



Spring 2025

Parent/Student MONTHLY NEWS NOTES

Monthly Message

Message from Executive Director Christopher Geis



Gaining Faith My Way: A Journey Inward and Outward

Over the years, I've collected a handful of personal sayings and life lessons—one of my favorites being, *"You know what you know, and you don't know what you don't know."* I'll be the first to admit: I don't know a lot. But I *am* committed to always learning, growing, and staying open to new experiences. That openness means recognizing that *my way* isn't necessarily the *best* way—and certainly not the *only* way.

Growth often comes from dialogue. When we exchange ideas, they evolve—sometimes even transform entirely. Reading, whether for enjoyment or education, can expand our thinking far beyond our immediate perspective. When we engage in discussion, read deeply, and reflect openly, we usually arrive at far better outcomes than if we had gone it alone.

But there's another essential part of learning and experiencing life that we often overlook: our *interior self*. This is the spiritual side of our being—the part connected to something greater than ourselves. You might call it God, a higher power, universal energy, or simply love. No matter what you name it, this connection invites us into a deeper understanding of who we are and what we're meant to become.

When we ignore that inner voice or lack a sense of spiritual grounding, we often try to fill the emptiness with external things: wealth, pleasure, power, and recognition. While these might satisfy temporarily, they can't truly fill the deeper need. Only through love—and by creating space for a higher purpose—can we experience true fulfillment.

While I've spent much of my life learning to walk *my way*—gaining insights, learning lessons, and refining my beliefs—there comes a time when we are invited to walk not just our way, but *The Way*.



Frank Sinatra's - "My Way"

The **Way of St. James**, also known as **El Camino de Santiago**, is more than just a physical journey. It's a spiritual path—a pilgrimage that mirrors the inward journey we all must take. It calls us to let go of ego, listen deeply to our inner voice, and walk in faith, love, and humility. In this way, we step beyond ourselves and into something greater.

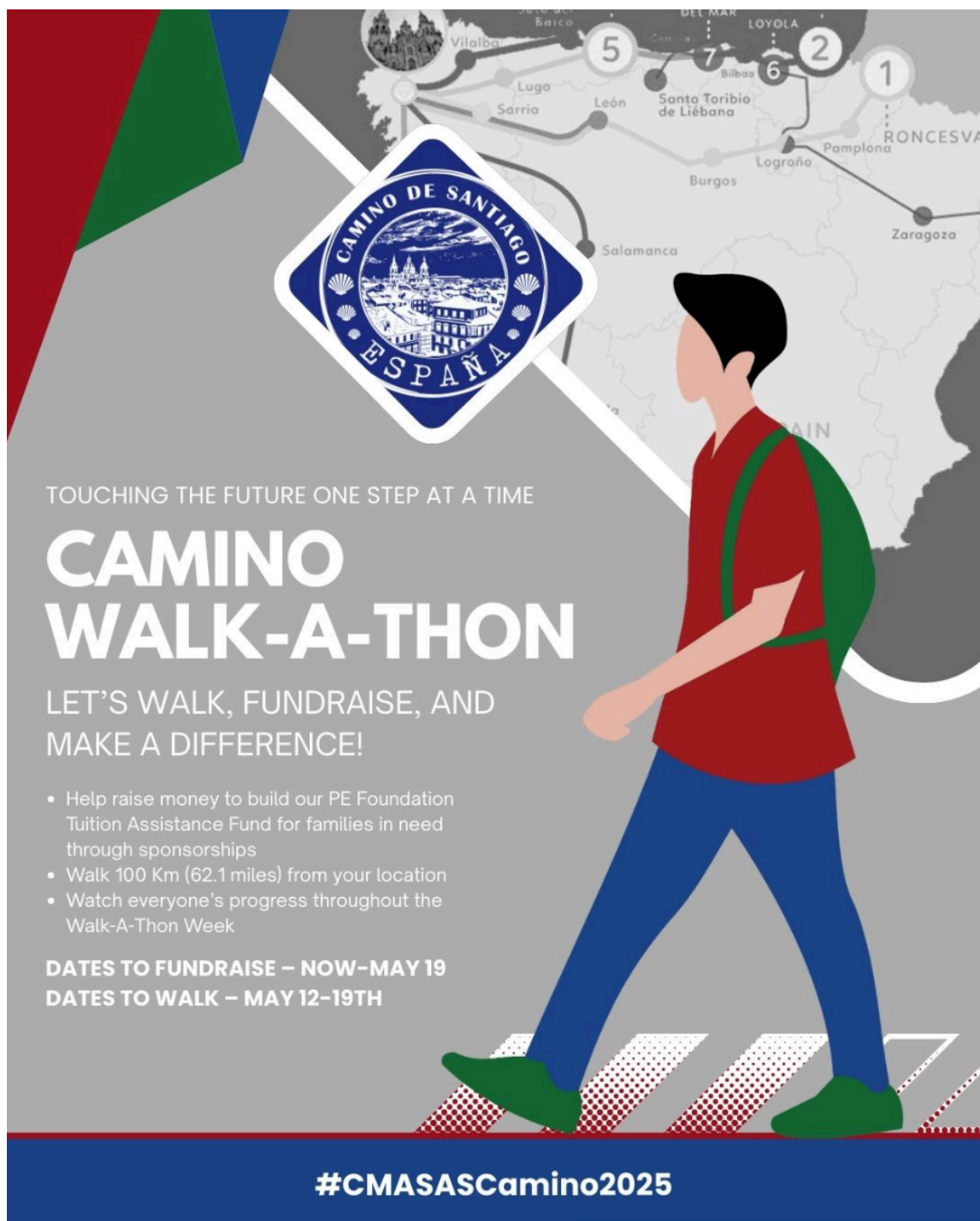
This spring, we're inviting our entire CMASAS community—students, parents, staff, friends, and extended family—on a unique journey. Starting May 12th, we'll be walking the historic Camino de Santiago in Spain. But you don't

