



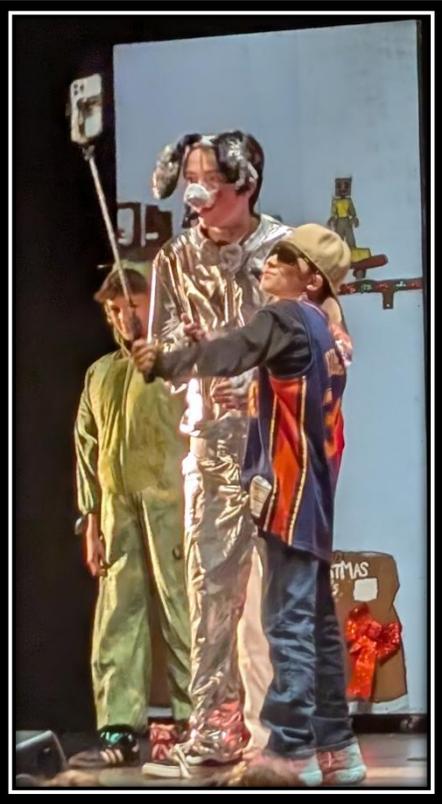
Dear MLCS Families,

Happy New Year 2026 **A.D.** – “**Anno Domini**” - the year of our Lord! Although the scholars since the 1700s have worked hard to change that reference from Before Christ (BC) to Before the Common Era (BCE) and Anno Domini (AD) to the Common Era (CE), believers know what happened 2026 years ago that forever changed how we reference time all over the world. The Lord Jesus Christ, forever securing His footprint in the path of humanity, bringing redemption and resurrection power to the hearts and minds of those who know him and love him. Every time anyone, anywhere writes 2026, He is inherently glorified. In that we greatly rejoice.

Glorifying our Lord should always be our goal. We thank God for opportunities to do so in our personal lives and our corporate actions. The children worked hard to honor the Lord as they sang about the true meaning of Christmas at our production in December. Here are just a few photos captured that evening:



*Kudos to our team of 8<sup>th</sup> grade actors who worked hard to master their characters.*



**THANK YOU MLCS Parents & PTF Leadership** for organizing and providing all that was needed for us to enjoy a Thanksgiving meal together. The smiles on the faces are your reward!



**Well Mannered and Grateful!** As I walked the room during the Thanksgiving luncheon, I was impressed with the kind manners of students as they waited to be served. They said “please” and “thank you,” made good use of their fellowship time, and cleaned up after themselves. Many students remained far past dismissal time to help clear the tables and put away chairs. Kudos to the parents for instilling such character in their children.



**Top Scores!** We check student progress in all grades at several points across the year to guide our teaching, adjusting instruction as needed to help students meet critical benchmarks. The teachers are very familiar with these assessments, but they occasionally rope me in to administer the 1-1 fluency tests so that they do not lose class time teaching. When Mrs. Federman asked me to assess her 4<sup>th</sup> graders last month, I was happy to help. When I compiled the results, I was thrilled.

We need for our students to hit at least the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile in the nation for their reading fluency to have sufficient skills to be successful in the academic arena. It is our campus goal for MLCS students to hit the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile, with the hopes that at least a few of them will hit the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile. Imagine my excitement when I realized that eleven students (more than half of the class) ranked in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile. In addition, the majority of the remaining students were in the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile.

Our fourth-grade students were on the front end of a transition we made years ago to a reading program that we believed would enable all students to become excellent readers and writers. It is a delight to see that our decision has been a fruitful one for our students. May God continue to bless us with wisdom to educate our children very well.

