

## ALUMNI FEATURE: GRADUATES VOLUNTEER FOR BEACH CITY SERVICE LEAGUE

Seventeen MCS Alumni young men are working together to make a mark in their community through the Beach City Service League (BCSL). BCSL is a philanthropic organization of young men in grades 9-12 who, together with their mothers, are organized to initiate and participate in charitable endeavors in the Coastal Orange County area. This year's freshman, sophomore, and junior president positions are



all filled with MCS Alumni: Brandon Metzger (Newport Harbor), Brent Lawson (CDM), and Andy Baker (Newport Harbor). Other MCS Alums who are involved in this effort are Chris Anderson, Clayton Baker, Bradley Beaudette, Weston Chandler, Jonathon Harzan, Brandon Kula, Derek Kula, Kyle Lawrence, Trevor Lawrence, Austin Metzger, Steven Miller, Matthew Spicer and Preston Wheeler. Class of 2009 Brandon Metzger said of his experience in BCSL, "Mariners Christian School gave me the skills that are needed in order to be a leader that serves and supports others through Beach City Service League." We are proud of our Alumni who are active members of serving the Orange County community.



## SAVE THE DATE

### GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, November 9, 2009

### VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM

Tuesday, November 10, 2009

### PREVIEW NIGHT FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

Wednesday, December 2, 2009

### ELEMENTARY CHRISTMAS CHORAL PROGRAM (JK, K, AND 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADES)

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

### MIDDLE SCHOOL GRANDPARENTS DAY

Tuesday, February 3, 2010

### SPRING BENEFIT AND AUCTION

Friday, April 16, 2010



# Dolphin Digest

BUILDING A FIRM FOUNDATION THROUGH CHRIST-CENTERED EDUCATION

Vol. 13, No. 04

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## COLORFUL NEW SPACE FOR DAYCARE AND MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

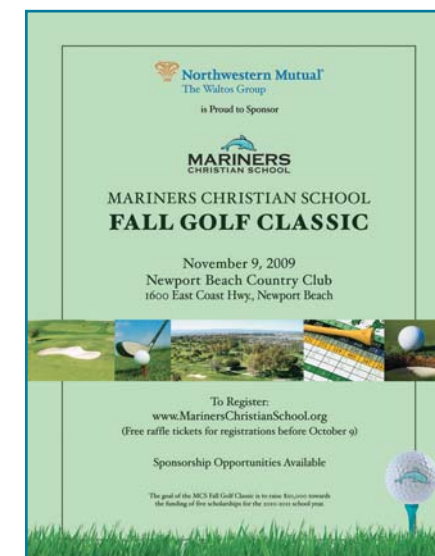
"Our room has been transformed into the perfect place for our students to be afterschool," said Daycare Director Marie Wilson about the newly renovated Afterschool Multi-purpose and Daycare Rooms. After more than a year of planning and fundraising, the new space is complete – with bright colors, improved layout, and of course a staff full of friendly faces. According to Mrs. Wilson, the new design makes it a welcome change for students who have been at school all day, particularly for the older students who appreciate the more "mature" look (as well as the new ping pong table!). As for the new Multipurpose Room, junior kindergarten and kindergarten teachers already utilize it for chapel services, parent groups such as Parents in Prayer enjoy a more welcoming space, and other upcoming uses will include parenting seminars, performing arts rehearsals, and more. The environment is a great one for our students because of the warmth, versatility, and accessibility. Thanks to everyone who participated in Fund an Item at the annual Spring Benefit and Auction to make these changes possible.



