



PIE MEMO (*Partners in Education*)

A Note from Sister Rayleen:

February already! How wonderful to be on the threshold of another fresh start. This time of year, especially after a snowstorm, reminds me of nature's lessons to step back, slow down, and dream of the fullness that comes after winter's dormancy. It is this time of year that I am often reminded of an artist friend's perspective of the bare trees. Walking through the woods one cold February day, she asked me to stop and really look at the trees as she said, "The winter is the only time of year that one can see just how unique and truly beautiful each tree is." I never thought about bare trees in that way before. She then pointed to the many nests that were exposed. "If not for the winter, I would never think about the hidden nests in the spring and early summer trees," she continued. February... a month that seems so dormant, a month that can be so cold, yet, a month that holds potential ... a fresh start, new perspectives, a threshold for spring's new life.

May this month's beginning provide you with the time to step back, slow down, and dream of life's fullness.

February Contentment

February's a respite
From Winter's normal pace.
The local world is snowbound.
Earth wears a frozen face.

Small seeds sleep under blankets
Of softest elderdown.
Each evergreen is well-wrapped.
In lacy shawl and gown.

Inside we pull our armchairs
Close to the fire's red gleam.
We share our treasured memories,
Plan Summer's garden, dream.

Though all outside is icy.
Inside there's warm content.
A gratitude for loved ones,
And peace that's heaven sent.

Louise Pugh Corder

Catholic Schools Week!

This week is Catholic Schools Week! This year's theme is "Faith. Excellence. Service." Please see the schedule below. Children do not have to be in uniform this week.

- MONDAY:** *Blue and White Spirit Wear!*
Wear our school colors or your Mercymount Spirit Wear
- TUESDAY:** *Celebrate the Students!*
- Traditional Dress Down Day
- WEDNESDAY:** *Color your Cause Day!*
- Dress in the colors of their favorite cause.
 - Examples: Breast Cancer wear pink, Autism wear purple
- THURSDAY:** *Choose your Holiday!*
- Classes vote for the Holiday they would like to dress for and represent.
- FRIDAY:** *Pajama Day!*
- Dress Down Day – Pajama Day

Sports Committee

It's February, which means CAL basketball and Bidyball are in full swing! We are halfway through the CAL season, which will extend to the first weekend in March with CAL playoffs to follow for teams that qualify. We are also looking forward to the return of our Pot of Gold Tournament and the St. John the Evangelist Tournament, with games set to begin at the end of February. Coaches will provide teams with information on our Tournament schedules as that information becomes available. More details on both events will follow later this month. Until then, here are some important upcoming dates:

Pot of Gold Basketball Tournament

31st Annual Pot-of-Gold Save the Date -

- Tournament - the games begin on Monday, February 28th and run through the end of March
- The Alumni game will be on Friday, March 4th
- Pot-of-Gold Pancake Breakfast – Sunday, March 6th
Join us on Sunday morning, March 6th at the 31st Annual Pot-of-Gold Pancake Breakfast!
Don't miss out on this delicious start to our tournament. Proceeds from the breakfast and the tournament games benefit the Sports Program.

Anyone interested in assisting with this year's Pot of Gold events should contact the Sports Committee at mercymountsports@gmail.com

Attention Grade 5 Parents - Save the Date

On Sunday, February 6th, the middle school teachers will hold an informational session for current grade 5 parents at 1 p.m.. This is a great opportunity to learn more about our middle school programs and ask any questions that you might have about our middle school. This meeting will be in person. More details to follow.

Congratulations to our Spelling Bee Winners!

We held our school Spelling Bee competition on Wednesday January 26th. Here are our winners:



Elementary:

Joshua Thomas - 4-10 1st place
Olivia Moseri - 5-15 2nd place

Middle School:

Avi Amin - 7-23 1st place
Alexandra Terrien - 7-21 2nd place

Friends of Mercy "Souper Bowl"



Friends of Mercy will be running a "Souper Bowl" from Feb 1st to Friday, Feb. 11th. Vote for your favorite Super Bowl team before the big game on Feb 13th! Bring in any canned or boxed soup (or other canned foods!) and place them in the shopping cart for your chosen team! The shopping carts will be in the school lobby for those two weeks.

Bids for Kids Auction Update

Mark your calendars now for **Saturday, May 14th, 2022...for Bids for Kids 2022!** Tell friends and family connected to Mercymount (past, present and future!) to save the date, because it's going to be a celebration! This year's Bids for Kids will take place at enVision Hotel and Conference Center Mansfield/Foxboro. There will be raffles, dinner stations, cocktails and bidding, followed by the always exciting and entertaining Live Auction, that you don't want to miss! Eat, drink and be giving!

The Auction Committee invites everyone to participate in the planning of this exciting event! Join us for our next meeting on Wednesday, **February 16th @ 8:30am** in the teacher's room. The Committee is ramping up the planning and are looking for your ideas and energy!

The committee is accepting any donations at this time. Don't know what to donate, check out our Amazon wish list for ideas. All items on the wish list can be delivered right to

Mercymount. Please remember to include your name in the note section, so that we know who donated the items.

http://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2S0ZYNQWN6URP?ref_=wl_share

Contact Co Chairs Melissa Quinn melissaquinn8@hotmail.com, Jamie Sims mr.mrs.sims@gmail.com or Melissa Titov mac33317@gmail.com with any questions! Thank you for all your support!

