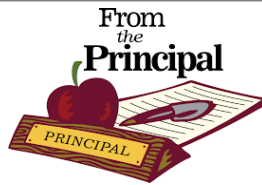




# Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School

## Newsletter, June 29, 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. Casmir 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



Today is the last day of the 2021-2022 school year. Once again it was an interesting one as we dealt with the changes in our way of being and doing. As the year has gone on, we have slowly returned to some of our former ways of doing. In recent weeks, we held Senior Kindergarten Graduation (which was for most of the parents the first time inside of the school). We returned to the celebration of Grade 8 Graduation at Our Lady of Mercy Church and in our gym. This week, the entire school community once again attended Mass (first time since 2019) – what a joy it was to hear children singing together!! Yesterday, we invited you, the parents/guardians back, to our School Picnic. The turn out was phenomenal, the weather was perfect, the food was delicious, and it was truly special day. Special thanks to all the volunteers who came and helped with food prep, set up, cooking, activity co-ordination (e.g., face painting & mini golf), and clean up. Special mention needs to be given to School Council Co-Chairs Jenny Hudder and Laura Hetu for all of their work behind the scenes to organize the details.



**Thank you** to our Pastors: Father Casmir who has been uniquely called to service our parish and school. Under his guidance, the Holy Spirit is leading us toward new horizons.

**Thank you to our volunteers:** In a “usual” year, you were able to come into the school to work with students (e.g., reading programs), share your skills and/or knowledge but as you know that was not really possible this year but you found other creative ways to volunteer your time and give of our talents.

**To All of The Parents and Guardians** for your kindness, co-operation and continued support. We thank you for your patience as we, all, once again adapted to change.

**To Our School Council Executive And Our School Council Members** for your ongoing and unselfish commitment to our school and students and for your financial support through your fundraising efforts. While we were able to go on a couple of field trips outside of the school, many of them were virtual in nature and/or “staycations” as the staff organized bringing activities to us (e.g., the Falconry Centre, Zoo to You and Mad Science). These were all funded by School Council. They also funded the purchase of some new physical education equipment for the school – e.g., the pickle ball and tchouk ball equipment (which were very popular yesterday at the picnic).

**To The Community** for your support of our fundraising efforts and for your interest in our students and school.



**To Our Students** for your readiness and willingness to adapt! You amazed us (the Staff) at how resilient you were and you also showed us that you wanted to be here with your friends and that you could / would adapt to whatever was required. Well done!!

**To Our Wonderful Staff** for their dedication and commitment to the well-being and education of your children – our students. They touch the lives of our children with loving care and dedication every day. As announced previously, we know that new staff will need to be hired for the Fall and it is our strongest hope that Ms. Parking and Mr. Comrie will be returning to OLM as full-time contract teachers. Miss Raisanen will be returning to OLM in the Fall after her year’s leave.

But some of us are leaving as well... we extend the best wishes to Mrs. McCormack in her retirement and to Mrs. Gabourie as she embarks on a new role at McDougall Insurance in Barry’s Bay. You will be so greatly missed!!

As you know I, too, am retiring. It a real sense of mixed emotion that I leave Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School. I have been part of this school since I was 10 years old when I became a Grade Six student here. My mother served for many years as the School Secretary and I returned to OLM to serve as a teacher then as Vice Principal and Principal. I have seen hundreds of students pass through our schools and worked with some truly amazing people. It has been a gift.... However, it is time for another chapter of my life to begin and while I know I will miss our school community I know in my heart that it is time to go. I wish to thank all of you who have reached out to me – via phone calls, personal conversations, hand-written notes, cards and gifts to wish me well! Greatly appreciated!!

I will soon be giving my keys to our new Principal, Ms. McEnery, who I have had the honour of working with for a number of years as she moved through her roles as classroom teacher, Special Education Resource Teacher and then as Vice Principal of Our Lady of Mercy and St. Martin of Tours. I know that Our Lady of Mercy, a place that I will always hold dear, is in very good hands!

So this is so long... not goodbye.

**“May the road rise to meet you. May the wind always be at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rain fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, May God hold you in Palm of his Hand.”**

*Mrs. Pat Flagler Edwards*

## **MERIT AWARD WINNERS FOR JUNE**



## **SK Graduates**



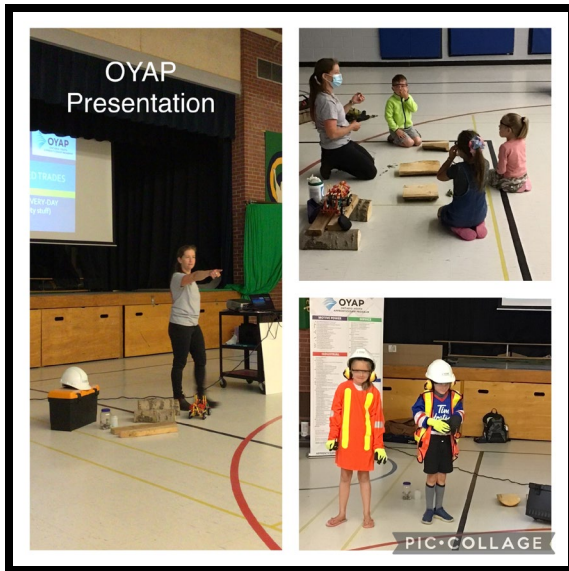
## Grade 8 Graduates



## OLM Friday Dance Fun!!



## OYAP



A huge thank you to Ms. Ray from OYAP for coming to OLM and providing very informative and hands on presentations to the whole school.

"Dance is the joy of movement and the heart of life" This was very true at our Primary Hawaiian Dance Party. These smiles say it all Thank you to the Faith Life Committee for keeping these kiddos mov'in & groov'in.

 [@alcdsb](https://twitter.com/alcdsb) [#alcdsbeloved](https://twitter.com/alcdsbeloved)

## Grade 8s to Silent Lake



The grade 8 students enjoyed a lovely day of canoeing with our school board special assignment teacher Mr. Bibby. The students learned a variety of different styles of canoe strokes while learning to work in synergy with each other. They battled the changing wind conditions quite well and revisited important water safety!

## OLM Annual Picnic



The OLM Annual picnic was a HUGE success!! Thank you to ALL the Staff and Volunteers for making this day so wonderful!

### Our Student Volunteers! Thank you!



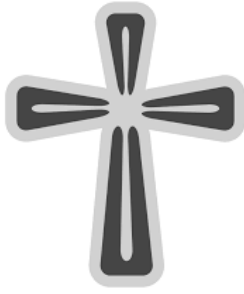
**A BIG SHOUT OUT!!** to Mrs. Sanders who graciously donated to Our Lady of Mercy brand new equipment for our gym. Thanks to Mr. Comrie's class for putting away the items!!



**Planning for 2022-2023:** As noted previously, for a number of reasons (e.g., families moving of the summer months, children returning to school from Home and/or Remote Learning, the need to hire new staff for the Fall, etc...), 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.

**What Lies Ahead:** Please know that tomorrow June 30<sup>th</sup> is a PA Day and Staff will be engaged in end of year activities. The School Office will be closed on Friday, July 1<sup>st</sup> (Canada Day) but will be re-open on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please call ahead to ensure that staff are able to greet you at the door (613 332 3300). The school email will be monitored occasionally over the summer months but access to the school itself will be very limited in nature until late August. Happy Summer Polar Bears!!! Take care of yourselves.

**OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH**



**Invites you to join us for a BBQ on  
Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup> after 10:15 am Mass**

**Hamburgers, Hot dogs, Cold Drinks,  
Lemonade**



Report Cards have been sent out today via  
School Messenger.

