

CMASAS

Parent/Student Monthly News Notes

June/July 2025



CMASAS CLASS OF 2025

A Celebration of Growth, Grit, and Graduation



Graduation Weekend Highlight Reel:

https://youtu.be/zjG_SMreIEE

As another incredible school year comes to a close, we find ourselves reflecting on the journeys, milestones, and transformations that have defined the Class of 2025. Graduation Weekend in San Diego—always one of the most special times of the year for our CMASAS community—was filled with connection, celebration, and meaningful moments.

From tearful reunions to the laughter of students meeting in person for the first time, this weekend was a beautiful reminder that while CMASAS is a virtual school, the relationships built here are very real and lasting.

Class of 2025 by the Numbers

We're proud to share some standout stats that speak to the academic achievement, diversity, and dedication of this year's graduating class:

- Total Graduates: 52
- Valedictorians (Perfect 4.0 GPA): 7
- Salutatorians (3.99 GPA): 2
- Additional students with 3.90–3.98 GPA: 15
- Graduates with a 3.50+ GPA: 40

- National Honor Society Members: 21
- States Represented: 18 (FL, CA, TX, LA, IL, MA, VA, WA, ID, PA, OR, NC, MD, AZ, TN, ME, OH, CO)
- Countries Represented: 10 (China, Uzbekistan, Aruba, Mexico, Colombia, Greece, India, Bermuda, Spain, Singapore)

More Than Numbers

While we're incredibly proud of the academic excellence in this class, what moves us most are the stories behind those numbers. Many of our students overcame obstacles—personal setbacks, health challenges, relocations, and roadblocks—and still made it to this milestone.

At CMASAS, we believe in honoring every journey. Whether graduating early, on time, or if it takes a little longer, your path is *personalized* and deeply meaningful. That's what we call *personalication*—and that's what we celebrate.

Every single graduate is seen, known, and celebrated. No matter where headed next—college, a gap year, work, travel, or something totally unexpected—you've already accomplished something incredible by reaching this point. We're proud of you.

Special Thanks

This unforgettable weekend would not have been possible without the love and effort of so many:

- Gabby Reece '19 – Thank you for your inspiring alumni speech!
- Randy & Primrose – Thank you for your wonderful musical performance.
- Valedictorians, Salutatorians & NHS Inductees – Your leadership lights the way for others.
- Nichole Hinkle and Heidi Fox – For planning and organizing every detail with heart.
- CMASAS Parents & Volunteers – Your help with setup, breakdown, and support did not go unnoticed.
- CMASAS Leadership, Faculty & Staff – Thank you for showing up, cheering loud, and believing in our students every step of the way.

To the Class of 2025

You did it. You've walked across the virtual and physical stage, and now you walk boldly into your future. We hope you always remember this:

You are smart.

You are capable.

You are cared for.

And you will always have a place in the CMASAS family.

Congratulations, Class of 2025!

Graduation and NHS Induction Ceremony Videos



Graduation Ceremony Video



NHS Induction Ceremony Video

Graduation and NHS Induction Ceremony Photos



Some of our students, families, and staff recently returned from walking the Camino de Santiago. While the stated distance was 125 km, in reality, we often walked much more—sometimes an additional 10 km or more each day—as we explored each town, found meals, or simply wandered beyond our accommodations.

Each morning began with a shared breakfast, and then we set out—walking with purpose.

For some, it was an enjoyable trek through the countryside and charming towns of Spain. For others, it was a deeply spiritual journey—an opportunity to open heart, mind, and soul to something greater. Many experienced moments of grace, connection, and awareness that defy explanation but leave a lasting imprint. It is an awakening, an awareness which is difficult to explain – that greater power within the universe which is unseen from another dimension but can be felt and connected to.

As one local priest in Santiago de Compostela shared, the Camino is “a movement of the body and a journey of the soul.” His words offered us peace and a reminder that although we reached our physical destination, the internal journey continues—through reflection, mindfulness, grace, and purpose.

Just weeks later, we gathered again—this time in San Diego for graduation on May 31st. Twenty-three graduates and their families came together to celebrate a milestone years in the making. Our staff, as always, worked tirelessly to create a meaningful and memorable experience that honored each student’s unique path.

