



**PIE MEMO** (*Partners in Education*)

### **A Note from Sister Rayleen**

This time of year is one of my favorites. Although I am not a big fan of the “hustle and bustle” and have chosen a lifestyle in which gift giving has limitations, this season of profound meaning calls me to pause. As most Christian communities set aside Advent to mark a time of prayer and reflection, our Jewish sisters and brothers are preparing for Hanukkah to set aside time to remember God’s special blessings. Advent reminds us that we are always preparing for Christ anew. Hanukkah, often referred to the Festival of Lights, celebrates the rededication of the Temple. How significant that the month of December, the month that ushers in the darkest days of the calendar year (at least in this hemisphere), calls me/us to remember, prepare, and rededicate ourselves to what is most important, most essential: God, family, friends, community, our deepest held values... As a community, we are incredibly blessed and enriched by our varied religious traditions and cultures in which our shared values are held in the highest regard. Of course, it takes a lot of hard work on all of our parts! With God’s help, may we continue to create a loving and nurturing environment that reminds us, especially our children, that a new and kinder day for our local and world communities is possible.

“I know that a new and kinder day will come. I would so much like to live on, if only to express all the love I carry within me. And there is only one way of preparing the new age, by living it even now in our hearts.” Etty Hillesum, Mystic of the Holocaust

### **Message from Parent Association**

The Parent Association Committee would like to wish all of our families, the administration, faculty and staff a Merry Christmas.

### **December 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> - Parent/Teacher Conferences**

On Thursday December 1, Parent/Teacher Conferences in the evening. December 2, Parent/Teacher Conferences will take place during the day. **There will be no school for Preschool-Grade 4 on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.** If you have not signed up or need to change your time, please go to the link below.

**There will be NO Aftercare on Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

**Parent/Teacher Conference link:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094eaea722a1ff2-psgrade>

### **December 5<sup>th</sup> - Spirit Wear Sale**

Come shop the Mercymount store just in time for the holidays. The store which will be located in the lobby, will be open from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. If you are not able to come to the store, please email [lpare@mercymount.org](mailto:lpare@mercymount.org) or [colleen.dipetrillo77@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.dipetrillo77@gmail.com) with your order and we will do our best to fill the order prior to the holidays. All orders must be fully paid upon pick-up with cash or a check.

### **Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass - December 8<sup>th</sup>**

Mercymount will celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception with a Mass at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome to attend. Please enter through the front office and sign in prior to Mass. **Students should be dressed in their formal uniforms for Mass. No swag or spiritwear on Mass days.**

### **Report Cards - December 9<sup>th</sup>**

Report cards will be sent out on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. A printed copy will be sent home with children in Pre-K and Kindergarten. Report cards will be emailed to parents of children in Grades 1- 8.

### **Foundation Day - December 12<sup>th</sup>**

Sisters of Mercy around the world celebrate December 12 as Foundation Day of the Mercy Community. On that day in 1831, Catherine McAuley, Mary Ann Doyle, and Elizabeth Harley professed vows as the first Sisters of Mercy in Dublin, Ireland. From their commitment to serve the poor, sick and uneducated, the Sisters of Mercy grew into thousands across the globe, reaching the United States in 1843 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and establishing foundations throughout the U.S.

### **Musical Auditions for Middle School - December 12<sup>th</sup>**

Auditions for the spring musical will take place after school at 3:00 p.m. in the music room. The auditions are open to anyone in Grades 6-8. This year's production of High School Musical Jr. will take place on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Please see the attached flyer for more details about rehearsal times and performances. Any questions can be directed to: [mercymount.musical@gmail.com](mailto:mercymount.musical@gmail.com)

### **Dental Screenings - December 12<sup>th</sup>**

As per the RI Department of Health school guidelines, dental screenings are required to be done yearly in all RI schools. These screenings must be performed on students in grades K-5 and once for grades 6-10 yearly. We will be screening our elementary aged students and grade 8 on Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.

George Resnevic, DMD will be coming out to Mercymount to provide this service. It is a noninvasive exam. He will be looking in the students mouth with a flashlight and disposable mirror. Every student screened will come home with a Dental Screening Findings report that provides the parents with any treatment recommendations.

Students who have an updated dental card or letter on file stating their last visit to their own dentist will be exempt from this screening. Letters or cards must be dated after 5/17/22. Dental cards are available online at:

<https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1596414035/mercymountorg/oqjxo9dindfvrkqi7apv/RI DentalExamCard.pdf>

Please email: [nurse@mercymount.org](mailto:nurse@mercymount.org) with any questions or copies of filled out dental cards.