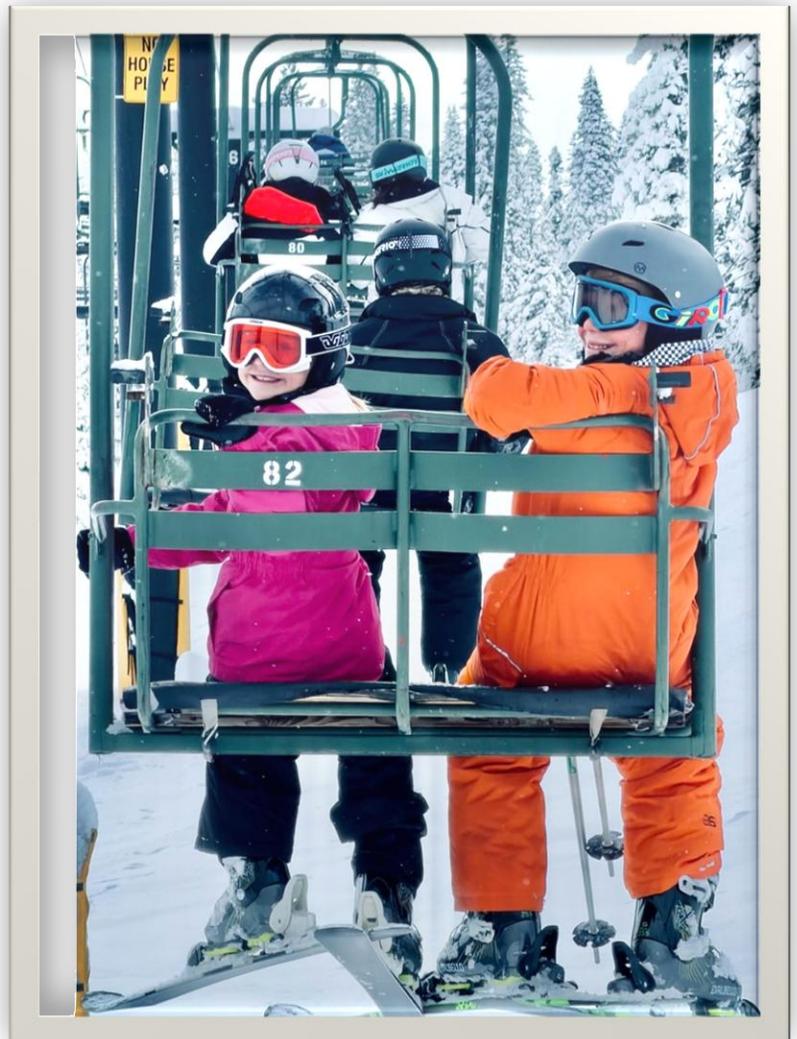
**Deputy Brockett Building MLCS Connections:** Tuolumne County is committed to being proactive in providing resource officer support at local schools, including Mother Lode Christian. She stops by from time to time to become familiar with our campus and the students and to be an on-going encouraging presence. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade class had an opportunity to interview her and just hang out. They hit it off well, and my understanding is that she later went to a local football game because some of our 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls invited her to come. We appreciate the personal attention she gives.





**Ski Day Opportunities:** How blessed we are to live in the Sierra Nevada mountains. We had close to 100 children take advantage of our first ski day opportunity, and the slopes were beautiful. The Christmas snow was fresh on the trees and mountain tops, and it stopped falling just in time for our first visit.

Additional ski dates are set for January 23<sup>rd</sup> (grades 3-8), February 6<sup>th</sup> (grades K-8), and March 2<sup>nd</sup> (grades K-8). A sign-up link is sent out to families approximately two weeks in advance of each ski day. Feel free to contact the main office or Julie Smith for more information.



We welcome all our MLCS students, staff, and families back to school in this new year. We are hoping you enjoyed the Christmas break, the celebration of Our Lord's birth and are ready to jump into 2026. We look forward to serving with you in this new year. Blessings to all for a wonderful year ahead.

MLCS School Board

Rise up in splendor Jerusalem. Your light has come, the glory of The Lord shines upon you.  
Isaiah 60:1-2



*All Things New! What an amazing thing it is to consider the newness of life God offers us every day. To come into His presence for renewal of heart and mind, to be filled with living water, and to know that He does that in the lives of all people who call upon Him is beyond comprehension. May we each walk in the knowledge of that this year until our Lord returns and makes ALL things new.*

Praising the One Who Makes Us New,  
*Stephanie Torok*

Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>: Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – NO SCHOOL  
Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>: Board Meeting at 4:30 in the Chapel  
Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>: Ski Day Opportunity for Grades 3-8 (SCHOOL OPEN)  
Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>: Ski Day Opportunity for Grades K-8 (SCHOOL OPEN)  
Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>: Lincoln's Birthday – NO SCHOOL  
Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>: Balloon-O-Grams Delivered 😊  
Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>: Presidents' Day – NO SCHOOL  
Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>: JUBILEE at the Fairgrounds!

\*\*\*For additional sports & field trip events go to the "Interactive Calendar" on our website\*\*\*

\*\*\*Moms in Prayer\*\*\*  
Every Friday morning at 8:10 in the Chapel. See Deborah Lucich for more information.