

# School Newsletter

WINTER 2021



## HEADMASTER'S GREETING

It is hard to believe that we are coming up to one year since the Coronavirus, COVID-19, locked down schools in Ontario on March 17, 2020. We had hoped to open our boarding residence in September 2020 and then in February 2021. However, the risks to our international student body were too great. With COVID cases continuing to rise and second/third waves, along with more school closures, border lock downs, flight restrictions, curfews, vaccine delays and airport quarantines, we know we have made the right

decision. Not only are our students safe at home, but our Synchronous Learning Platform has outperformed all expectations. With our sophisticated tracking cameras, highly sensitive microphone and speaker system and our teachers teaching from their classrooms with all class and course materials available at their fingertips, our students continue to enjoy world-class education. Our students experience MPS as if they were sitting in class here on campus with their peers and their teacher.

[CONTINUE >](#)

The website features a dark blue header with the school's name and logo. Below the header, there's a large banner image of a classroom. The main content area is titled 'Academics' and includes sections for 'Grades K-12', 'University Qualification', and 'Synchroenous Learning'. Each section has a brief description and a small image. At the bottom of the page, there are links for 'Discover MPS's New Website' and 'Contact'.

### Discover MPS's New Website

We are pleased to announce the launch of our newly redesigned website: [merrickprep.com](http://merrickprep.com). Featuring a new look, more information on our academic programs and the opportunity to translate the site to 10 different languages.

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Live, real-time classes, hands on experiential learning, field trips, laboratory experiments – both in the class and at home, shared electronic microscopes, biology class dissections, group discussions, presentations, debates, dramatic productions, exams, daily co-curriculars, monthly House Cup Challenges, Spirit Week and even a thirty-day physical challenge including family members, have all been part of normal day-to-day class activities for our students from 18 different countries. I could not wish for a better group of students, or more professional staff to take us through this pandemic. If anything, it has made us stronger, better, closer, and more appreciative of what we have, exemplifying our core values of COURAGE, COMMUNITY and above all, COMPASSION. Perhaps our students and parents have captured it the best:

**I love MPS synchronous learning!** Having actual live classes every day with my teachers, with assignment deadlines and no ability to “fall off the wagon” is great! I am actually doing well in MPS synchronous learning courses because there is a clear structure, support and deadlines that the teachers support me in achieving, whereas other online courses you do not have a teacher and the structure is very loose, with no specific due dates for assignments, so it is really easy to fall behind, especially if you don’t understand a topic – you are on your own. I am really happy with MPS’s synchronous learning platform and the support I get from the teachers – it is far better than traditional online experiences.”

**Khaled Beyk**  
**Grade 11 student from Syria**

“MPS has proven to have one of the best online learning protocols and systems that I have been exposed to since the start of the pandemic. I have seen the systems deployed by my daughter’s school, and others provided to my nieces and nephews, in Jordan, UAE and Canada; MPS is miles ahead and has succeeded in offering a system second to none, and one that diminishes the gaps between the inherent values of face-to-face in-class learning.”

**Mustapha Tabba**  
**Father of grade 12 student Zeid Tabba from Jordan**

We look forward to having our students back on campus on September 8, 2021! In the meantime, or even if you opt not to travel come September 2021, we welcome you to explore our Synchronous Learning Platform and learn more about our world-class education and 100% university placement! Drop us an email or give us a call: [admissions@merrickprep.com](mailto:admissions@merrickprep.com) and +1.613.269.2064 extension 401.

Sincerely,



**Kevin Farrell**  
Headmaster



## Welcome New Students to Semester Two

With the beginning of our second semester, we welcomed our four new students to the Merrick Prep family: Eruvwuoghene and Ekefeoghene from Nigeria, Leticia from Peru, and Safa from France.



## Introducing Our New Drama Teacher

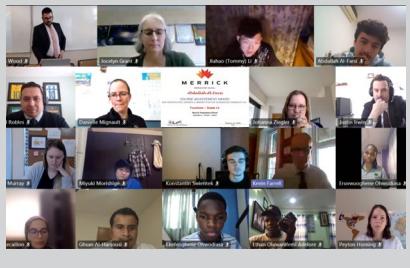
We are excited to welcome Ms. Peyton Horning onto the MPS stage in her debut as our Drama Teacher! Drawing on her teaching experience as a Queen’s University Concurrent Education student (B.A., B.Ed) and her onstage experience as a Theatre Night in Merrickville actress, Peyton will bring the drama curriculum to life for the creative cast of grade 10 and 11 students taking to the virtual stage at MPS this year.



