



Saints & Scholars

...so that Mercy may flourish

The mission of the Catholic school is the integral formation of students so that they may be true to their condition as Christ's disciples and as such work effectively for the evangelization of culture and for the common good of society ~ Pope St. John Paul II

Calendar of Events

- Monday, 5/7 – Friday, 5/18**
STAR Assessment Administration
- Wednesday, 5/9**
2:45pm - Faculty Meeting
- Thursday, 5/10**
GRANDPARENT'S DAY
9:00am - Formal Mass/FORMAL UNIFORMS - Ascension Holy Day (2nd Grade hosting)
- Friday, 5/11**
Six Flags Band Field Trip
- Monday, 5/14**
8:15am - Weekly School Mass
- Friday, 5/18**
NYC 7 & 8 Grade Field Trip
- Monday, 5/21**
Eye Screening - all grades except 6 & 8
STAR Assessment Makeups
9:00am - 5th Grade Rooster Games



“We do not pretend that life is all beauty. We are aware of darkness and sin, of poverty and pain. But we know Jesus has conquered sin and passed through his own pain to the glory of the Resurrection. And we live in the light of his Paschal Mystery – the mystery of his Death and Resurrection. We are an Easter People and Alleluia is our song!”

~ Pope St. John Paul II

Principal’s Message

I continue to be astounded at the sense of community, devotion to the faith, and perseverance at task by so many at OLM. The recent effort by our Science Olympiad team personifies the effort made by our very determined parents and students (under the remarkable guidance and leadership of Dr. Husak). After four months of meetings and practices on Monday and Wednesday afternoons (and a few Saturdays), the OLM team finished fourth overall out of twenty-five Middle School teams (and ahead of all other elementary Parochial schools); several of our students won medals in six of the events. In addition, the Mock Trial team beat a tough Moses Brown team by a single point in its first of two “court appearances”. Many thanks to Mr. Gil Bianchi who guided our students to victory! Thanks to all who make our school and community proud. Happy Easter!!

Father’s Corner

Spring has finally arrived and with it new life, the flowering of trees (looked at as beautiful, but also foreboding for those of us with allergies), and most important of all: First Communion for second graders. There is nothing else in this life, world, or universe; that nourishes life more completely than the Holy Eucharist. It is an incredible gift to be able to receive it, pass it on to our children, and to continue bringing them and nourishing that life weekly at Holy Mass. As Jesus tells us in the Gospel: “without me you can do nothing.” The month of May is also associated with our Blessed Mother Mary. After the children receive First Communion there will be the crowning of the statue of Mary. This devotion - is not just about assenting to the mystery of Mary’s Queenship, but it is also highlighting that we are crowning a mother. This Catholic tradition teaches children to offer something beautiful and tangible to offer their mother in heaven. I have written about the importance of having a shrine to Mary or to another saint in the home. While we will crown Mary at church one weekend, I encourage families to join together and place flowers to their own shrines to Mary at home.

Our Lady of Mercy School

55 Fourth Avenue
East Greenwich, R.I.
02818
Phone: 401.884.1618
Fax: 401.885.3138
Web: olmschool.org

Parish

olmparish.org
Daily Readings:
uscc.org/readings
Catechism of the
Catholic Church
usccb.org/catechism

Web References

Academic ~ General

Khanacademy.com
(online tutorials for
many subjects)

Literacy

Seussville features
Dr. Seuss's books,
games and activities,
videos and much,
much more!

Starfall is an
educational
alternative to other
entertainment
choices for children."

Mathematics

Fact Monster - Fact
Monster is a free
reference site for
students, teachers,
and parents.

Puzzle Maker -

Create your own
content related
puzzles.

**Art of Problem-
Solving:** 3rd grade
and up; videos are
organized, clear and
free!

Early Childhood - Pre-K3 students favorite part of Reading Week was seeing Piggie and Elephant!

The year ends learning about planting, flowers, and insects. The Pre-K4 class learned about two authors and illustrators: Eric Carle and Mo Willems. Earth Day was celebrated by coloring on newspaper, building with cardboard boxes, and planting seeds! The students will be going with Kindergarten to Southwick's Zoo. Kindergarten was blessed with a visit from Sister Lourdes, Sister Emma, and three of their Franciscan Apostolic Sisters. The students learned a song about Mother Mary and they prayed the Hail Mary prayer in Tagalog, the Filippini language. 1st grade learned about author and illustrator: Tomie dePaola! They wrote and illustrated their favorite book. 1st grade is now going to learn about Rainforest plants and animals. 2nd grade is preparing to receive their First Eucharist on May 12th. They are learning about the Mass, from the responses to what the priest wears on the altar. They designed plates that will be displayed and will become a momento of their special day. Their caterpillars arrived and the students will be able to observe each stage as they emerge into beautiful painted lady butterflies. All of our Early Childhood team is looking forward to Grandparents Day on May 10th!

Intermediate Grades The 3rd grade celebrated Earth Day and talked about ways we can make our earth a better place. They are learning about the parts of a plant and what it needs to grow. Flowers have been planted and they'll be planting "Wisconsin Fast Plants". Using a self watering system they will be monitoring and recording the plants' growth. May finds the students visiting the RI Philharmonic where the students will play their recorders with the orchestra! 4th grade has just completed a blended social studies and literature unit on the 1862 Battle of Hampton Roads. The book Iron Thunder by author, Avi was read and discussed. With only a handful of states and capitals left to memorize in our social studies curriculum, the students are excited to be taking a field trip to the RI State Capitol. 5th grade has been learning about the founding of the 13 colonies, colonial life, and the American Revolution. They will be traveling to Old Sturbridge Village in Massachusetts later this month. There they will engage in a hands-on learning environment. 5th grade has been encouraged to read the 20 nominated RI Children Book Award books (Rooster Books). Students will participate in The Rooster Games including activities involving these 20 books.

Middle School - Science: 6th grade is learning about weather and can explain how different weather patterns form and even predict the weather using a weather map. 7th grade has finished a unit on heredity and is learning how organisms change over to adapt to their environment. They enjoyed an educational scavenger hunt as they searched for special adaptations of organisms at Biomes. 8th grade is studying energy. They are using formulas to calculate kinetic, potential and total energy. In History, 8th grade finished studying World War II. Students researched and presented slides about a topic of their choice, while 7th grade is preparing to learn about the American Civil War. 6th grade is studying the Middle Ages in Europe and have built their own manors. They will be taking a closer look at the Crusades. In Math, Algebra 1 finished up with quadratic formula and are now working with radicals. 6th grade is working with formulas while 7th grade is working with slope and writing equations involving slope. In ELA, 6th grade sailed along with Odysseus on his journey home while reading *The Adventures of Odysseus*, while 7th grade followed Long John Silver and his pirates in Stevenson's *Treasure Island*. 8th grade learned about the English monarchy and laws in Mark Twain's case of mixed-up doppelgangers in *The Prince and the Pauper*. Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* awaits!

7th grade Biomes Field Trip



Franciscan Apostolic Sisters visiting Kindergarten

