



The Royal Pride

December 2016

P
R
I
N
C
I
P
A
L
'
S
M
E
S
S
A
G
E

Dear Mission Prep families and partners,

As you read this message we will be starting the Advent Season to prepare ourselves for the celebration of our Lord and Savior's birth and the joy of the Christmas Season. Somehow, in the blink of an eye, an entire semester of school has nearly passed, and what a fall it has been.

When I think about the amazing experiences of my first semester at Mission College Prep my mind goes back to the senior liturgy on campus in September, which was absolutely beautiful, as were both the Kairos and junior class retreats. There were also some amazing sporting events like being in the stands when our VB team swept Arroyo Grande for the first PAC-8 League championship in school history, and watching our Football team come from behind to defeat Santa Maria and win the Homecoming Game, or our amazing girls tennis team earning a bid to the CIF playoffs.

But I would have to say that I think the absolute highlight of my first semester to date was sitting in our newly remodeled Performing Arts Center seats, enjoying an absolutely mesmerizing performance by our theater production team of the musical, *Leader of the Pack*. To see a school of this size put on a performance like that, from the singing, to the dancing, to the set and lighting design, what an incredible feeling it was for me and all of our families and students, to witness that production.

I am so very proud of this school and its tradition of excellence and I am also firm in my belief that the future of MCP is as bright as it has ever been. Efficient progress towards that bright future will not come from chance. It requires intentionality. It starts with the awareness to identify a need and develop a plan, the courage to implement that plan and accurately measure the results, and then the perseverance to repeat the process, over and over again.

During this season of reflection and with that intentionality in mind, I would like to start a new tradition of making myself available to any parents or members of the community who wish to drop by campus on December 13th and enjoy a cup of coffee and share some time with me, the new principal. It is my hope that from this relationship will come some greater insight on how I can better meet your needs as parents and partners in this ministry. I want to become more aware of the challenges facing our MCP parents and hope that several of you will come be that week to talk about these things.

I wish I could meet with everyone but this seems like a good first step in that direction. I am sure that many of your schedules may prevent you from being able to participate in this event, but if your are available I will be pouring coffee and taking notes in our cafe from 8 to 9:30 AM on the morning of December 13. This is a Tuesday and for the vast majority of our students it is a study day for their final exams, which means there will be no school in session. I realize that there is no 'perfect' day to do this, however, this will also not be the last such event, and of course I remain available by phone or email at any time for the parent community. But on December 13 there will be coffee.

I look forward to a peaceful Advent, a joyful Christmas, and an abundant New Year for the entire MCP family.

Yours in Christ,

Michael Susank
Principal



TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Office of Athletics</u>	3
<u>Office of Campus Ministry</u>	4
<u>Office of Academics</u>	5
<u>Office of Enrollment</u>	5
<u>Office of Guidance and College Counseling</u>	8
<u>Parents Association News</u>	II
<u>Faculty and Staff Directory</u>	I5

From the Athletics Office . . . Vic Ecklund

Fall 2016 will be one to remember, our sports teams finished on successful notes and saw much improvement over the course of the year in their skill and competitiveness within the PAC-8 and Northern Leagues.

Cross Country highlights 2016 This season our Cross Country teams combined outstanding senior leadership with the addition of 18 new runners. Our runners continued to improve their times throughout the season. Congrats to Shaun Weichmann for cutting 3 minutes off of his time at league finals! Both teams won their dual meet at Coast Union with Mission Prep runners Scott Scharlach and Grace Carney winning their respective races on that day. Some additional individual accomplishments include: Scott Scharlach placing 9th in the Division 5 race at the Mt Sac Cross Country Invitational and receiving a medal. Grace Carney medals at the Ojai Invitational for placing in the top 20 in her age group (in a race of over 300) Grace went on to win the JV race at the Atascadero Invitational. We are proud of her for earning All County honors by her 6th place finish (out of freshmen girls) at the San Luis Obispo County Championships. *(Top 7 runners of each grade make up the All County team and receive medals Congrats to our runners). You have all worked hard and have been there to encourage each other during our daily runs and in each of our races

The Royals tennis team made some noise and some much noticed improvement under Head Coach Patience Santos. The Royals finished third in the highly competitive PAC-8 League. Going to the playoffs for the first time in PAC 8 history, before falling to Ventura in the first round of the play offs. This young squad will look to continue to build on their successes while the JV team took home third place in the PAC-8 behind Arroyo Grande and San Luis Obispo.

Volleyball was the PAC 8 champion. Highlighted by a first ever win verses perennial power house Arroyo Grande. The ladies played hard fought matches versus PAC 8 schools. Upon completion of the regular season schedule where they went 25-5, the Royals hosted Burbank in the first round of the CIFSS playoffs taking the match 3-0. Coming off a victory over the Bulldogs, the Royals traveled to La Verne to play Bonita high school ultimately falling 3-1 The Royals were led by Saint Mary's bound Jennifer Laird, and seniors Eleri Perryman, Madison Boncich, along with a cast of seniors. Be sure to keep your eye out as the Tribune announces the All-League Honorees, there's surely to be a number of Royals on that list.