**Distinctly Canadian — Uniquely Global**

## First Semester Awards

Congratulations to all our students who received their Academic (Course) Achievement Awards! The award is given to the top student in each course as judged by the classroom teacher, based on grades, in-class participation, growth, and respect for the classroom community.



## Spirit Week in January

Our Spirit Week was a great way to interact live, synchronously, with our Merrick Prep family from all around the world. Thank you all for an amazing week and for sharing these fun and creative photos, you are the best!



## Scholarships & Bursaries for Local Students

Great news!! Merrick Prep is offering FIVE FULL SCHOLARSHIPS for local grade 9 students and has allocated \$40,000 in bursaries for grade 9-12 local students. Join the MPS family in September 2021 and be part of a world-wide network of students. An experience of a lifetime! We look forward to welcoming local students into our MPS family and to supporting our community.

## Early University Offers Are Here

We are very proud to share our first university offers to our grade 12 students. Our academic advisors work side-by-side with our future graduates to assist them with their applications to top universities around the world. Congratulations to all from your Merrick Prep family!



## Live Synchronous Learning at its Best

MPS offers the possibility of being part of a classroom while studying remotely and attending live classes every day for students in grades 9–12. We offer interaction with teachers and classmates and hands-on activities in a safe and secure environment. Watch this video to discover our synchronous learning platform: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Psrif2Es06k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Psrif2Es06k)



## House Cup Challenges Continue Virtually!

Our three Houses continue the battle for the House Cup while honouring a key contributor to the founding of Merrick Preparatory School: Barnard House, Clarke House, and Rickers House. Being part of a team is a big part of MPS life; with our House Cup Challenges we broaden the student experience, incorporating fun, camaraderie, competition, and a sense of belonging. Students engage monthly in academic and non-academic challenges which adds to school spirit and school pride, and hones teamwork and collaborative problem-solving skills while earning points for their House.

“Pass the ball” was one of our fun challenges, enjoy the video!: [https://youtu.be/\\_Wmf\\_Cbjll](https://youtu.be/_Wmf_Cbjll).



## MPS Video Testimonials

Don't miss our testimonial videos published on our YouTube channel. Learn how much our students enjoy their MPS experience, creating memories while achieving their academic goals. Enjoy the show! [www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4cr056T-57f1TzCAEvG4f4qiABSJmkGG](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4cr056T-57f1TzCAEvG4f4qiABSJmkGG)

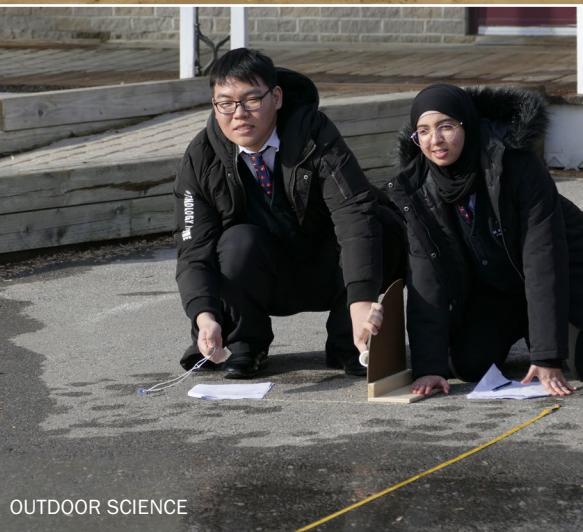




HORSE BACK RIDING CLUB



CANADIAN STYLE SOCCER



OUTDOOR SCIENCE



SKATING & PLAYING HOCKEY

## IMPORTANT DATES

### March Break:

12:00pm Friday March 12, 2021 to  
6:00am Monday March 22, 2021

### First day of classes

after March Break:  
Monday March 22, 2021

### Final Exams for Semester Two:

June 22-25, 2021

### Graduation Ceremony:

June 28, 2021



## STAY SOCIAL

Follow us on our social media channels to keep well-informed of all that we are doing every day.

@MerrickPS

merrickpreparatory

Merrick.Preparatory.School

## JOIN MERRICK PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Accept the challenge and discover why we are  
**Distinctly Canadian and Uniquely Global.**

Visit our website: [www.merrickprep.com](http://www.merrickprep.com)

Feel free to send us any questions or requests: [admissions@merrickprep.com](mailto:admissions@merrickprep.com)

**We would love to hear from you! Your Success Starts Here!**