

Wednesday Notes



April 6, 2022

Dear OLM Community,

It is a big week here as we prepare for Holy Week. Our eighth grade students will present the Living Stations of the Cross this Friday at 1:00 and 7:00 pm, and all school families are most welcome to attend one or both presentations. The second half of our second grade class will make their First Penance this Saturday afternoon, and our Spring Fling will take place this Saturday evening at 6:00 pm at Quidnessett Country Club. If you haven't yet done so, please take a look at the [items up for auction](#), and spread the word with friends and family!

And please read on and see everything that's happening at OLM!

The Week Ahead

Wednesday, April 6 PTG Board Meeting 6:00-7:00 pm

Thursday, April 7 Band Practice 2:30-3:15 pm

Thursday, April 7 Choir Practice 3:30-4:30 pm

Thursday, April 7 "Beloved" Meeting 2:30-3:30 pm

Thursday, April 7 Baseball Practice

Friday, April 8 Living Stations of the Cross 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm

Saturday, April 9 First Penance, Last Names A-L 1:00 pm

Saturday, April 9 Spring Fling 6:00 pm at Quidnessett Country Club

Monday, April 11 Baseball Game @ Ricci Middle School 4:30 pm

Tuesday, April 12 Baseball Game @ Martin Middle School 4:30 pm

Thursday, April 14 Holy Thursday: 11:30 Dismissal; NO AFTER CARE

Thursday, April 14 Baseball Game @ Kickemuit Middle School 3:30 pm

The Road Back...

**Do you have questions about current COVID-related school policies?
Then please read this carefully!**

With the COVID-19 pandemic moving toward an endemic, and with the Rhode Island Department of Health relaxing restrictions related to COVID-19, we have been able to make more adjustments to our practices. Our staff spent much of last Friday's professional day working through different aspects of our school day and discussing how best to return them to "normal." While we hope that we will continue to move in this direction, please bear in mind that all of our practices are subject to change based on the needs of our school community. With that in mind, here are a few highlights that are important for families to know:

- Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 must still isolate for ten days and return on Day 11.
 - They MAY return to the school building between Days 6 and 10 IF they are completely free of COVID-19 symptoms AND test negative for COVID-19 (COVID-19 tests will be available at school for students wishing to test for re-entry) AND wear a well-fitting mask through Day 10.
- Household contacts of people positive for COVID-19 must quarantine for five days from their last contact with the positive individual. They may return on Day 6 from their last contact IF they are asymptomatic.
- Household contacts are the only close contacts now required to quarantine. **We are no longer conducting contact tracing of COVID-19 cases in the school building.**
- In the event of a positive COVID case in the school building, we will notify the families in the affected class, but testing or quarantine will not be required of anyone.
- **Students should continue to stay home and contact Mrs. Fleury for directions for return if they have any of the following symptoms:**
 - Fever of 100.4 degrees or higher
 - Vomiting or Diarrhea
 - New Cough
 - New Loss of Taste or Smell
 - Shortness of Breath or Difficulty Breathing

Students with more minor symptoms are free to attend school. Please however, note that **Mrs. Fleury always has the authority as the medical professional on our staff to determine that a child should not be in class for medical reasons.**

- With contact tracing no longer in effect, we are loosening restrictions in regard to visitors and volunteers in the building. **Teachers may now welcome parent volunteers under the following circumstances:**
 - Volunteers have an up-to-date BCI and Safe Environment Training (please check with Mrs. Buonaccorsi if you are not sure of your status).
 - Volunteers are free of the symptoms noted above.
 - Volunteers are serving the needs of our students under the leadership of our teachers.
- With the pandemic shifting to an endemic state, we are shifting our decision-making calculus in classrooms to more heavily weight our students' educational needs, as opposed to their safety needs. You may notice more flexible seating arrangements in classrooms and less social distancing around the school building. You may also see greater levels of partner work and group work in classrooms.
- We are also working through building logistics to attempt to bring some of our students back to the cafeteria for lunch in the not-too-distant future.
- We will continue to prioritize ventilation, air filtration, and hand hygiene at all times in order to help manage our transition to an endemic and continue to promote our students', teachers' and families' health.

And in more COVID-related news, you may have heard that we have been able to re-open the cafeteria for Grades 3-8. This is an exciting development, and a transition that our students have made very well, so kudos to them!

We will have students in Grades K-2 continue to eat lunch in their classrooms through the end of this school year. We have determined that this is the best course forward for several reasons including the following:

- There is a more pronounced learning curve for younger students in adjusting to new routines, and we have a limited amount of time this school year to teach those routines.
- The present structure affords our students more time to eat when it is needed.