Mission Prep Football finished their season with a 4-6 record including a 2nd place finish at 2-2 in the Northern League earning a CIFSS Division 10 playoff berth. The Royals used a balanced rushing/passing attack to make their way to playoffs. During the season both Brayden Corona ('17) and Bryce Fledderman ('17) were recognized as KSBY Friday Night Highlights Players of the Week. After securing a spot in the CIFSS playoffs, the Royals lost a hard-fought game in Goleta facing Dos Pueblos High School. The Royals used an aggressive attacking defense and strong offensive performance to hold a lead until the last 2 minutes of the game. Although a tough loss, Coach Henry felt this team was one of the most cohesive groups of young men that he's had during his time here. Much of that cohesiveness had to do with their senior leadership and a great retreat tradition within the football program. The season was highlighted by a spectacular performance for Senior quarterback, Bryce Fledderman, in the Morro Bay game. Bryce threw for 18 straight completions setting a State Record, finishing the game 24 completions in 26 attempts with 369 yards and 5 touchdown passes. Keep your eye open as the Tribune will release the Northern League All-League nominees where a host of Royals are sure to find their names.

Lastly, at the time of printing, the Winter Seasons are underway! All Royals teams will be taking on highly competitive preseason tournaments in preparation for the PAC-8 League Schedule slated to start January 3rd. As always, follow us on Twitter or Instagram

[@MPATHLETICS](https://twitter.com/MPATHLETICS) to get all your news, info, highlights and updates!

From the Office of Campus Ministry . . . *Stephanie Buresh & Gina Pierucci*



At this beautiful time in our Church calendar, we send our warmest (notice the candles above) wishes for a meaningful Advent that prepares your homes and hearts for the hope of the Christmas season. We send our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to our families for your partnership in fostering and enriching the formation of our young people and each other in faith growth. We continue to be inspired and blessed with the testaments of faith challenge, growth, and continued searching of our most precious gifts: our students. It is work that is filled with grace and gives us all hope for the future.

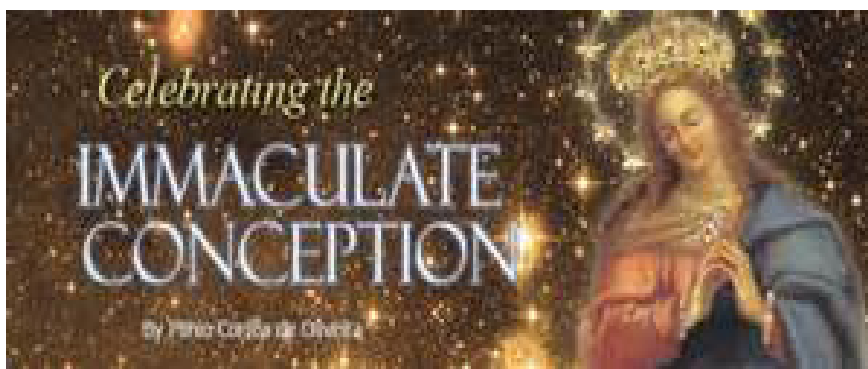
Our school's community service is richly alive and well and enriches the local areas in which our students and families serve. Our fall gleaning program was successful in producing thousands of pounds of food for our community. Again, our thanks to Joannie Hamm and Annie Storrs for facilitating this blessed and humbling experience for our students. If you would like to participate in gleaning in the future – look for our next gleaning opportunity in the spring! Thanks also to our committed group of freshmen and their parents and families for their offerings to the food bank distribution each week – helping to hand out food to families in need. Our *People's Kitchen* opportunity continues to help the homeless community around San Luis Obispo, and we are grateful to all who help sustain this important outreach.

Our Campus Ministry team continues to be grateful for all the prayers and support we receive from our parents, families, and MCP community in our work of deepening our Catholic identity and enriching our faith experiences. Thank you for your generous time and effort with everything you do. Every little piece contributes to the whole.

May the Holy Spirit move each of us during this special season of preparation of hearts and souls to reflect on our daily blessings and encourage us to let those who have touched our lives know how grateful we are for them. Thank you one and all, and may the holy gifts of the season deepen your faith and enrich your life beyond measure. God bless you every one.

**Make sure to check out our Crèche (Nativity) scene in our Mosaic lobby through Advent! A beautiful reflection in itself.

UPCOMING EVENTS - CAMPUS MINISTRY



Thursday, December 8th – Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Few doctrines of the Catholic Church are as misunderstood as the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which Catholics celebrate every year on December 8. Many people, including many Catholics, think that the Immaculate Conception refers to the conception of Christ through the action of the Holy Spirit

in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. That event, though, is celebrated at the feast of the [Annunciation of the Lord](#) (March 25, nine months before [Christmas](#)). What is the Immaculate Conception?

The Immaculate Conception refers to the condition that the Blessed Virgin Mary was free from Original Sin from the very moment of her conception in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne. We celebrate the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary—her birth—on September 8; nine months before that is December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Catholicism.about.com

We will celebrate this Holy Day at the Mission with Mass at 9:50am. All are welcome to join.

UPCOMING EVENTS - CAMPUS MINISTRY

Thursday December 1: Mass at Lunch in the Chapel- All faculty/staff/students are invited to join in this community celebration.

