



Saint Joseph Regional School Our Lady of Mercy Academy



August 24, 2023

Empowering students to grow as informed, inspired, compassionate souls.

Greetings OLMA Families, Faculty and Staff,

We are looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday morning! We especially extend a warm welcome to all of our new students and families. I would also like to warmly welcome our first-ever four-year Seniors and their families for their final year at Mercy Academy!

Please pay close attention to all of the important details below for the start of school. If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to reach out directly to the Main Office or Liberty Ebright, Dean of Students, (lebright@mercyacademykeene.org).

Have a wonderful, blessed weekend! We will see you very soon.

May Your Spirit Be Lifted,

Christopher Smith
Principal

1 JOHN 4: 7-8

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for **God is love.**

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 8/25 – New Student Orientation – 8:45am-12noon

Monday 8/28 – **FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!**

Thursday 8/31 – Ashuelot Concerts – 11:15am

Monday 9/4 – Labor Day – **NO SCHOOL**

Friday 9/8 – Back-to-School Picnic – 5:30-7:30pm

Thursday 9/14 – Back-to-School Night

Wednesday 9/20 – Advisory Board meeting – 6pm

Saturday 9/23 – **Golf Tournament at Bretwood**

Thursday 10/5 – Picture Day

Monday 10/9 – Columbus Day – **NO SCHOOL**

[CLICK HERE for the 2023-2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR](#)

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

will take place **TOMORROW (Friday, August 25)**, and is mandatory for all freshmen and new students.

Students should arrive promptly by **8:45am** and enter through the main front door facing Main Street. We will be touring the building, reviewing policies, setting up school email accounts, rotating through schedules, choosing cubbies to be used throughout the year, and having some fun getting to know one another. Lunch will be provided. Students will be finished at **12:00noon**. Students are not required to be following the dress code for New Student Orientation.



***** Please note that students must bring their Chromebooks/laptops with them to New Student Orientation (to be used in setting up school email accounts).**

We are looking forward to a great morning!

ARRIVAL

Students are expected to arrive at Our Lady of Mercy Academy by 8:00am, which is the warning bell for the start of homeroom. A student is considered tardy when they are not in their homeroom (first block) by 8:05am. Students must enter the building every day at the main front door facing Main Street.

PLEASE DO NOT ever drop off or pick up on Main Street as this will impact the traffic moving through town at a busy time of day. We have specifically been asked by the City of Keene not to have cars stopping on Main Street.

