



## October 2022 **PIE** (*Partners in Education*)

### A Note from Sister Rayleen...

Recently, as I was looking through some prayer resources for our faculty prayer, I found "A Piece of Light" written by Sr. Joyce Rupp, OSM. Through this poem, Sr. Joyce reminds us that "there is a piece of light in all of us... ready to kindle, eager to expand, refusing to be tightly contained." There are days, especially when I watch the news, I feel so discouraged and wonder if there will ever be a reprieve from the sorrow and/or violence that seems to be so prevalent in our world. Gratefully, those moments are often followed by a good dose of "light therapy". Someone says just the right thing. A card from a friend arrives in the mail. I hear the sounds of children giggling or playing. A child spontaneously runs up and wraps their little arms around my legs. These are some of the many ways light breaks through. All are reminders of the gift of being connected and the strength of those connections. Our Mercymount community is a beacon of light on the hill. It is a reminder to me, each and every day, of how we can and do bring light to the spaces we inhabit. It is a reminder that "each lone light makes us stronger when we all stand together."

There is a piece of light in all of us...  
Seen or unseen, the light is there,  
ready to kindle, eager to expand,  
refusing to be tightly contained...  
One single candle lights a little dark space.  
Many candles light a world full of people  
desperately in need of each other's glow.  
Each lone light makes us stronger  
when we all stand together.  
Joyce Rupp "A Piece of Light"

Sister Rayleen

### **Early Bird Line**

To expedite the Early Bird Line **please display your child's name** in the corner of your passenger's side window. **This is especially important if someone different is picking up your child.** Our dismissal process relies on our staff quickly matching the car with the student.

### **No Uniform Slips**

The expiration date of the No Uniform Slips sold at the Bids for Kids Auction has passed. No Uniform Slips sold as part of the Golf Tournament fundraiser have been distributed. 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.

### **Label Personal Belongings**

Please remember to label your child's uniforms and personal belongings. We have an abundance of water bottles and uniform sweatshirts in the Lost and Found that have not found their owners.

### **Dismissal Procedure**

Please send a note or an email to your child's teacher and/or the Office if your child is being dismissed early. It is also helpful to know when your child will be attending Aftercare. If your dismissal plans change during the day, please email both your teacher and Mrs. Ready or call the office.

### **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.

### **Volunteers**

All volunteers who have not been through the **Safe Schools** Presentation and/or had a criminal background check (BCI) since 2019 **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. Ready at [jready@mercymount.org](mailto:jready@mercymount.org) and she will provide you with instructions on how to become Safe Schools certified.

### **Important Trimester Dates**

November 30<sup>th</sup> is the end of the first trimester. Progress reports will go home with all children in Grades 4-6 on October 14<sup>th</sup>. Children in all other grades will only receive progress reports if needed. Report Cards will be issued December 9<sup>th</sup>.

## **October 28<sup>th</sup>: Teacher Conferences Grades 5-8 only:**

There will be **No School for Grades 5-8 only**. Grades PreS-4 will be in school. PreS-4 Conferences will take place Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## **Parking Lot Safety**

Vehicles must maintain traffic flow on Fisher Road and in the parking lot until they are either in the early bird line or in a parking spot. Per the Cumberland Police Department, at no time can Fisher Rd be blocked. If the line for the main entrance to drop off or pickup is stopped on Fisher Rd, vehicles must pull into the lot and park until the line starts moving. Cars in the early bird line should be parked close together to allow for more vehicles on our property and not on Fisher Rd. Also, please remember to back into your parking spaces. Please pass this information to anyone in your family that may drop off or pick up a child in school.

## **Clubs and Activities:**

In addition to Homework Club and Makerspace, our other offerings are listed below. Please see the attached registration forms for all of our clubs.

Monday: Chess Club 3:15 – 4:15 p.m. Gr. 3-8 (alternating weeks, more detail attached)

Tuesday: Japanese Culture Club 3 - 4:00 p.m. K – Grade 5

Wednesday: Homework Club 3 - 4:00 p.m.

Friends of Mercy 3 - 4:15 p.m. (prior signup required) Gr. 4 - 6

Violin 3 4:00 p.m. (prior signup required, no walk-ins)

Thursday: Makerspace Gr. K - 2 alternate weeks (see above)

Comic Drawing 3 - 4:00 p.m. Gr. 4 - 8

Sewing Gr. 3 - 8 (prior signup required, no walk-ins)

Jump Rope Team (Starting in Nov. registration to come later)

**Please inform your child's teacher when they will be attending an Afterschool activity.**

## **Homework Club**

Starting on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, students in grades 4 - 8 may stay after school on Wednesdays from 3:00 - 4:00 for Homework Club. There is no charge for this club. Homework Club is a time that students can work on homework, study for tests, etc. There will be teachers to assist the students as needed.

