.org



St. Frances of Rome

As a young woman, Frances had a very comfortable life. Her husband Lorenzo, the son of Roman nobles, prized her beauty and her goodness, and they had several children whom they dearly loved. The family lived in a castle with cooks, maids and a gardener. But there was one thing that prevented her life from being complete: Frances wanted with all her heart to serve the poor.

Most of the noble people Frances knew would have thought this a senseless desire, but her sister-in-law Vannozza shared her secret dream. Dressed in their plainest clothes, the two young women would take baskets of food to the poor of the city. Lorenzo supported Frances's unusual service to others. He donated money from his family's riches for the work. Frances was so respected in Rome that many other rich women decided to serve with her.

But Frances's life suddenly changed. Rome was split by civil war. Lorenzo and their son, Battista, were taken prisoner. Soldiers burned and looted the castle. Frances, Vannozza and the children continued to live in a part of the castle that remained standing. There they cared for the many refugees wandering the city. When money ran out, they sold their jewels for food and medicine. After that, they begged in the streets. Three years later, Frances's children Evangelista and Agnes died from the plague. Even in her grief, Frances cared for others. After a time Lorenzo and Battista were allowed to return from exile, but Lorenzo's health had been ruined, and he died three years later.

In the last years of her life Frances lived with the order of women she had founded to care for the sick. She is still beloved in her city, and each year on her feast day, her family palace is opened to the public. Romans come in crowds to remember and honor her.

St. Frances of Rome, pray for us.



DATES TO REMEMBER!

- **Sunday, March 14th**, Daylight Savings Time begins
- **Sunday, March 14th**, OMMS will participate in 10:00 am Mass, everyone is invited!
- **Monday, March 15th**, Scholastic Book Fair
- **Thursday, March 18th**, Scholastic Book Fair/ Spaghetti Dinner, McKeon Center, 5:00 pm
- **Friday, March 19th**, Elementary Mass, 12:30/12:45 pm dismissal, **NO PM CHILD CARE**

- **Good Friday, April 2nd**, Prayer Service will begin at 12:00 noon, dismissal of the children will be immediately following (**approximately 1:00 p.m.**)

Notes From Our Administrator

SAFE ENVIRONMENT REVIEW

A safe environment program includes ongoing training for children and young people with age appropriate education pertaining to their personal safety and with direction as to when they should seek assistance from a trusted adult.

As part of our ongoing training with our students OMMS teachers will provide an age appropriate **Safe-Environment Review/Education** for their respective classroom on Tuesday, March 16. Please read through the handouts included in today's newsletter that will assist you in your discussions with your child to continue this education process at home. Remember everyone has a shared responsibility to ensure a child's safety.

SAFETY ALERT

We wanted to **ALERT** you and make you aware of some additional information regarding the email that was sent early this morning. Apparently the individual has been seen primarily in the area of Rancho Santa Fe, and in Carlsbad near St. Patrick's school. The individual has been approaching children in an effort to lure them into his vehicle. This individual is apparently very friendly, waves, smiles and beckons the children to come to him.

His description is as follows:

- ~ Hispanic Male, approximately 30-50 years old
- ~ Thin, but bushy mustache
- ~ Wears large, aviator style Sunglasses

The description of his vehicle:

- ~ Older White pick-up truck
- ~ 2 ladders hanging on one side, attached vertically
- ~ Boxes and gardening supplies in the bed
- ~ Slightly tinted side windows

We encourage you to review safety precautions with your child(ren) at home, especially in light of the recent devastating deaths. Please know that we will once again be reviewing safety with all students reminding everyone to practice safe habits, be aware and always walk with a friend, never alone. Please be assured your children are always supervised at school. We will keep you apprised of any further information, but in the meantime revisit the discussion of safety with your child(ren) no matter their age.