## 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL FALL GOLF CLASSIC NEWPORT BEACH COUNTRY CLUB NOVEMBER 9

After its 21-year history, Mariners Christian School will premier its first Fall Golf Classic, sponsored by The Waltos Group of Northwestern Mutual. The brainchild of kindergarten/first grade parent Bob Waltos, the Golf Tournament is a great opportunity to bring together avid golf lovers to enjoy a first class tournament while simultaneously helping an important cause: Mariners Christian School's financial aid program. This year alone, over \$300,000 has been committed in financial assistance for students due to their parents' job loss or other economic-related struggle. The event proceeds will provide needed funding to assist families

with tuition expenses, enabling their students to remain at MCS. The tournament goal is to raise \$20,000 towards the funding of five scholarships for the 2010-2011 school year. The tournament is organized by a dedicated committee of volunteers including Bob Waltos, Chris Sauser, Patrick Munoz, Tyler Terry, and Jon Nesbitt, and the event activities will include a putting contest at 9:30 a.m., shotgun start at 11:00 a.m., and award reception with hordouvres and raffle at 5:00 p.m. Registration information is available at [www.marinerschristianschool.org](http://www.marinerschristianschool.org).



## 2009-2010 SCHOOL THEME: HONOR

*Honor each other. Honor God. Honor our school.*

As you walk the halls of MCS, there are creative writing excerpts, posters, and other classroom projects displayed that focus on the topic of "honor." Chapel speakers have addressed students on this important topic, challenging students to personally examine how they treat others in light of the "honorable attitude" God calls us to. Classroom teachers also spend time discussing what it means to be a person of honor. In today's culture it is all too easy to excuse dishonoring behavior in the name of immaturity or personality. Interim Head of School Todd Perkins remarked, "As we prepare our students to be future leaders, we want to help them understand what honor means and how they can live that out as a young person."



  
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## WELCOME NEW STRINGS TEACHER LAUREL JONES

Founded in 2006, Mariners Christian School's strings program continues to blossom, now under the leadership of Laurel Jones. Laurel earned her BA in Violin Performance from Biola University's Conservatory of Music. She has been teaching violin students of all ages for the past ten years and is now thrilled to apply that experience to the students at MCS. Her vision for the Strings Program is to continue to build on the musical foundation built by her predecessor, giving each student the opportunity to explore the world of strings in an environment that is creative, challenging, and encouraging. She said, "My desire is to teach students to be daily participants in the reflection of God's beauty through the creation and enjoyment of music, and then be excited to share their music with others." Mrs. Jones is excited about all of the students who are beginning to play their first stringed instruments this year. In the same way, MCS students (and parents) are thrilled to have such a wonderful and gifted new strings teacher!



## 6TH ANNUAL FALL COUNTY FAIR

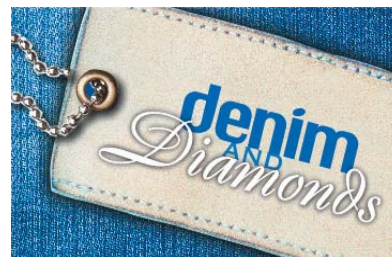
**Sunday, October 25th**  
*Y'all sure came!*

Snow cones. Pumpkins. Fabulous dessert auction. Playtime with other MCS families. Raising needed funds for Mariners Christian School. All of this and more were part of this year's County Fair! The event is designed to welcome back students, parents, and teachers with good old fashioned fun and fellowship. The returning steering committee of Tracy Van Mil, Robin Clarkson, Sundra Sanchez, and Lisa Del Rey organized this fun-filled event. Sundra Sanchez said, "This is a fantastic event for MCS families to connect and celebrate the new school year! Thanks to all the volunteers who made it a success."



## SPRING BENEFIT IS UNDER WAY FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2010 BALBOA BAY CLUB

Auction plans are in the works to make this year's Spring Benefit & Auction an event to remember. Mark your calendars now and get ready for a fantastic night of dinner, dancing, fellowship, and fundraising for Mariners Christian School!



## CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT TO VISIT MCS

Veterans' Day is an opportunity to remember, teach, and honor. This year, the ceremony will include several new and meaningful components, poising it to be the best one yet. The keynote speaker is Walter Ehlers, one of the last surviving Congressional Medal of Honor recipients from World War II. Mr. Ehlers' rank and organization are Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, 18th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division. A short excerpt from Mr. Ehlers' Medal of Honor citation reads, "For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty on 9-10 June 1944, near Goville, France. S/Sgt. Ehlers, always acting as the spearhead of the attack, repeatedly led his men against heavily defended enemy strong points, exposing himself to deadly hostile fire whenever the situation required heroic and courageous leadership... The intrepid leadership, indomitable courage, and fearless aggressiveness displayed by S/Sgt. Ehlers in the face of overwhelming enemy forces serve as an inspiration to others." Mr. Ehlers is eager to speak to our students and fellow veterans and share from his life experience.