During the ceremony, valedictorians and our alumni guest speaker spoke of their journey and the incredible growth they experienced at CMASAS—not just academic, but emotional and personal. They found peace, confidence, friendships across borders, the value of family and love, and a deeper understanding of themselves. As Max (Michelle) Zagorski beautifully stated in her Valedictorian speech:

“At CMASAS, I’ve experienced something truly powerful: education designed around the individual, not the system. And research backs this up. I find that online school is better for children’s and young adults’ mental health because it strengthens family bonds, protects us from harmful environments, and offers flexible, personalized learning that meets us where we are.”

This is what it means to live with purpose. Thank you—for being a part of this journey, for believing in our students, and for helping to create a space where they (and we) can grow. I’ve witnessed incredible transformation in both our learners and our team over the years. It is humbling, inspiring, and a powerful reminder of the impact we can make—together.

HELP US REACH 200 NICHE REVIEWS BY JULY!

We’re currently at **160 reviews on Niche**—and our goal is to hit **200 by July!**

Let’s rally together and show the world what makes CMASAS such a special place. Whether you’re a staff member, parent, or student, your voice matters!

- ✓ It only takes a few minutes
- ✓ Every review makes a difference
- ✓ You’ll be entered to **win a \$1,000 Niche sweepstakes** just for submitting!

Let’s hit that 200 mark together CMASAS! 💙💛

[Write Your Review](#)

Share Your Story: Testimonials

Please consider sharing your story - including your experience at CMASAS, passions, and goals with other families interested in sending their kids to an online school. Fill out this form and send us a photo so we can share on the website and social media: [testimonial](#) form.



Check out a recent post from Francesco Tarantino - Grade 11

WHAT'S NEW?

New Student Referral Program

We will be rolling out a new Referral Program. When a family refers CMASAS to another family, they will receive: a \$100 Amazon Gift Card for each referral, and waived registration fee (valued at \$325/Annual or \$200/Semester) for their next enrollment agreement. The family being referred will no longer qualify for a discount.

For Alumni and CMASAS Faculty/Staff: When you refer a friend, you will receive:

- A **\$100 Amazon Gift Card** for each successful referral* ***Gift cards will be sent once the referred student has completed their first 90 days of enrollment.**

For Graduating Seniors: Graduating seniors who refer a friend will qualify for a **college scholarship**, which can be applied toward **college tuition, books, or educational expenses.**

- **Each referral adds both an additional year and an additional \$400 per year, up to four years total.**
- **1 referral = \$400 per year for one year**
- **2 referrals = \$800 per year renewable for up to two years (\$1,600 total)**
- **3 referrals = \$1,200 per year renewable for up to three years (\$3,600 total)**
- **4 referrals = \$1,600 per year renewable for up to four years (\$6,400 total)**
- To maintain eligibility, the student must have a **GPA of 3.0 or higher** during their undergraduate studies.

Additional Stipulations:

- All scholarships are contingent on the continued enrollment of the referred student. If the referred student withdraws, the scholarship no longer applies toward future year scholarship awards.
- Scholarships require an annual application and approval through Personalized Education Foundation which may require verification of grades and referrals made.

To Receive Your Gift Card:

1. New student fills out this form: [Family, Military & Referral Program Form](#).

2. In the "Discount Requested" field they select "Referred by Friend" then include the name of the friend. A tuition discount or gift card will be sent out after 90 days of being enrolled.

COUNSELING UPDATES



Heidi Fox
Director of Counseling

Graduation 2025

Class of 2025's Graduation in San Diego on May 31 was AMAZING! We will be sending out the Senior Slideshow sometime this month. We are finalizing any remaining graduates and getting out diplomas for those who did not receive them in person. If you could not attend we hope you followed along with the Facebook Live Feed. We are so proud of our 52 Class of 2025 Graduates!

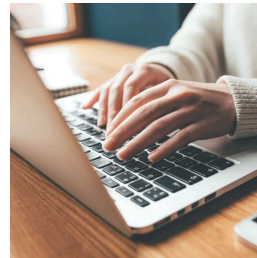
BREAKS AND HOLIDAYS



June 19:
Juneteenth



June 28- July 11
Summer Break



July 11-14 Teacher
Work Days



July 21: First day
25/26 School Year

UPCOMING EVENTS



April Sandoval
PEC/CI and Community

Regional Gatherings

We're gearing up for some incredible Regional Gatherings in the 2025-2026 school year. We will be promoting them in the weeks to come. Our San Diego Family Fun Day, held on June 1, 2025 at Mission Bay, was a great success. We had a great showing of parents and students, faculty and staff.



