

Wednesday Notes



December 13, 2023

Dear OLM School Community,

We continue to prepare ourselves for Christmas during this Advent season, and we hope to see you Friday evening for our 2023 Christmas Pageant! All the details came home today in the Wednesday Envelope. They are also included below, along with lots more information about what's going on at school. Please read carefully and reach out with any questions. Have a great evening and a blessed Advent!

For Christ and Our Kids,
Patrick McNabb
Principal

The Week Ahead

Thursday, December 14 First Trimester Report Cards Go Home

Thursday, December 14 Beloved Meeting 2:30-3:15 pm

Thursday, December 14 Mock Trial Meeting 2:30-3:30 pm

Friday, December 15 Deadline for Winter Clothing Drive Donations

Friday, December 15 Deadline to Complete Interest Surveys for Cheer & Softball

Friday, December 15 Bishop Hendricken High School Band & Chorus Concert
9:15 am in the OLM School Gym

Friday, December 15 Robotics Practice 2:30-4:00 pm in the Tech Room

Friday, December 15 Christmas Pageant 6:00 pm

Saturday, December 16 Robotics Qualifier, Portsmouth Middle School

Monday, December 18 Student Council Meeting 2:30-3:15 pm

Tuesday, December 19 Grades 3-5 Field Trip to The Nutcracker

Thursday, December 21 PK & K Polar Express Day

Friday, December 22 Middle School Breakfast 8:30 am

Friday, December 22 Advent Prayer Service 10:30 am

Friday, December 22 11:30 am Dismissal; **No After-School Extended Day**

Christmas Pageant 2023!

Our 2023 Christmas Pageant is this Friday, December 15 at 6:00 pm! Below are key points for everyone to know in preparing for the big night!

- We expect that the Pageant will last for approximately 45 minutes.
- **Unless different clothing is required for a particular role, attire for the pageant should be "Christmas Best", with red and green highly encouraged!** "Christmas Best" includes items such as slacks, collared shirts, ties, sweaters, or jackets for boys, and dresses or the equivalent for girls. Jeans, sneakers, and athletic attire would not be considered appropriate for the Pageant. For the sake of practicality and safety on the church floor, we discourage high heels for our young ladies.
- Students in Grades 1-7 who do not have specifically assigned pageant roles or responsibilities should report to their classrooms by 5:30 pm.
- Pre-K and Kindergarten students should meet their teachers in the front pews of the church by 5:45 pm.
- All 8th grade students, please arrive at 5:15 pm in the church to begin getting ready. Costumes for 8th grade actors will be provided.
- Faculty and staff members will start receiving students fifteen minutes prior to the times listed above. Please do not drop off students until fifteen minutes before the stated arrival time.

Drop-Off & Pick-Up Details

- All parents whose children must enter the school building (i.e. Grades 1-7) should park in the back parking lot and then walk their child(ren) to the door where they normally enter the school building each morning. This may necessitate walking children to more than one door. Please plan to leave enough time to ensure that each child arrives at his or her classroom safely. **Parents do not need to enter the school building at drop-off. They may simply drop their child(ren) with the staff member at each door and proceed to the church to find a good seat!** Our normal entry doors (C3, C5, and D6), will be open from 5:15 pm to 5:45 pm. Students in Grades 1-7 arriving after 5:45 pm should enter the school building through the front office door.

- After the Pageant, students will be dismissed from the building one grade span at a time to the back parking lot, in the same fashion that we normally conduct dismissal. Parents should meet their children where they normally would for dismissal.
- Out of respect for all our student performers and to ensure student safety, no students will be dismissed from the school building prior to the end of the pageant. **Please do not plan to pick up children from the school building before the Pageant ends.** All students in Grades 1-7 will be dismissed to the back parking lot after the conclusion of the Pageant.
- Parents whose children are going directly to the church upon arrival (i.e. Grades PK, K, and 8) may park where there is space (meaning they are not required to park in the back lot), may meet their children in the church after their performance, and may leave directly from there, provided that they do not have additional children in other grade levels who will need to be picked up in the back lot.
- For anyone that is not able to attend the pageant in person, we will again livestream this year's performance on our parish [YouTube page](#).

