Fun for all at Annual Auction
Event raised over $27,000 for CMS

On Saturday May 19th, 2018 the Elementary outdoor space was transformed to host our 20th Annual Auction and Dinner Benefit. Parents mingled and enjoyed hors d’oeuvres prepared by The Flavor Chef and browsed the auction baskets available for purchase – from a one-of-a-kind piece of art to a Disney vacation. The opportunity drawing drew lots of interest and the Nguyen family went home the big winners of $828. After dinner, the live auction excitement began. Families bid on art created by our talented students, a weekend in Big Bear, and a special behind-the-scenes News Anchor Experience at ABC 10News.

While the parents enjoyed adult activities, kids experienced their own special event. There were two bounce castles provided by PenguinsUp Party Rentals, a rousing game of dodge ball, and a fun snake craft and origami giraffe-making. Wild Wonders stopped by with amazing animals for a special presentation. The kids got up close and personal with a boa constrictor, a kinkajou, an opossum, and an American alligator. Afterwards, they had a big pizza party.

We are so fortunate to have so many wonderful families who helped with donations, event organization, set up and clean up, and who supported the school by bidding on auction items and making direct donations. So much of what makes CMS an amazing community is our CMS families. Thanks to your passion, commitment and generosity, we were able to raise $27,162 at this event.

Like us on Facebook!

The Treepost is sent to families four times a year. For weekly updates, photos, and timely reminders, like us on Facebook!

Our Facebook page is also a great way to share CMS with friends and family and prospective families.
Happy June CMS Families! We will be completing our 2017-18 school year on June 15, what a wonderful school year we have had. I want to thank all of you and our countless volunteers who have helped us have a successful school year. Congratulations to all of our 5th level graduates who are moving on to begin their next chapter in their lives, the adventures of middle school. I hope our newest alumni will keep in touch with CMS and let us know how they are doing, they will truly be missed.

Awarded WASC accreditation
In early May we were notified by WASC, The Western Association of Schools and Colleges that we were awarded a 6-year accreditation! We were very happy to have that result, everyone’s dedication and hard work definitely paid off. Our six-year accreditation includes a mid-cycle report and one day visit. This process was an outstanding experience for the school and assists in the continuous efforts to keep making CMS an exceptional educational establishment.

Learning about Positive Discipline
On Thursday May 24, CMS sponsored a workshop on Positive Discipline led by Reena Patel. Reena has done in-services for our faculty as well. Thank you to all our parents who attended and to Reena for offering this opportunity. It was an informative evening.

Parent survey garners 70% response and valuable feedback
A parent survey was sent out on May 20th. The focus was on the various ways the school and faculty communicates with our families. We appreciate those families who completed the survey and shared their input with us. 70% of our community participated!! We will be using your feedback to continue working on ways to reach all our families in a consistent and clear way. Thank you again for your participation.

Concerts in the Park
Every summer Country Montessori School sponsors the Poway Concerts in the Park. They are held at Lake Poway or Old Poway Park. This is a wonderful time for CMS families to get together during the summer, it is fun for all involved! The concert schedule is available at: https://poway.org/301/Events.

Have a great summer!
When we all come back together on August 20, 2018, for the first day of our new school year, we will be entering our 30th year, a huge milestone for CMS! I look forward to seeing all of you for our anniversary year! Have a great summer vacation and I am honored to have shared yet another wonderful school year with all of you.

Warmly,
Adela

Ms. Adela Corrales, Head of School, CMS
Message from the Board President

As the school year ends, we have much to celebrate and many happy memories. Our children have flourished into socially responsible citizens and lifelong learners. I want to extend my gratitude to the teachers and staff for your commitment to our students. I want to thank all my fellow parents for strengthening our CMS community by volunteering and supporting the school. Your participation is vital to the success of your child’s education.

Each year, a handful of parent’s volunteer to serve on the Board of Directors. Parents and teachers govern and guide the direction of the school. I would like to acknowledge three board members who are leaving the CMS community as their students are graduating; Joy Hou, Vice President; Chris Zedelmayer, Secretary; and Kathy Rogers, Treasurer and Community Member. Thanks to these board members for their strong leadership and guidance.

During the Board of Directors meeting in May, we elected new Executive Board members for the 2018-2019 school year.

