

HEART OF GOLD AUCTION

BY CARISSA S.
EDITED BY EDIE G.

The Heart of Gold Auction was on February 3 at the Omni Las Colinas. It was Mardi Gras Krewe Ball themed as it was celebrated before Lent. The Auction this year raised a gross amount of \$324,838.41 and could not have happened without the Auction Chair Heather McIntyre who has been planning this for several months. Heather has been an Auction Chair for several years. The Honorary chairs of this year's auction were Sharon and Steve Montesana, who are extremely passionate about education and are alumni of Catholic schools. They have been great supporters of Mary Immaculate School throughout the years. The night was full of fun, and everyone enjoyed the community.

The auction this year had the Bobby Falk Group as their live band. Some of the things that they had for bid at the auction were Dinner with Father, Dinner with the Sisters, and trips to Mexico and Belgium. The Lewisville Mitsubishi Autoplex donated a 2024 Outlander as a raffle prize. The family that sold the winning ticket got half off tuition for one child for the next academic year. The Auction team was excited to support another MIS family-owned business, Crown AV. Mary Immaculate School is grateful for the generosity of all the attendees, the volunteers, and bidders who made this event successful!

OPEN HOUSE AND STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

BY LUCAS S. WITH STUDENT SPOTLIGHT BY SIENA A.
EDITED BY GRACE M.

There was a good turnout of roughly 40 families at the Open House. Ranging from incoming students to families trying to find a home for their students. We received many encouraging compliments from people who attended the Open House. Many people were moved by our loving community and prayer buddies system. People that visited the school were interested in the electives given to our students here at MIS. What stood out to our students the most about the Open House was the excitement in the school during the Open House.

The student spotlight are two students who are new this year! Meet Desmond Tremblay, a third grader who had a wonderful first day at MIS. "The very first day of school I had already made lots of friends. After one week, I knew every kid's name in the third grade!" Desmond most enjoyed a science project where they put mentos in soda that causes the soda to rupture out of its bottle! Meet Willa Lemieux, a fifth grader at MIS. Willa enjoyed playing volleyball and having fun with her teammates! Volleyball is Willa's new favorite sport! Willa also enjoys our Friday Masses and Father's fun homilies.

LENT AND THE PROBLEMS OF THE WORLD

BY GIANCARLO R.
EDITED BY LUCY D

On the week of February 12, 2024, a lot of exciting things happened. On Tuesday, February 13, 2024, MIS celebrated Valentine's Day, because the next day, February 14th, was Ash Wednesday. That Friday, Kindergarten through 8th grade went to the church to participate in the Stations of the Cross. It was an eventful and reverent week for the MIS Mustangs!

Ash Wednesday is a very special day for the Church because it is the first day of Lent. The ashes that are spread across our foreheads in the shape of a cross symbolizes Jesus' and our own death. It shows us the importance of doing penance for our sins. This day, we should be reminded of how much Jesus loves us. He died on the cross for our sins out of love.

During the Ash Wednesday homily, Father Alfonse asked us what we thought were the biggest problems in the world. He told us that we are the problem, and we all need to work together to make the world a better place.



THE MUSTANG MINUTE

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IN THIS EDITION

In this Leap Year edition during Lent, the Mustang Minute explains the new Mission Statement for the school in hopes of better reflecting the values we hold. The Spring Show name was released and rehearsals are underway. There are many exciting things on campus so read more!

BREAKING NEWS

NEW MISSION STATEMENT

BY BECCA K.
EDITED BY GRECIA T.

