

Parent News

HAPPY CINCO DE MAYO:

In actuality, Cinco de Mayo is mainly celebrated in The United States. In Puebla, Mexico, this day is remembered for the battle that took place in the town when an outnumbered army of Mexican soldiers stood tall and never gave up against the huge, better-equipped French army at Puebla on May 5, 1862. This holiday is celebrated primarily in Puebla and the United States. It is also significant because since the battle of Puebla, an army from another continent has invaded no country in the Americas. Because of their determination and perseverance, they won the battle of Puebla but their fight continued. Eventually the French withdrew in 1866-1867 from pressure from the United States. In the United States, it is a day to celebrate the culture and experiences of Americans of Mexican ancestry.

CLASS OF 2011 - HALF DAY HOT DOG SALE:

The Half Day Hot Dog sale will continue today, Wednesday and tomorrow, Thursday. Because of the popularity of our delicious hot dogs, we will not be selling nachos on Thursday but will sell hot dogs again. Thursday will also be our bake sale. Thank you to everyone who is supporting the Class of 2011 and eating lunch at school.

MEGAN LEWIS - OUR FIRST MARYKNOLL LAY MISSIONARY:

As we have shared in previous newsletters, Megan Lewis, Class of 2001 and our current Spanish/pre-school instructor, will be heading to Bolivia on June 11, where she will serve six months as a Maryknoll Lay Missionary volunteer at Ninos con Valor. Ninos con Valor houses children, many of who are indigenous, who have been abandoned, abused, and who suffer from HIV/AIDS.

As a lay volunteer, Megan is required to raise at least \$5,000 to pay for her expenses while in Cochabamba, Bolivia. We are proud of her desire to help others and, besides selling otter pops at \$.50 each to cool the students during the hot weather, we will be hosting a PIZZA HALF-DAY SALE on Friday, May 7. You and your child can purchase one slice or more of pizza for \$2.00 per slice. Stop in when you pick up your child for a slice to go. Students staying in Extended Care can purchase pizza slices to add to their lunches.

ONE TICKET – 28 CHANCES TO WIN:

The following families have not turned in some or all of their 10 raffle tickets. The raffle has begun and you are responsible for the 10 tickets that were sent home on Tuesday, March 23. Your account will be billed \$100 so why not get your tickets and money in so you can WIN!

Aninipot, Brandon
Beard, Jade and Hampton, Arayah
Bell, Camiya
Bell, Tiara
Breux, Alyssa



Brown, Jalen and Hampton, Julien
Caldwell, Joshua
Carr, Kyleigh
Carter, Jeremy
Chambers, Marquis
Demmons, Steven
Dozier, T Liyah/Meadows, Markehia
Dumas, Mariah
Fabros, Mark and Dominic
Fagans, Brianna
Fernandez, Jordan
Fierro, Tasia
Fletcher, Isaiah
Gonzales, Sofia
Goodspeed, Mehki
Grant, Ciara
Guerrero, Isabela
Gutierrez, Isabella
Haastrup, Ade
Hameed, Sulaiman
Havea, Alisi
Heinz, Elias and Oliver
Henry, Anjanae and Jonnae
Herrera, Diego
Ingram, Aaliyah
Jenkins, Maya and Malia
Jones, Jordan
Kaniaru, Joshua
Kirk, Simone
Krashna, McKenna
Lewis, Joey
Mathews, Haley
Moore, Ukhi
Morazon, Alvaro and Victor
Munson, Maya
Murphy, Cole
Ochoa, Marcus
Originwa, Dayo, Bola and Amelinda
Pacheco, Hector and Abraham
Parker, Phillip
Patterson, Nori
Pearson, Anthonie and Johnson, Kahleem
Phillips, Saadiya
Pieri-Garcia, Gabriel
Pursley-Griffin, Johanna
Richardson, Patrick



Robertson, Laiya
 Rodriguez, Isabelle
 Rosabal, Antonio
 Russell, Amanda and Sebastian
 Savoy, Myah and Malachai
 Shields, Ayanna
 Smith, Quentin, Justin and Cydney
 Stockard, Nina
 Stone, Christian and Kendall
 Thornton, Halli
 Vi, Kiyona
 Waugh, Tyler, Dylan and Brandon
 Webb, Ariana
 Webb, Ashley
 Welch, Jerderriah
 Woods, Peli