2018-19 CMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Nina Kim, Community Member
Vice President Sean Gailey, Eagles
Secretary Beth Zaleski, Eagles
Treasurer Peter Townshend, Ladybugs, Bumblebees & Eagles
Owls Kalyan Kuppuswamy
Bumblebees Marea Ortiz
Ladybugs
Owls, Eagles, Bumblebees
Staff Roland El Ghazal
Adela Corrales, Head of School
Vicki Rehkopf, Owls teacher
Wendy West, Bumblebees teacher

I would like to wish you all the best for wonderful summer vacation and look forward to welcoming you all back in the fall for an exciting new school year.

PPF NEWS

What a successful year this has been for the CMS PTC and Ambassadors! I want to personally thank all the PTC chairs and ambassadors for so generously volunteering during the past school year. Their willingness to contribute their valuable time to CMS shows their commitment to the well-being of all the CMS students and our CMS community. The PTC and Ambassadors contribution supported the caring community that fosters the highest standards of academic, social, and emotional growth at CMS. The efforts of these volunteers are a vital part of our community!

Thank you again, and I look forward to continuing to work with you in the future.

If you are interested in serving the CMS community, please contact Gilda Reeves.

2018-19 PTC OFFICERS

President Gilda Reeves – Eagles & Dragonflies
Vice President & Outreach Eva Rayburn, Eagles
Vice President & Co Chair Cheryl Schneider, Eagles
Secretary Diana Crews, Eagles
Ice Cream Social Chair Kerstin Kirchsteiger, Bumblebees
Halloween Carnival Chair Dragana Petrovic, Eagles
Staff Appreciation Chair Vacant
Ambassador Chair Rebecca Colman, Eagles
Ladybugs Ambassador Donna Jennings
Ladybugs Kelsie Russell
Ladybugs Vacant
Bumblebees Ambassador Kristen Busick
Bumblebees Giselle Galloway
Ladybugs Monica Robinson
Owls Ambassador Mai Lan Tran
Owls

WWF CHANGE FOR CHANGE

Students at CMS continue to show their enthusiastic support for the animal conservation efforts of the World Wildlife Fund. This year they raised $1,708.91!

Eva Rayburn, PTC Outreach Chair and Wendy West, Bumblebees teacher and Early Childhood Intern Coordinator, pictured here with check to WWF.
Bumblebees
Early Childhood | Ages 2.5 - 6

The Bumblebee children have worked very hard this year. In our prepared learning environment, where everything is “just right” our children are striving to develop their unique human potentials. Through their environment we have focused on Movement, Language, Order, Music, Grace and Courtesy, Refinement of the Senses, Writing, Reading, Spatial Relationships and Mathematics. Throughout their three years they will strive to master these skills and hopefully with their continued education in the elementary classrooms. The Bumblebee classroom would not function the same without our great classroom ambassadors Becky Colman (Carsons mom) and Jenni Nguyen (Rylands mom). Thank you both for your countless hours of organizing all the Bumblebee volunteers and making sure the classroom never went without a special celebration, special snack, fresh flowers, clean laundry or Practical Life food!

- Have a small rug that your child can roll out to put activities on. This will give them a defined play area.
- Have child’s activities and their level so they can access and put them away independently.
- Involve your child in daily household chores. This will help them show care of environment and responsibility.
- Have them participate when making meals. Measuring, pouring and mixing will give them a sense of responsibility and service.

Ladybugs
Early Childhood | Ages 2.5 - 6

As the school year comes to an end, we would like to thank you for all you have done to make our year memorable. Beginning with our ambassadors, Marea Ortiz and Anny Kuo, who coordinated our classroom wish list, and as the year progressed continued to assist us with whatever we needed. And to all the parents who helped the classroom or school in one way or another, we appreciate all you do. You make it possible for our focus to be on the children and ensuring that we continue to have one of the best Montessori programs.

This is always an interesting time of year, with worries of whether each child has progressed the way we hoped. Then, we take the time to observe, and how wonderful it is to see that those worries are unnecessary. Each child has experienced improvement and growth in many areas; academic, motor skills, social development, and more than anything confidence and self-esteem. It is always difficult to say goodbye to those children that have completed our program and are ready to move on to elementary, yet we are reassured by knowing they have established a firm foundation for future learning. We will also sadly say goodbye to a few children who are leaving us before completing the 3-year cycle and wish them the best at their new schools.

We hope you all enjoyed the Spring Fling performance. The children practiced the songs with great enthusiasm and loved wearing the costumes. Despite some anxiety prior to going on stage, they all did a wonderful job and had fun.