HORSESHOE DRIVE

We are certain that everyone has experienced some level of frustration during the morning drop-off and the afternoon pick-up as they follow the protocol established by the school. The procedure was developed for many reasons, but the PRIMARY

reason is **SAFETY**. Recently we have had some very near accidents, ones that could have led to an injury of a child or adult; **EVERYONE** is expected to follow the same procedure when utilizing the **CONVENIENCE** of the Horseshoe Drive, a designated FIRE LANE.

The procedure is:

- ~ **REMAIN** in your vehicle **AT ALL TIMES**
- ~ **VEHICLES** remain in **ONE** line,
- ~ **MOVE FORWARD** as vehicles will allow,
- ~ **PICK UP** your child from the teachers **ONLY** when you have **REACHED** the sidewalk on the west side of the Brown building (located west of the Transition Classrooms)
- ~ **EXIT AND TURN RIGHT ONTO TO MISSION AVENUE**
- ~ **REMEMBER** if any member of OMMS Faculty/Staff asks you to pull forward please do so
If you need to leave your vehicle for any reason then you will need to park your vehicle in the spaces provided or in the east parking area. Once again we thank you for your attention and compliance with the above procedure; **REMEMBER** it is for everyone's **SAFETY** including your own.



OMMS ANNUAL VARIETY SHOW

Sign ups for our annual Variety Show will go up the week of March 22nd - 26th. Auditions will be held on Friday, April 16th, from 12:30 - 3:00 p.m. There will be no choir that day. Performances must be around two minutes long. The Variety Show will be held on April 29th.

2010 - 2011 REGISTRATION

The re-registration forms for the 2010-2011 school year went home on Friday. If you did not receive it, please contact the office. Please return this form as soon as possible. Open enrollment will begin the week of March 15th.



SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Education has always been a priority for Bernice and Virgil Codner, former parishioners of Mission San Luis Rey Parish. Recognizing this priority their descendants have generously authorized Mission San Luis Rey Parish to utilize their donated funds to establish a scholarship fund for the parish school, Old Mission Montessori School. "The Bernice and Virgil Codner

Scholarship Fund" will be available for the 2010-2011 school year. Applications for this scholarship will be available in the main school office beginning the week of March 15th. All applications are to be returned to the main office in a sealed envelope on or before April 15th, to be considered for the upcoming school year. The OMMS Advisory Board will meet to review the numbered applications (*applicants will remain anonymous*) to determine financial need and disbursed based upon funds available. The Codner Family did establish certain criteria for recipients of this scholarship; families of students must be registered, contributing members of the Mission San Luis Rey Parish and currently enrolled in the elementary educational program at Old Mission Montessori School. Please remember Federal Tax Reports are required with application.



Come Celebrate and Show Your OMMS Spirit

Don't forget to mark your calendar to join us on Sunday, March 14, for the 10:00 a.m. Mass in the Serra Center. Remember too, set your clocks *forward*; do not miss the celebration! Once again our students will have the opportunity to serve as readers, altar servers, greeters, and of course our OMMS Choir will lead our parish community in song to celebrate the Mass that morning. Please show your OMMS Spirit by wearing your Mass uniform and parents you can join by wearing your OMMS shirt too! The children in Choir have already begun to practice for this celebration on Sunday, March 14!



Don't Forget Christmas in July's Sister Gladys Booth...when you are doing that Spring cleaning! It is time to think about stocking our "Sister Gladys" booth. We need any "gently used" household items. However, we do not collect clothing or shoes. If you have the storage space at home, we ask that you save these items for our big Christmas in July week end. However, we do have some storage space here at school. Thank you for your help! If you have any questions, you are welcome to call the office.



NORTH COUNTY PAROCIAL LEAGUE TRACK MEET

DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR THE NCPL TRACK MEET IS: TOMORROW, MARCH 10TH. You can pick up a registration form at the front office. (Please include child's uniform size on the sign up sheet.

The NCPL Track Meet is a wonderful and fun opportunity for your child to experience track and field events and to challenge themselves to perform at their very best. The Track Meet is scheduled for Saturday, March 27th at 8:00 a.m., at Cathedral High School. All participants receive a ribbon. Pick up a sign up sheet in the office. Sign ups are due by March 10th.