January 14th – People’s Kitchen (Sophomores)

As a community we commit ourselves to serving at our local soup kitchen (People’s Kitchen) on the second Saturday of every month. Each month a different class is responsible for providing food for that month. There will be two months assigned to each class. This month the sophomores are in charge of providing food. A list will be sent out a few weeks before the date.

Below are the sophomores who are scheduled to serve on Saturday, January 14th. If a student is not able to attend, they must find a replacement. We have had a few months where not many servers have shown up. Please have a conversation with your child if they are on the list below. Thank you.

Julia Carney, Grace Cegelski, Amy Morris, Elizabeth Najera-Flores, Olivia Ray, Jared Salas, Chris Smith, Connor Torell

January 18th – Fall Service Hours are Due

Just a reminder that Fall Service hours are due after Christmas Break. Students should be logging service hours on their X2VOL account through Family Connection. Information regarding service requirements can be found on our school’s website under Ministry and Service or on Edline as well.

January 30-February 3 – Catholic Schools Week

Many activities are planned to celebrate this week in our Catholic Schools: rallies, special Mass, etc. Stay tuned.

January 31 Grandparents Mass @ 9:30am at the Mission

Coming Up: Los Angeles Youth Day • Thursday, February 23

A day planned just for youth from many different backgrounds from throughout California – and beyond – to participate in a rally, Liturgy and workshops focused just for them. Students can look for more details and how to sign up in our upcoming announcements!

From the Office of Enrollment . . . Mary Cronin

Applications are now being accepted for the 2017/18 school year for Mission Prep. We are really excited to be offering our applications online and making out process easier for our incoming families. I am so grateful for our MCP families and students as you freely share about your own experiences about our school with your co-workers, families and neighbors. Many parents call saying they are considering our school because they know a Mission family and want to have the same opportunities in education, co-curricular activities and overall community. Please continue to send prospective families to me and I can walk them through the application process and answer any questions about our school.

Finances can be a major obstacle for many families as they consider their school choice. We have a priority of making Tuition Assistance, available for families so that finances do not stand in the way of a student’s education. Our tuition assistance program provides a greater diversity at MCP and allows for a greater variety of students to reach their full potential. Over 34% of our current students receive assistance, and in the 2016/17 year, we have given a combined \$650,000 with an average gift of \$5,000

per family. Please encourage members of your greater community and remind them that we believe finances should never stand in the way of a student’s education. We are available to talk with interested families and assist them as they navigate the discernment process.

Thank you for all your support in making MCP a welcoming, kind place.

From the Assistant Principal of Academics . . . Noha Kolkailah

Dear Mission Prep Parents,

In efforts to form our young students into men and women of scholarship, inspiration, and leadership who will move the world, we continue to inculcate the Profile of the Graduate into our school-wide curricula. This year's focus is Integrity, specifically Academic Integrity, which touches on several elements of the Profile of the MCP Graduate: Faith-filled, Academic Achiever, Ethical Decision-Maker, Lifelong Learner, and Steward of One's Self.

Teachers have been discussing the formative aspects of Academic Integrity and how to reach the hearts of students. On Wednesday, November 16th, we had Profile of the Grad Student Meetings, a time when teachers meet with students in grade level groups to directly deliver Profile curriculum that is relevant to their class and applicable to their grade level.

Here are the synopses for that afternoon:

- Freshmen rotated through various stations around campus in small groups. With a freshmen teacher at each station, they reflected how MCP is inspired by the Profile, with the goal of making students proud to be a part of our community and understand the significance of who we are as a community today.
- Sophomores discussed integrity in small groups; they opened up about what academic honesty looks like, why students can be pressured into dishonesty, and what they can do about it. Students collaborated and identified the stressors in their lives that lead to decisions that are misaligned with their genuine character, as well as how to better manage these stressors and stay ahead of the game.
- Juniors rotated through 3 main experiences that brought about a deep awareness of integrity, called for meaningful reflection, and examined what it feels like when the dishonesty of others negatively impacts you.
- Seniors had Kairos Day 4. They reminisced on their 4 year journey and discussed "what's working" and "what's not" this year. Students had a chance to voice their thoughts and leave some final footprints behind. Not only did this empower students, but also gave the school a chance to consider ways of improving services to students in the future.

These grade level meetings are just one way MCP educators deliver Profile of the Grad curricula to students. In our delicate balance of care and accountability, we invite and appreciate the partnership of our wonderful parents. We believe that every one of our students can live in service to deeper life with God and deeper life with one another through a better understanding of their authentic, true self.

Sincerely yours,

Noha Kolkailah

Assistant Principal for Academics

From the Office of Academics . . . Noha Kolkailah and Ken Mendonca

REGULAR FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE (AS LISTED IN HANDBOOK AND CALENDAR)

Final Exams are scheduled so there are two exam every other day. Exams will be held from 10:00 am-11:30 am and 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm.

