



SPIRIT AND SCHOLARSHIP

Spring 2020

San Carlos School, a Catholic, Co-Educational TK-8 School of the Diocese of Monterey



San Carlos School Unites to Serve... Locally and Globally!

A "Spirit of Service" swept through campus from the start of school through spring break with all grades participating in both schoolwide and individual class service projects. No matter how great or how small the projects, students learned the importance of stewardship, safety, and peace.

The year began with our very own "International Day of Peace" on September 20th. Out of a bed of inspiring "Peace Rocks" grew our beautiful and vibrant "Helping Hands Tree", reminding our community to reach out, connect, and spread peace!

"Start With Hello Week" focused on our campus community and tied into our Day of Peace. The week centered on a simple, yet powerful concept. According to Student Government President Emma Hall, "Everyone on this campus deserves to be greeted and welcomed in a friendly way, each and every day. Just by greeting each other with a sincere smile and a simple "hello", provides an opportunity for the students of San Carlos School to make a significant difference to their peers in an easy, fun, and impactful way. We can take small but powerful actions to promote connectedness and inclusion and to find ways to make certain that every single member of our community feels

accepted, welcomed, and supported." The week was highlighted by a Middle School "Getting To Know You" Scavenger Hunt, a lovely "Chain of Unity, Peace, and Understanding" created by students and teachers, and a huge "Unity Circle" formed at morning assembly.

In November, we joined forces with Cross Catholic Outreach to support their worldwide "Box of Joy" effort. Organized by the 6th Grade Class, the SCS community spread the love of God at Christmas to needy children in Guatemala, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic through the power of simple gifts, like toys and school supplies.

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Mission Statement

San Carlos School is a ministry of San Carlos Cathedral providing a quality Catholic education for students in grades TK-8.

We welcome

all families seeking a faith-filled learning community for their children.

We nurture

the whole child by integrating spiritual and moral development with high academic standards.

We serve

the local and global community by fostering a spirit of stewardship, safety, and peace.

Unites to Serve Cont'd

The response to our Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive was overwhelming with car loads of food sent to those in need at St. Francis Xavier, St. Angela's, St. Jude's, and San Carlos Cathedral Parishes.

Mrs. Bennett challenged families to fill her office with food, and she was thrilled that she could barely walk to her desk towards the end of the effort!

Individual grades were also very busy serving others and promoting peace with projects that included:

- **Grade 3:** Bagged Lunches for I-Help (Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program) for Women through St. Angela's
- **Grade 5:** Bagged Lunches for I-Help for Men
- **Grade 6:** Christmas Gift Boxes for Cross Catholic Outreach's "Box of Joy"
- **Grade 8:** Bagged Lunches for San Carlos Cathedral Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry

Our school community also supports Catholic Relief Services during Lent, Catholic Charities/San Carlos Cathedral Christmas Gift Collection, and Care for Creation's parish-wide Recycling and Composting Tune-Up.

The Gospel calls every Christian to serve others who are in need. SCS students learn to spread the love of Christ by being the hands and feet of Jesus in this world by sharing their many blessings and talents.



Principal's Message

Dear San Carlos School Family,

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are facing an uncertain scenario for our students, teachers, and families. We have moved from On-Site to Distance Learning for an undetermined time period. We pray for the SCS community at this most difficult time, and hope that we will be back on campus sooner rather than later this school year.

Even though we are in unprecedented times, we are inspired by the accomplishments of our students, teachers, and alumni so far this school year and are forever grateful to our many supporters. Our newsletter "Spirit and Scholarship" is a reminder of what makes San Carlos School such a special place. We are a community bursting with faith-centered spirit as well as school spirit, and a

community of budding scholars who thrive because we set high expectations in a very nurturing, safe, and family-friendly environment.

In this issue, we highlight our many efforts to reach out locally and globally to serve those less fortunate through schoolwide and class-specific service projects.

We've included our updated Schoolwide Learning Expectations that guide us through our educational journey, and we envision all students becoming true PEACEkeepers at graduation.

We invite you to enjoy the wonderful activities and accomplishments of our SCS community, and we are proud to update you on the completion of our new athletic field.

