New Parent Welcome & Social

Tuesday, September 7, 2010
7:00 PM - LeVecke Center
Freshman & Transfer Parents
this event is for you!
Come learn about the many ways to
become a part of the Mater Dei family.
Get your questions answered and
meet other new parents.
Win raffle prizes!
For more information contact
Gail Goitia, Parent Activities Council President
at gail-goitia@stanfordalumni.org

Back To School Nights

Freshman & Sophomore Parents
Tuesday, September 14
6:30 PM - Classrooms

Junior & Senior Parents
Tuesday, September 21
6:30 PM - Classrooms
Parents will visit each of their
student’s classes. Teachers will
provide a better understanding
of the curriculum and classroom
expectations.

Guidance Column

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Sept. 8 | Senior Parent/Student Night  
7:00 PM - LeVecke Center |
| Sept. 10 | SAT Reasoning & Subject Tests  
registration deadline for Oct 9 test |
| Sept. 11 | ACT Test at Mater Dei  
7:30 AM - 1:00 PM |
| Sept. 11 | Princeton Review classroom SAT course begins |
| Sept. 17 | ACT Registration deadline for Oct 23 test |
| Sept. 23 | Best Prep SAT Tutoring begins |
| Sept. 27 | NHS Applications available in Guidance Office |
| Sept. 28 | CSF Signups begin in Guidance & Counseling office |
| Oct. 9 | SAT Reasoning & SAT Subject Tests  
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM |
| Oct. 23 | ACT Test at Mater Dei  
7:30 AM - 1:00 PM |

26th Annual Family Mass & Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, September 26, 2010
Mass begins at 9:00 AM in the Grotto
A pancake breakfast will be served in Shamrock Plaza
and the LeVecke Center following Mass ($5 per person)
Order your tickets online today at www.materdei.org/familymass
We extend a special invitation to all Mater Dei Grandparents
as they will be honored at this event.
This year’s outreach will benefit Mater Dei Financial Aid
(providing need-based financial aid to current students)
Volunteers needed
Please contact Lisa Mendizal ‘86, Director of Special Events
at lmendizal@materdei.org or (714) 850-9527

Mater Dei High School in the Diocese of Orange, mindful of its mission to be witness to the love of Christ for all, believes every person, as a child of God, regardless of race, condition, or age, has equal dignity and an inalienable right to an education. Therefore, no qualified student will be denied admission to this school on the basis of sex, race, color, or national origin.
Princeton Review: As part of The Princeton Review’s partnership with MDHS, the SAT and ACT Comprehensive courses will continue to be offered on campus. The program is made up of 30 hours of live instruction, 4 full-length practice tests, and 24/7 access to the Online Student Center. Friday Extra Help is a no-cost tutoring service, held in our classroom sites. The Comprehensive SAT or ACT program held at Mater Dei is discounted to $899 - regardless of the test date for which you choose to prepare. Start dates and schedules are available online at www.princetonreview.com or by calling (949) 553-9411.

CSF Signups: Remember to bring $5 and last semester’s report card from June 2010 to sign up on your assigned date, for all grades as follows:

- Tuesday, September 28 – A-D
- Wednesday, September 29 – E-K
- Thursday, September 30 – L-P
- Friday, October 1 – Q-Z

COUNSELOR ASSIGNMENT: The Academic Counselors are assigned by STUDENT LAST NAME. The counselor assignment is as follows for grades 10 -12:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Counselor Name</th>
<th>Direct Telephone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>Ab-Arm, D-G</td>
<td>Mrs. McCracken</td>
<td>714-850-9566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>H-K</td>
<td>Mrs. Bauer</td>
<td>714-850-9567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>Arn-Bor, L-N</td>
<td>Ms. Ringo</td>
<td>714-850-9563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>Bos-Cask, O-R</td>
<td>Mrs. Kent</td>
<td>714-850-9562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>Cast-Cw, S-Z</td>
<td>Ms. McElroy</td>
<td>714-850-9564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College &amp; Career Center</td>
<td>Ms. Castro</td>
<td>714-850-9561</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9th Grade: Incoming 9th grade students are assigned to a counselor by alphabetical order in order to create balanced counseling loads. Counselors for 9th grade students will be listed on the students’ schedule cards. At the end of the 9th grade year, students are assigned their permanent counselors by the above alpha split.

COLLEGE AND CAREER RESOURCE CENTER

Welcome back! Hopefully you had a restful, yet exciting summer and are ready to get into the swing of things again. It is never too early to start preparing for college, so check the “Things to Do this Month” section on the College and Career Center page on the Mater Dei website to keep up to date on what you need to do at www.materdei.org/ccrc.