### **Santa Store - December 13 and 14<sup>th</sup>**

December has arrived, and that means our **Santa Store** is here! Our Santa Store still needs a few more supplies. We are kindly asking for more bags (preferably medium to large) and tissue paper. Please send your generous donation in with your child or you can also drop off to Mrs. Ready in the office.

Please contact Colleen DiPetrillo with any questions: [colleen.dipetrillo77@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.dipetrillo77@gmail.com)

### **Christmas Concert - December 15<sup>th</sup>**

Please join us for some holiday cheer at Mercymount's Christmas Concert. The evening will feature our violinists and 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade chorus. The show will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Gymnasium.



### **Pre- Auction Raffle Drawing - December 16th**

Prize information and tickets were sent home to each family last week. Great prizes, which would make great Christmas gifts! They include a Ridington 24V Kids Electric Go-Kart with Drift Function donated by The DiPetrillo and Iannetta families, Patriot Place Family Night out package, which includes a candy basket, \$100 gift card to Saga Hibachi, \$100 gift card to Splitsville Luxury Lanes and \$50 Showcase Cinema de Lux gift card donated by The Mallinson Family, and the ever popular Mercymount Gold Card donated by Sister Rayleen! Can't beat the deal at \$5 per chance! Order forms for No Uniform Slips were also sent home. A maximum of 5 slips can be purchased per student. These make great stocking stuffers!! Forms are attached to the PIE Memo.

### **No Aftercare - December 19<sup>th</sup>**

On December 19<sup>th</sup>, there will be no staff available to supervise the Aftercare program. Our teachers and staff will gather after school for a holiday celebration.

### **Advent**

During this season of Advent, each class is helping those less fortunate by collecting and donating toys, clothes and toiletries. Classroom collections this year will benefit Operation Christmas Child, Samaritan's Purse, Pajama Project, and Children's Friend. Many thanks to each family for your continued generosity. And for your daily Advent prayer reflection, the "Little Blue Books" will be available in the lobby - please help yourself!

Friends of Mercy will be collecting travel sized toiletries. They will be donating them to local shelters. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated.

### **Winter Sports Update**

Biddyball (Instructional Basketball) Registration is Now Open!

Here is the link to register for Biddyball, our instructional basketball program for K - 2nd grade. This year the season will run from Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup> through Saturday March 11<sup>th</sup>, with breaks on the weekends before and after Christmas and February vacations.

The cost for the season is \$30 and includes a Biddyball t-shirt!

All sessions are on Saturdays in the MCDS gym at the following times:

Kindergarten - 8:30 - 9:30

First Grade - 9:30 - 10:30

Second Grade - 10:30 - 11:30

We will need lots of coaches for all levels! You can indicate your willingness to coach on the registration form. No need to be a former NBA All-Star to coach, just a positive attitude and a willingness to learn about the game!! All coaches need a current BCI/CORI and to be Safe Environment certified, which are the basic volunteer requirements at the school.

<https://go.teamsnap.com/forms/347116>

### **CAL Basketball Parents:**

Please update your TeamSnap contacts. TeamSnap is the best way to communicate with your coaches regarding all basketball matters.

## **One on One Basketball Camp**

One on One Basketball, Inc. will be hosting a camp at Mercymount on December 27, 28, and 29 (Tuesday-Thursday). Please see the attached flyer for me details. You may contact Frank Luca at 401-639-0814 or frank@1on1basketball.com

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Fundraiser Coming Soon - 1/10/23**

Please support our 8<sup>th</sup> grade class on January 10<sup>th</sup> by dining or ordering take-out from Davenport's restaurant in Cumberland. Put the date on your calendar and see the attached flyer for more details.

## **Winter Weather**

In regards to snow days, not all "snow days" will be virtual learning days. The decision to do remote learning on snow days will be made on a case by case basis. Emergency notifications will be done through our Rediker database program. Parents will receive notification via email, voice mail and/or text message.

Please be aware of the following additional means of obtaining information regarding delays, school closings or early release:

- TV – RI Channels 6, 10, 12 and Fox 64 (or check their websites\*)
- Rhode Island Radio (or check their websites\*)
- Emails from Mrs. Simas
- NOTE: We do not post information regarding weather-related announcements on the Mercymount web site

*\*The television and radio station web sites allow you to enter your cell phone number and/or email address to receive text messages or email notifications through RI Broadcasters. We strongly recommend that you consider using this option, particularly those families in Massachusetts who may not have access to Providence channels.*

## **Lunch Menu**

We will be making additions to the Lunch Menu. An updated Lunch Calendar will be sent shortly when the menu are chosen for 12/15 - 12/22.