We hope to schedule a schoolwide Blessing Ceremony and Grand Opening Celebration as soon as we're back on campus.

Many thanks to all Annual Fund donors, grantors, Dinner Auction participants, and key benefactors whose support has been more critical than ever in these trying times.

Remember to check our website and Instagram and Facebook pages for updates on school news and events.

Please keep us in your prayers and consider making a year-end gift to assist us in delivering the best possible Distance Learning experience for our students.

Blessings to all,
Teresa Bennett
Principal





Updated Schoolwide Learning Expectations

San Carlos School Students Are PEACEkeepers!

People of Faith

- Nurturing a relationship with Christ through prayer, worship, study, service, and a firm knowledge of the Catholic Faith;
- Treating others with respect and compassion;
- Making faith-driven moral choices.

Engaged Citizens

- Making a positive difference in their communities and the world;
- Acting with integrity, accountability, responsibility, and self-discipline;
- Protecting and consciously caring for God's creation.

Academically Prepared, Life Long Learners

- Valuing, participating in, and taking ownership of learning;
- Utilizing effective listening, speaking, and writing skills;
- Using technology appropriately for learning, creating, and communicating.

Creative Problem Solvers

- Demonstrating curiosity, confidence, innovation, and resilience;
- Seeking and interpreting information to find solutions;
- Working collaboratively and independently to address challenges.

Enlightened Individuals Healthy in Mind, Body, and Spirit

- Understanding and practicing the fundamentals of a healthy lifestyle;
- Appreciating the visual, musical, cultural, and performing arts;
- Maintaining a positive self-image and sense of purpose.

The Impact of COVID-19



The pandemic has severely impacted our daily financial operations since the Shelter in Place Order on 3/18. We're not only faced with the challenges of Distance Learning and the incremental costs associated with upgrading to Zoom Premium, but also the closure of Extended Care and our Branches Resale Shoppe, two significant sources of annual income. Our Time and Talent effort which helps us keep our tuition affordable is on hold until the start of the 2020 - 2021 school year.

We are preparing to purchase new required campus safety equipment for next year, including touch-free thermometers for every classroom, touch-free hand sanitizer dispensers for every room, and portable hand washing stations for the playgrounds and athletic field. We are also planning to purchase additional Chromebooks so students will not share devices.

We ask that you keep us in your prayers and consider making a year-end gift to our

Annual Fund by 6/30/20 to help us bridge our income gap, purchase necessary safety equipment, and deliver the best possible Distance Learning experience for our students.

Contributions can be made online at SanCarlosSchool.org by clicking the **Donate** tab at the top of the home page.

We thank you for your consideration and support in this most difficult time!

TEACHERS' TURN

Distance Learning is Happening!

San Carlos School teachers and staff successfully transitioned from On Site to Distance Learning beginning on March 31st as part of the local effort to keep our SCS community safe and curb the spread of COVID-19.

As soon as it became clear that students would be unable to return to campus, teachers and staff jumped into action, giving up much of their spring break to learn Zoom's online meeting platform, plan for online lessons, and create learning schedules to accommodate the many different home situations of students. In addition, a Chromebook loan program was quickly implemented to support the Distance Learning technology needs of all students.

Mrs. Bennett made a key decision early on to survey all families for their input and use the information to create schedules for each class level that include time for online instruction and offline independent work. To help families with multiple students who need to be online at the same time, schedules were staggered and instructional segments were recorded and available for later viewing.

Lower School teachers utilized classroom website pages while Middle School faculty integrated Google Classroom to provide instructions, recorded videos, and printable work as



options for children who cannot be online for the live streaming of classes. Students and teachers became creative problem solvers as new technologies and routines had to be embraced quickly.

Although full-day schedules were planned, some courses were designated optional. Survey results indicated that full-day schedules may be too much for some families given their particular circumstances.

Core subjects of Reading, Math, Religion, Science, and Social Studies were required to continue to prepare students academically, but daily Art, Music, Lower School Technology, and PE were also incorporated into all schedules from TK to 8th Grade! These "Specialty" classes continued to support our students' health in Mind, Body, and Spirit...even in the most difficult times.

SCS is also continuing to maintain and reinforce its school connections through fun weekly family challenges such as "Share Your Dinner" with pics, "SCS Fam Jam", and virtual "Talent" and "Pet Shows".

