



*Don't let crosses vex or tease;  
try to meet all with peace and ease.  
Notice the faults of every day –  
but often in a playful way.  
Be mild and sweet in all your ways;  
now and again bestow some praise.  
Avoid all solemn declaration,  
all serious, close investigation.  
Turn what you can into a jest,  
and with few words dismiss the rest.  
C. McAuley*

## October 2020 **PIE** (*Partners in Education*)

### No Uniform Slips

The expiration date of the No Uniform Slips given on Mercy Day has been extended to October 9<sup>th</sup>. There will be plenty of other opportunities throughout the year for the children to acquire No Uniform Slips. They are typically offered as reward/prizes during our fundraisers. When a child uses a No Uniform Slip, they are allowed to come to school out of uniform. The dress down policy is the same as if we have a dress down day.

### Mercymount Parent Association Facebook Page

The Parent Association hosts the Facebook page **MCDS Parent Association**, a parent-moderated **CLOSED** group for current Mercymount families. The page features posts of current and upcoming events at school and offers an opportunity for questions to be asked and answered. To join, just submit a request to that page on Facebook.

### Safe Schools

All volunteers who have not been through the **Safe Schools** Presentation and/or had a criminal background check (BCI) since 2017 **MUST** complete these requirements prior to volunteering in school this year. The Safe Schools process is being done virtually this year. If you are interested in volunteering, please email Mrs. Simas at [csimas@mercymount.org](mailto:csimas@mercymount.org) and she will provide you with instructions.

### Math Olympiad

We are hoping that our Math Olympiad program will continue this year. In order to do so, we are in need of parent volunteers to run the program. We typically have two teams, Grades 4 – 6 and Grades 7 – 8. Both teams usually meet each Tuesday morning (7:45 – 8:25), beginning in October and ending in mid-March. Please see the attached flyer for more information. Email Mrs. Simas, [csimas@mercymount.org](mailto:csimas@mercymount.org), if you are interested in running this program.

### **Flu Clinic – October 7**

Has your family gotten the flu shot? A reminder that there will be a flu clinic held at Mercymount Country Day School on Wednesday, October 7th from 4:00-7:00 pm in the school gym. All adults and children, age 3 and older, are welcome to attend the clinic and get vaccinated at no out-of-pocket cost. There are **NO** walk-ins allowed. This new rule has been put in place by The Wellness Company to avoid large crowd gatherings, and to keep all staff and participants at the clinic safe. Please register your family (age 3+) online at least one day prior to the flu clinic to make sure you are able to reserve an appointment time. You can register online using the following link <http://www.schoolflu.com/>

Reminder: the flu is a serious, sometimes deadly disease. It is also highly contagious. Catching the flu means missing days of work and school, and possibly being hospitalized. Don't take the risk – protect yourself and your family by getting the flu shot. If you have any questions, please call the RIDOH information line @ 401-222-5960. You can register online using the following link <http://www.schoolflu.com/>

### **School Picture Day**

Lifetouch is currently scheduled to be here on Monday October 7th for our annual individual and class pictures. We are currently working with Lifetouch to reschedule to another date when all students are back in school. The make-up day is scheduled for November 18<sup>th</sup>. Students may wear uniforms or dress clothes. The class photo will be a composite photo of all of the children in the class. Order forms will be sent home with each student soon. Orders may also be placed online – more information to follow.

### **Something Old is New Again, Drive-in Movie Night! – October 18**

Join us as we go back in time to the days of the Drive-In Movies! Mercymount's parking lot will be transformed into a family-friendly, socially distanced movie theater. Enjoy Toy Story 4, The Addams Family, or both from the safety of your vehicle. Along with the movies, your family can enjoy popular, local food trucks for your dining pleasure. Spaces are limited, so purchase your tickets early. Each ticket purchased will be eligible for a door prize to be awarded at the start of each movie. Please see the enclosed flyer for details and ticket purchase instructions.

### **Trunk or Treat! - October 30**

Mark your calendars for Mercymount's first ever Trunk or Treat event! On Friday evening October 30th, Mercymount Mustangs are invited to dress up and walk the campus gathering treats from many Faculty, Staff and Board Members. In keeping with Covid protocol, social distancing guidelines will be in place and we ask students to only trick or treat with their families. Stay tuned for details!

## **Mercymount Spirit Wear**

### **Show Your Mercymount Spirit!**

Again this year we offer our own line of **Spirit Wear** through Donnelly's Clothing. The link to order is available on the school website. Sweatshirts, fleece jackets, t-shirts and more are available for ordering anytime; delivery options for home, school or store pick-up are available. Each item can be customized.

