

UUAA 1.12.20

Up Up And Away - Notes from the Upper School Director

January 12, 2020

We have good kids. If you don't believe me (which is unlikely), just stop by the bulletin board outside the Spanish Room and gaze upon the diverse collection of STAR Card-earning actions that students have impressed us with in recent weeks.

Being adolescents, they are still works-in-progress. It is one of my top priorities to do what I can to encourage the further growth of compassion, tolerance, and self-confidence in our students. Our chapel, advisory, and community service programs (see below) already address many of these issues, but we are looking to expand and refine our approach to social-emotional learning over the next year. If you have any suggestions, resources, or contacts in this realm, please pass them along!

Events This Week:

- There is a noon dismissal / half day on Wednesday, January 15. Students in grades 6-8 will be going off campus that morning to a variety of destinations as part of our annual **Community Service Day**. We are still looking for a few more parent drivers to help with transportation. Fifth graders will be staying on campus to take part in several activities here, including getting their hands dirty with clay for a Ben's Bells project.
- Students will be hungry from all that service work! Luckily, you can stop by **Chick-fil-A** at Tanque Verde and Grant on Wed. 1/15 between 12:00-8:00 p.m. and forage in support of our eighth grade graduation plans. Please consider this if you are planning on eating out after school. Be sure to show the announcement flyer found on the Eagle blog or school Facebook page at the drive-in or register so that St. Michael's can receive credit.
- The next group to miss school time for 8th grade community service is **Team Two**, who will be spending the morning of Thursday, January 16, at the Community Food Bank--a double dose of service for the week!

● On the morning of Friday, January 17, we will host our school **Spelling Bee** for students in grades 5-8. The representatives from each grade are as follows:

5th gr.: Thomas Allen, Carl Neher, Anthony Son (absent: Jacob Schoff)

6th gr.: Piper Kukla, Preston Miller, Dilan Ramakumar (alternate: Owen Brosanders)

7th gr.: Griffin Birkinbine, Delaney Reuter, Ben Teller (alternate: Chris Lundin)

8th gr.: Riley Egan, Ryan Hays, Phineas Roberts (alternate: Teagan Smith)

● We are hosting a major **math competition** on campus on Saturday, January 18: an Elementary Level Competition (Grades 3 through 6) from 8:00 a.m. to noon, and a Middle School Level Competition (Grades 6 through 8), beginning at 1:00 p.m. Students of all abilities are encouraged to give this a try. If your child would like to participate or if you have questions, please see or email Ms. Gould (jgould@stmichael.net).

On a related note, the **Math-a-thon** kicks off on Monday, January 27!

● **Co-ed Soccer** games this week:

Monday, 1/13 - "A" team @ Calvary (Udall): early release at 3:00. Game at 4:00.

Tuesday, 1/14 - "A" team @ Pusch Ridge: early release at 2:25. Game at 4:00.

Thursday, 1/16 - "B" team @ home (Sewell) vs. Gregory: release at 3:00. Game at 4:00.

Events Beyond This Week:

● There is no school on Monday, January 20, in recognition of **Martin Luther King Day**.

● The next \$2 "**fee dress**" day is Wednesday, January 22.

● This year's school musical, *Into the Woods*, is scheduled for January 24-26. For more information or to purchase tickets online, click [here](#). It promises to be just as impressive, if not more so, than past musicals, which is saying something!

● Also on the horizon is **Science Fair** week, February 3-7, which concludes with **STEM Night** on Friday, February 7. There are tentative plans for a uniform

exchange and Eighth Grade graduation meeting for parents that same evening. And there will be food trucks!

● Middle school **class trips** are slowly approaching too. Parent information nights for the 6th grade Crow Canyon trip and 7th grade Catalina Island trip are both scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, February 12, from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. It is highly recommended that at least one parent attend these valuable sessions.

That's all for now...

Best wishes,

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Links of Note:

[Main School Website](#)
[School Facebook page](#)
[School Instagram page](#)
[St. Michael and All Angels Church](#)

[PlusPortals \(online grades\)](#)
[Eagle Express Blog](#)
[Google Classroom](#)
[McGraw-Hill ConnectEd Textbook Login](#)

[School Uniforms](#)
[Hot Lunch Ordering](#)
[Student-Parent Handbook](#)
[SMA Volunteer Page](#)

[Main School Calendar](#)
[5th Grade Test Calendar](#)
[6th Grade Test Calendar](#)
[7th Grade Test Calendar](#)
[8th Grade Test Calendar](#)