



MATER DEI
JUAN DIEGO
ACADEMY



Knowledge + Faith + Community



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Dear Families,

Just like that, summer has come and gone and we have entered autumn. Although the weather may not feel like it yet, fall has officially arrived. Autumn continues to be my favorite season. The colors of the season, the cooler weather and the falling leaves remind us that slowly, but surely things start to fall into place. The activity of the summer months and the busyness of the return to school, give way to the peacefulness and the comfort of daily routines. At school, our students settle into those routines, finding comfort in the daily prayers, their favorite subjects, their interactions with teachers and friends alike. By settling into the familiar, our students are given the opportunity to soar. American author Delia Owens writes, “Autumn leaves don’t fall, they fly. They take their time and wander on, this their only chance to soar”. Our students are taking flight, starting on their journey to a successful school year, where with support, love and guidance from all of us, they will soar to new heights.

Blessings,
Leticia Oseguera

Dear Families,

Mater Dei Juan Diego Academy students have taken off during the first quarter of 2021-2022 school year. Each day they are acclimating to the routines and expectations of their teachers and school. I see artists, lecturers, authors, scientists, mathematicians and more every time I enter a classroom. As we enter the 2nd quarter, we are committed to continuing to collaborate to ensure our students soar to new heights and overcome any turbulence that may come their way. Together we will continue to SOAR as a Mater Dei community.



Sincerely,
Cristina Torres

IMPORTANT DATES

September 13 - October 1: STAR Testing
October 8: Quarter 1 Ends
October 11 - 21: Parent Conferences/
Minimum Days
October 12: Virtual Open House Presentation
for MDJDA
October 14: Picture Day, Formal Uniform
October 17: Open House for MDCHS
October 18: No School
October 21: International Shakeout Day,
Earthquake Drill
October 21: Make Up Picture Day
October 22: No School
October 29: Trunk or Treat / Halloween
Celebration
November 22-26: Thanksgiving Break
December 17 - January 3: Christmas Break



Sports UPDATES



Varsity Flag Football will begin their season on September 25th against St. Katharine Drexel Academy. Their game will be played in the Mater Dei stadium at 8:30am. If you would like to come out and support our athletes, their games will be played on Saturday mornings in the Mater Dei stadium. It is recommended that masks be worn by all spectators per the COVID Protocol from the The Center City/South Bay Sports League of San Diego in consultation with the Diocese of San Diego. The schedule of games is located on the MDJDA website under *Athletics* and *Varsity Flag Football*.

The next sports that will become available include Pee wee soccer (K-4), Girls' Volleyball (5-8) and Boys' Basketball (5-8). All of these sports are projected to begin competition in the first week of January. Interest lists and additional information will be sent out in October. Please remember that our ability to host sports at MDJDA depends on the participation of parent volunteers as coaches.

COUNSELING CORNER

Dear Families,

I would like to remind you that to refer your child to see the counselor, there is a google form to fill out that can be found in the Parent Brochure, or on the MDJDA website under *Parents* and *Counseling*

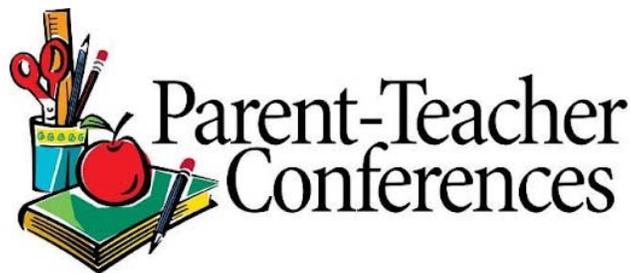
Referral. Parents, students, and teachers/staff can refer a student for routine concerns but referrals should not be used for mental health emergencies. If you would like to know additional information about the services provided in the Counseling program, more details have been attached here as a “Parent Brochure.” Please look through the provided information and do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions, comments or concerns.



[Parent Brochure \(English\)](#)

[Parent Brochure \(Spanish\)](#)

Thank you,
Mr. Smith



The first quarter of the 2021-2022 school year will end on October 8. The weeks of October 11th through October 21st, teachers in TK-5th grade will be scheduling virtual parent conferences to discuss your child’s progress. Students in 6th through 8th grade will be leading their parents through Student Led Conferences with the support of their **grade level homeroom teachers**. During these two weeks, students will have minimum days. All progress reports will be sent home with your child on October 21st. Your child’s teachers will be sending out the sign-up for conferences in the near future.

SRG

Mater Dei Juan Diego Academy uses Standards Referenced Grading (SRG). In this system of grading, teachers provide feedback to students about their level of mastery on a defined set of standards. The MDJDA SRG scale is a 0-3 scale with 3 meaning a student has mastered the standard. A student at a 1 is able to demonstrate understanding with support and a student at a 2 is showing partial mastery of the standard. At this point of the school year, parents can expect to see mostly 2s as teachers are continuing to provide students with vital learning opportunities.

