

# Parent/Student MONTHLY NEWS NOTES

### Inspiration



"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire:

it is time for home."

**Edith Sitwell** 

## Monthly Message



Christopher Geis
Executive Director

#### Let's Dance!

Welcome to the 32 new students who have joined us since the beginning of the New Year! We are so thrilled to see our community grow and thrive.

Songwriter Anna Vaus wrote our theme song, <u>"We All Got a Song."</u> Her lyrics were created purposefully with you in mind. We do all got a song. And we also all got a dance!



Please take a moment to read the lyrics to Anna's song. I hope it inspires you to join in our school spirit to meet my challenge to dance. We hope to have some fun and show off the diverse community at CMASAS that spans the globe and beats together even though we have different cultures, sceneries, dreams, goals, and passions. If I can do it, you all can do it too. Watch my video above!

#### "We all Got a Song" Lyrics:

Put your hand on your heart, feel that beating
There's a reason you're alive, you're alive!
Breathe in so deep, you can hear your own symphony
There's beauty in being alive, you're alive!

We all got rum pa pa pums, Different drums We got a song, you got a song, Sing!

Make a melody, make a lotta noise, make the choice to
Dance to your own beat
Like nobody's watching, like nobody's listening
Oh oh, We all got a song
Sing, oh oh oh, We all got a song

Dare to be different, Find your rhythm You're right where you're supposed to be You're alive you're alive!

We all got rum pa pa pums, Different drums We got a song, you got a song, Sing!

Make a melody, make a lotta noise, make the choice to
Dance to your own beat
Like nobody's watching, like nobody's listening
Oh oh, We all got a song
Sing, oh oh oh, We all got a song

You got the music, you got the beat We all got a song

You got the heart, We got the harmony
We all got a song

Oh oh oh - Oh oh oh - Sing!

Make a melody, make a lotta noise, make the choice to
Dance to your own beat
Like nobody's watching like nobody's listening
Oh oh, We all got a song
Sing, oh oh oh, We all got a song

I am challenging each and every one – parents, students, and faculty/staff to make a video of you dancing to your song of choice. Please post it on social media tagging us @cmasas\_ and using the hashtag #cmasasletsdance. Watch for my Instagram post along with our entire Leadership Team posting a video at the end of this month from Montana. Can't wait to hear your beat and see your dance!

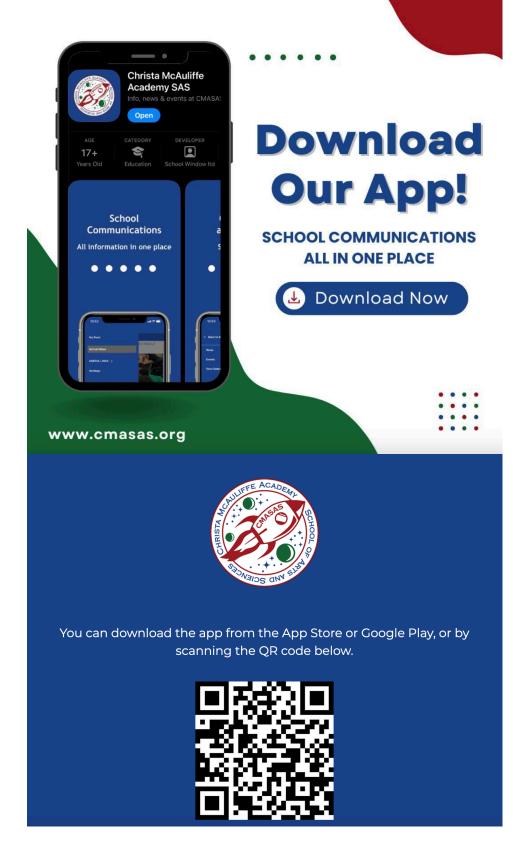
### What's New?

#### We Have A New CMASAS APP!

Check out our free, new school app which takes our social media content from Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter as well as important links from our website and puts them all in one place for you to have access to at your fingertips.

You can now see our posts even if you do not have any social media pages.

You can also access our spirit store, make a payment, course catalog, clubs, student spotlight, alumni, newsletters, blogs, resources, testimonial pages, and genius log-in from the app!





#### New Spirit Gear for the Class of 2025!

We added some fun CMASAS Class of 2025 options to our Spirit Store. Check it out and purchase your t-shirt or sweatshirt now.

#### **Parent Ambassador Program**

Our next meeting will be held February 7th, 2025 at 4 pm PST.

Please sign up to receive an invitation to this meeting!