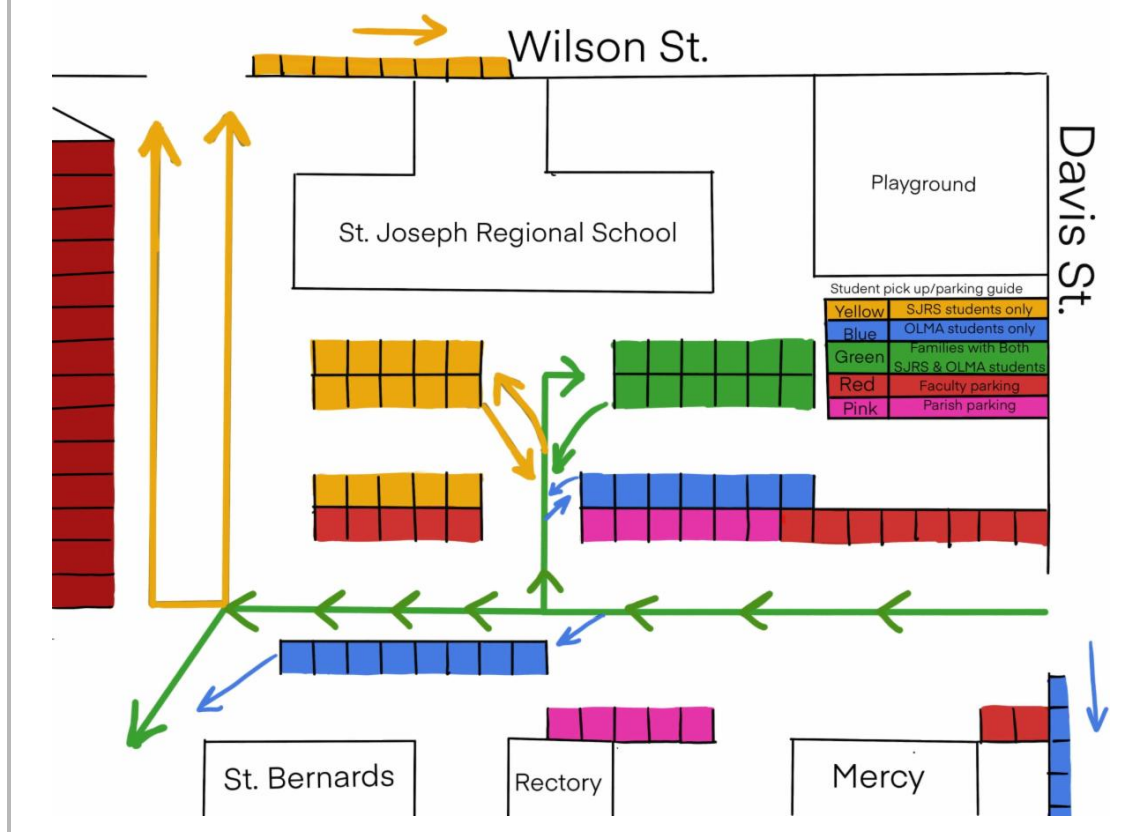
DISMISSAL

School ends at 2:45pm. **Please see the map below as a guide for dismissal time.**

If you are entering the parking lot for dismissal, **you must enter via Davis Street (GREEN ARROW)**. When exiting, **you must exit on the SOUTH side of St. Bernard's Church (GREEN/BLUE ARROWS)**.

Students may be picked up along Davis Street or from the parking lot immediately behind Mercy Academy (BLUE). Any students leaving the school campus on foot after school must exit the building from the front door facing Main Street and utilize the sidewalks.

Mercy students may pick up their siblings at SJRS at the playground door (known as the "Mercy door") and walk the students to your parked car in the parking lot near the flagpole (GREEN).



2023-2024 FORMS TO BE COMPLETED

We have added permission and school acknowledgment forms to the Renweb Family Portal to centralize all documents and forms. These forms can be accessed from the homepage of your account. **ALL FAMILIES MUST LOG IN AND COMPLETE ALL FORMS!**

To find the forms:

- Go to <https://sjo-nh.client.renweb.com/pwr/>
- Log into your Renweb Family Portal account.
- Type in the District Code: SJO-NH, your username, and password. (If you have forgotten your username or password, please click on the link provided for help.)
- Under the “School” drop-down on the left side of the screen, locate “Web Forms.”
- Click on “Web-Form” to access the permissions slips and acknowledgments.
- Forms that need to be completed will appear in blue. You will need to open and sign each form individually.

THE DEADLINE TO COMPLETE ALL FORMS IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

If you have any questions, please contact Megan Amundson at mamundson@stjosephkeene.org.

HOUSE SORTING QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NEW STUDENTS

NEW STUDENTS should please be sure to complete the below Google Form as soon as possible to help sort you into your House at the start of the school year!

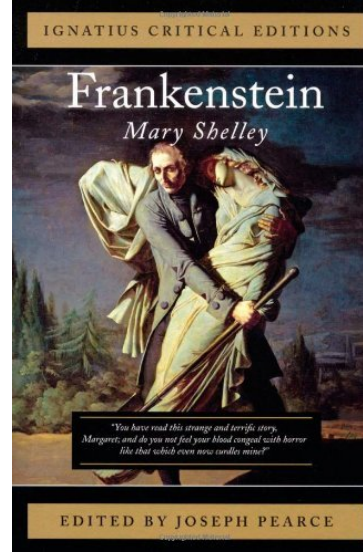
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScbmiQTDWtr-G5QCTIKsWIEEgOQmNDNI3Vp7V7v7hcFwYn_Iw/viewform?usp=sf_link

SUMMER READING

Our all-school read for this summer is *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley. The Ignatius Critical Editions edited by Joseph Pearce is the

recommended edition. But this is only recommended and not a necessity. It is the same text in every edition. Reading must be completed by students in all grades by the first day of school.

You may purchase the book locally at The Toadstool Bookshop or [CLICK HERE to purchase online from Amazon](#).



ABOUT THE HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

High school is an exciting time. For freshmen, it is a new, more independent environment. For upperclassmen transferring from other schools, their experience will also be different and exciting. In a typical year, everyone will likely feel some degree of anxiety. Please be patient and encouraging with your children throughout the first few weeks of school. As a first step to independence, we strongly encourage parents to refrain from accompanying their students into the building for New Student Orientation and on the first day of school. This can be difficult, but your student needs to learn to navigate this experience on their own. These first few days of school are a tremendous growth opportunity for all of the students.