Advent Service

Thank you to everyone who donated to Toys for Tots! Together, we brought in over 100 toys that were brought yesterday to the collection site at the East Greenwich Police Department!

Our winter clothing drive to benefit Midnight Moment Outreach continues through this Friday. Details are below. Thank you for your generosity!





2023 Winter Clothing Drive

An Advent Service Project



OLM School will be collecting winter clothing between 12/4 and 12/15. All items donated will benefit Midnight Moment Outreach, a local ministry with a mission to feed and clothe the homeless. Volunteers visit various areas in Providence and beyond to pass out food and clothing at night. Collection bins will be set-up at all student drop-off doors.

***Monday, December 4th through
Friday, December 15th***

***COATS & HOODED SWEATSHIRTS - ALL AGES
New or Gently Used & Washed***

***SOCKS & FLEECE THROWS - ALL AGES
New Socks & Throws Only***

Thank you for your goodwill offering!

OLM Athletics News

The Jaguars tipped off a new basketball season this past weekend. The teams had a fantastic start with all 7 teams playing very well!

OLM finished the weekend 6-1. Our Girls Junior team won an exciting 10-8 game, beating St. Mary, Mansfield, with Morgan Oliver scoring the winning basket in the final seconds.

Our recognition this week is for **Top Scorer** in each game. Congratulations to the following players for their outstanding play:

Maiori Giardino
Louisa Buffington
Sienna Giardino
Katie LaPlante
Graham McVicker
Louis Johnston
Danny Mahoney

A special shout-out to the Boys Junior team...all 13 players scored at least 2 points in their win on Saturday. It was a tremendous team effort and accomplishment!

Great job by all of our players and coaches this weekend.

Go Jags!

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce that we are exploring the addition of two new OLM Athletics offerings – Cheer (Winter 2024) and Middle School Softball (Spring 2024). Several OLM families have shared that students are interested in each of these activities. To help us gauge commitment and determine feasibility of launching one or both programs this school year, interested families should follow the survey links below. **If interested, we ask that you complete these brief surveys by Friday, December 15th.**

[Click Here If You Are Interested in Cheer!](#)

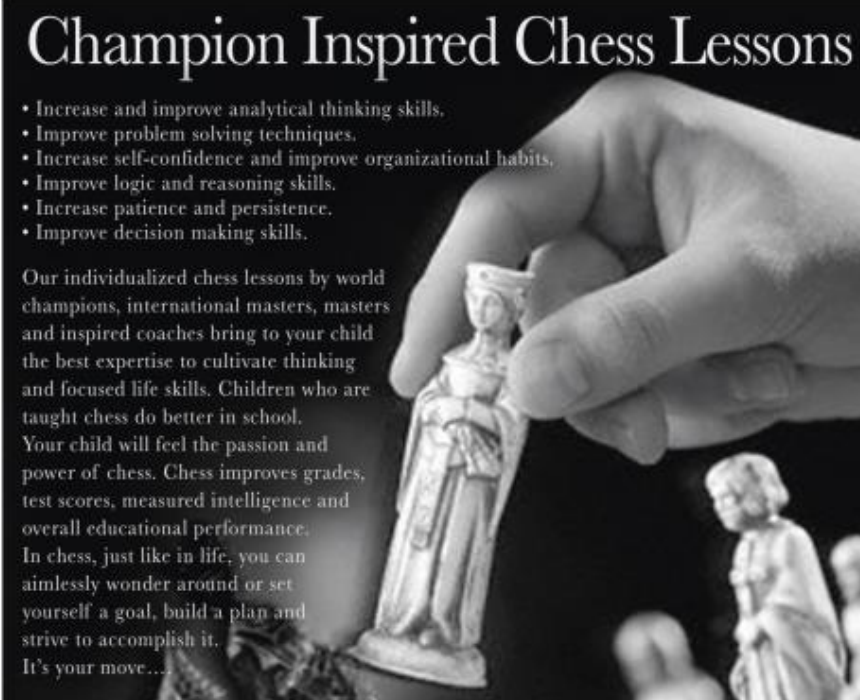
[Click Here If You Are Interested in Middle School Softball!](#)

If there is sufficient interest in Cheer and/or Softball, we will begin the process of identifying resources (coaches, equipment, fields, etc.) and developing a plan to launch the program(s).