December 12, Monday	10:00 am-11:30 am.	ENGLISH
December 12, Monday	12:30 pm to 2:00 pm.	SCIENCE
December 14, Wednesday	10:00 am-11:30 am.	MATH
December 14, Wednesday	12:30 pm to 2:00 pm.	RELIGION
December 15, Thursday	10:00 am-11:30 am.	CONFLICT EXAMS AND STUDENTS ABSENT FOR MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY EXAMS.
December 16, Friday	10:00 am-11:30 am.	SOCIAL STUDIES
December 16, Friday	12:30 pm to 2:00 pm.	FOREIGN LANGUAGE AND SCIENCE CONFLICTS

2017 Advanced Placement (AP) Course Exam

NOTE: All Students taking AP courses are expected to take the AP exams. Exam fees are to be paid by Monday, March 6, 2017. There will be a \$7 late charge for each exam for payments received after March 6, 2017. Dates and times for specific AP exams may be found in the school calendar section of the Mission College Prep Parent and Student Handbook 2016-2017 and also in the calendar section of the Mission College Prep website.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE SCHOOL CALENDAR 2017-2018

Most of the important dates for next year have been set. Additionally teacher training days resulting in school being closed for students will be added when they are determined later in the Spring. We hope that these dates will help you in planning for travel as to minimize the need for students to miss instructional days. Thank you.

Mission College Prep School Calendar 2017-2018

OFFICIAL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Sept 4 – Monday – Labor Day Holiday No School
 Nov 10 – Friday – Veterans Day Holiday Celebrated
 Nov 22, 23, 24 – Wednesday – No School, Thursday – Thanksgiving Day, Friday – No School
 Dec 21 – (Thursday) through January 5 (Friday) - Christmas Break
 Jan 15 – Monday – MLK Holiday
 Feb 19 – Monday – No School – Presidents Day Holiday
 March 29 – Holy Thursday – No School
 March 30 – Good Friday – No School
 April 2 – (Monday) through April 6 (Friday) – Easter Break
 May 28, Monday – No School – Memorial Day Holiday

Fall Semester -- Aug 11, 2017 to Dec 20, 2017

Aug 8, 9 10 – Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday – Teacher Workdays
 Aug 11 – Friday – Freshman and New Student Orientation
 Aug 14 – Monday – All students return
 Aug 15 – Tuesday – Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Holy Day Mass
 Aug 16 – Wednesday – School Pictures – Formal Dress for all Students and Staff (7 period Day)
 Aug 21 – Monday through Aug 24, Thursday -- KAIROS Senior Retreat
 Aug 25 – Friday – No School for Students and Staff
 Aug 29 – Tuesday – Back to School Night
 Sept 4 – Monday – Labor Day Holiday No School
 Nov 1 – Wednesday – All Saints Day – Holy Day Mass
 Nov 10 – Friday – Veterans Day Holiday
 Nov 22 – Wednesday – No School
 Nov 23 – Thursday – Thanksgiving Day
 Nov 24 – Friday – No School
 Dec 8 – Friday – Feast of the Immaculate Conception – Holy Day Mass
 Dec 21 – (Thursday) through January 5 (Friday) - Christmas Break for Students
 Dec 21 – (Thursday) through January 3 (Wednesday) - Christmas Break for Faculty and Staff
 School Closure for Professional Development Days are yet to be determined.

Spring Semester -- January 8, 2018 to June 1, 2018

Jan 4 and 5 – Thursday and Friday – Teacher Work Days
 Jan 8 – Monday – Spring Semester Begins for Students
 Jan 15 – Monday – No School – MLK Holiday
 Feb 14 – Wednesday – Ash Wednesday – Mass
 Feb 19 – Monday – No School – Presidents Day Holiday
 March 29 – Holy Thursday – No School
 March 30 – Good Friday – No School
 April 2 – (Monday) through April 6 (Friday) – Easter Break
 May 28, Monday – No School – Memorial Day Holiday
 June 1 – Friday – Graduation at Mission Plaza at 6:30 pm
 June 4 – Monday – Teacher Workday
 School Closure for Professional Development Days are yet to be determined.

PROGRESS REPORTS

The Progress Reports for marking period 2 were emailed or sent by postal on Tuesday, November 1st. All of our 356 students had their Progress Reports emailed home at a substantial time and postal money savings to the school. If you did not receive a Progress Report for your son or daughter, please contact Ken Mendonca at kmendonca@missionprep.org or 543-2131 x410.

The next marking period ends December 9th and the First Semester Report Cards will be emailed on January 5, 2017. Please keep us updated with your current email address by advising the Attendance office of any changes. If you are not currently receiving the Progress Report by email and would like to, please send your email address to Lori Wooldridge at

From the Office of Guidance and College Counseling . . . Mr. Vegher, Ms. Housinger, Ms. Ocegüera, & Mr. Ferriera

Mark your calendar:

- Senior Financial Aid Night December 14th 6:30 pm in the Café
- Junior College Planning Night January 10th 6:30pm in the Café
- Sophomore College Planning Night February 13th 6:30pm in Café
- Freshman College Planning Night March 29th 6:30pm in the Café

ACT Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
December 10	November 4	November 5-18
February II	January 13	January 14-20
April 8 March 3	March 4-17	
June 10 May 5	May 5-19	

SAT Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
December 3	November 3	November 15-22
January 21	December 21	January 3-10
March 11	February 10	February 21-28
May 6 April 7	April 18-23	
June 3 May 9	May 16-24	

College Counseling Office Hours

The counseling office will be open briefly during finals week and then is closed for the Christmas Break. Students are encouraged to submit apps and make appointments prior to the break. If a student wants to meet during finals week, please schedule an appointment via email or phone with their counselor.