We are very proud of our teachers and staff for their amazing creativity, flexibility, dedication, and team work in their efforts to best serve the students of San Carlos School!

Alumni Applause

Joe Melo '99 was featured in the cover article of *Carmel Living's* February 2020 issue. The article entitled, "Joe Melo: A True Sense of Community" highlighted Joe's background growing up in Monterey, his education at San Carlos School, Palma High, Santa Clara University, and USC, and his deep commitment to serving the residents of the Monterey Peninsula as the most senior tenured therapist at Balanced Physical Therapy in North Monterey.

Jacob Murray '16, senior at Pacific Grove High School and captain of the football team, led the Breakers to win the 2019 Santa Lucia Division Championship. He was awarded All-League Honors as an offensive and defensive player and named a Central Coast High School Football All-Star Player.

Congrats to **Logan Riggerbach '16**, senior at Notre Dame High School, for being named to The Monterey Herald's 2019 All-County Girls' Volleyball Team!

Robert (Logan) Rhoades '15, graduated from the MAOS Program at Monterey High School in the Top 10 of his Senior Class and is now attending UC Santa Barbara, planning to major in Economics.

Michael Julian '18, sophomore at York School, finished 9th in the State Division V Cross Country Championships at Woodward Park over Thanksgiving weekend. Awesome job Michael!

Lower School

Jesus' Spy Kids to the Rescue

Look who came swooping down on campus in December! It was Jesus' Spy Kids spreading goodness and kindness everywhere, led by Superhero K-2 Kindergarten Teacher **Mrs. Hayden!** Students created their own cool capes and decorated them with words and symbols of love, kindness, peace, and secret agent gear!



Crochet Club Creates Beanies for CHOMP Babies

Organized by K-2 and 1st Grade Parent **Tessa Gorski**, the Crochet Club was very busy creating darling beanies for CHOMP babies in January. These sweet gifts were sent home with all babies born in February.

Spelling Bee Whiz Kids

Congrats to our 4th and 5th Grade Spelling Bee Winners, **Alexander Short** (1st Place), **John Paul Mendoza** (2nd Place), **Christian Adint** (3rd Place), and **Max Lomboy** (4th Place)! Way to go, Top Spellers!

Middle School

Congratulations to all Winners for their tremendous efforts in this year's SCS Science Fair!



8th Grade:

Ethan Davis, 1st Place,
"Folded Flight"

Skylar Alexander, 2nd Place,
"Can Plants Stop Erosion?"

Jaden Soliz, 3rd Place,
"Splish Splash"

Maura Kragelund,
Honorable Mention,
"Are Organics Equal?"



7th Grade:

Cullen Pritchard, 1st Place,
"It's Your Basic Wildfire"

Benjamin Dalton, 2nd Place,
"No Pain With Game"

Natalie Powell, 3rd Place,
"Room Temperature and Candle
Burn Rates"

Jonathan Companion, Honorable
Mention, "Does Music Affect Athletes'
Performance?"



8th Grader Shares Time and Talent with Safe Place



Right before Christmas, 8th Grader **Anjela Abanico** spent hours making recycled t-shirt tote bags filled with toiletries for Safe Place, a homeless teen outreach center in Monterey. Terrific effort Anjela!



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New Playing Field Update

The miracle of the new playing field became a reality this fall, thanks to the incredible generosity of **Major Benefactors, Barbara DeBorba Bennett & Thomas R. Bennett and Cathedral Benefactor, Marie Frances Salmeri.** We are truly grateful for the three fundraising dinners hosted by the **Italian Catholic Federation, Hispanic Ministries, and Filipino Community of San Carlos Cathedral** and the beverage bars hosted by the **Knights of Columbus.**

Special thanks to all individual donors as well. Our students are thrilled with this wonderful new playing space, and we look forward to hosting a variety of games and athletic events over the next several decades!
GO RAMS!



We plan to schedule a schoolwide Blessing Ceremony and Grand Opening Celebration as soon as we get back to campus.

Questions?

Contact Carolyn Schanzer at schanzer@sancarlosschool.org

Find us on Social Media

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