Standards-Referenced Grading is a tried and tested method that has many benefits for students. Some of these benefits include:

Meaningful Feedback: Feedback has a powerful impact on student learning; it is considered one of the top influences on student achievement (Fisher, Frey & Hattie, 2015).

Documents Progress: By receiving feedback based on a learning progression, students can track their own progress over time. The teacher and student have a clear picture of what the student has learned and where improvements can be made.

Students Have Ownership of Their Learning: In SRG students have tremendous ownership over their learning. They are aware of what is required for success. They have various ways to show the teacher what they know and can do related to the standards.

2022-2023 New Student Admissions

Applications for **new** students to MDJDA will open on October 1st, 2021. We do urge you to please apply early for any siblings that do not yet attend our school as applications will close in November. We are very blessed to have such a great community and spaces for the upcoming school year are extremely limited. Please feel free to reach out to Mrs. Torres if you have any questions.



After school activities

A variety of after school activities are starting this fall. Parents will be notified of the activities as they open up for specific grade levels. Numbers are limited, so there is an application process for selection into these activities. Mrs. Peck returns as our yearbook advisor, opening up applications for eighth grade students only. Mrs. Bistic is starting our very first video production club for students in grades 5-8. Mrs. García and Mrs. Guerrero will be leading our very first school newspaper. Students in grades 4-8 will be able to join as leaders, but submissions from all grade levels will be included in different formats. Mrs. Guerrero will also be leading our cantors, a small group of students in select grade levels to sing at Mass, since we are not able to have a full choir yet.

Our partners at the Orchestra Project and Kali Martial Arts are also ready to resume on-campus activities after school.

Kali Martial Arts

Martial Arts is back on Campus starting October 4th. Kids will participate in fitness, agility and coordination drills in addition to learning basic self defense skills to include boxing, kicking and weaponry. Importantly, kids will learn focus, determination and persistence which will translate directly to

better grades in the classroom and confidence to explore their abilities and challenge themselves. The schedule is as follows:

Mondays: Instruction for 1 Hour after their last class (on Mater Dei Campus)

Wednesdays: Instruction for 1 Hour after their last class (on Mater Dei Campus)

Saturdays: Optional Class at the main school in Point Loma (No cost)

Sundays: Optional Class at the main school in Point Loma (No cost)



To Register, please contact Coach Greg Cerezo
(619) 459-5512

gregozerec@gmail.com

www.filipinokaliacademysd.com

The Orchestra Project

Mater Dei Juan Diego Academy will be partnering with "The Orchestra Project North America". A music program that offers high quality music classes with professional instructors. All classes will be onsite twice a week for 90 minutes each day. You will receive a total of 12 hours of professional music education a month for only \$120 (you pay \$10 an hour). We are going to start with the foundation of the orchestra, the string section, therefore we will offer violin, viola, cello and up-right bass classes for now. Classes will run with 15-20 students and are open to K-8. Classes will be after school on Monday and Thursday from 2:45 to 4:15 pm (instruments will not be provided but further information will be given regarding this process).



Register Now

Celebrating Life-long Learners at MDJDA

This summer Mrs. Moncayo became Dr. Moncayo, by completing her doctorate degree in Education with an emphasis on curriculum and program design from the Universidad de Tijuana CUT. We congratulate her on this achievement and are proud to have her on our team! We also want to congratulate Mrs. Torres and Mrs. Oseguera for receiving a Certificate in School Management and Leadership from Harvard, after a comprehensive one year program from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and the Harvard Business School. Mrs. Bistic and Mrs. Oseguera also had the opportunity to participate in the Leadership Retreat through our partners at Boston College this summer, as part of their Network for Catholic Schools with Dual Language Programs. Mrs. Oseguera will now be serving as one of the regional coaches for the network, supporting Catholic school principals and schools with dual language programs.





New In-School Quarantine

In an effort to minimize disruptions to in-person learning, while following updated health department guidelines for quarantines, and keeping the health and safety of our school community in mind, we have updated our COVID-19 quarantine protocols. We have shared these updates with our high school community and are now ready to implement this with our elementary school community as well.

If your student is 12 or older and they are vaccinated, please read the directions below for submitting their vaccine verification. Also, please fill out the testing consent form below.

Required COVID-19 Consent Form

We are asking every parent to fill out the Consent Form for On-Campus COVID-19 Testing below, which will allow us to test your student on our campus if they are identified as a close contact or show any symptoms of COVID-19 regardless of whether they have been vaccinated. In addition, if your student is vaccinated, and you have not sent us your vaccination verification, please send us their official COVID-19 vaccination record by emailing a photo of the front and back of the vaccination card along with the attached form below. You can email the information to medicalrecords@materdeicatholic.org.

Testing Consent Form

Vaccination Verification Form

Modified Quarantine

Inspire Diagnostics will be onsite every Tuesday and Friday morning for COVID-19 Testing. Unvaccinated students will be tested outside the gates from 10-11am, while vaccinated students will test at the inside tent by the theatre from 11:15am - 12:45pm. Parents are required to sign up their student on the [Inspire Diagnostics website](#) before they get tested. The Decision Tree below shows what the modified quarantine will look like.