Scholarships:

Seniors, scholarships will continue to be listed in the announcements but come by the counselor offices for more details and opportunities. Many scholarships come available in January through June so we will provide more information when new opportunities come available.

December Scholarships

- AXA Achievement Scholarship- Due December 15, 2016
- Burger King Scholars Program- Due Dec 15, 2016
- Young Entrepreneur Award (multiple types)- Due Dec 18, 2016
- Society of Women Engineers- due dates vary through Jan 31, 2017

January Scholarships

- Mensa Education and Research Foundation- Due Jan 15, 2017
- Jennifer Thoma Memorial Ballet Scholarship Due Jan 29, 2017
- Monday Club Music Fine Arts Due January 30, 2017

Seniors and Senior Parents

As the college application phase begins to wind down please be aware of the following:

1. Check your email. Schools will be sending you information on how to log in to the school portals. All communication from the campuses will be by email.
2. It is your responsibility to request your SAT or ACT scores to be sent from the testing company to all of your schools.
3. File the FAFSA! If you file electronically you should get a response in 3-5 days. If you don't hear from them, call the FAFSA help line 1-800-433-3243
4. Your first semester grades are extremely important. Common App schools require a midyear report card and other schools may request your grades to evaluate your progress.

Juniors

Before beginning the college search process, focus your energy on getting the best grades possible from your junior year. Your UC/CSU GPA is determined by your grades from the 10th and 11th grade. In the second semester we will be conducting several college guidance workshops. These workshops will discuss the following topics; eligibility band, college requirements, search tools, and Family Connection resources. In addition you will be asked to complete a Junior Survey prior to meeting individually with your counselor to review and discuss your college plans.



TIS THE SEASON MEANS TEENS AND DRINKING



This holiday season, when party planning goes into high gear for many people, parents are being encouraged to discuss the risks of alcohol use with their teens.

Many people think about alcohol at this festive time and our hope here at MCP is that parents will think of the holidays as a reminder to discuss drinking and the consequences of alcohol use with their teens.

Ideally, parents should be in a pattern of regularly talking with their kids about the dangers of using alcohol and other drugs, setting clear rules against using, and enforcing reasonable consequences for breaking the rules.

School break offers up unstructured and perhaps unsupervised time and thus some significant risk — especially when we add in the propensity of some adults to promote alcohol-included events as a way to mark Christmas, Hanukkah or New Year's Eve.

When young people drink alcohol this creates a number of problems, Because the teen brain is still developing, using alcohol can permanently damage learning and memory. Teens who start drinking are at much greater risk for developing addiction, compared to teens who wait until they are 21.

DID YOU KNOW

- Young people use alcohol more frequently and in higher volumes than all other illegal drugs combined.
- The earlier a young person starts drinking (research suggests the average age of onset of underage drinking is 12 or 13, which means that many are drinking at even younger ages), the more likely it is they will suffer from substance abuse problems throughout their lifetime.
- Neurological research suggests that alcohol use may permanently affect quickly evolving adolescent brains — and not for the better.
- Teens who drink are at higher risk for serious injuries, poor school performance, depression and suicide.

RESEARCH SHOWS THAT PARENTS HAVE THE GREATEST INFLUENCE ON THEIR TEENS' DECISIONS ABOUT ALCOHOL. HERE ARE SOME PROVEN WAYS

Prevention starts by having open conversations with your children.

- Fitting in is important to teens. Let your teens know that most of their peers are making healthy choices and don't drink or use drugs. Many teens believe that most of their classmates drink, but the opposite is true.
- Talk early and often with your child or teen about why you do not want them to use alcohol. Know who they are with, and what they are doing.
- Let your teen know that if a person "passes out" because they have had too much to drink, an ambulance should be called because death from alcohol poisoning could result. Due to California's new "Good Samaritan" law, minors who call 911 to help a friend will not be prosecuted for having alcohol.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWS

ROYALS

Join us for our upcoming Parents Association Meeting & Christmas Party Thursday, December 1st, 7:30 am in the Café Royale

Be sure to note that this December 1st meeting will be on a **Thursday**. Coffee and refreshments will be provided. All parents are members of the Parent Association and are encouraged to attend.

We are collecting jackets, scarves, gloves and hats for Mission Church to make available to the needy. In the spirit of giving, if you wish to participate, please bring something to keep the less fortunate members of our community warm throughout the coming winter months.

Our meeting will conclude with a Christmas Party! If you stay for the party after the meeting, there will be a \$10 gift card exchange if you choose to participate (or \$10 cash is fine too). Also you are invited to wear your favorite ugly or unique or beautiful or creative Christmas sweater!

A blessed Advent season and Merry Christmas from the Parents Association!

It is a joy and a privilege to work with many dedicated parents who share a vision of excellence and commitment for our school.

UPCOMING MEETING

January 23, Monday, 8:30am, Café Royale

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the first Parent Association meeting of 2017 which will be with MCP's student ASB and Class Officers.

