

Wednesday Notes



May 4, 2022

Dear OLM Community,

It is Teacher Appreciation Week! Thank you to our PTG and to all of our families who have been so generous in helping our teachers to feel appreciated this week! There have been quite a few treats and school supplies in the teachers lounge, and we are all looking forward to a Cinco de Mayo lunch tomorrow!

And as we know all too well, the education profession has been turned upside down and back again over the past two years. The fact that our kids have continued to learn and to thrive through that time is an enormous testament to the hard work of our teachers and school staff, who have over and over again risen to meet the moment. So this week, we say thank you to our extraordinary team of teachers. And thank you to the families and community who support them in their excellent work. This community is a living witness to what is possible when people of good will come together to put kids first.

Please read on to see everything that is happening at school this week and for the rest of this year!

The Week Ahead

Thursday, May 5 Band Practice 2:30-3:15

Thursday, May 5 Choir Practice 3:30-4:30

Thursday, May 5 Soccer Game vs. Father Doyle @ Rocky Hill 5:45 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

Sunday, May 8 May Crowning @ 10:30 am Mass

Monday, May 9 Middle School Gaga Ball Tournament

Monday, May 9 Student Council Meeting 2:30-3:00 pm

Monday, May 9 Soccer Game vs. Monsignor Clarke @ Rocky Hill 5:45 pm

Tuesday, May 10 Girls on the Run Practice 2:30-4:00 pm

Tuesday, May 10 Baseball Game @ Ferri Middle School 5:00 pm

Wednesday, May 11 Third Trimester Progress Reports Go Home

Wednesday, May 11 Girls on the Run Practice 2:30-4:00 pm

Wednesday, May 11 Soccer Game vs. St. Kevin's @ Rocky Hill 5:45 pm

2022-2023 School Calendar

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

[2022-2023 School Calendar](#)

Annie, Jr.



Our performances of Annie, Jr. are coming up on Saturday, May 14 at 7:00 pm and Sunday, May 15 at 2:00 pm, both at the Prout School! We have two big pieces of information to share today.

First, if your child is in Grades 5-8, is not already in the Annie, Jr. cast, and would like to sign up for the stage crew, please click the link below to sign up, and please do so by this Friday at the latest!

[Click Here to Sign up for Stage Crew! \(Grades 5-8 Only\)](#)

And second, tickets are officially on sale! Please click the button below to purchase your tickets!

[Click Here to Purchase Annie, Jr. Tickets!](#)

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.*

Dear OLM Families,

We are thrilled to welcome our grandparents and special guests back into our school this year for the annual Grandparents' Day Celebration!

Please digitally share the invitation with your grandparent or special guest.

We are asking you to RSVP by May 16th for your child/children's guest(s) by filling out a Google Form. The form can be found by clicking the button below.

[Click Here by May 16 to RSVP for Grandparents' Day!](#)

Thank you for your help and support. We can't wait for Grandparents' Day on May 26, 2022!

Mrs. Nygren and the Grandparents' Day Committee

Raising Saints and Scholars

Do you feel like raising kids is more complicated than it used to be? If so, you are not the only one! Periodically, we will begin sharing information and resources in this space that can be of help to our families in the increasingly difficult and irreplaceably important vocations of motherhood and fatherhood.

This week, we are sharing a 2017 article published in *The Atlantic*, which was itself adapted from the book *iGen* by Jean M. Twenge and which draws a link between the rapid increase in smartphone use a decade ago and dramatic changes in the behaviors of adolescents. Please take a look and let us know what you think!

[Jean M. Twenge: Smartphones & Adolescents](#)



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, Spaghetios, 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

Happy Teacher Appreciation Week (TAW) to OLM teachers and staff! Be sure to check out the details below about the exciting TAW plans for this week, as well as a few pictures. Thank you to all parents who contributed to making this week possible! –Gaiya Perube

Teacher Appreciation Week

OLM teachers and staff sure are feeling the love this week! A huge thank you to all parents who contributed to Stock the Lounge Day and to all those who assisted with the planning. This couldn't happen without such a supportive parent community. Here's a peek at the week!

Mother-Son Event

OLM boys had an amazing time at Launch with their moms at last week's Mother-Son Event! We created an [online photo album](#) for you to enjoy. Feel free to add your pictures, too.

A huge thank you goes out to Megan Sullivan, Mary O'Connell, Bridget Block, and Jenna Braun for their hard work on this event, and to Allie Douley for acting as the event's paparazzi!

Continued on the following page...



Happy Teacher Appreciation Week (TAW) to OLM teachers and staff! Check out the PTG Newsletter for details about the exciting TAW plans for this week, as well as a few pictures. Thank you to all parents who contributed to making this week possible!

Also, OLM moms had an amazing night with their sons at the Mother-Son Event last week. A huge thank you goes out to Megan Sullivan, Mary O'Connell, Bridget Block, and Jenna Braun for their hard work on this event!

[Click Here for PTG Newsletter](#)

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. 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

Nothing This Week!

Upcoming Dates

Thursday, May 5 Soccer Game vs. Father Doyle @ Rocky Hill 5:45 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

Sunday, May 8 May Crowning @ 10:30 am Mass

Monday, May 9 Soccer Game vs. Monsignor Clarke @ Rocky Hill 5:45 pm

Tuesday, May 10 Baseball Game @ Ferri Middle School 5:00 pm

Wednesday, May 11 Third Trimester Progress Reports Go Home

Wednesday, May 11 Soccer Game vs. St. Kevin's @ Rocky Hill 5:45 pm

Thursday, May 12 Baseball Game @ Riverside Middle School 4:30 pm

Saturday, May 14 Annie, Jr. @ the Prout School 7:00 pm

Sunday, May 15 Annie, Jr. @ the Prout School 2:00 pm

Monday, May 16 Soccer Game vs. Father Doyle @ Fish Hill 5:00 pm

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

Wednesday, May 18 PTG Board Meeting 6:00 pm

Saturday, May 21 Catholic School Arts Festival @ St. Philomena School 12:00-5:00 pm

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

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

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

Monday, May 30 No School: Memorial Day

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

Friday, June 17 Half Day: Last Day of School

Have a Great Evening, God Bless, and Go Jags!