In our February 2024 newsletter, we explored different types of love. At the top of the list was *agape*—a selfless, unconditional, spiritual love. It's the kind of love that transcends the moment, the ego, and even reason. It's the love that grounds all goodness. As human beings, we all crave this love. It helps us live authentic, meaningful lives.

You've probably caught yourself deep in thought before, talking to yourself, maybe even having a full-on conversation in your head—until someone snaps you back to reality. That's your *interior life* at work. It's the voice inside that guides your moral compass, evaluates your choices, and searches for purpose. It's more than what we do—it's who we *are* on the inside.

need to fly across the world to join us. We're hosting a virtual walk-a-thon so *everyone* can participate—right where you are.

This is more than a fundraiser. It's a chance to ***Walk With Purpose***—to reflect, to reconnect with your interior self, and to root yourself more deeply in *agape* love. Every step taken helps us raise funds for the **Personalized Education Foundation**, giving more students access to a world-class education—especially those who may not otherwise have the opportunity. So lace up your shoes, open your heart, and join us on this journey. Let's walk in love, together!



TOUCHING THE FUTURE ONE STEP AT A TIME

CAMINO WALK-A-THON

LET'S WALK, FUNDRAISE, AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

- Help raise money to build our PE Foundation Tuition Assistance Fund for families in need through sponsorships
- Walk 100 Km (62.1 miles) from your location
- Watch everyone's progress throughout the Walk-A-Thon Week

DATES TO FUNDRAISE – NOW–MAY 19
DATES TO WALK – MAY 12–19TH

#CMASASCamino2025

What's New?



New Spirit Gear for the Class of 2025!

We added some fun CMASAS Class of 2025 options to our Spirit Store. Check it out and purchase your t-shirt or sweatshirt now.

[Spirit Store Link](#)

Download Our App!

SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS
ALL IN ONE PLACE

[Download Now](#)

www.cmasas.org

We Have A New CMASAS APP!

Students and Parents: Check out our free, school app which consolidates our social media content from Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter along with important links from our website, and puts them all in one place for easy access.

You can now see our posts even if you do not have any social media pages. You can also access our spirit store, make a payment, course catalog, clubs, student spotlight, alumni, newsletters, blogs, resources, testimonial pages, and genius log-in from the app!

Share Your Story: Testimonials

Please consider sharing your story - including your experience at CMASAS, passions, and goals with other families interested in sending their kids to an online school. Fill out this form and send us a photo so we can share on the website and social media: [testimonial](#) form.

Tuition Assistance Application Open Until April 30, 2025

You have until April 30, 2025 to submit an application for tuition assistance for the following school year. Here is the link: <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/4Q3WK>

Parent Ambassador Program

SAVE THE DATE!

**Our Next All-Committee Parent Ambassador Meeting
is Monday, May 5th at 4pm PST**

Please sign up to receive an invitation to these meetings!

We are also looking for a new Personalized Education Foundation Board Member if you are interested in supporting that aspect of our school. You can make that known in the sign-up form.

We look forward to working together with you to continue to improve CMASAS and foster a more inclusive and engaging community!

Also, you may want to join the [CMASAS Parent Group on Facebook](#).