PARENT SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Parents Association support is being provided for the following upcoming events. Contact the PA Leader (PAL) if you would like to assist. Please check the Parents Assn. page on the MCP website for additional volunteer sign-up opportunities at school, or click on this link. [Parent Volunteer Sign-ups](#)

Many hands make light work!

Nov-Jan Staff Appreciation – Sophomores are in charge of Staff Appreciation this quarter. (Each class hosts one quarter.) You may contact PAL Wendy Ferdinandi at 888-7558 or wendyferd@me.com to offer your help and/or ideas for showing our faculty and staff how much we appreciate them.

Nov-Jan On-Call Help - Freshmen are in charge of On-Call help this quarter. Each class covers one quarter of the year to assist with unexpected school needs. Please help if contacted by coordinator Kelli Cole. Or Kelli may be contacted at 748-0442 or kellicole@charter.net.

**Dec 15 Sophomores Host
Staff Luncheon** -

Sign up online on the Parents Assn. page of the MCP website (Sign up available soon). Or contact PAL Wendy Ferdinandi at 888-7558 or wendyferd@me.com.

MCP Christmas Classic Basketball Tournament – Dec 19,21, 22, 23

Christmas Classic Baking Ingredients: We are asking for donations of baking supplies for the upcoming Christmas Class Basketball Tournament hosted by MCP. We serve all participating teams dinner nightly and top it off with fresh baked cookies. Your donations are greatly appreciated and counts toward your volunteer hours. Details and sign-ups here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c48aaa82ca46-mcpchristmas>. You may also contact PALs Vivian Longacre at cpinkviv@gmail.com or 805-801-0466 or Linda Bishop at lbishop@weatherby.com or 438-4394.

Christmas Classic Concessions

We are in need of volunteers to work the gym concession stand during the MCP Christmas Classic Basketball Tournament. We have 3 hour shifts that make your volunteer hours go quickly! Sign up here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c48aaa82ca46-mcpchristmass/> Volunteers may also contact PAL Chantel Stanberry at cham6713@gmail.com or 540-1916.

Christmas Classic Hospitality

Help provide hospitality for coaches and sponsors during the Christmas Classic by providing food or staffing for the Hospitality Room (Faculty Room). To help, contact PAL Sue Ricigliano at sully13282004@yahoo.com or 343-1265. Or soon a sign-up link will be posted to the Parents Assn. webpage.

Christmas Classic Volunteers

Help man ticket gate or provide other assistance for Christmas Classic. To volunteer contact Jake Hitchcock, Assistant Athletic Director, at jhitchcock@missionprep.org or 543-2131, x215.

Jan-Feb Basketball Season Concessions –

Volunteer requested to work in the gym concession stand during home basketball games beginning 1/6/17. Sign up at [Basketball Concessions](#) . Volunteers may contact PAL Chantel Stanberry at cham6713@gmail.com or 540-1916.

Jan-Feb Soccer Admission Gate -

Work admission gate for home soccer games beginning 1/4/17. Click on link to sign up. [Soccer Admission Gate](#) . For questions contact PAL Scott Beavers at harveyplumbing@sbcglobal.net, or 610-4705

Jan-Feb Basketball Admission Gate -

Work admission gate for home basketball games beginning 1/4. Click on link to sign up. [2016-17 Basketball Admissions Gate](#) . For questions contact PAL Scott Beavers at harveyplumbing@sbcglobal.net, or 610-4705.

Feb II Drive food from South County to People's Kitchen

South county families please note: Rachel Janai cannot bring food to People's Kitchen on February 11th. If anyone would be willing to bring food for south county families, it would be much appreciated. Seniors will be providing the food in February, so Senior families, if you are making the trip anyway, maybe this is a service opportunity for you and a benefit for your neighbors. Call Brooke Schumacher (805-305-1815) if you can help.

Volunteer Clearance -- Shield the Vulnerable

You may receive one (1) parent service hour for completing the Shield the Vulnerable online training needed for volunteer clearance. All parents are encouraged to get cleared to volunteer. To complete **Shield the Vulnerable** go to <http://www.shieldthevulnerable.org> . [Select: Catholic Dioceses, >Monterey Diocese, >Volunteer.](#)

CONNECT WITH COORDINATORS TO GET INVOLVED

Our vision is for every parent to be involved with at least one Parents Association Committee. By spreading the work among us, we can get a lot accomplished for our students without overloading individual parents. If you are not already working on a committee, please call a Parents Assn. Leader to offer your help (found on pages I2-I6 in the Directory.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dec 8, Mass of the Immaculate Conception 9:50 a.m.

All parents are encouraged to join us for Mass with the MCP students, faculty, staff and other parents to celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. In the Catholic Church this is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Target School Program: If you have a Target card, please be sure you designate MCP for the school program. Call 1(800) 316-6142 to quickly sign up. MCP will then automatically receive 1% of your charges. You never have to do anything else. How easy.

Sign up for eScrip to help MCP

While it is no longer a requirement, you can still help MCP substantially by participating in the eScrip program. It's easy to do. You only have to sign up once. Simply go to www.escrip.com to sign up. You will enter your credit, debit and/or reward cards, and can view the list of participating merchants. A percentage of your purchases will be automatically donated to MCP. It's a great way to help the school without costing you anything extra.