We held our first Parent Ambassador Program meeting last Fall 2024. For those of you who were unable to attend, attached is the presentation we went over during our the meeting.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about this program and how you can get involved and support our community. Please review the presentation, complete the sign-up form, and feel free to reach out to any of our Committee Leads directly if you have any further questions.

We are also looking for a new Personalized Education Foundation Board Member if you are interested in supporting that aspect of our school. You can make that known in the sign-up form.

We look forward to working together with you to continue to improve CMASAS and foster a more inclusive and engaging community!

Also, you may want to join the CMASAS Parent Group on Facebook.

Presentation

Sign-Up Form

## Be Rewarded for Sharing CMASAS with Others

#### Family & Friends Referral Program

Current families, when you **refer a friend**, you can be eligible for a a family and friends discount of **up to 15% per year**. For each student (up to three) who you refer that enrolls at CMASAS, you will receive **5% off** your student's next year's tuition (up to 15% off for one student tuition)!

The family you refer will also be eligible for a family and friends discount of 10% off their student's tuition (after they have been enrolled for 90 days).

Alumni, graduating families or CMASAS staff who **refer a friend** will receive **a \$200 Amazon gift card** once the student completes their first 90 days. Click the Family & Friends Referral button to fill out the form!

Family & Friends Referral

#### **Partner Referral Program**

Is Your Student an Athlete or Performing Artist? Help us connect with the athletic or performing arts organizations where you are currently participating or have participated.

Simply click the **Partner Referral** button below, fill out the referral form, and receive an entry to win a **\$250 Amazon Card** for every organization you refer to us. We will reach out to them to see if they would kindly promote our school to other students like yours. We will select the winner at the end of April 2025.

Partner Referral Program

## Counseling Updates



**Heidi Fox** 

**Seniors:** Please make sure you are on pace to graduate "on time." Keep in mind "on time" may mean something different to each of you. If you have questions about when you need to have your courses/credits completed for college, please contact me so we can go over this. Remember: you do not have to be completely finished with all credits/courses to be eligible to attend/walk at graduation on May 31, 2025.

**NHS:** Invitations to apply to NHS will be going out early next week to all high school students who are eligible. We encourage all students who are eligible to apply to join our CMASAS Chapter of NHS. The deadline to apply will be Feb. 24, 2025. Minimum qualifications to receive an invitation to apply include: 3.50 (minimum) GPA; at least a sophomore in standing (6 HS credits completed); and at least one semester of CMASAS courses completed (3 total HS credits completed). If your student has any questions about the emailed invite or application, please let me know.

Graduation Weekend in San Diego: You should have received the first of a series of emails about Graduation Weekend, which will include a "Regional Gathering" component scheduled for June 1st, Sunday afternoon. We are looking at hosting a family fun day/picnic at Mission or San Diego Bay. We encourage all families, regardless of your student's grade level, to consider attending these amazing events at the end of May. Furthermore, if you do plan to attend our Graduation Weekend/Regional Gathering, you may wish to take advantage of our room block at The Dana (as Mission Bay) here: <a href="https://thedana.com/">https://thedana.com/</a> Call and ask for the NHS/Graduation room block.

As always, please reach out to me directly if you have any questions or concerns about your student's educational path/experience here at CMASAS. I am here to help ALL students and families as needed. I love setting up meetings and meeting you all to help you with your child's challenges, goals, plans, and more!

## **Upcoming Events**

#### **Winter Assembly**

February 5th 1:00-2:00pm PST

#### **Parent Ambassador Meeting**

Friday, February 7th 4:00-5:00pm PST

#### **President's Day - Office Closed**

February 17th

#### **Student Council Talent Show**

February 20th 2:00-3:00pm PST





April Sandoval
PEC/CI and Community & Culture Specialist

#### **Black History Month**

Black History Month was created to focus attention on the contributions of African Americans to the United States. It honors all Black people from all periods of U.S. history, from the enslaved people first brought over from Africa in the early 17th century to African Americans living in the United States today. Join us in Teams to learn more!

#### **Regional Gatherings**

Mark those calendars! Our next Regional Gathering is the Salem Witch Museum in Salem, MA - May 23rd at 11:00am PST. We are also working out the details to host a San Diego Regional Gathering during Graduation weekend on Sunday. Details will be sent out once the event is finalized.