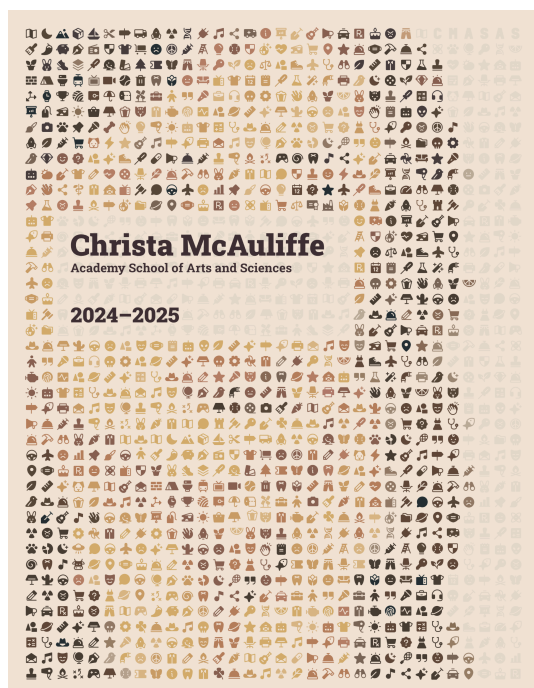
Student Spotlight

Check out our new [student spotlights](#) for June. This is our last Student Spotlight of the school year. We will reconvene spotlights in September.

Virtual Field Trips

New idea alert! Virtual field trips are in the works for the 2025–2026 school year. With the whole world at our fingertips, where should we explore? Send me your ideas at asandoval@cmasas.org! More details on these adventures are coming soon.

2024-2025 YEARBOOK



A big shoutout to Joshua Nabors, Grade 12, the winner of our Yearbook Cover Design Contest!

Joshua's stunning artwork and chosen theme, "**Limitless**," perfectly capture the spirit of this school year, full of growth, creativity, and endless possibilities.

You'll see his winning design featured on the cover of this year's CMASAS yearbook!

Amazing work, Joshua!

We'd like to extend a huge thank you to every student who submitted a design for this year's Yearbook Cover Contest. Your creativity, effort, and unique perspectives truly blew us away.

It was inspiring to see how many of you poured your hearts into your work, choosing a winner was no easy task! We're so proud of the talent in our CMASAS community. Keep creating, keep dreaming, and keep being *limitless*.

The CMASAS yearbook will be ready and available for purchase by **July 11!**

Keep an eye out for an email from **Nichole Hinkle**, who will be sending the link to our yearbook store. Both **digital and physical copies** will be available:

- **Digital copies are free**
- **Printed copies** will be available for purchase through Picaboo Yearbooks

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Nichole at nhinkle@cmasas.org
Thank you all for helping to make our yearbook possible!

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

April's Virtue:

Courage, Inspiring bravery in facing new challenges and stepping out of comfort zones.

Tiger Abubo, Grade Level 11:

His recognition stated: "Tiger has been competing as an amateur surfer this past year. He was selected for two very competitive teams to represent Hawaii on the international level. (Surfing is the only sport that recognizes Hawaii separate from the US Mainland in all competitions besides the Olympics.) The courage, dedication and mental strength it takes to get to this point of a career at such a young age is admirable.

Tiger surfed both contests (one in El Salvador and one in Australia) with a humble ambition that makes all of us wish the absolute best for his surf career. He had tremendous outcomes with both teams - team Hawaii took second in the world junior championships. In Australia, his team represented an even smaller population: Kauai. Team Kauai came in third out of many, competing against his own Hawaii teammates from the state team. Tiger is also a 2-time Hawaii State Champ and 2 time national junior champ. In addition, he is a bright and committed student. He is as intelligent as he is athletic. This kiddo has an amazingly bright future."

Mackenzie Muehlbauer, Grade Level 10:

Her recognition stated: "In the short time that Mackenzie has been with our school, she has shown great examples of courage. Her first example of courage was joining CMASAS and jumping right into Homeroom and Clubs mid-semester. Mackenzie's family has moved over the past couple of months and she has maintained a positive attitude and steady course pace throughout the entire process. Each week, Mackenzie is sharing something new that she's done whether it be painting her closet, attending a concert, or starting flight school. I am excited for her to be recognized!"

