



# Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School Newsletter, March 1, 2022

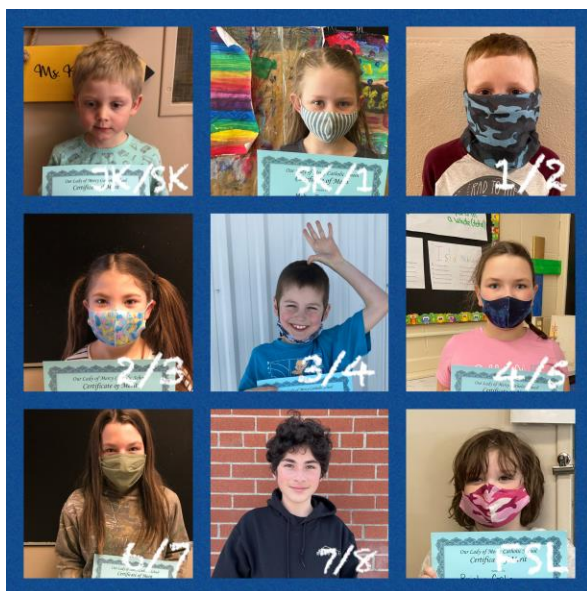
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Superintendent:  
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School Council Treasurer:  
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## MERIT AWARD WINNERS FOR FEBRUARY



## ASH WEDNESDAY & LENT



Ash Wednesday is not only the first day of Lent but it is also traditionally a day of fasting (for adults) and reflection. It has been our practice to burn the blessed palms from the previous Palm Sunday to create the ashes for Ash Wednesday's Mass. This was not possible for us this year and we are also not able to attend the Ash Wednesday Mass as a school community.

Lent is a forty day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter.

## MARDI GRAS (Shrove Tuesday)



**Mardi Gras (Shrove Tuesday):** We are holding a Spirit Day on Tuesday March 1<sup>st</sup> to celebrate Mardi Gras (which is French for Fat Tuesday). Some people also refer to Mardi Gras as Shrove Tuesday which is connected to an English term (Shrovetide) which means that last day before the beginning of Lent.

Wear your bling and let's all celebrate Mardi Gras!!!!

## CATHOLIC CHURCH SYNOD

In October 2021, the entire Catholic Church entered into a synod opened by Pope Francis - For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, & Mission. This synod is a two-year process for the entire people of God; all are invited and no one is to be left behind or excluded; and it is a synod that aims on giving the entire Church a lived experience of synodality to discern what the Holy Spirit is saying to us as a listening Church. All people are invited to provide feedback to the local Church.

Please visit <https://pembrokediocese.com/synod/> to provide feedback to the Diocese of Pembroke. This information was shared with you previously by the Board through School Messenger.



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## Sacrament letter

Our Lady of Mercy Parish is now ready to begin the preparation of candidates for the Sacraments of First Communion / First Reconciliation as well as for Confirmation. In order, for the Parish to be able to facilitate the organization of the classes and materials they need to hear from you. All students from Grade 3 through Grade 8 have been provided with a letter (on yellow paper) from the Parish that you are asked to complete and return to the Parish Office as soon as possible. If you have any questions please contact Our Lady of Mercy Parish at 613 332 2954 (phone) & 613 332 0792 (fax).

## RESURRECTION GARDEN



As has been our practice for a number of years, School Council is once again offering a FREE Resurrection Garden Workshop (virtually). Our plan is for the workshop to take place on April 07<sup>th</sup>. Please watch for the flyer that will be sent home in the coming weeks.

## Social Work Week

March 7 - 13



March 7 – 13<sup>th</sup> we recognize Social Work Week. A big shout out to Mrs. Batchelor for all that she does for Our Lady of Mercy!!

## International Women's Day



Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> we celebrate International Women's Day.



Virtual Meeting on  
Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.



March Break is March 14<sup>th</sup> to March 18<sup>th</sup> this year. Enjoy your time with your families! Students are to be back to school on Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>.

## World Down Syndrome Day



World Down Syndrome Day (WSDS), **Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>** is a global awareness day which has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012.

The date for WSDS being the 21st day of the 3rd month, was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication (trisomy) of the 21st chromosome which causes Down syndrome.

*Let's come together and show our support by wearing different, colourful socks!*  
**#WorldDownSyndromeDay**

## World Water Day – March 22<sup>nd</sup>



Groundwater is invisible, but its impact is visible everywhere.

Out of sight, under our feet, groundwater is a hidden treasure that enriches our lives.

Almost all of the liquid freshwater in the world is groundwater.

As climate change gets worse, groundwater will become more and more critical.

We need to work together to sustainably manage this precious resource.

Groundwater may be out of sight, but it must not be out of mind.

## GRADUATION PICTURE DAY

Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>



Grade 8 and Senior Kindergarten Graduation pictures will be taken in the morning of Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. *More information forthcoming.*

## EARTH HOUR Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>



***An Hour that could change decades***

Every year, at 8:30 pm on the last Saturday of March, millions of people across the world show their support for our planet, raising awareness of nature loss and climate change - the two biggest threats facing our one home.

Earth Hour is more than just an Hour for the planet - it's a movement for *our future*.

And it's more than just a symbol of support - it's a catalyst for urgent change amidst one of our most crucial years yet.



We know plans can change, however, if you can *please* send in a note with your child(ren) in the morning with any “end of day” changes that would be appreciated! If you have forgotten the note, please call the office **before** 2:00 p.m.

Thank you!!

## REGISTER ONLINE! FOR 2022-2023 KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM



Online registration for Kindergarten students for the fall of 2022-2023 is now open. To be eligible the child must be 4 years of age on or before **Dec 31/22**. Please see our School webpage for the link.



The school Reading Club is available for online orders. Remember use code **RC208823** when ordering.

**Thanks for your support of our classrooms and Learning Commons.**

<http://scholastic.ca/canadaclubs/why-clubs/why-reading-club-home.php>