If you have questions or need help signing up, contact Gwenn Krossa in the Business Office at gkrossa@missionprep.org.

Café Royal Use: Message from Carol Iaquina for anyone using the kitchen... *"Unfortunately I will not be able to allow use of my expensive knives. If you need to cut bread, lettuce, etc. you will need to remember your own knives."*

Reduce use of Styrofoam and plastic water bottles: In our continuing efforts to be good stewards of this earthly home our Lord gave us, we are making a couple practical changes at MCP. We know each of you has several ways you and your family honor our Mother Earth. In addition to those, we ask you to join us in these two MCP community goals.

We are a Styrofoam-free campus. Please do not purchase or use any Styrofoam products for MCP activities and events.

The second challenge we are taking on is reducing the use of plastic water bottles. Whenever possible we encourage you to use water dispensers and paper cups. Or even better, have people bring their own water bottles.

Christmas Classic: Come and enjoy some exciting basketball at the Mission College Prep Christmas Classic! December 19, 21, 22 and 23. Bring the whole family and cheer for our Men's Varsity Basketball Team.

Volunteer Clearance: Just a reminder that all volunteers who are in contact with MCP students must have their paperwork on file in the MCP office. We encourage all parents to be cleared. To be cleared as a volunteer you need to complete the following only once:

1. Shield the Vulnerable (online training: <http://www.shieldthevulnerable.org> . Select: Catholic Dioceses, >Monterey Diocese, >Volunteer) *You may receive 1 parent service hour for completing the online Shield the Vulnerable course.*
2. LiveScan Fingerprinting (get LiveScan form from Lori Wooldridge in MCP office, and a list of LiveScan locations)

Thank you for your continual support of MCP and the safety of our children!

People's Kitchen, January 14

MCP will serve at People's Kitchen again Saturday, January 14th. Please mark your calendars now. The Sophomore class will provide the lunch and wish list items at the Prado Center in SLO at 11am. Sophomores assigned to serve at 11:30am - 1pm will be notified through Stephanie Buresh in the Campus Ministry Office.

Upcoming Royal Pride Submissions

Do you have information that you would like included in the next issue of the Royal Pride? Please submit event information, requests for help, or appreciation notes to Melissa Carney at mlcarney@charter.net or (805) 995-3010 by **December 15th**.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION—WITH GRATITUDE

Royal Spirit Award November The Royal Spirit Award for the month of November is offered with gratitude and appreciation to **Julie Caradonna** for her years of heading up the parent help needed for the exciting festivities of Homecoming Week. We are thankful for Julie's involvement and leadership.

Staff Appreciation: The faculty and staff wish to shower thanks upon the Junior Parents who contributed to and assisted with staff appreciation throughout the months of August, September and October. We felt so loved and appreciated! Thank you for the wonderful monthly birthday lunch (or breakfast) celebrations. And in November, thank you for the amazing appreciation lunch celebrating Thanksgiving month. You lifted our spirits! We would like to especially acknowledge Junior Staff Appreciation Coordinator, **Becca Vander Horst** for organizing and coordinating it all. With our gratitude, MCP Staff and Faculty

Drama: Special thanks to **Tricia Von Dohlen** and **Andria Orr** for coordinating volunteers for the tech week dinners, refreshment tables, ushers, back stage managers, and ticket sales for MCP's Drama Production "*Leader of the Pack*." Thank you to **Megan Selby** for costumes and back-stage support.

Thank you to all of our parents that supported the production of "Leader of the Pack." We appreciate all of the Tech Week dinners, refreshments and hard-working parents that help make our productions possible!

People's Kitchen A big thank you to **Stephanie Buresh**, and the student coordinators for organizing the food and servers, and to **Emma Walter** and **Hannah Ogden** for managing the incoming food on Saturday, November 12th. We would like to thank the Freshmen students and their parents who provided the lasagna dinner, salads, drinks and dessert this month at People's Kitchen. We appreciate each item delivered for the center. Every month we are thoroughly impressed with the quality of the food that MCP families provide. And every month we get compliments and thanks from the people we serve, as well as the Prado Center staff and People's Kitchen Board members. This is an effort of which the MCP community can really be proud.

Thank you to students **Hannah Ellingen, Matthew Ellingen, Courtney Langston, Jenna Miller, Jake Morley, Clancy Schaffer, Michelle Roide** and **Sadie Selby** for your loving service to about 72 hungry people. MCP families came through "royally" to serve the homeless this weekend.

Thank you to **Rachel Janai** from Pismo Beach and **Jean Gonzalez** from Paso Robles who brought food to Prado Center for south and north county families. Jean stayed to serve, as well as **Lisa Walter** and **Daniela Quijada**, who helped organize students, set up and clean up.

Thank you so very much to the families of MCP for bringing the food items and your service. All of you really make this possible.

