



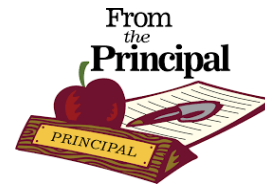
# Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School Newsletter, June 6, 2022

Principal:	Mrs. Patricia Flagler-Edwards	Vice-Principal:	Ms. Tara McEnery
Superintendent:	Mr. Darcey French	Trustee:	Mr. Peter McEnery
School Council Co-Chairs:	J. Hudder & L. Hetu	Pastors:	Fr. Casimir Muobike
School Council Treasurer:	L. White		Fr. Malachy Ekezie
School Council Secretary:	S. Sinclair		Fr. Vic Valles
School Council email:	<a href="mailto:omercs@alcdsb.on.ca">omercs@alcdsb.on.ca</a>	Custodian:	Miss Darlene Storey
School Phone No.	613-332-3300	Admin. Assistant:	Mrs. Martie Berthelot
School Fax No:	613-332-0523	Follow us on Twitter:	@alcdsb_omer
School Website:	<a href="http://schools.alcdsb.on.ca/omer">http://schools.alcdsb.on.ca/omer</a>	General School Email:	flhpomer@alcdsb.on.ca

## MERIT AWARD WINNERS FOR MAY



Virtually @ 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 7th



As you may have heard through the grapevine, I am retiring at the end of June 2022. I will be sharing a goodbye message later this month in our end of June newsletter. *Pat Flagler Edwards*

In the interim, the new Principal of Our Lady of Mercy, effective September 2022, has written this brief message of introduction for you.

### This Month we celebrate:



Dear Families,

I would like to introduce myself for those of you who do not already know me! My name is Tara McEnery and I will be serving as the new Principal of Our Lady of Mercy and St. Martin of Tours (in Whitney) Catholic Schools following the retirement of Mrs. Flagler Edwards at the end of this school year. I have been serving as the Vice Principal for these 2 schools for the past 4 years (though the first of those years I was actually on maternity leave). As some of you may know, I had been working as a teacher at Our Lady of Mercy School for a number of years before taking



Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board  
151 Dairy Avenue, Napanee, Ontario K7R 4B2 (613) 354-2255 / 1-800-581-1116 Fax: (613) 354-4772

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on the role of Vice Principal and have been on staff at Our Lady of Mercy since 2004. Prior to that I had worked for North Hastings Children's Services as the Resource Center and Early Years Center Co-Ordinator. The role of VP for the past few years has had me working on site in Whitney at St. Martin of Tours most of the time, though I have often been engaged in work specific to Our Lady of Mercy School as well. Our Lady of Mercy School is very near and dear to my heart as I attended as a student from Kindergarten to Grade 8 myself and I am excited to be returning!

## Zoo to You



Zoo to You is coming to Our Lady of Mercy on June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. All classes will be participating in this and enjoying the animals! Thank you to School Council for generously funding this opportunity.!

## Grade 8s to Silent Lake



Mike Bibby from our Board will be participating in Outdoor Activities at Silent Lake on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>. More information is coming home today.



Classes JK/SK, SK/1, 1/2, 2/3 & 6/7 will be enjoying the Mad Science Presentation on Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup>.

## SK Graduation



The SK Graduation will be held at OLM Gym on Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. Invitations were sent home at the end of May.

## Fun Day at Camp Can Aqua



The Grade 6 to 8 will be enjoying the day at Camp Can Aqua on Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. More information is forthcoming.

## Grade 8 Graduation



Our Graduating students will receive their Grade 8 Diplomas and Awards of Recognition, and celebrate a Liturgy of the Word at Our Lady of Mercy Church at 6:00 pm on **Thursday June 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Our celebration will continue afterwards in the school gymnasium with refreshments and slideshow.



A School Mass at Our Lady of Mercy Church will be held on Monday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. *All are welcome.*

## OLM Family Picnic



We are very excited to announce that Our Lady of Mercy's Family Picnic is back! It will be held on Tuesday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. More information to follow. Rain date is June 29<sup>th</sup>.

