

UUAA 3.8.20

Up Up And Away - Notes from the Upper School Director

March 8, 2020

You have probably read or heard by now that our middle school class trips in April have been canceled due to uncertainty over the coronavirus outbreak. As someone who helped lead the Sixth Grade Crow Canyon trip for sixteen years, and the parent of a child incredibly eager to go on that wonderful trip, I am very disappointed, of course. Yet as both an educator and father I am confident that it was the right decision, based on all we know--and don't know. While the course of the virus is indeed unknowable at the moment, please do know that we will do what we can to make that trip week dynamic and enriching educationally, and are investigating various opportunities toward that end. In the meantime let's do all we can as a community to slow the potential spread of the coronavirus, as well as the common flu, by encouraging students to practice sound hygiene--and to stay home if exhibiting signs of fever or other significant illness. Thank you for your support during these times of uncertainty.

Nonetheless, there are many exciting events on campus to anticipate...

Events This Week:

- The next **\$2 Fee Dress** is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11.
- The **Intermediate (6th grade) and Advanced Choirs** are scheduled to perform at the Tucson Festival of Books at noon on Saturday, March 14, on the main food court stage.
- The basketball season continues this week with the following games:

Girls' Basketball

Monday, 3/9 - "B" team (only) @ home vs. Leman East, 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, 3/11 - @ Leman Oro Valley, "A" team early release at 2:30, game at 4:00.
"B" team game at 5:00.

Boys' Basketball

Monday, 3/9 - @ Lemman East, "A" team early release at 3:00, game at 4:00. "B" team game at 5:00.

Wednesday, 3/11 - home vs. Lemman Oro Valley, "A" team game 4:00; "B" team at 5:00.

Events Beyond This Week:

- Wednesday, March 18 is a **half day** with no academic classes. Students in grades 6-8 are scheduled to go off campus for the morning—Sixth Grade to Sabino Canyon; Seventh Grade to the county's recycling center; and Eighth Grade to the Biosphere. Fifth Grade will remain on campus for the next in a series of special art sessions with Audra Scovil.

- The next group of 8th graders to miss school for community service is **Team Four**, who are scheduled to go to the Food Bank on the morning of Thursday, March 19. We will need two parents to drive and stay, ideally.

- All Upper School students participate in the **Alan Schultz Memorial Declamation Day** tradition as part of the Language Arts / English curriculum and should be in the process of memorizing a published poem approved by their teacher. A select number of seventh and eighth graders will then recite their poems in our judged Declamation Day competition on the morning of Friday, March 20.

- St. Michael's will be visited by a team from the Southwestern Association of Episcopal Schools (**SAES**) during the week of Monday, March 23, as part of our re-accreditation by that organization.

- The last middle school **dance** of the year is Friday, March 27, from 7-10 p.m.

- Our gala fundraising **Block Party** is Saturday, March 28, from 6 - 10 p.m. It should be a lot of fun so please consider purchasing tickets.

That's all for now...

Best wishes,

Alex Hawes

Upper School Division Director

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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](#)