We explored South America, learning about the different animals that live there, the weather, crops, and what the people are like. It spurred a flurry of map making, and an interest in flags.

Dragonflies
Early Childhood | Ages 2.5 - 6

Speaking of animals, I’m sure you have all heard about our classroom guinea pig, Chewbacca. Having him in our classroom has created a lot of enthusiasm! Enthusiasm to help and learn more about him and mammals in general. Having to take care of a pet builds a sense of responsibility and an increased awareness of needs and feelings in others. This in turn helps children develop empathy, respect for living creatures, and a crucial bond to the natural world that enhances a child’s overall well-being. And Chewbacca loves it too!

We want to congratulate our Kindergarten graduating class. They have just begun to prepare their graduating speeches and are getting excited to recite them. We wish them all the best as they continue their education, and we will miss them in our classroom!

Bringing Montessori to your Home...

- Have a small rug that your child can roll out to put activities on. This will give them a defined play area.
- Have child’s activities at their eye level so they can easily access and put them away independently.
- Involve your child in daily household chores. This will help them learn how to care for their environment as well as give them a sense of responsibility.
- Have child size pitchers in the refrigerator with their preferred beverages (for example milk) that they can pour independently.
EAGLES
LOWER ELEMENTARY | AGES 6 - 9

The Hertzog family joined us in March to share a chicken presentation. We learned the differences between the chickens and what color eggs they lay. Penelope and Violet shared what chickens do, and which one was their favorite. Thank you very much to the Hertzogs for sharing one of their hobbies with the children. Everyone got to enjoy an egg and received a toy chicken.

In April the children got to present their poems to their families. They had a great time getting in front of an audience and presenting their poems. They celebrated with cookies and strawberries for their hard work.

It has been an exciting couple of months with field trips. Thirds and Seconds went to the Floating Lab in March and Flower Fields in April. Followed by the firsts going to the Flower Fields in March. The last field trip was to the Birch Aquarium where the first and seconds had an adventurous and exciting time.

The Serenity Garden is in bloom and Ms. Odenwalder is taking advantage of it for her lessons. The children were able to make zucchini muffins and share it with the owls. It was a delight for the children to experience and see how a zucchini could be used in the different cooking methods. They enjoyed participating in the chopping, dicing and peeling of all the other ingredients.

OWLS
UPPER ELEMENTARY | AGES 9 - 11

The Science Fair at CMS is coming soon! Each year the 3rd, 4th, and 5th think of a scientific question and answer it. Then they must type up their hypothesis, procedure, results, and materials and glue it on a tri-fold board to present. The questions can be anything scientific: Which battery lasts the longest? Or: How many pennies can different structures hold? It’s all due by June 11th; presentation day! The students present their tri-fold board to the judges and each grade gets three lucky people who earn 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place!

The fourth and fifth levels went to the Courthouse on May 22, Tuesday. We heard that the old courthouse was about 100 years old. The new courthouse which we went to was about 5 months old. When we entered, there was security everywhere, so we had to take off our jackets because there was also a metal detector. The guide showed us a real live probation pre-trials at the Felony Arraignment Court. We went to the 14th floor to do our own pretend mock trial. The fourth levels were the jurors and the fifth levels were the central people in the courtroom trial (for example, prosecutor, lawyer, judge, etc.). Afterwards, we met the sheriff, who showed us his real tools including the Taser and gun. He told us stories about juvenile court and showed us the holding cell for the people who are waiting to go to trial. It had literally no privacy. Then we went outside to eat lunch (which I thought was a bad idea because there was so much smoke). Then we went back to school. It was a great field trip.
GOOD LUCK TO THE GRADUATING CLASS!

Oliver Beutz
Age: 11
With CMS: 7.5 years
Favorite subjects: Math, including Geometry
Favorite work: the Bead Frame and the Checkerboard
Favorite field trips: the Roynon Museum in Escondido; saw the fossils and rocks
Middle school plans: Bernardo Heights or Meadowbrook
Activities: Krav Maga after school
Best thing about CMS: he doesn’t have to sit at a desk and there is freedom in how you learn
The future: He wants to make the world a better place than it is now.

Enjoys: Krav Maga
The future: She would like to be an animator for Pixar.

Landan Chu
Age: 11
With CMS: 8.5 years
Favorite field trip: Riley’s Farm because the people were in Colonial costume and they were so good
Favorite subjects: Math because there is always an answer
Enjoyed: Spring Fling
Middle school plans: Twin Peaks
Activities: plays golf and takes lessons at Maderas – going to play in a tournament soon; also takes piano lessons
Best thing about CMS: You get to work with materials and it is a nice campus.