RAFFLE WINNERS

5/3 – \$50 - Cherysse Calhoun –sold by DAsia and Akaysha
 5/4 - \$40 – Steven Lavoie – sold by McKenna Krashna
 5/5 - \$20 – Francis Igual – sold by Marley and Nina

STUDENT WINNERS

5/3 – Imman Barnes
 5/4 - Bakari Ziegler
 5/5 – Dennis Franklin

GIFT PRINTS -UNIFORM PICTURE DAY:

On Thursday, May 13, the students will take individual uniform pictures as well as class pictures. All students must be dressed in complete uniform with their school sweatshirt and polo shirt to be included in the group picture. Please be sure you have a school sweatshirt for pictures. Order forms will be sent home with your child on Monday, May 10.

Pre-school students do not need to wear a school sweatshirt for their pictures or class photo.

SWEATSHIRT/TEE SHIRT ORDERS:

Rosanne Esplanada is expecting the shirts to arrive on Monday, May 10. She will send the shirts that were ordered home with the students on Monday, May 10, in time for pictures, which will be taken on Thursday, May 13.

UNIFORM EXCHANGE WEDNESDAY, MAY 19:

Turn in your child's uniforms that he/she has outgrown at our Uniform Exchange. Uniforms must be clean and in good use to be exchanged. Parents can receive ½ volunteer hour for acceptable, gently used items that they donate to the Uniform Exchange. This is also a time to pick up gently used uniforms for your child at an unbelievable price of \$1.00 per item.



A special thank you to JayJ Snell for volunteering to run the uniform exchange on Wednesday, May 19, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

CLASS OF 2011:

We are excited about the enthusiasm with which the students from the Class of 2011 have taken over the role of fundraisers of the school. They are working together in raising money in advance for their trip to Washington, D. C.

THANK YOU AND FREE BAKE GOOD:

The eighth grade class were all in free dress last Friday so they each will receive a free bake good tomorrow at the Class of 2011 s bake sale. The eighth grade students have first-hand knowledge of how hard it is to raise money. We thank them for their support of the seventh grade s efforts.

OPERA PERFORMANCES:

We were so impressed and proud of the students last Friday at the opera performances. They were fantastic in their deliveries of three separate operas that they wrote the songs for and performed. We want to thank all of the parents who took the time to join us for the performance. It was a wonderful experience. A very special thank you to Dennis and Melinda Franklin for hosting the Books to Bravo program for our students.

CLASS OF 2010:

It is the time of year to begin the send off process for our grade eight students. The high school application process is a long, hard, stress producing time for grade eight students, their parents and Michelle Lewis. The student s went through the process with flying colors and we are pleased to announce the schools they were accepted to and the school they have each chosen to attend. Some students chose to apply to many schools and some only applied to one or two.

Camryn Burgess will be attending Holy Names High School. Camryn was also accepted to St. Mary s College High School and St. Joseph Norte Dame.

T Liyah Dozier is waiting to hear from one high school before making her final decision. T Liyah has been accepted to Holy Names High School.

Mark Fabros knew where he wanted to go and only applied to De Le Salle High School where he was accepted and will attend this fall.

Tasia Fierro will be attending St. Mary s College High School. Tasia was also accepted at Holy Names High School.

Sulaiman Hameed will be attending Alameda High School. Sulaiman was accepted at Riordan High School, St. Mary s College High School, Bishop O Dowd High School, and De La Salle High School.

Alisi Havea, like Mark, knew she wanted to attend Holy Names High School. She applied and was accepted. Alisi will be entering Holy Names as an Achieve Student.



Joshua Kaniaru will be joining Mark at De La Salle High School. Joshua was awarded the Bishop John Cummings Scholarship at De La Salle. Joshua was also accepted at the Webb Academy Boarding School, The Athenian School, Bentley High School, Lick Wilmerding, Marin Academy, College Preparatory High School, East Side Preparatory Boarding School, Branson High School, St. George's Boarding School, and Robert Louis Stevenson's Boarding School.