PARKING PERMITS

Students who hold a valid New Hampshire driver's license may apply for a parking permit. Students who are granted parking privileges will be charged a \$25 annual fee to help defer the cost of parking lot maintenance. Passes are not prorated. They must be purchased at the Main Office at full price at any point during the school year. [The Parking Permit Application can be found on our website HERE](#).

CELL PHONE POLICY

OLMA's cell phone policy is guided by the principle of being present. Students are expected to actively engage with their teachers and other students. The school recognizes the convenience, educational, logistical and safety advantages of cell phones, iPods, smart watches, etc. A student may have these electronic devices at school, but use will be limited to before school, after school, passing periods and during lunch. **Use of such devices during class time is prohibited**, unless directed by a teacher for legitimate educational purposes. **Students will be directed to turn off/silence cell phones/smart watches at the beginning of class and store them in the provided storage compartments located in each classroom.** Students may retrieve their phones/smart watches at the end of the class period. Continued violation of this rule may result in confiscation of the device and/or other corrective action. The school reserves the right to examine any such confiscated device, and when appropriate, a student may be held accountable for violations of this behavior policy. If a student's cell phone/smart watch is confiscated, a parent must pick up the device from the office. Students are responsible for notifying their parents if their device has been taken. In general, we encourage parents/guardians to try to limit contact with their student directly on his/her cell phone or other communication device during the school day.

DRESS CODE

Since the educational process is a formal endeavor, OLMA has a student dress code. This dress code supports the attitude of respect we have for one another. Cleanliness, neatness, sensibility, and safety (in the case of shoes), while maintaining comfort, guide the choices of the dress code.

On Wednesdays, Our Lady of Mercy Academy attends Mass; these days will be “dress up” days. The expectation on Wednesdays is that students should be dressed significantly nicer and be more “put together” than on other school days. Students may choose from a buttoned down, collared shirt (tucked in) with tie, dress pants, and a belt; dress pants (with a belt as needed) and a blouse, a dress, or blouse and skirt that reaches the tips of fingers when hands are held naturally at the side of the body. Shoes must be clean and in good condition.

For the remainder of the week, students may wear casual pants, jeans (with minimal distressing, but no holes), or athletic wear. Track/soccer pants and yoga pants (with pockets and thicker material) are permissible. No offensive, inflammatory or political language/messaging on clothing will be permitted. No plunging necklines. No exposed midriffs or spaghetti straps. Tank tops may be worn for PE classes, but straps must be a minimum of two inches wide. Midriffs must remain covered when arms are lifted above the head. All dresses, skirts, and shorts must reach the tips of fingers when hands are held naturally at the side of the body. Hoods on hoodies must be worn down during class time. No hats or beanies are to be worn during class time. Hair must be worn out of the student’s face. No flip flops or slides.

Students arriving to school not appropriately attired will be given the option of borrowing clothing from our lending closet or calling home for their parents/guardians to deliver appropriate clothing. The dress code is open to administrative interpretation.

ATTENDANCE/TARDY POLICY

Students are expected to arrive at Our Lady of Mercy Academy **by 8:00am**, which is the warning bell for the start of homeroom. A student is considered tardy when they are not in their homeroom (first block) by 8:05am. If your student is going to be late for school, please send an email to attendance@mercyacademykeene.org or place a phone call to the Main Office, with a valid reason by 8:30am. Excused absence/tardy include illness, medical/dental appointments, and death in the family. All other reasons are unexcused. Determinations of excused/unexcused absence/tardy will be made by the administration. Habitual tardiness will be dealt with on an individual basis.

For blocks 2, 3, and 4 during the school day, students are expected to be in their classrooms when the bell rings to mark the start of the class period. If they are not present when the bell rings, tardy slips will be given. The third tardy slip will result in a lunchtime detention. OLMA requires all students enrolled at the school, including students eighteen (18) years or older, to attend classes each day that school is in session.

Regular ON TIME attendance is essential to the academic process, to achieving the maximum benefit from Mercy Academy's education programs, and to preparing students for success beyond high school.

50/50 RAFFLE COMING SOON

This fall we will once again be having our annual 50/50 raffle! Each student will receive an allotment of 10 tickets. All families will be responsible for either selling their allotted tickets OR they may purchase the tickets themselves. Keep an eye out for more details and your tickets coming to you on the Back-to-School Nights! If you have questions, please contact Jen Marshall





Join us to hit the beautiful fairways of Bretwood's North course. Play is Scramble format with great prizes. The field will be limited to the first 100 golfers (25 foursomes) to register, so gather your family, friends, and colleagues!