Raina Chatterjee
Age: 10
With CMS: 6 years
Favorite field trip: the Floating Lab field trip and doing the Autobiography as she learned so much about her family
Middle school plans: Black Mountain Academy where her sister is
Activities: Piano and Volleyball; has traveled to India many times and this year her maternal grandparents are coming from India

Aria Graham
Age: 10
With CMS: 8 years; in Bumblebees class
Favorite subjects: all subjects
Favorite field trips: all of them
Middle school plans: Oak Valley
Enjoys: loves reading – likes fantasy books; has read some books 10 times
Best thing about CMS: teachers at CMS inspire understanding

Jamie Kim
Age: 11
With CMS: 4 years; before that he was in Korea
Favorite subjects: Art and Math
Favorite CMS field trip: the Mission project as he was able to build his own mission – Santa Cruz which he had visited
Middle school plans: Bernardo Heights
Activities: after school goes to Korean school; play golf; travels to Korea every summer to see his extended family
The future: Wants to be an architect which combines art and math
Best thing about CMS: loves that the teachers at CMS focus and help every child

Gabriela Serena
Age: 10
With CMS: 8 years
Favorite field trip: the Floating Lab – learning about animals
Favorite subjects: Music and Math
Enjoyed: Spring Fling
Middle school plans: St. Michael’s School and will have to wear a uniform
Activities: guitar lessons; going to New Zealand for three weeks this summer
Best thing about CMS: this is an amazing school – the teachers are very nice – like not having seats

Gustavo Serena
Age: 10
With CMS: Bumblebees
Favorite subjects: loves art and computer; likes writing reports and doing research on the computers in the classroom
Favorite field trips: the Flower fields field trip in Lower Elementary and the Floating Lab field trip in Upper Elementary
Activities: black belt in Tae Kwon-do; has done swim classes and may join a Swim team
The future: would like to be an architect
Best thing about CMS: Teachers at CMS are super nice and he likes to be able to move around

Aidan Swaine
Age: 10
With CMS: 6 years since Kindergarten; was in Dragonflies
Favorite subjects: Math and Science as there is always something new to learn in math
Favorite CMS memories: He likes to make things; once made an invention to wake him up in the morning.
Favorite CMS field trip: Floating Lab field trip as he got to hold real sea animals – shrimp, lobster and a sea horse
Middle school plans: Design 39
Enjoys: playing with friends in the neighborhood; bowling and going to a youth group; traveling with his family
Best thing about CMS: He doesn’t have to sit at a desk all day.

Maya Villagomez
Age: 11
With CMS: 5 years; was at Montessori Child Development Center previously
Favorite field trip: Floating Lab and the San Eligo Lagoon trip
Middle school plans: Meadowbrook Academy
Activities: Krav Maga and piano
The future: would like to be a Zoologist
Best thing about CMS: the teachers make sure you understand

Zoe Wood
Age: 11
With CMS: 9 years; was in Bumblebees
Favorite CMS memories: Loved doing the Autobiography project in 5th level
Favorite subjects: History, Science and Art
Middle school plans: Meadowbrook or Classical Academy
Enjoys: Krav Maga, Crossfit, Yoga; Has done a fencing camp and will be doing more over the summer
The future: She would like to be an artist and she enjoys drawing anime.
Best thing about CMS: CMS was awesome because of the freedom the students have as to where they work.

Ava Zedelmayer
Age: 11
With CMS: 8 years; was in Bumblebees
Favorite subjects: History, Science and Literature
Favorite CMS field trips: Roynon Museum in Escondido and Old Town
Middle school plans: Meadowbrook Academy
Enjoys: reading dystopian fiction
Activities: Volleyball and Archery
The future: would like to do something with behavior like a Neurologist or Behavioral Scientist
Best thing about CMS: The teachers at CMS pay attention to all the students individually.

Audrey Zhou
Age: 11
With CMS: 1 year
Favorite subjects: all subjects
Favorite field trips: the trip to the court house recently and the mock trial they did in class
Middle school plans: Oak Valley
Enjoys: plays piano, and ping pong; just started Kung Fu
The future: She would like to do something with behavior like a Neurologist or Behavioral Scientist
Best thing about CMS: the freedom and has really enjoyed learning here; everyone was very friendly when she came to the school and helped her to fit in. She is friends with everyone.