## **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](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.

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

## Teacher Wish Lists

**PK-D Mrs. Delauriers:** highlighters, rolls of papertowels, and cheap plastic disposable tablecloths (rectangular) for table protection when working on messy projects.

**PK-C Ms. Dias:** Tissue paper, bows and Lysol spray

**1-6 Mrs. Corio:** Paper Mate Felt Tip Pens Flair Marker Pens, Medium Point, Assorted, 24 Count

[https://www.amazon.com/Paper-Mate-Flair-Medium-Limited/dp/B01M4M3S7G/ref=asc\\_df\\_B01M4M3S7G/?tag=hyprod-20&linkCode=df0&hvadid=198068697245&hvpos=&hvnetw=g&hvrnd=3746014276654186968&hvpone=&hvptwo=&hvgmt=&hvdev=c&hvdvcmdl=&hvlocint=&hvlocphy=9002215&hvtargi=d=pla-318232512466&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/Paper-Mate-Flair-Medium-Limited/dp/B01M4M3S7G/ref=asc_df_B01M4M3S7G/?tag=hyprod-20&linkCode=df0&hvadid=198068697245&hvpos=&hvnetw=g&hvrnd=3746014276654186968&hvpone=&hvptwo=&hvgmt=&hvdev=c&hvdvcmdl=&hvlocint=&hvlocphy=9002215&hvtargi=d=pla-318232512466&psc=1)

**3-3 Mrs. Demirgioglu:** Lysol wipes, Scotch shipping tape, Model Magic all colors, and Playdoh.

**3-4 Miss Bruno:** markers, tape (masking, duct tape or scotch tape), kid friendly wipes

**4-9 Mrs. Gaul:**

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2T88HQWHRKCL5/ref=nav\\_wishlist\\_lists\\_2?encoding=UTF8&type=wishlist](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2T88HQWHRKCL5/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_2?encoding=UTF8&type=wishlist)

**4-10 Miss Werderman:**

[https://www.amazon.com/Bostitch-Office-QuietSharp-Replaceable-EPS11HC/dp/B004I2HXRY/ref=sr\\_1\\_11?keywords=quiet+pencil+sharpener+for+classroom&qid=1667220122&qu=eyJxc2MiOiI0LjA2IiwicXNhIjoIjoiMy44OSIsInFzcCI6IjMuNTUifQ%3D%3D&sprefix=quiet+pencil+%2Caps%2C73&sr=8-11](https://www.amazon.com/Bostitch-Office-QuietSharp-Replaceable-EPS11HC/dp/B004I2HXRY/ref=sr_1_11?keywords=quiet+pencil+sharpener+for+classroom&qid=1667220122&qu=eyJxc2MiOiI0LjA2IiwicXNhIjoIjoiMy44OSIsInFzcCI6IjMuNTUifQ%3D%3D&sprefix=quiet+pencil+%2Caps%2C73&sr=8-11)

**5-15 Mrs. Roberto:** Cardstock paper

**6-18 Mr. Cotnoir:** Oil diffuser

**7-21 Mr. Evans:** 1000 ml glass beakers

**8-20 Mrs. Paquette:** Tracing or onion skin paper

**Mrs. Fleming:** (PreS/K Spanish): I really want to thank all of the parents that made my November wish list a reality. It really helps me to improve my classes. If you are able to contribute to December wish list I would greatly appreciate:

1. LovesTown 20 PCS Face Squeeze Balls, 2.5 Inch Smile Squeeze Balls Face Stress Balls Stress Relief Balls for Finger Exercise School Carnival Reward Party Bag  
Gift <https://a.co/d/bucIgd6>  
<https://a.co/d/bucIgd6> (2)
2. Limited-time deal: HelloJoy Bean Bag Toss Game Kids Outdoor Toys, Double-Sided Foldable Cornhole Board Backyard Beach Yard Outdoor Toys for Toddler, Outside Lawn Party Activities Toy Gift for Boys Girls Age 3 4 5 6 7  
8 <https://a.co/d/aZ5OVJF> <https://a.co/d/aZ5OVJF>



*"May God preserve and bless you and grant you all the graces and precious gifts reserved for this Holy Season."*