

Wednesday Notes



May 18, 2022

Dear OLM Community,

The great news continues at OLM! We were privileged to see two outstanding performances of Annie, Jr. this past weekend. We extend our thanks to the representatives of Rhode Island Youth Theater who again served our school so well, as well as to our parent liaisons: Mrs. Lee Mita, Mrs. Christie Cambio, and Mrs. Beth Brugnoli who did the behind-the-scenes work to make the magic happen. Outstanding work all around!

Our kids have also been having a blast with Reading Week, and we send our thanks to Mrs. McVicker and Mrs. Thompson who have made it all possible. It is truly a joy to see kids being kids: playing, learning, growing, and becoming the people that God is calling them to be.

This weekend will include our participation in the Catholic School Arts Festival on Saturday as well as our Sports Awards Mass and Banquet on Sunday, so life is busy! Please read on to see all the great things still happening between now and the end of the school year: there is a lot!

The Week Ahead

May 16-20 Reading Week!

Wednesday, May 18 Soccer Game vs. St. Peter's @ Rocky Hill 5:45 pm

Wednesday, May 18 PTG Board Meeting 6:00 pm

Thursday, May 19 Band Practice 2:30-3:15

Thursday, May 19 Choir Practice 2:30-4:30

Saturday, May 21 Catholic Schools Arts Festival 12:00-4:00 pm @ St. Philomena School
(OLM students perform at 12:00 and 1:00 pm; School table set up throughout)

Sunday, May 22 Girls on the Run 5K @ Colt State Park 10:00 am

Sunday, May 22 Sports Awards Mass & Banquet 5:00 pm

Monday, May 23 Student Council Meeting 2:30-3:00 pm

Monday, May 23 Soccer Game vs. St. Joseph's @ Rocky Hill 5:45 pm

Tuesday, May 24 Eighth Grade Field Trip to Holiday Hills

Wednesday, May 25 Soccer Game vs. Monsignor Clarke @ St. Dominic 6:00 pm

Thursday, May 26 Ascension Thursday/Grandparents Day 9:00 am Mass;
Formal Uniforms

Friday, May 27 Youth Ministry Meeting 6:30-9:00 pm

Reading Week Continues!

OLM Reading Week
May 16-20, 2022

- Monday**
 - Chalk the Block: Students will decorate the blacktop with vocabulary word art.
 - Bookmark Contest Begins
 - Reading Log Contest Begins
 - DEAR Theme: Read Outside
- Tuesday**
 - Reading Buddies: Older students will pair up with younger students and read together
 - DEAR Theme: Buddy Read
- Wednesday**
 - Guest Speaker: Rhode Island Black Storytellers will entertain students with two presentations, PK-2 & 3-8
 - DEAR Theme: Read with a Stuffed Friend
- Thursday**
 - Bookmark Contest Submissions Due
 - Open-Mic Submissions Due
 - DEAR Theme: Snack & Read
- Friday**
 - Dress Down as a Vocabulary Word with PRIZES!
 - Open Mic @Lunch 3-8
 - Reading Walk PK-2
 - DEAR Theme: Flashlight Friday
- Ongoing**
 - 8th Grade Storytime Videos
 - Bookmark Contest
 - Reading Log Contest
 - Guest Readers in Classrooms

Catholic Schools Arts Festival


THE DIOCESE OF PROVIDENCE CELEBRATES

150 YEARS
1872 - 2022

Outdoor Performing Arts Showcase Concert from Schools across the Diocese

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
ARTS FESTIVAL**

SATURDAY, MAY 21 | 12-4 P.M.
St. Philomena School of the Sacred Heart
324 Cory's Lane, Portsmouth, RI 02871



Featuring the World Premiere of combined chorus piece by Tom Kendzia, liturgical musician and composer.

Celebrating the 150th Anniversary theme, "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy." (Psalm 126:1).

Food from locally-owned food trucks will be available for purchase.

Event details at:
dioceseofprovidence.org/150

This event is co-sponsored by the diocesan Catholic Schools Office and McVinney Auditorium.

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This Saturday's Catholic Schools Art Festival is an outdoor Performing Arts Showcase Concert with Catholic School students from across the Diocese of Providence. This special day will feature the World Premiere of a combined chorus piece by Tom Kendzia, liturgical musician and composer. Each performance will celebrate the 150th Anniversary theme, "The Lord has done great things for us, we are filled with joy." (Psalm 126:1).

OLM School will be prominently featured, as our choir and band will combine for the lead-off performance at 12:00 noon, and our choir will sing a solo verse in the diocesan-wide combined choral piece at 1:00 pm. Come out to support our musicians in one or both performances!

We will also have a table set up throughout the afternoon that will include displays of our students' visual art work as well as information about our school. We welcome students, teachers, and families to stop by, say hi, and chat with other visitors.

Food from locally-owned food trucks will be available for purchase during the performances. Bring blankets, coolers, and lawn chairs and make a day of it!

