# WINGSPAN

**JANUARY 2022** 



# PASTOR RAY BENTLEY 1957-2022

With heavy hearts, we remember the founder of Maranatha Christian Schools, Pastor Ray Bentley. Pastor Ray had a vision to build a school and was able to watch as God revealed the plan, brick by brick. There are many students, teachers, and staff members who had a close relationship with him and his presence on campus is deeply missed.

The Bible specifically says, God is close to the brokenhearted and we are leaning on Him for peace and hope during this time. As a school family, we continue to pray for the Bentley Family and we are committed to supporting them in any way we can. In gearing up for registration for the next school year, Pastor Ray was thrilled to know that Maranatha Christian Schools has received an unprecedented number of new student applications in all of our divisions since the acceptance window opened on November 1st. We give the glory to God.

On a personal note, Ray Bentley was many things to me: he was my pastor, mentor, boss, and most importantly, my friend. Ten years ago I fell in love with Pastor Ray's vision for the school... a place where students could develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and discover their gifts and talents to go out into the world to transform it. We must continue to live out the vision of "Transformed Lives ... Transforming the World" more than ever before. I know I am resolved to do just that!

- Jess Hetherington, Superintendent



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# **HAPPENINGS IN HIGH SCHOOL**







### HISTORY IN THE MAKING

Twenty five of our High School students and four staff members returned from a memorable trip to Greece. They studied Biblical history, took part in sightseeing tours and had an opportunity to see God's fingerprints on present day as well as ancient culture. Traveling internationally during a pandemic is no easy feat. During routine testing, three of our students tested positive for Covid



and were quarantined in a Greek hotel for ten days. Our dedicated teacher, Kevin Pratt, stayed behind with these students as it was heartbreaking to miss the remainder of the trip. Mr. Pratt researched government protocols in multiple countries and found creative ways to bring each student home. It was an answer to prayer that all of those impacted eventually made it home safe and sound and now have quite the story to tell.

### STAFF SHOUT-OUT



# MR. KEVIN PRATT English and Literature Teacher

Mr. Pratt stayed behind with the quarantined students in Greece through Thanksgiving and made sure every student arrived home safely. "He went well above and beyond the call of duty. He's a great guy, completely self-less and sacrificed his own personal time to be with the kids."

-Principal Plotnik

### **SAVE THE DATE**

**JANUARY 22, 23, 29, 30** Clue on Stage

**FEBRUARY 21-25** 

**Presidents Week - No School** 

#### STAR STUDENT



# Sophomore

Emmy is not only a star basketball player for Maranatha with a 4.0 GPA, but her work ethic is unmatched. As the President of the Operation Christmas Child Ambassadors at MCS, Emmy diligently organized a fundraising basketball game and played a key role in assisting our High School through organizing and packing almost 2,000 OCC boxes. "It goes beyond the shoeboxes; she just has a heart to serve."

-Principal Plotnik

# **REACH FOR THE SKY IN JUNIOR HIGH**



#### STAFF SHOUT-OUT



### MRS. BROOKE JACK

#### History Teacher

"Mrs. Jack's Mesopotamia Museum project brought history to life. She also invited parents in to learn more about the era and it made for a great family dinner conversation."

- Principal Kelly Rodriguez

# WORK HARD, PLAY HARD

This December was the first time our Junior High students took part in midterm exams. The idea was to build a bridge between Junior High and High School and introduce study habits early.

Their hard work paid off. Our "12 Days of Christmas" events brought out the friendly competition between our Junior High Houses. From 80's day, to 'Minute to Win It" games, the students also competed in dodgeball, ugly Christmas sweater contests, and many other fun events.







#### **STAR STUDENTS**



LEX SHUEY

#### 8th Grade

"Alex is the hands and feet of Christ. He is a true spark of joy and goes out of his way to be a friend."

- Principal Kelly Rodriguez



### JOSHAN TAMBIAH

8<sup>th</sup> Grade

"Joshan is a friend to all. When he sees a need, he jumps right in to help. He played the piano for our Info Night and I enjoy watching him break out of his comfort zone to help others."

- Principal Kelly Rodriguez

# **SAVE THE DATE**

#### **FEBRUARY 21-25**

**Presidents Week - No School** 

#### **FEBRUARY 23**

"Love the Difference" Chapel

#### **MARCH 2**

"I Have a Dream" Chapel

# **EAGLES IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**





### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

Thanks to the donations from our wonderful families and the hard work of our students, MCS packed 2,900 boxes for disadvantaged children. As a result of all of the Maranatha OCC ministry efforts in 2021, and the favor and blessings of God, over 22,000 children and families will come to profess faith in Jesus!

#### "MY HEART WAS TO BUILD A COMMUNITY NEAR AND FAR."

-OCC PROJECT LEADER, BETSY STOUT

By the end of this year, the OCC team packed 8,620 boxes, Maranatha Chapel families and ministries packed 1,980 boxes and Maranatha Christian Schools packed 2,900 boxes. That is a total of 13,500 gospel opportunity shoeboxes this year! An increase of 160% over last year and 62% over the year before.