Ava (grade 5) and Marcus (grade 7) White:

Their nomination stated: "Both Ava and Marcus transitioned from a brick-and-mortar school mid-year and have done exceptionally well adjusting to our online school setting. They dove right in, are keeping up with pacing, and getting excellent grades. I'm so proud of them for having the courage to embrace something new!"

Maggie Bromwell, Grade 11:

Her nomination stated: "Maggie has recently started an internship in the legal field which has allowed her to step outside of her comfort zone in exploring a possible career interest. She also pushes herself to lead various clubs & school discussions to develop her leadership skills. Maggie consistently shows courage in her choices & activities."

Casey White, Grade 12:

Her recognition stated: "I have watched Casey grow the last few years as a person and also in her educational pursuits. She has had a lot of support from her Aunt in helping her to experience life in a way that has helped her to grow. She has had courage and conquering aspects of a job that was difficult at times, applying for scholarships and schools and getting ready to face life as a college student. I am so proud of her for taking steps forward even though they were scary and she did not know what was around the bend."

Judah Smith, Grade 8:

His nomination states: "Judah has spent the past three years adjusting to living in Japan. After two years of Japanese school, Judah graduated elementary school and became a CMASAS student. It was an adjustment, as Judah had not spent much time on a computer before joining the school. He has been very brave to meet with teachers online and attend International Homeroom with people he has never met in

person. This year, he went to two new countries for Spring Break. He challenged himself by trying many new foods, shopping and playing games with new friends. I am proud of the many new challenges that Judah has faced and overcome in the past year!"

May's Virtue:

Excellence, Striving for high standards in all endeavors.

Michael Learner, Grade 10:

His nomination stated, "Mike is so devoted to improvement and high standards. It's important to him to do all his work to the best of his ability, and as a result he's incredibly conscientious and thoughtful. It's also important to him to deeply connect with what he's learning. He is definitely not a student who just goes through the motions. Beyond his dedication to his academics, he's also constantly seeking ways to improve his habits and give back to his community."

Tristan Draycott, Grade 12:

His nomination states, "Tristan's work truly defines excellence. He doesn't just complete assignments — he pours thought, care, and effort into everything he does. I've seen him spend countless hours crafting his work, always pushing himself to understand deeply and express that understanding clearly, even when things get tough. In my nine years of teaching at CMASAS, Tristan stands out more than any other student for the consistent quality and heart he brings to his work. It's been a privilege to witness his growth and dedication."

Eleanor Zucker, Grade 8:

Her nominator said about her: "Eleanor excels at school and everything that she is involved with. She puts a lot of effort in to studying and making sure that she understands the subject material I am so impressed by her work ethic and the way that she moves forward in her classes and extra curricular activities."

Brooks Ford, Grade 12:

His nomination says, "Brooks strives for excellence, competency, & rigor in all of his undertakings. He is a leader who shows courage & compassion, while upholding the highest standards for himself in his character & academic performance."

Demi Roose, Grade 7:

Her nomination stated, "She excels academically and puts forth every effort to be involved in clubs here at CMASAS and in her local community. She is always striving to be the best version of herself."

Trey Dietrich, Grade 10:

His nominator said about him, "Trey is truly an awesome kid and exemplifies excellence with ease in all that he does! Trey has a perfect GPA and works hard to maintain that with all of his courses. He participates in multiple sports and seasons in addition to school. And you can always count on seeing a smile on his face in every meeting!"

CMASAS WALK-A-THON RECAP

A Journey of Connection, Purpose and Global Impact



From May 12–19, 17 CMASAS students, parents, faculty, and friends completed an unforgettable 126KM (78+ mile) pilgrimage along the Camino de Santiago, journeying from Portugal to Spain. The experience offered much more than scenic views—it was physically challenging, emotionally grounding, and spiritually rewarding.

Along the way, our CMASAS pilgrims met people from around the world, often sharing a commemorative CMASAS Camino coin. One fellow pilgrim, Dave Baciocco, later wrote:

“Terrific people... They presented me with a coin to commemorate the Camino. Just wanted to let you know how much we enjoyed meeting them, how well they represented the school, and how much I appreciated the coin (as a retired Navy guy, we know all about coins!). Keep up the good work!”

Whether walked for faith, healing, reflection, or adventure, the Camino reminded us that it’s not about the finish line—it’s about the journey.

