



# Wildcat Weekly

Issue 1—September 8, 2023

## Welcome Back Wildcats!

There is always excitement in the air at the start of a new school year...freshly sharpened pencils, smell of new crayons...new crisp uniform...catching up with friends, etc. While summer always seems to fly by too quickly there is renewed energy and spirit with the beginning of school. We are happy to see so many of familiar faces returning and thrilled to welcome so many new families to our St. Mel's community. While there were some tears among our littlest new Wildcats (and even their parents) we do know that those tears will soon fade and smiles will emerge. Despite the heat, we had a great first week back and we are looking forward to an awesome school year filled with laughter, learning and making of new memories. Welcome Back!





## St. Mel's Gets a Makeover

St. Mel's Catholic Academy has a whole new look this year. Not only did the hallway get new flooring, lighting and a fresh coat of paint, but we are excited to showcase a new mural in the school's main entrance. We were excited to partner with renowned artist Efrén Andaluz, who took our vision of launching St. Mel's into the future, while remaining true to our Catholic identity and incorporated them into the mural. The work took about a month to complete over the summer starting out as just a simple sketch, and slowly adding color, definition and detail to create the amazing art that now graces our entrance. The kids were amazed when they walked into the building on the first day of school! Efrén, also known as "Andaluz the artist", was born and raised right here in Queens, but now his work is showcased around the county. We were excited to work with him on this project and to have an "Andaluz original" in our building. Come by and take a peek!!

### Looking Ahead

- Sunday 9/10—Catechetical Sunday  
10:30am mass
- Monday 9/11—Early drop off and After-school program begins
- Tuesday 9/12—Carvel ice cream social  
2:30-9pm
- Friday 9/15—Welcome Back BBQ 7pm
- Monday 9/18—iReady Cycle 1 begins  
Catalog sale begins  
See you Later Alligator workshop 7pm
- Thursday 9/21—Meet the Teacher  
Night 7pm
- Friday 9/22—PAA Snack Shop during  
lunch



*"Every child is an artist, the problem is how to remain an artist when we grow up" - Pablo Picasso*