Good Friday Prayer Service has been rescheduled to 12:00 noon. The children will be dismissed immediately following, at 1:00 p.m. (approximately). Please note that this is a change from what was previously stated on the Annual Calendar.



Scholastic Book Fair and Spaghetti Night
Old Mission Montessori School will be hosting our Annual Spaghetti Dinner & Scholastic Book Fair on Thursday, March 18, 2010 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. The theme for this fun and eventful evening is "Fifties Diner". Come support our school & enjoy a yummy dinner of spaghetti, salad, garlic bread & a drink catered by Capozzoli's Pizzeria. Tickets are \$6.00 for adults, \$5.00 for seniors 55+, and \$4.00 for children under 10. Look for the flier in your Tuesday packets, or purchase your tickets at the front office. The Scholastic Book Fair Diner will also be available that night for you to purchase books for your child or to donate to your classroom.

Rooms 1, 17, 212, and 218 are responsible for assisting with this event. We will need help with set-up, clean-up, ticket sales, and meal service. We are also seeking additional volunteers from anyone wanting to help or needing to get their second semester Parent Participation Hours in. For more information on

volunteering, contact your Room Parent or Sandy Smith at 760-207-4271.



Cookie Ministry

Two of our parishioners, Jim and Carol Bruynell, are involved in the Kairos Prison Ministry. Last year our students participated in this ministry by coloring placemats, with notes of encouragement, to be used by the inmates at Easter time. Kairos Ministry is also asking for volunteers to bake and donate a few dozen cookies. If you would like to help, they ask that the cookies be placed on a paper or foam plate, 2 dozen to a plate and placed in a zip lock bag. They can be brought to the school office on March 11th and 12th. Join this important ministry. Your cookie might just be the one that brings a soul to Christ. The prisoners are truly blessed through your generosity.



OMMS Moms In Touch

Each Friday morning OMMS mothers gather to pray for our children and the school, followed by coffee, on the last Friday of each month. We invite you to join our group as often as you are able! We meet for 45 minutes after drop-off in Room 21 across the hall from Ms. Jenn's classroom. To make specific prayer requests you may email me, Ann McKinnell, at ann@ibmcal.com.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- ~ **Volunteers** needed for the week of the **Book Fair**, before and after school
- ~ **Volunteers** needed to work the **Spaghetti Dinner/ Book Fair** on March 18th
- ~ **Volunteers** needed to work with our "**Lost and Found**". We need parents to sort and launder our "Lost and Found" items. This is a great opportunity for parents who are unable to complete parent hours here at school. If you would like to help, please notify the office.
- ~ **M.O.P.** (Maintain Our Parish) will meet Saturday, March 13th, for our project day. We have lots of Fun planned. MOP is a group of members of our parish who want to create a closer community by together and working on our grounds. We have something for everybody...come on out and join us! We will meet at the flagpole on the front lawn at 8:00 a.m. and work until noon.



Peacekeeper Recognition

We would like to pray for and recognize each of our military peacekeepers that deployed. Please call the Parish Office with the name and date of deployment of your family member so that we may add them to our prayer list as we pray for their successful mission and safe return. We would also like to offer some visible recognition of their service once we understand better how many of our family are serving.



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

- ~ Mrs. Yolanda Rocha
- ~ Evan Meyer
- ~ Harold Siva
- ~ Dallas and Kate Fatsea's grandmother
- ~ Anna Meyer's father, William Avery
- ~ Gabriel Arvizu
- ~ The Lash Family
- ~ The Garofolo Family
- ~ Michael Valeriano's Aunt Susana Iquique
- ~ Lucinda Vansta
- ~ Anthony Glodek
- ~ The Arguello Family
- ~ Michael Lindsey
- ~ Connor McWayne's Grandma
- ~ Blanche Lindsey
- ~ The people of Chile
- ~ Our deployed men and women of the armed Forces