In addition to hearing from this tremendous war hero, middle school students will present a check to guests from the Injured Marines Semper Fi Fund, as well as a matching gift of \$3,000 from Bristol Farms, Stater Brothers, Agee/Johson, Inc., and Rancho Mission Viejo. In September, a representative from the Semper Fi Fund joined middle school students for

chapel and challenged them to ask family and friends to contribute to this very worthy cause. Students were excited to help and planned an obstacle course as part of a series of fundraising activities for the organization.

As always, this powerful ceremony will include grandparents, war veterans, military servicemen, and all 660 students and faculty members as participants.



## SCHOOL ACCREDITATION NEARS COMPLETION

Since 1998, MCS has been fully accredited by ACSI and WASC, two of the premier accrediting agencies for private Christian Schools. Accreditation provides parents with an assurance of a quality education, and the process involves a self-study of every aspect of the school, comparison to established standards, assessment of school's mission, and a willingness to be accountable. The benefits to children of such a process are many: assurance of credentialed, highest quality educators;



assurance that the school will follow proven teaching methods and operational excellence at all times; validation that school finances are handled responsibly; and knowledge that everything is taught with a Christian worldview. The accreditation committee is scheduled to visit on March 22-24, and we anticipate a wonderful time of answering questions, evaluating, exploring, and receiving recommendations. Though it is a tremendous amount of work, the accreditation process is exceedingly important to the health of any excellent Christian school.

## What is the Semper Fi Fund?



The Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund provides financial assistance and quality of life solutions for Mariners, Sailors, and other military personnel assigned to Marine Forces, injured in post 9-11 combat, training, or with life threatening illnesses, and their families. This fund provides relief for immediate financial needs that arise during hospitalization and recovery as well as perpetuating needs such as home modifications, customized transportation, and specialized equipment.

## NEW A2 ART GALLERY ENHANCES MCS ART PROGRAM

Have you noticed a new look outside the library? The Art Guild has transformed this space into a new gallery designed to showcase various genres of art throughout the year. The vision for the A2 Gallery, named for "Art Appreciation," is to give more exposure to our young MCS artists' work, as well as to their families, to art, and to the art masters. "We want to make art appreciation kind of 'come alive' for students, so that it will be seen as exciting and part of our every day lives," said Art Teacher Leslie Vance. The various themes of art displayed will be based on holidays throughout the year, such as Christmas, Veterans' Day, Martin Luther King Day, etc. A big thank you to MCS Alumni Cole Vance and Sam Cubeiro for dedicating time to paint the gallery! In addition to the indoors gallery, Mrs. Vance and her team have renovated three outdoor planters to expose students to the art of gardening. Two gardens are modeled after Van Gogh and Monet paintings, and the third planter is reserved for a vegetable garden to be filled with the beautiful food God gives us.



## MCS GRANDPARENT COACHES 6TH GRADE FOOTBALL

Glenn Thomas, grandparent of Celeste and Garrett Wayne, is thrilled to return to one of his greatest passions: coaching!

After graduating from Occidental College and earning a Master's degree from Long Beach State University, Mr. Thomas began coaching at Fremont Junior High where his teams went 21-0 in three years. For eight years he coached at Loara High School, winning five league championships and one CIF championship. For two years he was head coach at Magnolia High School. He subsequently joined the staff at Fullerton College and coached there 24 years, leading his teams to win conference titles and a national championship. After retiring from coaching, Mr. Thomas entered the property management profession, which he is in currently. Glenn has been an active member at Friends Church in Yorba Linda for many years, and he is looking forward to the privilege of working with the outstanding Christian staff at MCS and the boys and their parents.