The new mission statement perfectly encapsulates the learning we do here at MIS. The mission statement says, "Mary Immaculate Catholic School provides a Christ-centered learning environment that fosters wonder and excitement, enkindling the desire in each student to be a lifelong learner." At MIS we believe in providing an education centered around Christ, that provides wonder, adventure, excitement, and the desire to help our students enjoy learning. Our old mission statement was, "The mission of Mary Immaculate School is to provide academic excellence in a Catholic and Christ-centered environment." The old mission statement was unimaginative and did not capture everything we do here at MIS. Our new mission statement will affect the way MIS students see learning. Rather than seeing it as a boring task on a checklist, students will see it as an opportunity to improve themselves and help others do the same. Sister Annunciata's Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a fitting example of this. Her teaching includes both wonder and excitement centered around God. Sister Mary Anne states, "We were looking for something that stands out, something memorable and sets us apart from other schools." To the question of her favorite part of the mission statement she said, "Wonder and excitement; I want children to be excited about learning, I want there to be something real, where it applies to their life. Wonder and excitement expand both the mind and the heart." We plan to have every MIS student memorize the new statement before the end of the school year. Remember, keep in mind what Sister Mary Anne said, "Be open to all that happens in a day. Always look for the many surprises God sends your way each day."

NEED A LAUGH?

By: Lucy D. and Giancarlo R.

What do you call as sheep with no legs?

A cloud!

What do you call a boomerang that doesn't come back?

A stick!

Want to hear a joke about construction?

Oh, never mind. I'm still working on that one!



LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

BY ELIJAH M.
EDITED BY CARMEN D.

Living Stations of the Cross is an acted-out version of traditional Stations of the Cross. Led by Mrs. Mayfield, she wants to give a visual to the students about Jesus' last few hours of his life. She also wanted them to reflect on the sacrifices Jesus made for us. This week she hoped to keep it simple and not theatrical so we could focus on prayer. The student who played Jesus last week was Jordan B. (8th). The student who played Mary last week was Samantha R. (8th). The student who will portray Jesus this week is Joel Z. and Mary will be portrayed by Seya R. and they are both 8th graders. After spring break there will be outdoor Stations of the Cross where Matthew B. (7th), Dylan M. (8th), Dat N. (8th) and Jacob R. (8th) will all portray Jesus at various stations. Joanna J. (7th) and Ella B. (8th) will portray Mary. "My hope is that students want to come closer to God by experiencing Jesus' final moments and to be able to imagine Mary's heartache at the foot of the cross," Mrs. Mayfield said. In short, this is a wonderful way for students at MIS to reflect on the season of Lent as they prepare for the resurrection of Christ.

MUSTANGS ADVANCE TO STATE IN PSIA

BY ELI E.
EDITED BY ALEXANDER M.

This year students in grades 1st-8th participated in the Private Schools Interscholastic Association (PSIA) competition. PSIA provides students an academic enrichment opportunity like no other. In the PSIA organization, students can compete with other students from different schools around the state. Not only do students achieve a greater understanding of the topic by actively participating in the subject, but they also receive awards and recognition for their works. Our second-place winner for modern oratory in eighth grade Grecia T. said, "I am happy to be a part of this experience and am excited to compete at a state level with my other PSIA members." Grecia has moved on to state and will compete on April 13th along with Millie G., Sam A., Danny O., Mira J., Dagen M., and Thomas N. We were overjoyed to see the many unique talents of our PSIA team shine at our district meet and will be excited to follow along with these amazing students journeys in April.

PINES, PIZZA AND KICKBALL

BY SAM F.
EDITED BY CAROLINE M.

Fun is brewing within the intermediate years! Sixth grade had their overnight Pines retreat to learn about their faith and connect with God through nature. 4th-6th grades have celebrated Grandparents Day by having their grandparents visit and celebrate the mass with us! They also threw Valentines Day parties on February 13th. Fifth grade is also starting Adopt-a-Pilot, where they discuss flight values, future careers, aerodynamics, time changes, and all things aviation. The band is going to a concert where they will perform their music that they have been rehearsing. They will be going to Cici's pizza afterwards to celebrate. "Pizza is cool," said Colton D., 6th grade band player. 5th and 6th grade will be having a kickball match between the 5th grade Scholars and the 6th Grade Saints. Positions will be auctioned off to parents in those grades, and winners will receive the positions of coach, umpire, and players. The proceeds from the auction went toward our school!

STUDENT COUNCIL

BY DIEGO P.
EDITED BY ISABEL L.

