

## **Mariners Christian School Admissions Department News**

**MCS Kindergarten Entrance Date to Match Change in Public Schools:** The State of California has adopted an older age requirement for students entering Kindergarten and is in a three-year process of enacting the change. Previously, students were eligible to begin public Kindergarten who turned 5 years old by December 2. This will change to September 1 over the next two years. Further, the State will begin to provide Transitional Kindergarten programs for children who turn 5 after September 1 and before December 2 each year.

Mariners Christian School supports the older age requirement for Kindergarten students and has historically maintained an October 1 cut-off date for students entering Kindergarten. ***Beginning with the 2012-13 school year, MCS will require a September 1 cut-off date in keeping with state guidelines.***

**MCS Jr. Kindergarten (JK) Now Called “Transitional Kindergarten (TK)”:** The MCS Junior Kindergarten (JK) program has long provided a transitional Kindergarten experience for students exiting the pre-school years but who are yet too young for Kindergarten entrance. This is what California will now be starting and calling Transitional Kindergarten. In an effort to provide for clear and consistent understanding of terms, MCS will now call the JK program **"Transitional Kindergarten" (TK)**. The age requirement for TK of 5 by December will remain the same.

Our goal is to provide a Christ-centered, academically enriching, and developmentally appropriate school experience that prepares young students for entrance into the elementary years.