# Spirit Day!!!



June 29<sup>th</sup> is the last day of school!!!  
Come to school wearing your Canadian Pride  
Colours – red & white.



Take this opportunity to Rest and Relax over  
the summer! Keep safe and we will see you  
on September 6<sup>th</sup>

## June 30<sup>th</sup>



The Office will be open and Staff will be getting  
their classrooms ready for the summer cleaning as  
well as setting up for the New School Year.

**REGISTER ONLINE!  
FOR 2022-2023 KINDERGARTEN  
PROGRAM**



ALCDSB is now able to accept online registration  
for Kindergarten students for the fall of 2022-

2023. 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.

## Milk Program



Please note that we will be selling milk throughout  
the month of June, however once the milk has  
been depleted, we will no longer be ordering any  
more milk. Outstanding milk cards will be rolled  
over to next year's teacher.

### Placements for 2022-2023 Information

Each June, the staff comes together to discuss and  
start to plan for the class assignments for the next  
school year. We will be holding our initial  
meetings regarding placements in late June. The  
current teachers of the students usually meet with  
the teachers that the students are likely to have in  
the Fall and we formulate an initial "tentative"  
plan. The plans are tentative because some current  
students leave in June, and also because new  
students register in late August for September.  
Because families move during the summer  
months, we continue to juggle class groupings and  
class lists up to and including the first day of  
classes. Each year we encounter unexpected last  
minute changes.

Please know that when we are considering class  
placements we consider as class size, individual  
learning styles, ability balance, gender balance,  
and peer dynamics. We usually try to  
include/consider the students' preferences with  
respect who they would like as a teacher as well as  
what peer(s) they may like to have in their classes.  
We do our best to listen to the students' "voices"  
but we realize that sometimes you as parents  
would like to offer your voice as well.

*Should any parent wish to share information with us that would assist in our class list deliberations, please send a letter to my attention noting the pertinent information (e.g., specific learning needs, current assessments, learning style, etc.). A lot of time and deliberation goes into our decision-making process but the underlying piece and our first priority is to ensure that we are fair to everyone. Any written requests from parents / guardians need to be received no later than Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> in order to be considered. While we value your input, please know that student / parental requests can not be the only determining factor with respect to class placement.*

Typically, by this point the year we know or have a fairly good idea who will be on staff but that is not the case this year. ALCDSB Human Resources will have to do some hiring in the summer months and the current “tentative” plan for teaching assignments may need to shift just as the class lists may (and likely will need to change). Until the vacant positions have been filled it is not possible to formulate a complete plan. We also recognize that this year we are making decisions based not only on the students that we had in the school during 2021-2022 but we are also about the placement of students who were part of the Remote School in 2021-2022 (and for some for 2020-2022). And, we are also planning for students who are returning to us from being Home Schooled. For all of these reasons, it is not possible to provide you with a list of teaching assignments nor class lists to anyone before the first day of classes. I fully realize that is not ideal but it is the reality of our situation. Thank you for your understanding.

Pat Flagler Edwards

## *A Letter from Mrs. McCormack*

To Our Lady of Mercy Families,

I have been given an incredible gift.

For the past 31 years, I have had the privilege of being a teacher and most of those years have been spent here at OLM. For these things, I am forever grateful. So it is with very mixed emotions that I have decided to retire at the end of this school year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, all current and former families. I am honoured to have been a small part of your child's educational journey. You have shared your children with me and allowed me to see their unique beauty and gifts. I have attempted to challenge them and help them develop into God's beautiful vision for each of them. I am in awe of all of them; who they are now and who they will become.

I also want to thank you for all your support and kind words over these years. They mean more than you know. I especially want to thank you for your trust as it inspired me to give my very best everyday. Your involvement in and commitment to your child's education is essential to their success. It has been essential to me. They say it takes a village to raise a child. Thank you for letting me be part of that village.

I am leaving with a very full heart. I have incredible memories of so many special moments and even more special people. I am taking a piece of you all with me. Thank you for this incredible gift.

Melissa McCormack