



ROUNDTABLE

NEWS AND VIEWS FOR AND FROM KNIGHTS

MCS Music Program

by Danishelle Javillonar and Giselle Ivy Leong, from Mount Carmel School's Introduction to Media Communications



MCS Music Program Director, Julian Greening (right), leads the school's Band Program at their first public concert, the Spring Concert, held earlier this year.

When Julian Greening arrived on Saipan last year, he was eager to bring his passion for music to the school, which committed to reviving its music program by hiring Greening.

Greening came to the school with an extensive background in music. Greening earned his Bachelor's of Music in Music Education from Bowling Green State University in Ohio and was awarded the university's prestigious Music Talent Award upon graduating. Afterwards, he went on to teach band and music at several schools throughout Japan. Greening has also performed around the world in dozens of musical productions, including *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Singing in the Rain*, and *South Pacific*. He also performed at Carnegie Hall under the direction of H. Robert Reynolds, the principal conductor of the wind ensemble for the University of Southern California., and even performed with the alt-punk band Weezer during their 2008 North American tour.

When asked about his lifelong commitment to music, Greening said, "I was born and raised in Japan, but since music a universal language, it helped connect with people when I studied in the US." He added, "Music helps us connect with people."

Since coming to the school, Greening has launched a rigorous program that includes

classes and after-school practice almost every day of the week. The program includes students from the 5th grade to Seniors, and even some faculty members. Through these classes and practices, Greening and the student musicians prepare for numerous performances, including the school's annual Christmas program and the Spring Band Concert. Greening is also working with the school's Theatre Club and local musicians to perform in the club's upcoming musical, "Tasi".

Greening's drive is having an impact on his students. Miyuki Takayama, currently a 7th grader at the school, began her music experiences last year after wanting to try something new. After joining the program, Takayama believes she gained insightful lessons such as learning to be committed to doing something you love. "I learned to play something different even though it takes up a lot of my time, and I have fun with other members of the program." She recommends the music program for anyone interested in music and is patient enough to become committed.

Another student of the music program, Eunkyuu "Joey" Hong from 7th grade, is optimistic with expanding his musical skills with the program. Though he previously played the violin for years, Hong joined the program last year to try woodwind instruments. After joining the program,

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10 Good Study Habits Part 1

by Sylvan Learning



Once the shiny, freshness of back to school wears off, students and parents know it's time to get down to business. Particularly for students heading to middle school or high school, the homework assignments become tougher, workloads get heavier and staying ahead of the curve becomes more of a challenge.

As a parent, you may ask, "What is the 'secret behind the A'?" While having effective study skills may be overlooked on the academic journey, we've seen this be the tipping point in making good students into great students. We've compiled a list of 10 good study habits for your tween or teen to help set him or her up for a productive school year.

1. Get Organized. Between homework, tests, and extracurricular activities, it's all too easy for things to slip through the cracks. A planner can help your child keep everything organized. Students should write down assignments, appointments and to-do lists, then review items in the planner at both the beginning and end of the day to stay on track.

2. Know the Expectations. Students shouldn't have any surprises when it comes to how and what they will be graded on. By middle school and high school, most teachers will provide a course outline or syllabus, which can serve as a guide for the semester. If expectations aren't clear, don't wait until a bad report card comes in the mail. Your student should feel comfortable approaching teachers with questions about grading and assignments at any time. If this is not the case, it may be time for you as a parent to step in.

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Announcements

Vaccinations

Vaccination letters/consent forms must be signed and returned to homeroom teachers or the main office AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Failure to comply may result in suspension. Consent forms are NEEDED for when the CNMI Department of Public Health makes their first visit to MCS to give out vaccinations.

Make-Up Photo Day

The last day to have your school photo taken will be next Friday Oct. 26, 2018. Also, if students ordered and paid for "Fun Photos" but have not taken them yet, please do so on that day.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Jill Mallari and Reica Ramirez for their impressive performance at the Valentine Sengebau Poetry Competition. Much thanks also to their coaches, Ms. Aldan and Ms. Alejo, for all their guidance and support. GO KNIGHTS!!!

In the Future

MathCourt Competition

TOMORROW, Saturday, October 20
Kagman High School

Senior Hot Lunch

TOMORROW, Saturday, October 20

Senior Ice Cream Sales

Sophomore Bake Sale
Monday, October 22

Senior Ice Cream Sales

Tuesday, October 23

Chamorro Club Shave Ice Stand
Wednesday, October 24

Parent Assembly

1st Quarter Report Card Distribution
Wednesday, October 24, 5:00–7:00 pm

Halloween Festival

Saturday, October 27
6:00-10:00 pm
Maturana Building

Sports Calendar

CCOPSSA Volleyball JV Finals

Tuesday, October 23, at 3:30 pm
MCS v SCS

ESLR of the Week

#5. *Appreciate traditions, customs and beliefs of diverse world-wide community.*

MCS Music

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he said, "It was interesting to learn different kinds of music and exciting to play to get better at it." Joshua looks forward to expanding his range of musical instruments by learning other types of music like percussion.

Hong also is thankful that the program lets him bond with those of the same interest. "It's really nice that we can hang out with other groups of people with the same interest."

Many look forward to the future of Mount Carmel School's music program. Jan Bobadilla, a Senior and more experienced musician, is optimistic for the music program. "I look forward to hearing the sound of our band develop, and I believe Mr. Greening can make that happen."

Greening hopes his program will inspire more students to enjoy music and grow their musical talent. He hopes that students will receive the same exposure to music as he did, so that they may be inspired to delve into the study and practice of music. "Music is our universal language, so we can all learn how to speak it."

Study Habits

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3. Designate a Study Area. Yes, studying at the local coffee shop may seem like a good idea, but not if there are constantly people interrupting or other disruptions. Even at home, studying in front of the TV won't be the best use of your son or daughter's time. Help your child by providing a quiet, well-lit, low-traffic space for study time. Take it one step further and institute a "communications blackout" policy with no cell phones or social media allowed until schoolwork is done.

4. Develop a Study Plan. First things first: students need to know when a test will take place, the types of questions that will be included and the topics that will be covered. From there, your student should create a study plan and allow ample time to prepare – there's nothing worse than cramming the night before an exam. You can help by buying a wall calendar and asking him or her to assign topics and tasks for each day leading up to a due date or exam. Setting goals for each session is also key to success. If your child needs some help developing a study plan, our study skills program is a great resource! Our tutors will work with your child to develop an individualized plan that fits his or her needs, while instilling effective time management tips and organizational skills.



The Mount Carmel School
Parent Council
is the governance body for
our school's parents.

Along with the school's
Faculty Council
and Student Council,
the Parent Council works with
the school's Leadership Team
and Board of Directors
to support the school
with fundraising,
collaborative planning,
and policy development.

All parents and guardians
are welcome
to join the Parent Council
as representatives
for their children's
respective grade levels.
Parent Council officers
are elected among its
grade level representatives.

Election of new officers
for the new school year
will take place on
Thursday, November 8.

*For more information about the
Parent Council,
please contact Tina Crisostomo at
tbcrisostimo@gmail.com.*