A Global Community Walked With Us – Camino Walk-A-Thon

While 17 walked in person, 25 others joined virtually from around the world—on treadmills, forest paths, beaches, and sidewalks—making it a true global Walk-A-Thon. Here are some of the accomplishments!

By the Numbers:

- Total Participants: 42
- Funds Raised: \$2,434
- Countries Represented: 5
- U.S. States Represented: 16
- Walkers who completed 100KM or more: 20
- Winning Homeroom: Sankalpa, Trish & Sam's Homeroom
- \$100 Sweepstakes Winner: Sam Berry

The winning homeroom will choose a fun challenge for Christopher to complete during our Back-to-School Assembly!

Shoutout to Staff 100KM Achievers:

These amazing team members crushed 100KM and will each receive a commemorative CMASAS Camino coin:

- Evette Nowicki
- Heidi Fox
- Daisy Cheatham
- Sam Berry

Thank you to everyone who walked near or far. Your steps created a meaningful, global moment of connection, growth, and community.

Alumni
TESTIMONIAL

Ruilei Kendrick

Class of 2025

"The Camino trip was my first time traveling abroad. I went on my own—but never felt alone. As someone with vision and hearing challenges, the journey wasn't without obstacles. But I learned that by taking things step by step and surrounding myself with the kind and supportive CMASAS pilgrims, I could overcome anything.

Along the way, I gained a new sense of confidence. I realized that accumulating possessions doesn't bring fulfillment—it often just weighs me down. True satisfaction comes from taking time to admire the beauty in the world and connecting with others, especially those different from myself.

And of course, with a little chocolate thank you, Christpher! and the promises of pasta thank you, Wheeler (smile), my journey becomes achievable."




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Parent
TESTIMONIAL

Scott Lally

Father of Kylie Lally - Class of 2026

For me, The Camino was a walk in THE WAY. As a follower of Christ, I was able to relax and strengthen myself in his path. It was nice to find on that path those with similar journeys. Especially those in our inner circle. I actually was able to grow through every person in our group. God is amazing and who and what he creates on THE WAY to emphasize his GREATNESS. Thanks to all who walked me through this journey. 🙏❤️




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Parent
TESTIMONIAL

Carol Ann Henderson

Mother of Kylie Lally - Class of 2026

It's hard to put into words what this experience meant to me. Walking the Camino with my husband and daughter was incredibly special—sharing music, encouragement, and even backpack-carrying on steep hills.

I loved how our group supported one another, step by step. We laughed through the confusion, the stress, and the rain. That laughter was medicine for my soul, and the people I walked with now hold a permanent place in my heart.

This journey challenged me physically, mentally, and spiritually in ways I can't fully describe. I'm so grateful for the sharing handprints we laid and the ones we discovered.

More than the finish line, it was the journey that changed me. I learned to let go of control, stop, connect, and trust that God will walk things out—better than I ever could.

The Camino left handprints on my heart that will last forever. 🙏❤️




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CMASAS FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBER OF THE YEAR



Faculty of the Year

Please join us in celebrating **Jeanne Niewoehner**, our 2024–2025 CMASAS Staff Member of the Year!

Jeanne's impact goes far beyond her PEC and CI roles, she's a compassionate guide, a thoughtful mentor, and a consistent source of support and encouragement for both students and staff. Whether helping a student find confidence after a tough experience, offering a kind word in times of grief, or cheering on every success (big or small), Jeanne shows up with grace, empathy, and dedication every day!

As one student beautifully put it: *"I think I can do it," I said—and she replied, "Of course."*

Jeanne is known for her positive outlook, calm presence, and quick willingness to step in and help wherever needed. Her colleagues appreciate her insight, humor, and heartfelt care for others, and our students recognize in her someone who truly listens, believes in them, and helps them rise.

Congratulations, Jeanne! Your work changes lives, and we're so grateful to have you as part of the CMASAS community.

Support Staff Members of the Year:

A huge congratulations to **Cierra Tredway** and **Daisy Cheatham**, our 2024–2025 Support Staff of the year award recipients!



Both of these incredible team members go above and beyond each day to ensure our students, families, and staff feel supported, seen, and set up for success. Whether it's solving problems behind the scenes, jumping in with helpful resources, or offering a kind word at just the right moment, Daisy and Cierra consistently show what it means to lead with dedication and heart.

Thank you both for the countless ways you contribute to making CMASAS a better place. We're so grateful for everything you do!

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