[https://www.donnelysclothing.com/FamilyDetail.aspx?School\\_Code=mercycumbri&SubCatID=MERCYCUMBRI\\_SPW&frmflg=C](https://www.donnelysclothing.com/FamilyDetail.aspx?School_Code=mercycumbri&SubCatID=MERCYCUMBRI_SPW&frmflg=C)

## **Instructional and CAL Basketball**

Hard to believe, but basketball season will be upon us before we know it! While we still do not know what a potential CAL basketball season would look like, the Sports Committee needs to begin planning for potential basketball teams. Please keep an eye out for a communication later this month asking for expressions of interest from potential players in grades 3 - 8. We will hold off on formal registrations until November, when we have more clarity from CAL.

Instructional basketball (aka Biddyball) for grades K - 3 is currently scheduled to begin in early December. More info and a link to sign-ups in the November PIE memo!

## **Do You Shop at Stop & Shop?**

The *A+ Bonus Rewards* program from Stop & Shop is available again this year. Through March 16, a percentage of your receipts will be donated to Mercymount when you register your card and designate our school as the recipient of the funds (our school ID is 06008.) Please see the flyer available on the Mercymount web site PIE Memo page and follow the easy directions. Note: if you have registered in the past, no need to do it again! If you are new, please help us support Mercymount, and forward the info to your friends and family to do the same!

## **Asbestos Information**

In accordance with federal guidelines, schools are required to notify parents and employees about asbestos in the school. Mercymount conducts regular inspections and has a Management Plan available upon request.

## **Parent/Teacher Conferences and Progress Reports**

Progress reports will be sent home the week of October 20<sup>th</sup>. Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for the week of November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Specific details to follow.

## **Furry Friends**

As much as we love animals, they are not allowed inside of the school. Thank you!

## **Advancement update:**

### **Thank you to all our golfers, sponsors, and friends!**

Our 23rd Annual Golf Tournament was held on Thursday, September 24 at Crestwood Country Club in Rehoboth, MA, and we couldn't have asked for a better turnout or more perfect weather. Proceeds from this event fund the upgrading of technology in our classrooms to enhance the learning experience for our students, and we are pleased to announce that the tournament raised more than \$10,000 this year!

### **Magazines, and Cookies, and Coops, Oh My!**

Thank you to all who are taking part in our annual Fall Product Sales Fundraiser, whether you are encouraging friends and families to make sales or donations, or are part of the amazing team of volunteers working here to process orders and ensure that everyone receives their coops. A special shoutout to all the teachers as well, who are helping to transport collection envelopes and prizes, in among everything else they already do. Our final turn-in day will be Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, and we are steadily inching towards our goal of raising \$10,000. Let's make that last push to hit our goal!

### **Other Advancement news:**

Over the summer, we have been working to plan our fundraising efforts for the year, while continuing to build our database for better record keeping. If you would like more information, are interested in volunteering to help plan fundraising events, or would like to help with data entry, please contact Karen Weavill at [kweavill@mercymount.org](mailto:kweavill@mercymount.org) or 401-333-5919 x14.

### **Teacher Wish List**

Our school is blessed to have what we **need** to educate our students. However, our resources cannot always incorporate what we **wish** for to enhance the educational experience for your children. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Simas at [csimas@mercymount.org](mailto:csimas@mercymount.org).

**PK Miss Carito** Chalk and Dry Erase Markers

**PK-A Ms. Dias** Lysol disinfecting spray and paper towels

**K-C Miss Lena** Disinfecting wipes

**2-8 Mrs. Burke** Two Large Timers (See teacher for details), Essential Oil Diffuser (See teacher)

**3-4 Miss Bruno** Disinfecting wipes, play money, any type of math manipulative (basic ten blocks, unifix cubes, counters), flexible seating that can be wiped down (Ikea has great kid chair and stool options), large map of the United States, small cones for recess

**4-19 Miss Werderman** Disinfecting wipes or spray with paper towels, disinfecting hand soap

**5-16 Mrs. Roberto** Disinfecting wipes, paper towels, and index card

**7-18 Mrs. Antone** Disinfecting wipes

**Music Mrs. Paré** Plastic hand-held rhythm instruments

**Nurses Office** Boy's and girl's undergarments, socks, leggings, and tissues

**Physical Education** Croquet Sets, GoSports Pure Putt Challenge (See Mrs. Simas), clip on table tennis nets, ping pong rackets, and balls