A Message from Principal Randazzo

Greetings MCS Parents,

What a cold week! It's great to see winter is still among us!

We are heading into our WCEA Accreditation this week. We will have our team here Feb 12-14th. We are excited to share MCS with these visitors and look forward to their insight on impacting the success of our school.

Thank you for all your support with the Student Opportunity Drawing. Please see below to share the link with family and friends. Thank you!

We will see many of you at the Winter Concert this weekend! Thank you to our amazing students for sharing their gifts with our community!

Enjoy your weekend,
Principal Randazzo

Important Dates and Reminders

- February 11th - HSA Meeting at 8:35 AM
- February 12-14th - WCEA Accreditation Visit
- February 13th - Parent-Student HSA Forum - Faith, Science, and Reason at 6:30 PM
- February 17th - President's Day - No School
- February 26th - Ash Wednesday Mass at Noon
Please remember that a **Focus on Excellence** session is scheduled for Wednesday evening February 12th at 6:30 PM in the Lecture Hall of Erbin Hall. This is an opportunity for parents to meet with the school’s administration in an informal setting and present questions or express any concerns you have about our ministry and work. All are welcome and invited.

### Tier Change/Financial Aid Applications

Online applications for tier changes and financial aid are now available. We will be using **FACTS Grant & Aid** again this year. You may access the FACTS Grant & Aid on our school website or click **here** to access. The application fee to apply for FACTS is $35. Families who submitted an application in 2019 should receive an email directly from FACTS. Please note that even if you received assistance for this current school year, you must apply again.

Applications are due March 15, 2020. Applications are required to be considered for any tier other than Tier 1. Please contact Andrea Steenburgh (801-323-9850 x114; asteenburgh@utmcs.org) if you have any questions.

### Morning Arrival

Students in Kindergarten - 8th grade need to arrive and be lined up on the quad with their class by 8:25 AM. Unfortunately, several students have been tardy over the past month. It is important that students arrive on time to start the day by walking into the school with their homeroom teacher and fellow classmates. Late arrivals are disruptive not only for your child but also for their classmates and teachers/staff.

We appreciate you having your child arrive on time to school.

### MCS Choir

Our choristers are excited to perform for their families on Saturday, February 8th at 4:30 PM here at The Madeleine Choir School. We welcome all to this performance, at which our choristers and musicians will showcase skills that they have gained over the last several months. We invite you to come celebrate the arts with us - you will be able to see our Pre-K - 4th Grade A classes, the choristers of the Sts. Hildegard and John Bosco choirs sing, dance, recite poetry, and play the violin.

### Homework Club

Please note that for children attending homework club, pickups must be completed by 4:30 pm. Children who are not picked up by this time, will be escorted to Extended Day. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

Please contact the school office with any questions.

### March Hot Lunch Menu
March's hot lunch can be ordered here. All orders need to be placed by February 16th. Please make sure you receive a confirmation that your order has gone through.

### Alum Parent Services

If you are looking for a professional housekeeping service for your home, we have a former MCS Alum parent that is offering this service. Please contact the school office for more additional information.

### Student Opportunity Drawing

Last week we fell short of our first week goal! We have already received several ticket purchases that will count towards next week's goal. We are hoping to meet each week's goal so that our students can enjoy the prizes associated with each week (or, something similar). Look for an email from your HSA Room Rep or student's teacher for some ideas and verbiage that could be used to send to family and friends. Thank you for all your continued support!
Now Accepting Applications for 2020-2021

We are now accepting applications for the 2020-2021 academic year. Applications can be found on our website at www.utmcs.org. Limited space is available for certain grades for the current academic year.
Influenza (also known as flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat and lungs. Flu is different from a cold, and usually comes on suddenly. Each year flu viruses cause millions of illnesses, hundreds of thousands of hospital stays and thousands or tens of thousands of deaths in the United States.

Flu can be very dangerous for children. CDC estimates that between 6,000 and 26,000 children younger than 5 years have been hospitalized each year in the United States because of influenza. The flu vaccine is safe and helps protect children from flu.

What parents should know

How serious is flu?
While flu illness can vary from mild to severe, children often need medical care because of flu. Children younger than 5 years and children of any age with certain long-term health problems are at high risk of flu complications like pneumonia, bronchitis, sinus and ear infections. Some health problems that are known to make children more vulnerable to flu include asthma, diabetes and disorders of the brain or nervous system.

How does flu spread?
Flu viruses are thought to spread mainly by droplets made when someone with flu coughs, sneezes or talks. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people nearby. A person also can get flu by touching something that has flu virus on it and then touching their mouth, eyes, or nose.

What are flu symptoms?
Flu symptoms can include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills, feeling tired and sometimes vomiting and diarrhea (more common in children than adults). Some people with the flu will not have a fever.

Protect your child

How can I protect my child from flu? The first and best way to protect against flu is to get a yearly flu vaccine for yourself and your child.

- Flu vaccination is recommended for everyone 6 months and older every year. Flu shots and nasal spray flu vaccines are both options for vaccination.
- It’s especially important that young children and children with certain long-term health problems get vaccinated.
- Caregivers of children at high risk of flu complications should get a flu vaccine. (Babies younger than 6 months are at high risk for serious flu complications, but too young to get a flu vaccine.)
- Pregnant women should get a flu vaccine to protect themselves and their baby from flu. Research shows that flu vaccination protects the baby from flu for several months after birth.
- Flu viruses are constantly changing and so flu vaccines are updated often to protect against the flu viruses that research indicates are most likely to cause illness during the upcoming flu season.

Is flu vaccine safe?
Flu vaccines are made using strict safety and production measures. Millions of people have safely received flu vaccines for decades. Flu shots and nasal spray flu vaccines are both options for vaccination. Different types of flu vaccines are licensed for different ages. Each person should get one that is appropriate for their age. CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend an annual flu vaccine for all children 6 months and older.

What are the benefits of getting a flu vaccine?

- A flu vaccine can keep you and your child from getting sick. When vaccine viruses and circulating viruses are matched, flu vaccination has been shown to reduce the risk of getting sick with flu by about half.
- Flu vaccines can keep your child from being hospitalized from flu. One recent study showed that flu vaccine reduced children’s risk of flu-related pediatric intensive care unit admission by 74%.