The Student Council members have planned dances and other fun events for Junior High at MIS. For example, the most recent dance that occurred was the Junior High dance with a theme of "Take Me to the Oscars," which Junior High students enjoyed with free food and drinks, along with games like Jenga. Upcoming events for Junior High include the Mustang Movie Night, which was an idea by the Student Council president, Siena A. As she said herself, "I want to start a new tradition, which is the Mustang Movie Night." The Junior High community is very welcoming. As a significant part of Junior High, the Student Council tries to unite the whole school. Siena said, "Each member in Student Council will be a friend to anyone and everyone." In fact, Student Council members even take time out of their school day to read books to Kindergarten and PreK.

BASKETBALL AND UPCOMING SPRING SPORTS

BY DONOVAN G.
EDITED BY SOPHIA M. AND LILYANA L.

This month at MIS Athletics we are going strong with our 8th grade girls' and boys' basketball. With the girls going undefeated with a streak of 5-0, the boys are still going strong with a record of 4-1. We asked for some insight from our P.E./Athletic Director, Coach Kerr and he said, "We will have more home games than away games and that our teams will have a great start with more wins than losses throughout all the games in the playoff." Coach Kerr also thinks that we have fared well in golf throughout the years when we have had a team, and if we build the team correctly then we have a greater chance for competition. In addition, coach Kerr thinks that for baseball we will come back with everyone a year older, a year stronger, and a year better which could mean that we would be in store for another championship. Lastly, soccer and track are starting their seasons and everyone is looking forward to cheering them on.

THE FUTURE OF THE BUSINESS PROGRAM

BY MADELEINE A.
EDITED BY JOSHUA S.

As stated in the previous issue of the breaking news, the Motter family will donate 250,000 dollars over the next 5 years, contributing to The Motter Family Business Program. This contribution will be used in many ways, such as upcoming business program changes. One of the changes we hope to see is more appearances from guest speakers. Although we have already had guest speakers come by to talk about their companies, Mr. Pulido, 7A and 8A's history teacher and the business teacher, plans to have guest speakers more often. For example, we have J. Lee Whittington scheduled to speak in March. He is the dean and professor of management at the University of Dallas. Mr. Pulido also plans to add field trips to many big businesses to see personally how they work and operate. The companies we may visit are AT&T and Southwest Airlines Headquarters. Mr. Pulido also has the idea of starting an after-school business club which would contain many things like a once-a-week discussion about current stocks and how they are performing. He hopes to be able to compete against other schools as well. Overall, The Motter Family Business Program will have exciting changes coming up this year and next year.

EXCITING SPRING SHOW

BY SOPHIA G.
EDITED BY PAOLA M.

Mrs. Mayfield officially announced the Spring play! The play is called *The Enchanted Bookshop*. *The Enchanted Bookshop* is about a bookshop that turns enchanted by the characters in the books coming to life to try to stop these two robbers from robbing the owners' bookshop. They do not know how they will stop the robbers without being seen by the robbers, the owner, and the people around them. *The Enchanted Bookshop* had auditions for the roles in the play, and rehearsals are underway. The roles for this upcoming play will require hours of practice and hard work. Mrs. Mayfield wanted to do this play because she thinks there are characters that kids do not know about, and that it would be humorous and playful for the kids. Mrs. Mayfield dedicated much of her time toward this play so it can be fun, exciting, and playful for the audience to watch and love. When asked about *The Enchanted Bookshop*, Mrs. Mayfield said, "I think it would be a fun, funny, and joyful play for the kids to watch." Overall, this upcoming play will be an amazing show to come and watch!

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 29: LEAP DAY
MARCH 1: STATIONS OF THE CROSS
MARCH 4: 4TH GRADE LIVE MUSEUM
MARCH 6: RECONCILIATION

MARCH 11-15: SPRING BREAK
MARCH 27: EARLY DISMISSAL
MARCH 28-APRIL 1: EASTER HOLIDAY
MARCH 31: EASTER