#### 2024/2025 CMASAS Regional Gatherings



Raleigh, NC Museum of Natural Science

September 28, 2024 10:00 am - 12:00 pm



Portland, OR Pumpkin Patch on Sauvie Island

October 19, 2024 10:00 am - 1:00 pm



San Diego, CA Lions, Tigers and Bears Sanctuary

November 15, 2024 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm



Salem, MA Salem Witch Museum

May 23, 2025 Time TBD

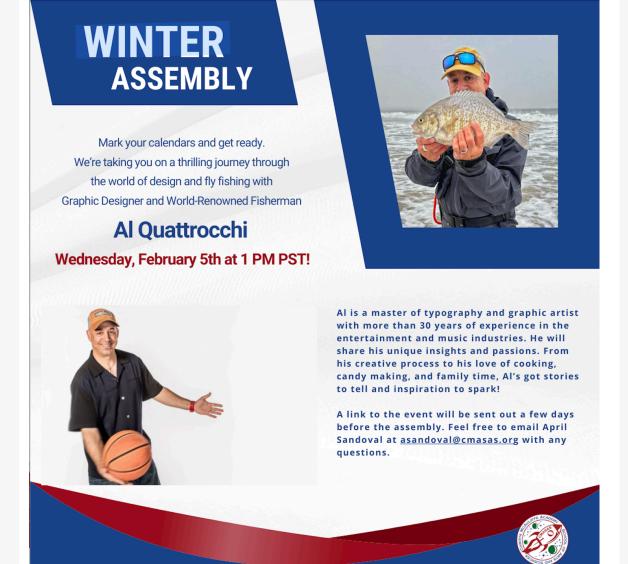
#### Clubs

Student clubs are up and running! All clubs are listed on our website.

#### **Club Spotlight - Middle School Hangout**

This is a fun, informal, weekly club space designed for students in grades 6-8 who simply wish to connect and have fun with other CMASAS students their age. This club meets on Mondays at 2pm pacific with Trish Turner as the faculty moderator.

#### **All-School Assembly**



## Student Spotlight

Check out our new <u>student spotlights</u> this month! Please continue to send in achievements by filling out the following <u>form</u>.

New International Student Testimonial - Joo Choi

#### Alumni TESTIMONIAL

#### **CJ Grande**

Class of 2021 Pilot for Skywest Airlines

Accelerated Learning in Action: CJ's Journey to the Skies! 🛪

CJ's dream of becoming a pilot took off at CMASAS, where our personalized, flexible learning model allowed him to excel beyond traditional timelines. Graduating early gave him the freedom to explore his passion for aviation, leading him to start flight school at just 17 years old. By 19, he was one of only 214 pilots in the U.S. working as a Certified Flight Instructor, and by 20, he earned his Multi-Engine Instrument Certification and FAA examining authority-an achievement held by fewer than 10 pilots his age at the time. Today, as a SkyWest pilot, CJ continues to use the study habits, discipline, and self-motivation he developed at CMASAS to navigate his career in aviation.





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#### **December Student Virtue Awards - Gratitude**

#### **Student Virtue Awards**

The December Virtue of the Month was "PEACE." Congrats to all of the December Student's of the Month. Your lights are shining bright!

Thank you all for nominating students! We could not award these deserving students this recognition without you. Here are the December award recipients:

#### **High School:**

Hazel Button (grade 12). Here's what her nomination stated: Hazel is unruffled by challenges. She has significant math comprehension and application struggles, and yet, she calmly accepts her problems and attacks them head on with no complaining.





Collin Reed (grade 12): This is what his nomination said, "Collin is kind, calm, and helpful. He brings an element of peaceful generosity to any group or meeting of which he is a part. He always strives to appreciate the good in his peers and seeks to soothe and calm the more intense people in his midst."

Kailyn Vogel (grade 9): This is what was stated: "Kailyn is always very calm and peaceful to speak with. There is never a crisis or rush to get things done. She is typically ahead of schedule and feels comfortable reaching out for help when needed. In her free time, Kailyn loves to spend time with family and friends, explore new cafes, or bake."

Casey White (grade 12): Her nomination mentioned: "When I meet with Casey she is very calm. She has dealt with some really hard things in life but keeps rising to the occasion with peace in her demeanor. I am drawn to people who create a peaceful environment and that is what Casey does."

#### Middle School:

William Elliot (grade 7): William's nomination says, "He has a relaxed and encouraging demeanor and seems to engage with students both younger and older than he in a confident and relatable way."

#### **Elementary School:**

Camilla Larson (grade 2): Her nomination mentioned, "Camilla exemplifies peace in all that she does. Whether we are in homerooms or during our PEC meetings, her presence is calming and reassuring. She approaches each interaction she has with kindness, patience, and attentiveness, creating an environment where both students and staff feel safe and valued. She even stated to her PEC recently, 'It's OK, everyone makes mistakes.'"

January's Virtue: RESILIENCE— Building strength and perseverance to overcome challenges.

February's Virtue: INTEGRITY—Promoting honesty & strong moral principles.

The January and February award recipients will be announced in our next newsletter.

