Markehia Meadows will be boarding at East Side Preparatory High School in Palo Alto. Markehia was also accepted at Holy Names High School.

Omodayo Originwa will be attending the San Francisco Waldorf School. Dayo was also accepted at St. Mary's College High School, Bishop O Dowd, De La Salle High School, Head Royce High School, Riordan High School, Lick Wilmerding, Marin Academy, College Preparatory High School, and Robert Louis Stevenson Boarding School.

Anthonie Pearson will be attending St. Elizabeth High School. Anthonie was also accepted to Envision High School.

Carlos Rodriguez will be attending St. Joseph Norte Dame. Carlos was also accepted to St. Mary's College High School and the Orinda Academy.

Antonio Rosabal will be attending Bentley High School. Antonio was also accepted at The Athenian School.

Amanda Russell will be boarding with Markeiha at the East Side Preparatory School. Amanda was also accepted at St. Mary's College High School, Holy Names High School, and Robert Louis Stevenson's Boarding School.

Bakari Zeigler will be attending Bishop O Dowd High School. Bakari was also accepted to the Webb Academy Boarding School, Robert Louis Stevenson Boarding School, and St. Joseph Norte Dame.

The days to graduation will go by quickly. Take the time to congratulate our eighth graders and tell them how proud of them we are.

SUMMER SCHOOL:

Be sure and sign up for our summer enrichment program today. There are still a few sliding scale tuition spaces available.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES:

It has been so nice seeing so many of our parents wandering the halls this week heading to their children's conferences. We are amazed at how quickly the year has gone by and cannot believe that we are now preparing for our spring drama performance, kindergarten graduation and eighth grade graduation. The conferences have been running smoothly. We thank all of you for being on time and remind you that if you are unable to make your conference, contact Rosanne Esplanada to arrange a time to meet with your child's teacher. An end of the year



parent/teacher conference must take place prior before final quarter report cards will be released.

CLASS HAPPENINGS:

Kindergarten:

Kindergarten will take their last spelling quiz this Friday, May 7. Congratulations Kindergarten. The students will concentrate on memorizing their graduation speeches. Graduation will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, May 28.

Besides preparing for graduation, the students will be working on inflectional endings "ing" and "ed," consonant digraphs; "ch, kn, sh, th, and wh, contractions; can't, he's, I'm, we'll and you're. In the area of math the students will continue to work on telling time. In science they will study the life cycle of the butterfly.

In addition to classwork and graduation practice, the students will be working on table manners in preparation for their end of the year luncheon, which will be hosted by Mr. Maier at Fenton's Creamery on Wednesday, May 26. This is a busy time for the Kindergarten class.

Grade One:

The first grade class will be writing book reports for the month of May. The class will be discussing the purpose of book reports and learn how to identify different information in a story like the title, author, character, setting and plot.

Grade Two:

With the end of the school year coming, there's still so much learning and fun to be had in grade two!! The students are exploring the world of fractions for Math. They are learning about 'Tall Tales' like that of Paul Bunyan and John Henry. We will write some of our own exaggerated tales. We will present our Dinosaur Dig for the Science Fair near the end of the month also. Please come and ask our expert Paleontologists questions about dinosaurs and how to proceed with a dinosaur dig.

Grade Three:

The grade three students will begin their U.S. Government History lessons, by working on oral reports about a president of the United States. They are finishing the last class novel and their last Novel Book Report. They are also opening their "art workshop" and preparing a surprise for Kindergarten graduation! The students will close this workshop upon completion of "Look-a-Like" Marionette dolls! Stay tuned in for information about their puppet show. Every Friday, the grade three students are reciting poetry written by various poets. They are also writing poems of their own.

Fourth Grade:

The students in grade four are still in the middle of their Oh, California Main Lesson Block. They are preparing for many field trips that will provide hands-on experience to scaffold our learning. They are scheduled to visit the Gold Rush Museum, Muir Woods, Point Reyes and the Mission Carlos de Borromeo. Upon returning from the Carmel Mission, the students will begin



construction on their Compassion-In-Action project, building a Mission Playhouse for the Preschool and Kindergarten play yard. The students invite you to visit their bulletin board to see the blueprint-in-progress of their plans for the Mission de Carlos Borromeo Playhouse to be completed in June. They are also seeking donations of supplies, tools, and labor. Please contact Caitlin Kara if you can help! This is a way to support the student s efforts and complete volunteer time. Remember every \$10.00 spent in supplies counts as 1 volunteer hour.