Students do not need to sign up on a weekly basis. If attending, students will stay with their homeroom teacher until dismissal has concluded and the teacher will bring them to Homework Club.

**Pick up from Homework Club:** Please park in the back parking lot. Students will be led out the Art Room door at 4:00.

If you have any further questions, please contact Mrs. Bement at [tbement@mercymount.org](mailto:tbement@mercymount.org).

## **Debate Team**

The Middle School is interested in starting a Debate Team. We are searching for a parent volunteer to help moderate, direct the discussions, and monitor the team. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Antone at: [mantone@mercymount.org](mailto:mantone@mercymount.org)

## **Friends of Mercy - October 13**

The first meeting of **Friends of Mercy** will be held after school on Wednesday October 13<sup>th</sup>, and will be held on the second Wednesday of each month from 3-4:15p.m. in the library. Friends of Mercy, open to students in grades 4 - 6, is a service and faith club guided by the teachings of Catherine McAuley. Students learn about Catherine and the Works of Mercy, serve the needy through weekly projects, and take part in other fun activities. Please see the attached flyer and sign-up sheet.

## **Math Olympiad**

Our Math Olympiad program will continue this year. Mr. Richard Grasfeder will be leading our Grades 4 - 6 group. They will be meeting each Thursday morning (7:45-8:25) beginning October 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Sims will run the Grade 7 - 8 group. They will meet Fridays mornings (7:45-8:25) beginning in October 7<sup>th</sup>. Both teams will end their sessions in mid-March. Teams are limited to 20 children on a first-come basis. Please see the attached flyer for more information. Email Mrs. Bement, [tbement@mercymount.org](mailto:tbement@mercymount.org), if you are interested in participating in Math Olympiad.

## **MakerSpace**

Mrs. Corio and Miss Lena are bringing back MakerSpace! MakerSpace is an afterschool program for creative kids who love hands-on activities. This is a "drop in" program, so there is no need to register ahead of time. Please just let your child's homeroom teacher know in advance if they will be attending. Each Thursday will be for a different grade, so please see the calendar for the schedule and the attached flyer for more details.

The schedule is as follows:

Thursday, October 6th is Kindergarten

Thursday, October 13th is 1st grade

Thursday, October 20th is 2nd grade

Thursday, October 27th is Kindergarten

Thursday, November 3rd is 1st grade

Thursday, November 10th is 2nd grade

Thursday, November 17th is Kindergarten

\*\*\*\*No Makerspace on Thursday November 24th (Thanksgiving) and Thursday, December 1st (Parent Conferences that night)

Thursday, December 8th is 1st grade

Thursday, December 15th is 2nd grade

### **School Picture Day - October 3**

Lifetouch is currently scheduled to be here on Monday October 3rd for our annual individual and class pictures. The make-up day is scheduled for November 14<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 have been or will be sent home. Orders may also be placed online; the flyer is attached.

### **Color Run - October 6**

Mercymount will be hosting a fun filled Color Run on Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. Handouts went home with each child with more details. This will be Mercymount's major Fall Fundraiser. Be sure to register by September 30<sup>th</sup>. Should your child not want to participate, please notify the office and/or your child's teacher. The rain date for this event is October 7<sup>th</sup>.



### **Flu Clinic - October 12**

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 12<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-6:30 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. 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/>



### **Book Fair - October 11, 12, 13**

Mercymount is so excited to be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair. Please see the attached flyer for more details and volunteer opportunities.

**<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/mercymountcountrydayschool>**



## **Trunk or Treat and Pumpkin Stroll - A Boo-tastic Time! October 29th**

Save the date! Mercymount's 3rd Annual Trunk or Treat is scheduled for Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

PreK-2 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Grade 3 – Grade 8: 8:00 – 9:00 p.m.

If you have a student in both groups, arrive for the first shift.

This event is exclusive to Mercymount Families.

Kindly fill out the attached form and return to Mrs. Pare no later than October 24th.

Joining with Mercymount's Trunk or Treat Event, families will be invited to participate in our 1<sup>st</sup> community **Pumpkin Stroll**. Stay tuned for more details this voluntary spooky affair!!

**To make our trail even longer, we are inviting alumni back to decorate their trunks and pass out candy. Volunteer hours will be given and candy will be provided! Please email Mrs. Pare if your alum is interested!** \*The Halloween Committee is graciously accepting candy donations for this event. Should you wish to donate, kindly drop those off to the school. Thank you in advance!

## **Mercymount Jump Rope Team Starting Soon!**

Interested in learning the exciting sport of jump rope? Mercymount will be starting a new jump rope team called the *Mustang Jumpers* in November, 2022! Practices will be held in the gym on **Thursdays from 3:00-3:45, starting November 3, 2022**, and will run until early spring. A final jump rope skills show/fundraiser (date, TBD) will be planned.