Please direct any questions to Jerry O’Connell, OLM Athletic Director, at joconnell@olmschool.org

Chess Is Returning!

We are pleased to announce the return of a very popular program with Chess Master Connections! Information about the program and a sign-up form came home in today's Wednesday Envelopes. The program is open to students in all grade levels, and will meet for eight Monday afternoons beginning January 8. Please see the enclosed flyer for details!



Champion Inspired Chess Lessons

- Increase and improve analytical thinking skills.
- Improve problem solving techniques.
- Increase self-confidence and improve organizational habits.
- Improve logic and reasoning skills.
- Increase patience and persistence.
- Improve decision making skills.

Our individualized chess lessons by world champions, international masters, masters and inspired coaches bring to your child the best expertise to cultivate thinking and focused life skills. Children who are taught chess do better in school. Your child will feel the passion and power of chess. Chess improves grades, test scores, measured intelligence and overall educational performance. In chess, just like in life, you can aimlessly wonder around or set yourself a goal, build a plan and strive to accomplish it. It's your move....

OUR LADY OF MERCY SCHOOL

and Chess Master Connections (CMC) are proud to offer chess instruction, for all levels of chess and the life skills of winning and losing well, creating a plan and following it, focusing on you and your opponent's actions and the importance of creativity are all masterfully imparted throughout their instruction.

CMC chess programs are dynamic, thoughtful, and FUN

Learn how to THINK through the game of CHESS

Boys and girls are welcome!

Beginner - Intermediate - Advanced

8-week session: \$136

Make checks payable to Chess Master Connections

Dates:

January 8, 22, 29, February 5, 12, 26, March 4, 11

Time: 2:30 to 3:30 pm

www.chessmasterconnections.com

Beloved!



Preparing to Volunteer

Are you interested in volunteering at OLM School during the 2023-2024 school year? Because we take the moral and physical safety of our students very seriously, there are steps that all volunteers must take before beginning:

BCI and Safe Environment Training paperwork must be processed in order to allow parents/grandparents to volunteer at OLM on field trips, in classrooms, etc.

Here are the steps that all prospective volunteers must complete:

- [OLM Volunteer Application](#) - complete this form.
- [BCI application](#) - complete this form - which must be notarized by a Notary Public. Attach a copy of the **FRONT** and **BACK** of your driver's license. The school pays the \$5.00 processing fee.
- [Safe Environment Training](#) - complete this form once you have reviewed the following links:
 - [Safe Environment Training Link](#)
 - [Safe Environment Code of Ethical Conduct Link](#)
 - [Safe Environment Extract Link](#)

Please send/bring all these forms/documents to the front office once you have completed them so we can submit them for processing. **Please note the process can take a few weeks, so the time to act is now!**

Thank you for working with us to ensure the safety and well-being of all students at OLM School!

Wednesday Envelope

Christmas Pageant Details
[Chess Master Connections Flyers](#)
Lifetouch Re-takes

Upcoming Dates

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Thursday, December 14 Mock Trial Meeting 2:30-3:30 pm
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Friday, December 22 Advent Prayer Service 10:30 am
Friday, December 22 11:30 am Dismissal; **No After-School Extended Day**
December 25-January 2 Christmas Vacation
Wednesday, January 3 School Resumes
Friday, January 5 First Friday Mass 9:00 am (Formal Uniforms)
Monday, January 8 Chess Master Connections Begins
Monday, January 15 NO SCHOOL Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Tuesday, January 16 PTG Board Meeting 6:00 pm
Wednesday, January 24 Second Trimester Progress Reports Go Home
Thursday, January 25 Class of 2024 Science Fair
Sunday, January 28 Open House 10:00 am-12:00 pm
January 28-February 2 Catholic Schools Week!
Friday, February 2 First Friday Mass 9:00 am (Formal Uniforms)
Friday, February 2 Middle School Dance 6:30-8:30 pm
Saturday, February 10 Father-Daughter Dance 5:00-8:00 pm
Tuesday, February 13 PTG Board Meeting 6:00 pm
Wednesday, February 14 Ash Wednesday Mass 9:00 am (Formal Uniforms)
February 19-23 February Vacation

Come, Lord Jesus!