Sign-Up Form

Thank You for Sharing CMASAS with Others

New Summer School Program

We will be launching a new Summer School program for new/prospective middle and high school students, who will have an opportunity to take 1-3 courses before Friday, August 29, 2025 to test drive our school.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US SPREAD THE WORD AND SHARING WITH YOUR FRIENDS!



CMASAS SUMMER PROGRAM 2025



Flexible, self-paced online courses for middle and high school students through our private, accredited online school

Who Should Enroll?

- Families wanting to **"test drive"** online education before committing to a full-time enrollment
- Students affected by disruptions** (e.g., relocations, emergencies, school transitions)
- Middle & High School Students** looking to **catch up on credits** or **get ahead**
- Middle schoolers** wanting to explore **high school-level courses**
- 10th & 11th graders** seeking **courses for college readiness**

Program Dates and Enrollment Deadlines:

Enroll by April 30th
1-3 courses (starts May 1st)
Enroll by May 28th
1-2 courses (starts June 1st)
Enroll by July 14th
1 course (starts July 15th)
Summer Break
June 28th - July 13th

Why Enroll?



Credit Recovery and Academic Acceleration

Catch up on credits or get ahead



Explore 200+ Courses

Including STEAM, Career Electives, Broad Language Offerings



Self-paced & flexible

Travel while learning, learn anywhere, anytime. Reduce stress and study on your schedule

Program Completion Date: Friday August 29, 2025

Visit our website to enroll today!

www.cmasas.org

New Student Referral Program

We will be rolling out a new Referral Program. When a family refers CMASAS to another family, they will receive: a \$100 Amazon Gift Card for each referral, and waived registration fee (valued at \$325/Annual or \$200/Semester) for their next enrollment agreement. The family being referred will no longer qualify for a discount.

For Alumni and CMASAS Faculty/Staff: When you refer a friend, you will receive:

- A **\$100 Amazon Gift Card** for each successful referral* ***Gift cards will be sent once the referred student has completed their first 90 days of enrollment.**

For Graduating Seniors: Graduating seniors who refer a friend will qualify for a **college scholarship**, which can be applied toward **college tuition, books, or educational expenses.**

- **Each referral adds both an additional year and an additional \$400 per year, up to four years total.**
- **1 referral** = \$400 per year for **one year**
- **2 referrals** = \$800 per year renewable for up to **two years** (\$1,600 total)
- **3 referrals** = \$1,200 per year renewable for up to **three years** (\$3,600 total)
- **4 referrals** = \$1,600 per year renewable for up to **four years** (\$6,400 total)
- To maintain eligibility, the student must have a **GPA of 3.0 or higher** during their undergraduate studies.

Additional Stipulations:

- All scholarships are contingent on the continued enrollment of the referred student. If the referred student withdraws, the scholarship no longer applies toward future year scholarship awards.
- Scholarships require an annual application and approval through Personalized Education Foundation which may require verification of grades and referrals made.

To Receive Your Gift Card:

1. New student fills out this form: [Family, Military & Referral Program Form](#).
2. In the "Discount Requested" field they select "Referred by Friend" then include the name of the friend. A tuition discount or gift card will be sent out after 90 days of being enrolled.

Family & Friends Referral

Partner Referral Program

Is Your Student an Athlete or Performing Artist? Help us connect with the athletic or performing arts organizations where you are currently participating or have participated.

Simply click the **Partner Referral** button below, fill out the referral form, and receive an entry to win a **\$250 Amazon Card** for every organization you refer to us. We will reach out to them to see if they would kindly promote our school to other students like yours. We will select the winner at the end of April 2025.

Partner Referral Program

Counseling Updates



Heidi Fox

Graduation and Regional Gathering - Join us for graduation! Regular pricing (\$39/person) is now in effect. Only guests have to purchase a ticket. Class of 2025 does not have to pay. Here is the link:

<https://store.cmasas.org/product/graduation-dinner-ticket/>

We will be including a "Regional Gathering" component scheduled for June 1st, Sunday afternoon. We are hosting a family fun day/picnic at Mission or San Diego Bay. Get the link in April's section to sign up. You may wish to take advantage of our room block at The Dana (as Mission Bay) before April 29, 2025: <https://thedana.com/> Call and ask for the NHS/Graduation room block.

For Seniors: Make sure you know when you need to have your final transcript for your college. Remember that we will start our Summer Break on June 27, so if you need a final transcript during our Summer Break, you **MUST COMPLETE** all course by June 20 or earlier to allow CI's to grade work and all graduation paperwork to be finalized.

Keep applying for all scholarships you are eligible for! If you need help with scholarships, please let me know. **ALSO**, start looking at those "tuition calculators" so you can make your final decision for which college you will attend.