Prior to this program, students without verification of vaccination were required to quarantine for 10 days if they were identified as a close contact. ***With the modified quarantine, we are requiring all students vaccinated or not, who are identified as close contacts, to take a COVID-19 test on or after Day 3***

of exposure.

Vaccinated students with verification will have no disruption to their in-person learning as long as they are symptom free and participate in the testing program. Non-vaccinated students will learn from home until they test on or after Day 3. They can return to class once their negative test result is submitted to the nurse and they can resume extracurricular and athletic activities on Day 8 after receiving their second negative COVID-19 test result.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email our nurse Lisa McDonald at [**healthandwellness@materdeicatholic.org**](mailto:healthandwellness@materdeicatholic.org). Thank you again for your continued support!



Close Contact Decision Tree

Close Contact Definition

A **close contact** is defined by Public Health as someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes over a 24-hour period.

Whether your student is vaccinated or unvaccinated, please keep them home if they are showing any COVID-19 symptoms.

Close Contact Decision Tree – Vaccinated Student

For contact tracing, the day of exposure is counted as Day 0. Vaccinated students who do not test are now required to quarantine at home.

For Vaccinated Students There is No Disruption to In-Person Learning if They Participate in the Testing Program

- Vaccine verification and COVID-19 Testing Consent must be on file with the nurse in order to continue attending classes and extra-curriculars/athletics
- Test 3 days after exposure



Close Contact Decision Tree – Unvaccinated Student

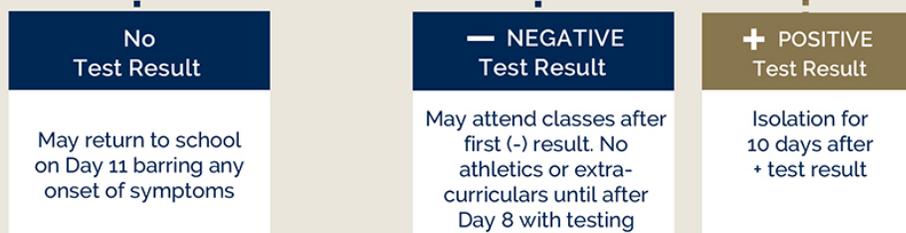
For contact tracing, the day of exposure is counted as Day 0. Unvaccinated students who do not test are required to quarantine at home for the full 10-days, returning back to school on Day 11.

Unvaccinated Student – No Testing

- Quarantine goes into effect immediately
- May NOT attend in-person classes/extra-curriculars/athletics
- Required to attend school through distance learning

Unvaccinated Student – Testing 2X

- Quarantine goes into effect immediately
- May NOT attend in-person classes/extra-curriculars/athletics
- Test 2X (Tues and Fri) on campus beginning at least 3 days after exposure
- Return to class after 1st (-) test is verified by the nurse
- Students may resume extra-curriculars/athletics on Day 8 with evidence of a (-) test collected on or after Day 6.



REMINDERS

Pick-Up

Please remember that the Birch Parking Lot can only be used for car-line pick-ups, while the Magdalena Parking Lot is for parking and walking to the gates. Please also remember to supervise your kids once you have picked them up. Keep kids next to you, they shouldn't be climbing the trees, running around, etc. Please remember to wear a face mask and maintain a safe distance.

School Lunch

[View the October Menu](#)

Virtue of the Month:

Reverence and Respect



NEWS FROM ADVANCEMENT

Homecoming Weekend GOLF TOURNAMENT

Sunday, September 26, 2021



To culminate what is sure to be an exciting and fun Homecoming Weekend, on Sunday, September 26, 2021 there will be a Tee-Time Scramble Golf Outing at Enagic at Eastlake from 10:30am-1:30pm. All are welcome. All money raised will go towards our TK-12th Grade Crusader Athletic Programs. To sign up, click [here](#).



Parents in Prayer Mondays at 8:30am

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 980 7359 4520

Passcode: 1L0p1P

Annual Report

If you have given to the Mater Dei Fund over the past year, please remember to review the Annual Report (emailed earlier this week) to confirm how you would like your name to appear in the **Crusader Connection**. Also, please remember to fill out the commemorative gift form if you have donated in excess of \$200. Thank you!

[View the Email](#)



Help us continue to build our programs at Mater Dei through your everyday purchases. Amazon Smile will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon purchases to the Mater Dei Catholic Fund when you use the link below. Please select Mater Dei Catholic High School of San Diego.

[Shop Amazon Smile](#)



RiteAid Fundraising

Please take a moment to support Mater Dei Catholic High School and our students. Even if you fill one prescription it will help us raise funds.

[Sign Up Now!](#)



MATER DEI CATHOLIC

Support Our Mission

We exist to inspire and educate the hearts, minds and souls of our students. Please join us in supporting our mission.

[Give Now](#)



mdjda.org