Mercymount Spirit Has Its Rewards!

It's time to show off your Mercymount spirit! All members of our community are encouraged to wear their Mercymount swag to events and activities off campus for a chance to win a \$25 gift certificate to the Ice Cream Machine. Going somewhere fun? Be sure to bring your Mercymount water bottle or cooler! That's right, coolers, water bottles, hats - it all counts as swag and helps to promote our school! Send in a photo of you or your Mustang showing some spirit off campus (dance rehearsal, gymnastics, hockey practice, the movies, you name it!). Email your photo to Mrs. Lisa Pare at lpare@mercymount.org and Mrs. Colleen DiPetrillo at colleen.dipetrillo77@gmail.com with a creative hashtag to be entered into our Ice Cream Machine gift card drawing. Please know some photos may be featured on our public social media sites. Entries will be pulled every month through the end of the school year!

Advancement Update:

Annual Fund

Please consider donating to the Annual Fund! All proceeds raised go directly to support all areas of an excellent education, from financial aid to cleaning and health protocols for keeping our students and staff safe, to Project Based Learning and STREAM programs that keep us engaged and learning. We welcome your gift in any amount, and are grateful for your generosity. If you work for a company that matches charitable gifts, you may be able to double or triple your donation by submitting a matching gift form (usually available through your HR office or on your employee website). You may make a gift online through our website here: <https://www.mercymount.org/giving/annual-fund>.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Lisa Pare via email at lpare@mercymount.org or by phone at 401-333-5919 x19.

Earn While You Drink and Shop!

There are a few sites that allow you to quench your thirst and shop to earn money for the school. For those of you that love Amazon, use this link to shop, <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/05-0298738>. You can use your existing Amazon accounts, just be sure to shop through the Amazon Smile site. There is also the Box Tops for Education Program. You no longer have to cut out the Box Top squares. You just download the app, choose the school you want to earn for, and take a picture of your receipt any time you buy a qualifying product. It is super easy!

Now for the drinks - Turn your Coca-Cola product purchases into donations to Mercymount! To donate, visit coke.com/give/schools, select Mercymount and scan or enter product codes from participating Coca-Cola products. Get started today! Don't have time to input codes, feel free to send in your bottle caps as well as the codes off your 12 packs to school and let us input those for you! Thank you for helping Mercymount make the most of this program! To learn more, go to: Coke.com/give.

Tardiness

Students are to be in school by 8:30 (8:35 while following Covid-19 protocols). A tardy or late student arriving at school following the 8:30 a.m. bell (or 8:35 a.m.) must report directly to the Office. Please try your best to get your student here on time to limit disruptions in the classroom.

School Culture Survey

In the coming weeks you will be sent a link to School Culture Survey. The survey is conducted by John Hopkins Institute for Education Policy. The Institute has designed a research-based survey that identifies the alignment of a school's mission with its practices. The survey determines whether a school's practices correspond to those that are known to support academic achievement, social and emotional well-being, and civic formation. We ask that you consider taking the time to participate in this survey.

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. Ready at jready@mercymount.org

PK-D Miss Carito	Lysol Disinfecting Spray, Paper Towels, Playdoh, Finger paint, Drawing paper, Mix and Match Magnetic Families Set, White lunch bags 16 count or more.
PK -A Ms. Dias	Paper Towels, Disinfecting Wipes, Disinfecting Spray, Kids Wired Headphones
KB Mis. Kimatian	Elmer's Glue Sticks
1-5 Mrs. Lanyi	Playdoh, Stickers and chalk
1-6 Mrs. Corio	Playdoh
2-8 Mrs. Burke	Astrobright colored Copy Paper: Lift off Lemon, Martian Green, Pulsar Pink
3-3 Mrs. Demirgioglu	Model Magic
3-4 Miss Bruno	Extra-long construction paper (12 x 18), markers (any brand, any size) sheet protectors
4-10 Miss Werderman	Clorox wipes and Paper Towels
5-15 Mrs. Roberto	Model Magic, Card Stock Paper, Small wooden blocks/keva blocks
7-23 Mrs. Antone	Disinfecting wipes, Lysol spray, 3 hole punch, diffuser oils, Valentine and St. Patrick's Day Decorations
Nurse	Adult and Pediatric Surgical Masks, Children's Ibruprofen, Bendadryl, Benadryl Chewables, Band-aids

Teacher Snacks

Below is the link to our Amazon Snack Wish List created especially for our Teachers & Staff to show them how much we appreciate them! The list was compiled of all their favorite snacks & drinks!

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2YKSSGNOHUE9B?ref_=wl_share

Orders will be shipped directly to the school (select Mercymount as shipping address) to help refill our Celebration Station located in the Teachers' Lounge throughout the year! For those who prefer to drop off directly to the school, please see Mrs. Simas or Mrs. Ready.

For any questions, please contact Colleen DiPetrillo (MCDS Parent Association) at Colleen.DiPetrillo77@gmail.com.



Tax ID

It's tax time! Please note that Mercymount's Federal ID number is 05-029-8738.

Looking Ahead.....

- Winter Recess - February 20-27
- End of Trimester II - March 11
- Professional Day - March 14
- Spring Vacation - April 17 - 24
- Bids for Kids Auction - May 14



“The only return GOD requires of us for all HIS favors is a return of love”

Venerable Catherine McAuley