Sports Awards Mass & Banquet

Please join us for the **2022 Our Lady of Mercy Sports Banquet** as we **celebrate OLM athletes from Cross Country, Basketball, Baseball, Soccer, and Girls on The Run!**

The Our Lady of Mercy Sports Banquet will be held on **Sunday, May 22nd at 6:00 pm at Quidnessett Country Club immediately following the 5:00 pm Mass at OLM Church.**

Awards will be distributed at the 5:00 pm Mass before we gather at Quidnessett to celebrate our student-athletes and their coaches.

****Please note that student-athletes who have won an award from their team must be at the 5:00 pm Mass to receive those awards.****

Grandparents' Day!

Grandparents & Special Guests

THE STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND STAFF OF

Our Lady of Mercy School

WELCOME YOU TO THE ANNUAL

*Grandparents' Day
Celebration*

THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2022
BEGINNING WITH MASS AT 9:00 AM
OLM CHURCH
65 3RD STREET
EAST GREENWICH, RI 02818

FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS
AND CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES
OLM SCHOOL

*Kindly RSVP to your
grandchild by May 16.*

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministry returns next Friday, May 27 with a reflection on prayer and a trivia night! All students in Grades 6-8 are welcome to attend!



“To the Height of Prayer”

Middle School Youth Ministry
Friday, May 27, 6:30pm-9:00pm, OLM Gym

Talk and Discussion on the importance of personal prayer.
Followed by:

TRIVIA COMPETITION

Teams of 3. Prizes for the winners!
Sign up your team in the Theology room by Wednesday, May 25!



STOCK THE PANTRY FOOD DRIVE

Help Us Stock the Shelves of The Mercy House Food Pantry for the Upcoming Summer Months

OLM School will be collecting non-perishable food items to benefit Mercy House. Students are asked to bring in one item each week from the collection schedule below. Donation bins will be set-up at each drop-off door each morning. All items collected will be delivered to Mercy House where volunteers will sort and stock the shelves of The Mercy House Food Pantry for the upcoming summer months.

Week One	May 2nd - May 6th	Canned Meats & Protein: Ham, Spam, Chicken, Tuna and Beans
Week Two	May 9th- May 13th	Condiments: Ketchup, Relish, Mayonnaise, Mustard, Salad Dressing, Cooking Oils & Sprays
Week Three	May 16th- May 20th	Canned Meals: Chef Boyardee, Spaghettios, Chili, Baked Beans, Soups and Stews
Week Four	May 23rd- May 27th	Breakfast & Dessert items: Cookies, Canned Fruits, Jams, Jellies, Cold Cereals, Pancake Mix & Syrup



Thank you for your goodwill offering!
Enjoy Your Summer!

PTG News



Our Lady of Mercy School
PTG Newsletter

PTG President's Message

Recruitment for the next PTG team has begun! There are endless volunteer opportunities and we'd love your help. Additional information is provided below. --Gaiga Perube

Join the PTG Team!

Nominations for the 2022-2023 PTG Board are now open and we'd love for you to join the team! Take a look at [this flyer](#) for additional details about what the PTG does. If you're interested in helping with events like Trunk-or-Treat, the Father-Daughter Dance, or the Mother-Son Event, consider joining the Socials team!

Please review the [PTG positions](#) and complete the nomination form to volunteer or to nominate someone you know who is interested. Even if you aren't interested in a board role, there are plenty of support roles to fill. Please contact olmptg@gmail.com with questions.

Order Your Student's SchoolKidz Kit Today!

Save yourself time and let SchoolKidz provide your child's school supplies for you! SchoolKidz assembles student supply kits based on what each teacher has indicated is needed. Kits are shipped directly to the school. No muss, no fuss. For order details, please refer to the [SchoolKids Kits flyer](#). The deadline to order is June 17!

Continued on the following page...



Recruitment for the next PTG team has begun! There are endless volunteer opportunities and we'd love your help. Check out the PTG Newsletter for details.

Also, SchoolKidz Kits are now available for your student's first day of school! Order information is available in the PTG Newsletter.

[Click Here for PTG Newsletter](#)

2022-2023 School Calendar

**Please click on the link below for a copy of our
2022-2023 School Calendar!**

[2022-2023 School Calendar](#)

COVID...Apparently It's Still Here...

**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. We have moved many aspects of our school day back to "normal," and 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 must 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
 - Must allow 24 hours after resolution of symptoms to return to school building
 - Vomiting or Diarrhea
 - Must allow 24 hours after resolution of symptoms to return to school building
 - 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 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.

Wednesday Envelope

Boston University Summer Program Information

Upcoming Dates

Monday, May 30 No School: Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 31 Eighth Grade Retreat

Friday, June 3 First Friday Mass 9:00 am; Formal Uniforms

Friday, June 3 Eighth Grade Dance 6:00 am

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

Monday, June 13 Field Day!

Thursday, June 16 Pre-K End-of-Year Celebration 9:00 am

Thursday, June 16 Kindergarten End-of-Year Celebration 10:30 am

Friday, June 17 Half Day: Last Day of School

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