7:00-8:30am Registration, Driving Range, Putting Green, Breakfast. Raffle Tickets and Mulligans sales!
 8:30am Shotgun Start Approx 1:00pm BBQ Lunch and Awards

Special Hole-in-One Contest with an AWESOME prize -- a trip to legendary Pebble Beach! The trip includes two nights, three days at the Inn at Spanish Bay with rounds of golf for two at Pebble Beach, the Links at Spanish Bay and Spyglass, along with a \$1,000 airfare credit. PLUS three additional hole-in-one contests with great prizes, PLUS prizes for men's/women's closest to the pin and top finishing teams. AND a putting contest!

\$125/player--\$500/foursome Early Bird discount -- \$100/player--\$400/foursome by registering by Friday, Aug 25!
DEADLINE TO REGISTER -- SEPTEMBER 13! Online registration at www.mercyacademykeene.org/golf

INDIVIDUAL PLAYER/TEAM REGISTRATION

Participants are invited to register as a foursome or as individuals seeking to be assigned to a foursome. Please complete both pages of this form.

Team 1 – Team Name or Business Name:			
Player 1 Name:		Player 3 Name:	
Email:		Email:	
Player 2 Name:		Player 4 Name:	
Email:		Email:	
Team 2 – Team Name or Business Name:			
Player 1 Name:		Player 3 Name:	
Email:		Email:	
Player 2 Name:		Player 4 Name:	
Email:		Email:	

Mail completed form/payment to:
 St. Joseph Regional School, ATTN: Golf, 92 Wilson St, Keene, NH 03431
 Questions? Jen Marshall: 603/352-2720 x504 or jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org

SPONSOR/INDIVIDUAL PLAYER REGISTRATION

I will play in and/or sponsor the golf tournament as a (please check all that apply):			
Gold Sponsors Complimentary foursome, signage at registration, beverage cart, and BBQ; recognition during awards ceremony, on website and social media	\$1,000 <input type="checkbox"/>	Tee Box Sponsors (18 available) With signage on the tee	\$100 <input type="checkbox"/>
Silver Sponsors Signage at registration, recognition during awards ceremony, on website and social media	\$750 <input type="checkbox"/>	Tee Box Sponsors with Foursome With signage on the tee (Discount of \$25)	\$575 <input type="checkbox"/>
Bronze Sponsors Signage on beverage cart, recognition during awards ceremony, on website and social media	\$500 <input type="checkbox"/>	EARLY BIRD Individual Player (on/before Aug 25; discount of \$25)	\$100 <input type="checkbox"/>
Hole-In-One Sponsors (4 available)	\$300 <input type="checkbox"/>	REGULAR Individual Player (after Aug 25)	\$125 <input type="checkbox"/>
Driving Range Sponsors	\$200 <input type="checkbox"/>	Putting Contest Sponsors	\$250 <input type="checkbox"/>
Men's Closest to the Pin Sponsors	\$250 <input type="checkbox"/>	Women's Closest to the Pin Sponsors	\$250 <input type="checkbox"/>

SPONSOR/INDIVIDUAL PLAYER PAYMENT

Company Name (as it should appear on signage, if applicable):			
Contact Name:		Mailing Address:	
Phone:		City:	
Email:		State:	
		Zip Code:	
Total Sponsor Fee:	\$ _____ (from above)	Payment Method:	<input type="checkbox"/> Check-payable to Our Lady of Mercy Academy <input type="checkbox"/> Visa/MasterCard/AMEN
EARLY BIRD (on/before Aug 25) Individual Player Fee(s):	\$100 each Quantity: ____	Name on Credit Card:	
REGULAR (after Aug 25) Individual Player Fee(s):	\$125 each Quantity: ____	Credit Card Number:	
		Expiration Date:	
TOTAL PAYMENT AMOUNT:	\$ _____	CVV/CVC (from back of card):	
		Signature:	

Mail completed form/payment to:
 St. Joseph Regional School, ATTN: Golf, 92 Wilson St, Keene, NH 03431
 Questions? Jen Marshall: 603/352-2720 x504 or jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org



Our Lady of Mercy Academy | 161 Main Street, Keene, NH 03431

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Sent by csmith@stjosephkeene.org