A survey/form will be sent to you asking you to provide at least one picture (or more, hopefully) of you **AND** information for your "senior slide". Please submit that survey/form as soon as you can this spring.

For Freshman-Juniors Students and Parents: We will be having a College Prep/Application Webinar on April 9 at 9:30am PST.

For Middle School Students and Parents: We will be having a "prepare for high school" session in April before Spring Break starts -- April 8 at 9:00am PST. As always, please reach out to me directly if you have any questions or concerns about your student's educational path/experience here at CMASAS. I am here to help **ALL** students and families as needed. I love setting up meetings and meeting you all to help you with your child's challenges, goals, plans, and more!

Upcoming Events

**"Have Lunch with the School Counselor" for Middle Schoolers
Let's Get Ready for High School
April 8 at 9:00am PST**

**"Have Lunch with the School Counselor" for High Schoolers
Roadmap to College
April 9 at 9:30am PST**

**Last Day to Request Courses
April 10**

**Spring Break 2025
April 16-30**

Last Day to Apply for Tuition Assistance

April 30

Last Day to Enter Sweepstakes for Partner Referrals

April 30

Student Council hosted Great CMASAS Bake-Off

Thursday, May 1 2-3 pm PST

Memorial Day

Monday, May 26

NHS Induction Ceremony

Friday, May 30

Class of 2025 Graduation

Saturday, May 31



April Sandoval

PEC/CI and Community & Culture Specialist

Autism Acceptance Month

April is Autism Acceptance Month. It celebrates and honors the experiences and identities of Autistic individuals. It emphasizes understanding, inclusion, and support, moving beyond awareness towards meaningful acceptance. Jump over to Teams to learn more.

Regional Gatherings

We're gearing up for some incredible Regional Gatherings in the 2025-2026 school year. If you're interested in hosting, I'm here to make it as EASY as possible. I handle all the behind-the-scenes planning, so you can focus on connecting with our amazing students and families. Let me know if you would like to host!

Our last Regional Gathering of the school year will be in San Diego over graduation weekend. This gathering will be Sunday, June 1, 2025, from 12:00-3:30pm. We will be having a Family Fun Day with kayaks, paddleboards, volleyball, lawn games and more! This will be in the Mission Beach Bay area. Please RSVP [here](#) if you plan to attend.

Families can bring their own lunch or purchase food at the Mission Bay Beach Club. We will provide water, games, kayaks, paddle boards, etc.

Clubs

As a reminder, student clubs run from September through May. Thank you to all our club moderators for leading clubs and communicating the end of year schedule with your students. Student clubs are up and running! All clubs are listed on our [website](#).

Club Spotlight - Spanish Club

Students will be led in Spanish conversation, themed vocabulary and games in Spanish by two of their high school peers. The focus will be on Spanish language immersion. We will periodically have guest

speakers who discuss their Hispanic culture and traditions as well. The point of this club is to acquire more exposure to the Spanish language and culture while having fun.

This K-8 grade club meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 9:30am PST with Daisy Cheatham as the faculty moderator.

Spring All-School Assembly

We have one more assembly left this school year, and it's going to be another exciting one! A pilot and an aircraft mechanic will be joining us for our Spring Assembly in May. Stay tuned for more details.

Student Spotlight

Check out our new [student spotlights](#) this month! Please continue to send in achievements by filling out the following [form](#).

Let's Celebrate!

**Check out our Student Virtue Award Winners
on our Instagram, Facebook and New Phone App!**

March Virtue Awards

The March Virtue of the Month was **CREATIVITY**. Encouraging innovative thinking and expression. Here are the winners from March:

--**Josh Zucker:** (Grade10) "Currently he is working on a Geometry Honor's Project and is using 3 different paintings from European artists to look at the Geometric shapes in them. Some of his other art projects have been amazing with ideas outside of the box."

--**Annalise Konopasky:** (Grade 12) "I immediately thought of Annalise for the virtue of Creativity because she was always working on a different project whenever we met. At first, it was taking photos of cats from a local shelter and creating a calendar to help raise funds. Then she was building a website to sell the items that she's crocheted. And she's continuously drawing and experimenting with studio arts."

--**Thalia Matsumoto:** (Grade 11) "Thalia is an incredible artist who has found ways to incorporate that art into her school work. She has been highlighted on our Student Spotlight page for a short film she designed featuring an anime character and Japanese subtitles. Thalia loves to create 3D art and hopes to continue these passions in college."

--**Kaia Sainsbury:** (Grade 12) "Kaia is amazingly creative! She knits with a local group each week where she has made some fantastic pieces. She also paints and has shared

some lovely artwork. She is truly talented in many areas. I can't wait to see what she creates next!"

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