The students are still fundraising for Camp Arroyo and look forward to reaching our goal of \$3,500 before the end of school! They are also busily preparing for our Chinese Cultural Exchange Trip to the World Expo 2010 Shanghai and are very excited about their trip in June! They have a very busy six weeks ahead of them!

Grade Five:

In April, the fifth grade worked on various forms of poetry. In the month of May, the class will continue writing creatively with fiction short stories and discussions about using diction to create a specific mood. Fifth graders will also be studying the beginning of the United States, from the first settlements to the thirteen colonies. Also, fifth graders will be reading and discussing current events and learning geography of the Middle East. In grammar, students will be preparing for a class "grammar bee."

The fifth grade will continue collecting school supplies for the students in Nepal until Wednesday, May 12th. Currently, Nepal is in the midst of a large protest. The leaders of the Maoist party in Nepal are blocking the highways and government buildings, with the hope that the Nepali Prime Minister will resign. The Maoists have vowed to continue the strike until the Prime Minister resigns, even if it takes years. It is so important for us to help the kids in Nepal during a time when getting local supplies is nearly impossible. Please keep Nepal in your thoughts and prayers until the strike is over.

Grade Six:

During the month of May the students in grade six will be working on writing essays. At the conclusion of the environmental detective unit, each student will be submitting a five paragraph detective's report that will explain who they think is responsible for the fish kill in the Gray Area.

In math the students will be working on solving algebraic equations with integers, fractions, and decimals. In social studies they will be studying ancient Greece.

Grade Seven:

The grade seven and eight students will conclude exploring Russia and the Soviet Union, the Marshall Plan, the Korean War and American s obsession with Communism, the on-going civil rights struggle, the turbulent Sixties, the end of the cold War, the Presidents of the 21st century, and politics and values.

The grade seven students will explore tall tales, writing letters to the editor, denotation and connotation, avoiding tired words and stress proofreading and re-writing. They will continue to explore the works of Jack London, plays and short stories. The students will be tested on vocabulary, spelling and geography. The class will also conclude their book report projects.



Grade Eight:

The Class of 2010 has begun to work on their graduation ceremony! This is such an exciting time of year for them. They have studied diligently, have returned from their "whirlwind trip" to our Nation's Capital with incredible memories to cherish for an eternity, and are now looking forward to the night of June 9th when they will receive their diplomas, and begin a new journey in which they will share with the world the precious gifts they have acquired at Northern Light School! As the day draws near, be sure to give them lots of love and hugs that will carry them through this very emotional, yet magnificent time.

Spanish:

During the month of May, the Lower School students will continue learning new vocabulary and simple phrases. The students will go over classroom objects and places in our community. The students will study some verbs and begin constructing simple sentences in Spanish.

The Upper School students will work on their Latin American country reports due the end of May, as well as continue their study of verbs. The student will finish studying present tense, irregular verbs, and begin past tense verb conjugations.

Upper School Math/Science:

In grade seven, the students will be working a cumulative review in math of the entire year's content. We will also practice strategies for standardized testing. In the area of science, the grade seven students will be exploring the circulatory system, endocrine system, and the reproductive system.

The grade eight math students will be working a technique for factoring called completing the square. In the area of science the students will finish up the rocket models and flight patterns. They will also continue their study of Newton's Laws.

Lower School Math/Science:

Third Grade Math - Students will complete their work with long division and move on to units on geometry and measurement.

Fourth Grade Math - Fourth Grade will do a short unit on the metric system followed by a unit on negative numbers and graphing.

Fifth Grade Math - The class will begin discussion of Integers this month before moving on to geometry.

In Science, all three classes will be taking advantage of the warmer weather to begin lessons on astronomy. The students will be making and using star charts and learning about different celestial bodies.