Any child in grades K-8 is welcome to join. It will cost \$30 to join the team. We will learn single rope skills, double rope skills, and partner skills. T-shirts and jump ropes will be provided. Be sure to bring your sneakers.

Please email Colleen Malachowski at [colleenmalachowski@gmail.com](mailto:colleenmalachowski@gmail.com) by **Monday, October 10, 2022** if your child is interested in joining the team. Please include the child's name, grade level, and t-shirt size.

Volunteers are also needed to help run the team and be swingers for long rope skills. Please email Colleen Malachowski at [colleenmalachowski@gmail.com](mailto:colleenmalachowski@gmail.com) by **Monday, October 10, 2022** if you are interested in being a jump rope team volunteer. Thank you!



## **3 on 3 Basketball Tournament**



The 8<sup>th</sup> grade is excited to announce the return of the 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament Fundraiser! Join us on Saturday, November 19 for a competitive, fun tournament. Please see attached flyer for more information and how to sign up.

- 4 Divisions: 3-5th Grade, 6-8th Grade, High school, & adult
- 3rd-8th grade teams strategically randomized to promote a fun but competitive environment.
- Prizes awarded for each division
- All games will be played at the Mercymount gym

Registration fee is \$25 per player and includes a tournament t-shirt. All proceeds to benefit the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class.

To sign up, please complete this form <https://forms.gle/RBWWj3Weseg12q7t5> no later than **October 19<sup>th</sup>**.

For more information or to volunteer, please email Keli Sanford - [keli.e.sanford@gmail.com](mailto:keli.e.sanford@gmail.com)  
Please see the attached flyers for more information.

## **Teacher Snacks**

Below is the link to our NEW Amazon 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](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. Ready.

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



## **Pot of Gold Tournament Committee**

Join the 32nd Annual Pot of Gold planning Committee! Our first meeting is Nov 8<sup>th</sup> in the cafeteria at 7PM. What is the Pot of Gold? The Pot of Gold is a 3-week basketball tournament which starts in February 2023 and is a major fundraising event for the Sports Committee. In addition to 80+ basketball games for boys and girls grade 4 - 8, the tournaments also host an alumni game, futures game and Tip Off Breakfast. Several positions are open on the committee and no experience is required. If you are looking for a great way to get involved, this is it! Please see attached flyer for details on available positions. For more information, please contact Tournament Direction, Keli Sanford @ [Keli.E.Sanford@gmail.com](mailto:Keli.E.Sanford@gmail.com)

## Auction Announcement:

As we embark on Mercymount's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday, we will also begin to prepare for this year's auction, "Mercymount's Diamond Jubilee". The Diamond Jubilee will be the grand finale of the 75<sup>th</sup> celebration! We are happy to say it will take place at Bally's Twin River Event Center in Lincoln, RI on Saturday, May 6, 2023. We hope you can join us for our first meeting on **Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:45am** in the teacher's lounge! Any questions, please reach out to Jamie Sims: mr.mrs.sims@gmail.com, Melissa Titov: mac33317@gmail.com or Melissa Quinn: melissaquinn8@hotmail.com

## 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.

**PK-D Mrs. Delauriers:** Small containers of Play-Doh, Liquid hand soap

**PK-C Ms. Dias:** Plastic Spoons, Gallon Size Ziploc Storage Bags, Ziploc Sandwich Bags, Small Paper Plates, Book - The Pigeon Has to Go to School

**K-B Mrs. Capone:** magnetic wands (Lakeshore - 12/\$32), Super Safe Magnifiers (Lakeshore - 4/\$21.99), Bright Giant Washable Ink Pads (Lakeshore ), Easy grip safety tweezers (Lakeshore 12/12.99), Seasonal stickers, Popsicle sticks

**3-4 Miss Bruno:** Addition/ Subtraction/ Multi./ Div. flashcards, roll-on essential oils, "Big Joe" black bean bag chair.

**5-15 Mrs. Roberto** Model Magic all colors

**6-16 Mrs. Pereira:** classroom set of dry erase boards with erasers

**7-23 Mrs. Antone:** (2) beanbag chairs for reading area

**PE Mr. Houston:** Gator Skin soft foam dodgeballs, Youth mini sized footballs, Floor hockey equipment (including Goalie pads)

**Nurses Office:** cough drops, tissues

**Mrs. Fleming (PreS/K Spanish):** Mis primeras canciones infantiles (1):

<https://a.co/d/6TTWXsQ>, Mis primeras canciones tradicionales (1):

<https://a.co/d/dAc6USX>, Mis primeras canciones de cuna (1): <https://a.co/d/dwuwFm2>,

Band Wrist bells 12 PCS (2): <https://a.co/d/8QMCXlk>, 8 Pairs Classical Wood Claves



*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*