Here are some things that should be done during the month of September to stay on schedule:

Seniors: Hopefully many of you spent time this summer visiting colleges, working on your personal statement, studying for the SAT/ACT and making your final list of colleges. If you were one of these students, congratulations! You’re well on your way through the application process.

Juniors: Your job this year is to absorb as much information as possible about college. Research different majors, visit colleges, talk to the college reps that visit during lunchtime, come into the CCRC and look through guidebooks and videos, intern or volunteer in a career field that interests you . . . you get the picture, right?

Sophomores and Freshmen: Start off your semester right by studying, staying current in your reading assignments, and turning in all of your homework on time. The number one thing that colleges look for in students are good grades and the strength of your schedule (meaning that you are taking the highest level classes available to you). Also, begin to read about colleges and careers that may interest you. Get involved in one or two activities outside of the classroom that you really enjoy, such as community service, sports, music, or a hobby. Extra curricular activities will help you enjoy high school more and increase the chances of getting into your dream college.

For additional info, please visit Ms. Castro in the College and Career Center. She can also be reached at (714) 850-9561 or mcastro@materdei.org

Muth Family Learning Center
Gear Up For Success!

The 2010-2011 school year welcomes new and returning students, parents, faculty and staff to MDHS. What will it take for us to be successful this year? How is success measured? What role does challenge play in success?

Many positively recognized people in the world have commented on “success”, theirs and others. There is no need to reinvent the wheel to define success. The Grouse Garden assembles the words of popular voices/artists on many topics, including success. We certainly cannot say it any better than these words:

“...In order to succeed you must fail...” - Anthony J. D’Angelo, The College Blue Book

“...Success without honor is an unseasoned dish. It will satisfy your hunger, but it won’t taste good.” - Joe Paterno

“That man is successful who has lived well, laughed often, and loved much, who has gained the respect of the intelligent men and the love of children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his task; who leaves the world better than he found it, whether by an improved poppy, a perfect poem, or a rescued soul; who never lacked appreciation of earth’s beauty or failed to express it; who looked for the best in others and gave the best he had.” - Robert Louis Stevenson

Invest in your personal growth, come discover all that the Muth Family Learning Center has to offer you. For more info, please call (714) 841-3694 or email Marilyn Wilson at mwilson@materdei.org.

Marilyn Wilson, Director/Learning Specialist, B.A. (English), Teacher/Reading Specialist

WEB CALENDAR LINKS
School Calendar

SPORTS SCHEDULE LINKS
Football
Cross Country
Girls Golf
Girls Tennis
Girls Volleyball
Boys Waterpolo

The Lumen is a publication of Mater Dei High School’s Office of Advancement & Alumni Relations. For front page advertisement space (school events only), please contact Lisa Mendiaz ’86, Director of Special Events & Publications at lmendiaz@materdei.org or (714) 850-9527.
**Emilee Brown**

*September Student of the Month and ASB President, is a poised, confident and passionate leader. Along with her fellow ASB officers, Emilee will guide Mater Dei through an amazing year of student events, dances and club activities. She will speak at many events throughout the school year for students, parents, prospective Mater Dei families, alumni and friends of Mater Dei. Emilee will be heard on a daily basis leading the campus in morning prayer.*

In June 2010, Emilee spoke at the Annual Founder’s Circle & Ring of Honor Dinner. As she greeted the guests, she shared the impact MD had on her life at a young age. “When I was growing up, neighbors and friends would ask where I was going to high school. I would confidently reply ‘Mater Dei High School. I’m going to be a Monarch.’ It never occurred to me how illogical my response was as we lived a mere two thousand miles away in a suburb of Chicago. My parents, as graduates of the class of ’81 and ’82, had instilled Monarch pride in me at a very young age. I could feel their love for their alma mater, and that is exactly what I wanted for myself. God works in mysterious ways and luckily we moved back just in time for my siblings and me to attend this school.”

Having taken Honors Biology, Honors English I, II, III, Honors Spanish, Honors Chemistry, AP US History, AP Biology, AP Government, AP English and three years of Honors Chamber Choir, Emilee carries an overall GPA of 4.2. She is a member of National Honor Society, California Scholarship Federation and Renaissance.

Being involved in campus life at Mater Dei is a wonderful way to capture all that Mater Dei has to offer. Student government is important to Emilee. She served as ASB commissioner of daily, social, and special events her sophomore year, ASB Junior Class Vice President and this year is serving as ASB President.

In addition to ASB, Emilee has been a four year member of Mater Dei’s Choir. She was a member of Women’s Ensemble her freshman year and now enters her third year as a member of Honors Chamber Choir. She was also a member of the Mater Dei Freshman and Junior Varsity Volleyball teams. She will enter into her second year as President of Operation Smile, a club on campus. She has also served as an ambassador for Mater Dei Campus Ministry to provide relief to victims of Hurricane Katrina. “I was touched by the hospitality and generosity we received from every person in New Orleans and I loved seeing the impact our efforts had on their lives.”