SPRING FLING = FOOD FLING 2018
When the curtain lifted and the audience saw all the students on stage, there was a loud cheer from the parents, families and friends. This year some of the children wore “food hats” in addition to their CMS T-shirts in celebration of show’s theme this year: Food. Did we know there were so many food songs?
This was Mr. Short’s 10th Spring Fling and he was presented with a guitar signed by all the children.
Endangered Rangers 2017-18

The Endangered Rangers are a group of children that met once a week after school to help animals. They did so by learning about the issues that are causing different animals to become endangered, as well as ways to protect them.

Each week they created an art or craft project that correlated with the animal they were learning about. They made everything from bath bombs, to eye masks, to charm bracelets to art décor.

At the end of the year, they hosted a fundraiser where they put all their creations up for sale. Then they donated all of the money they earned to a local animal charity.

This year the organization they chose was Lions, Tigers, and Bears, a big cat and exotic animal rescue in Alpine, CA. In return, they went on a two-hour tour of the facility where they were able to watch all the animals being fed and got the opportunity to see where their money went. A commemorative brick that reads "Endangered Rangers 2017-2018" lies by their tiger trail in memory of the Endangered Rangers’ good deeds this year.
MEET THE TEACHERS

ANA CARRETE
SPANISH INSTRUCTOR

Where did you live as a child?
My parents are architects and they designed a beautiful house in a very nice neighborhood in Tijuana, Baja California. They have kept adding to it and remodeling it ever since.

How many years have you been teaching at CMS?
This is the first of many (I hope). The children always greet me with a smile, and they truly make my day. I leave exhausted, but very happy!

What did you do before you came to CMS?
I've been a Spanish teacher since 2011. I first taught college students at SDSU while I was working towards my Master’s degree (in Spanish Linguistics and Literature). After that, I taught children of all ages in private schools in Austin, and then San Francisco. I am very, very happy to be back in San Diego! I will also be teaching a class on “Language and Identity for Bilingual Writers” at UCSD this summer.

What do you enjoy about teaching Spanish at CMS?
I attended a Montessori preschool and still vividly remember working with the materials. I am certain I would’ve loved attending CMS! I love to witness the students’ eyes light up with curiosity and how this way of teaching honors their interests and individuality. The teachers here do an amazing job guiding our students to love learning!

What is your favorite time of the year at CMS? Why?
The year isn’t over, and this is all new to me, and every day is special and different, so I’m currently undecided. However, Crazy Hair Day is very fun! The kids are so happy wearing a million, spray painted ponytails and ribbons!

What is a favorite memory from your childhood?
Every Sunday, my family would pick up my grandmother early in the morning and we would go to church together, then cross to San Diego to go shopping and have lunch together. She would always get us a treat, and I loved being spoiled by her. But the funniest part about that memory was her getting impatient waiting for us to pick her up, calling a few times to check if we were on our way, and waiting for us outside of her house.

What are your interests?
I love going to museums, reading, learning, traveling and eating.

JOSHUA REHKOPF
ART INSTRUCTOR

Where did you live as a child?
As a child I grew up in San Diego

How many years have you been teaching at CMS?
I have been teaching at CMS for 6 years

What did you do before you came to teach Art at CMS?
Before teaching at CMS, I graduated from San Francisco State University with a BA, dual emphasis in Fine Arts. I studied art education and worked for three years at an art studio for kids in Encinitas.

What do you enjoy about teaching Art at CMS?
I enjoy watching the children’s vision come to life and their appreciation and interest for many different types of art.

What is your favorite time of the year at CMS? Why?
I love the Fall to Winter transition at CMS with festivals, Thanksgiving and, of course, different types of seasonal crafts.

What is a favorite memory from your childhood?
Some of my favorite childhood memories are playing in this giant 100-year-old oak tree at my grandparent’s house. Playing baseball and spending entire days from sunrise to sunset at the fields.

What are your interests?
I love teaching art and creating my own personal pieces in my free time. I am an avid surfer, biker, hiker, and traveler.

What is the most important thing you would like parents to know about a CMS education?
The education at CMS is one with diverse and unlimited potential. Allowing children to engage in their interest and evolve into young adults ready for life well beyond middle school.
SEE YOU AT SUMMER CAMP!
MONDAY, JUNE 25 - FRIDAY, AUGUST 10

Sign up early!
Camps filled up quickly last year