Sincerely,
MCP People's Kitchen Coordinators
Brooke Schumacher
Jean Gonzalez

ACULTY & STAFF

Nancy Alcombright

Science x541
nalcombright@missionprep.org

Dave Anderson

Foreign Language x511
danderson@missionprep.org

Amy Arena

Registrar x401
aarena@missionprep.org

Syl Arena

Visual & Performing Arts x521
sarena@missionprep.org

Elizabeth Beckett

Advancement Associate x409,
ebeckett@missionprep.org

Tom Bensky

Science x541
tbensky@missionprep.org

Chris Blake

Director of Mission Advancement x404
cblake@missionprep.org

Jennifer Blomfield

Visual & Performing Arts x303
jblomfield@missionprep.org

Stephanie Buresh

Director of Campus Ministry x407
sburesh@missionprep.org

Eric Burke

Religion* x508
eburke@missionprep.org

Jay Chalfant

Director of Technology x405
jchalfant@missionprep.org

Maria Christensen

Foreign Language* x210
mchristensen@missionprep.org

Bryan Conti

Information Technology x317
bconti@missionprep.org

Mary Cronin

Director of Enrollment Management x333
mcronin@missionprep.org

Steve Crow

Mathematics* x314
scrow@missionprep.org

Noah Doughty

Science x334
ndoughty@missionprep.org

Vic Ecklund

Athletic Director x416
vecklund@missionprep.org

Dave Ferriera

Guidance & College Counseling x425
dferriera@missionprep.org

Lois Gall

Advancement Associate x206
lgall@missionprep.org

Brian Geraghty

Religion x213
bgeraghty@missionprep.org

Larry Grant

Visual & Performing Arts x209
lgrant@missionprep.org

Russ Griffith

Director of Student Life x408
rgriffith@missionprep.org

Joe Grimes

Facilities Manager x406
jgrimes@missionprep.org

Joannie Hamm

English* x302
jhamm@missionprep.org

Chad Henry

Assistant Athletic Director x112
chenry@missionprep.org

Jake Hitchcock

Assistant Athletic Director x215
jhitchcock@missionprep.org

Laura Housinger

Science & College Counseling x422
lhousinger@missionprep.org

Lillian Howard

English x562
lhoward@missionprep.org

Carol Iaquina

Café Royale ciaquina@missionprep.org

Phoebe Kern

Social Studies x573
pkern@missionprep.org

Brennon King

Athletic Trainer brennon.king@sportstherapy.com

Noha Kolkailah

Assistant Principal of Academics x412
nkolkailah@missionprep.org

John Krossa

Assistant Principal of Student Activities x212
jkrossa@missionprep.org

Gwenn Krossa

Business Manager x402
gwrossa@missionprep.org

Desiree Lopez

Mathematics x551
dlopez@missionprep.org

Adrian Maman

Technology amamn@missionprep.org

Ernie Martin

History* x310
emartin@missionprep.org

Ken Mendonca

Academics Staff x410
kmendonca@missionprep.org

Ann Morelos

Science x541
amorelos@missionprep.org

Kelly Morris

English x564
kmorris@missionprep.org

Deacon Tom O'Brien

Chaplain tobrien@missionprep.org

Sandy Ocegüera

Guidance & College Counseling x424
socegüera@missionprep.org

Gina Pierucci

English, Campus Ministry x420
gpierucci@missionprep.org

Peggy Randall

Science* x332
prandall@missionprep.org

Valerie Ratto

Student Support x214
vratto@missionprep.org

Brett Schmol

Social Studies x574
bschmol@missionprep.org

Mike Sharpe

Campus Supervisor msharpe@missionprep.org

Aubrey Stiers

Science x541
astiers@missionprep.org

Michael Susank

Principal x401
msusank@missionprep.org

Brock Thoene

Mathematics & Social Studies x572
bthoene@missionprep.org

Jim Vegher

College Counseling x423
jvegher@missionprep.org

Paula Walker

Foreign Language x208
pwalker@missionprep.org

Richard Waters

Mathematics x552
rwaters@missionprep.org

Diane Wilsdon

Mathematics x553
dwilsdon@missionprep.org

Lori Wooldridge

Attendance & Administrative Assistant x200
lwooldridge@missionprep.org

Katy Zweifel

Religion x507
kzweifel@missionprep.org

* Department Chair

WINTER SPORTS

BOYS BASKETBALL – Terrance Harris
terrancel.harris@yahoo.com

GIRLS BASKETBALL – Andrew Richardson
andrew@richardsonproperties.com

GIRLS SOCCER – Gil Braga
senorbragaoms@gmail.com

BOYS SOCCER – Julian Alvarez
jmalvare11@gmail.com

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Mission College Preparatory Catholic High School in the Diocese of Monterey, mindful of its primary mission to be a witness to the love of Christ for all, admits students of any race, color, national origin, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to the students at the school. Mission College Prep does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and/or ethnic origin, age or gender in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic or other school-administered programs. While Mission College Prep does not discriminate against students with special needs, a full range of services may not be available. Likewise, Mission College Prep does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment on the basis of gender, age, disability, race, color, and national and/or ethnic origin. Mission College Prep reserves the right to be the sole judge of merit competence and qualifications, and can favor Catholic applicants and co-workers in all employment decisions, especially in those positions that have direct bearing upon the pastoral activity of the Church.