Emilee is considering Columbia, Duke and USC where she plans to major in Pre-Law with a minor in music.

When asked about her favorite Mater Dei memory, Emilee said “I have many wonderful memories at Mater Dei. One in particular is singing the national anthem at the Corona Centennial game when my brother was a senior on the football team. My grandparents were in the crowd, as well as my uncles who are Mater Dei alumni. Having family and friends surround me, I felt the true meaning of the Mater Dei spirit.”

When reflecting back on her overall experience as a Monarch, Emilee says, “I would describe my Mater Dei experience as incredible. I have been surrounded by love and support for the past three years of my life which have helped me to grow into the person I am now.”

A member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Emilee’s parents are Mark ’81 and Linda (Hammond) Brown ’82 and her siblings are Michael ’08, Lindsay ’09 and Gerran ’15. The Browns live in Newport Beach.

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**Nick LaRosa**

*September Student of the Month, is a second generation Monarch who has made his own mark on Mater Dei.*

He carries a GPA of 4.0. The AP and Honors classes he has taken are AP Euro History, AP US History, AP US Government, Honors English, AP English, Honors Spanish II, III and AP Art History. Nick has been named to the Principal’s Honor Roll, is a RYLA (Rotary Youth Leaders Award) recipient and scored in the top 3% on PSAT/NMSQT earning Commended Student status by the College Board this past summer.

Nick is a four-year member of Mater Dei football and begins his second year on varsity this season. The Mater Dei football program encourages our athletes to be involved and give back to the community. As part of that commitment, Nick has been a four-year active member of FAM (Fellowship of Athletic Monarchs), participated in M4M (Monarchs For Marines) and a MD Youth Football Camp leader as both a junior and senior.

Nick jumped right into a leadership position at Mater Dei as ASB Freshman Class President. He will now enter his third year as a Senator, his fourth year as a member of the Red Wave and is a Campus Ministry Commissioner. Nick is a three-year member of National Honor Society, four-year member of Renaissance and California Scholarship Federation, serving as Vice President this school year. He has been a lector for school Masses during his four years and gave of his time as a Mater Dei retreat leader during his junior year. Nick has also served as a Mater Dei shadow host where he spent a day with a prospective Mater Dei student, giving them a glimpse of life at Mater Dei.

Leadership retreats that Nick attended were Rotary Leadership Camp, Notre Dame Vision and he had the privilege of representing Mater Dei this past summer at American Legion’s Boys State as a delegate and was awarded Lawyer of the Year.

Community service plays an important part in Nick’s life. He has given his time working in Lions Share, participating in the American Cancer Society Walk-a-Thon, and as a Boy Scout patrol leader.

Nick is considering USC, UCLA, UCSD and UCSB and plans to major in Business or Pre-Law.

A member of Mission Basilica San Juan Capistrano, Nick contributes to his church community as a cast member for Stations of the Cross during his freshman and sophomore years, Lector for Life Teen Masses sophomore – senior years. He has also participated as a Senior Altar Server (training new servers), a member of Life Teen, Vacation Bible School (VBS) leader and as a Lector for Parish Masses for the past four years.

“Many of my favorite MD experiences involve Mater Dei football. My favorite is how we came together as a team the summer before freshman year. It was amazing to be part of a group who went from strangers, for the most part, to a brotherhood that would last until senior year. It's an unexplainable feeling,” says Nick.

As a senior, preparing to leave Mater Dei, Nick describes his experience. “I think a lot of what made and continues to make Mater Dei a great place is the figures who stand out on campus and make you feel at home, whether it’s his Victor Bautista’s perpetually smiling face, Ms. Steves’ loving guidance, or the constant kindness of Mrs. Ringo and Mrs. Walsh. I’ve also been really lucky to have had the chance to meet and learn from individuals who are not only passionate teachers, but outstanding people, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Koppenheffer, Senora Head, and Mrs. Rollinson. My high school experience has been outstanding and I think a lot of that has to due with how I jumped in head first and got involved. Mater Dei is a big school and being involved makes you not just someone who goes here, but someone who is a part of Mater Dei. Being involved has defined my high school experience and helped me become the person I am. I can’t imagine my high school experience without it.”

A Mater Dei education is a LaRosa family tradition. Nick’s parents are Joe ’81 and Laura (Hrovat) LaRosa ’81 and brothers, Steven ’07 and Michael ’09. The LaRosas live in Mission Viejo.
An unbelievable night of Christmas magic!
A Mater Dei family tradition
For tickets and more information, please contact
Mr. Scott Melvin, Choral Director at smelvin@materdei.org or call (714) 850-9559