#### **FABULOUS FIELD TRIPS**



TK AT BATES NUT FARM



THIRD GRADE AT THE SAN DIEGO ZOO SAFARI PARK



FIRST GRADE AT THE LIVING COAST DISCOVERY CENTER





## **SAVE THE DATE**

FEBRUARY 14 Valentine's Day Dress

**FEBRUARY 21-25** 

**Presidents Week - No School** 

**FEBRUARY 27** 

Father/Daughter Dance



#### **STAFF SHOUT-OUT**

We want to welcome all of our new staff members in the Elementary division for the 2021-2022 school year.



ALEXIS BAILEY

Kindergarten



JOBIE TABER
First Grade



ERICA CAMARILLO Second Grade



CASSIE PIZARRO



MARINA DAY
Spanish



LISA PEARSON P.E.

# THE EAGLES NEST... INSIDE OUR PRESCHOOL





IT WAS OUR
MISSION TO
SPREAD THE
LOVE
OF CHRIST
RIGHT HERE IN
SAN DIEGO.

## WHAT A BLESSING!

Filling Blessing Boxes for children in need in our community filled our hearts with pure joy. It was our mission to spread the love of Christ right here in San Diego. Our preschool families filled shoeboxes with toiletries, small toys and candy. Shortly before Christmas, the boxes were transferred to Maranatha Chapel's "Hope in the Streets" program to bless local families. Thanks to the incredible generosity of our preschoolers, the "Hope in the Streets" program distributed 58 boxes.



#### PRESCHOOL PAGEANT

Our preschoolers shared the story of the Nativity in front of a packed crowd. The children performed the show for classrooms as well as an outdoor evening crowd for extended family members and friends.

Our sweet little angels rehearsed for weeks for this special performance. It was a beautiful opportunity to share the Nativity story while watching our little ones shine on stage. Thank you to our teachers and staff members who worked hard to make this all possible.

#### THANKSGIVING FEAST

Our preschoolers sang songs and performed a Thanksgiving skit for their parents. Students and families shared a feast together in thankful fellowship.



#### **STAFF SHOUT-OUT**



#### MRS. OLIVIA BOND

3 Year Olds Teacher

"Mrs. Bond is gifted at playing the guitar, singing and leading prayerful worship that touches the hearts of the preschool staff."

- Patrice Andrews, Preschool Director

#### SAVE THE DATE

**FEBRUARY 21-25** 

**Presidents Week - No School** 

#### **STAR STUDENT**



#### COOPER SHUMATE

#### Mrs. Thomas' Kinder-Prep Class

"Cooper loves learning and listening to Bible stories. His love for Jesus is strong and exemplifies the traits from the fruit of the spirit. Cooper's demeanor and actions are a great example for his fellow classmates."

- Patrice Andrews, Preschool Director

# **SOARING IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

"WE HAD
ALMOST
TWO
THOUSAND
PEOPLE
THERE,
AND THAT
IS JUST
GOD."



# SAVE THE DATE



#### **CLUE ON STAGE** (updated dates/time)

January 22, 23, 29, 30 @ 7:30p.m. Performances at MCS Gym Mezzanine. Adult tickets are \$10, student tickets are \$5. Limited seating tickets will go on sale January 3<sup>rd</sup>.



# RODGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN'S CINDERELLA

March 11 & 18 @7

March 12 & 19 @ 11:00 a.m.

March 13 & 20 @ 7 p.m.

Performances at Maranatha Chapel. Adult tickets are \$15, student tickets are \$12. Tickets go on sale February 28th.





# **ELF JR. SHINES ON STAGE**

Success!! "Elf Jr." was a record-breaking event for Maranatha Christian Schools. Almost 2,000 people attended the show in one weekend. Performing Arts Director Jayne Howard

described it as, "Very fun and uplifting. It was very fun to watch, direct and create. We had almost two thousand people there, and that is just God."

Our school-wide Christmas concert was an opportunity to celebrate the Lord's birth through music and song. From the bands to the choirs, to the worship team and the Elementary performances, almost all of our students had an opportunity to take part in these festive shows.



# **MARANATHA EAGLES SPORTS**



"I CAN DO
ALL THINGS
THROUGH
HIM WHO
GIVES ME
STRENGTH."

PHILIPPIANS 4:13

# EAGLE APPLAUSE TO JUNIOR HIGH FLAG FOOTBALL TEAM

The Junior High Flag Football Team won the  $1^{st}$  ever South Coast Middle School League Championship. This hard-working, dedicated team went undefeated for the Fall 2021 season under head coach Bill Rodgers. Go MCS!

As we enter into 2022, our winter sports are well underway. We are cheering on our boys and girls basketball teams, soccer teams, Junior High softball and gearing up for spring sports. Please check the Maranatha Christian Schools Athletics website for game schedules. Come cheer on our Eagles. MaranathaEagles.com



#### Maranatha Eagles.com

Highlights
Photos
Videos
Game Schedules
Try-Out Information

### ATHLETES IN THE SPOTLIGHT



# RODAYLIN MINA Junior - Girl's Golf

Rodaylin is one of the Top 10 female golfers in San Diego County. The Junior at Maranatha Christian Schools qualified for State and was named "Golfer of the Year" in the Pacific League. She has set every school record for Girl's Golf.



BELLA SWORD
Freshman - Cross Country

Bella Sword was named "Runner of the Year" for the Pacific League. The Maranatha Christian Schools Freshman qualified for State and has broken several school Cross Country records.



MATEUS BEHREND Senior- Boy's Basketball

Mateus scored nine 3-point shots in a single game. The point guard broke the all-time school record.