- Our K-2 students have adapted well to the current structure, and if it's not broken, it's never a good idea to fix it!

And, of course, our Pre-K students have always eaten lunch in their classroom and will continue to do so.

Finally, we have one more event that is coming back this spring! Please see below:



SAVE THE DATE!

***Our Lady of Mercy School
Grandparents' Day Celebration***

**THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2022
BEGINNING WITH
MASS AT 9:00 AM**



Details to Follow



Spiritual Life

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Presented by the Class of 2022



APRIL 8, 2022
1PM & 7PM

FAMILIES WELCOME TO ATTEND

BELOVED

Tomorrow is the next meeting of Beloved, our ministry for middle school girls. All young ladies in Grades 6 to 8 are welcome to attend!

Beloved

Middle School Girls Ministry

Thursday, April 7th

2:30 - 3:30pm in the Art Room

Email Ms. Grady with any questions:

sgrady@olmschool.org



PTG News



OLM SCHOOL
PTG NEWSLETTER



PTG President's Message

Who's ready for **Spring Fling**? The big night is three days away! Check out the information below for all the details you need for Saturday's event, including the [Spring Fling Cheat Sheet](#).

Spring Fling: Know Before You Go

This is a night to catch up with old friends and make new ones! There will be no assigned seats: mingle and eat at your leisure. Remember to bring your phones to bid on silent auction items via a QR code, bring cash if you'd like to purchase raffle tickets and cigars, and ENJOY this chance to see our community in person again!



Spring Fling Auction

Don't miss your chance to bid on more than 60 amazing items during our week-long silent auction (April 1-9) and in-person live auction (April 9)! Items include concert tickets, vacation getaways, a wine tasting, school necessities, and class art projects by grade! [Click here](#) to bid on silent auction items and to view the live auction menu for Saturday night.

Remember to enter your max bid and let the system do the bidding for you!

Continued on the following page...

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[Click Here for PTG Newsletter](#)

Wednesday Envelope

Living Stations of the Cross Flyer Grandparents Day Save the Date

Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, April 6 PTG Board Meeting 6:00 pm
Friday, April 8 Living Stations of the Cross Led by Grade 8 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Saturday, April 9 First Penance, Last Names A-L 1:00 pm
Saturday, April 9 Spring Fling! 6:00 pm Quidnessett Country Club
Monday, April 11 Baseball Game @ Ricci Middle School 4:30 pm
Tuesday, April 12 Baseball Game @ Martin Middle School 4:30 pm
Thursday, April 14 Half Day: Holy Thursday; 11:30 Dismissal, NO AFTERCARE
Thursday, April 14 Baseball Game @ Kickemuit Middle School 3:30 pm
Friday, April 15 No School: Good Friday
Sunday, April 17 EASTER SUNDAY
April 18-22 Easter Week/April Vacation
Tuesday, April 26 Baseball Game @ Exeter-West Greenwich Middle School 4:30 pm
Wednesday, April 27 Mother-Son Event 5:00-8:00 pm at Launch
Thursday, April 28 Baseball Game @ Cole Middle School 4:00 pm
Monday, May 2 Baseball Game @ Birchwood Middle School 4:30 pm
Thursday, May 5 Baseball Game @ Tiverton Middle School 6:00 pm
Friday, May 6 First Friday Mass; Formal Uniforms
Saturday, May 7 First Holy Communion Mass 10:00 am
Tuesday, May 10 Baseball Game @ Ferri Middle School 5:00 pm
Wednesday, May 11 Third Trimester Progress Reports Go Home
Thursday, May 12 Baseball Game @ Riverside Middle School 4:30 pm
Friday, May 14 Annie, Jr. at the Prout School 7:00 pm
Saturday, May 15 Annie, Jr. at the Prout School 2:00 pm
Wednesday, May 18 PTG Board Meeting 6:00 pm
Saturday, May 21 Catholic School Arts Festival
Thursday, May 26 Ascension Thursday/Grandparents Day 9:00 am Mass; Formal Uniforms
Monday, May 30 No School: Memorial Day
Friday, June 3 First Friday Mass 9:00 am; Formal Uniforms
Friday, June 3 Eighth Grade Dance
Sunday, June 5 Class of 2022 Graduation Mass & Brunch 10:30 am
Monday, June 6 School Confessions 12:45 pm
Monday, June 6 Class of 2022 Graduation 6:00 pm
Friday, June 17 Half Day: Last Day of School

Have a great evening, God bless, and go Jags!