

# School Newsletter

FALL 2022



ANNA, BENITA AND AWA, THREE OF OUR GRADE 12 STUDENTS, CELEBRATING WORLD NEWS DAY 2022

## Headmaster's Greeting

As I walked across our campus late this afternoon the sun was shining, and the brilliant fall leaves painted a kaleidoscope of colours. I could hear the clanging of weights in our workout room as our students' instructor provided guidance and encouragement ... outside the laughter of students as four teams engage in two games of pickleball while another group was shooting some hoops. In our Granary building, I could hear the calm and relaxing voice of our yoga instructor guide our students through the conclusion of their weekly session ... and still, others were buzzing around the intense aroma of freshly baked cookies just laid out in the snack bar for afternoon snack ... **it is WONDERFUL to have students back on campus again this year!!**

And what an amazing and inspiring group of students ... gifted and talented young men and women from **22 different countries!** This year we are back to normal physical activities, with students having roommates again, all co-curriculars, intermural sports, and

a full suite of weekend activities. To date, our students have enjoyed rafting on the mighty Ottawa River, a boat cruise through the 1000 Islands on the world-renowned St. Lawrence River, a tour of Parliament Hill – the seat of our federal government, a field trip to a local conservation authority for ecological studies, hiking through the stunning array of autumnal colours in the famous Gatineau Park, a tour of Upper Canada Village's "Pumpkin Inferno" and Saunders Farm Halloween "Fright Fest!" to name just a few. Tight bonds of friendship have already developed that span the globe ... and of course, students are working hard to prepare for their exams with nightly supervised and supported evening study. University applications will soon be admitted and - no doubt - before the end of November, our students will have many "early admissions" to the university of their choice.

With all these activities, COVID remains a serious concern, and we continue to be diligent by ensuring all our staff and students are fully vaccinated and

require everyone to screen for symptoms daily. Should anyone show any signs of illness, we isolate immediately to ensure that our students, staff, and campus continue to thrive!

It has been a wonderful and exciting start to the year, with vibrant, engaged and committed staff and students creating a community of courageous and compassionate global citizens.

**If you would like to learn more about our amazing, award-winning school, please do not hesitate to reach out to our Admissions Team at [admissions@merrickprep.com](mailto:admissions@merrickprep.com) or give us a call at 1.613.269.2064.**

We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

**Kevin Farrell**  
**Headmaster**



## Message from our Director of Admissions

**Merrick Prep's Admissions Team** has been working hard over the summer to prepare for the new school year, and we are confident that this will be our best year yet. We all are so excited to be back on campus, and we've already accomplished so much in just the past two months.

The Admissions Team was thrilled to be a part of the **International Plowing Match & Rural Expo 2022 in Kemptville**, a fantastic event where we were able to introduce Merrick Prep to potential students and their families - and we received amazing feedback from the visiting crowd.

Our first international trip brought us to **ICEF Berlin**, a gathering of thousands of colleagues, peers, partners, and friends from across the global education industry. The conference was an incredible opportunity to network with representatives from all over the world, learn about new developments and trends in education, and promote Merrick Prep as a top destination for international students. We are very grateful for our amazing partners from around the globe who have confirmed their support in bringing students to MPS for recruitment season 2023/24 and beyond. We are looking forward to continuing our travels and connecting

with even more amazing people in the months to come. In this regard, the Admissions Team is organizing several **Open Houses** – virtually and on campus – where we will be happy to explain why our school is the best choice for students interested in a top-tier education.

If you want to learn more about **Merrick Preparatory School** or if you are considering applying to Merrick Prep, we encourage you to reach out and chat with us anytime.

► [Send us an email](#)

# OPEN HOUSE

## NEXT IN PERSON OPEN HOUSE



**November 15, 2022**  
**7:00 pm to 8:30 pm**

Learn more about what Merrick Prep can do for your son or daughter. Tour our campus, meet our amazing Admissions Team and see if we are the right fit for your family.

OR

## NEXT VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE



**November 29, 2022**  
**4:00 pm to 5:00 pm (EST)**

A great opportunity to ask questions, get to know our team, and learn more about what makes Merrick Preparatory School such a great choice for your family.

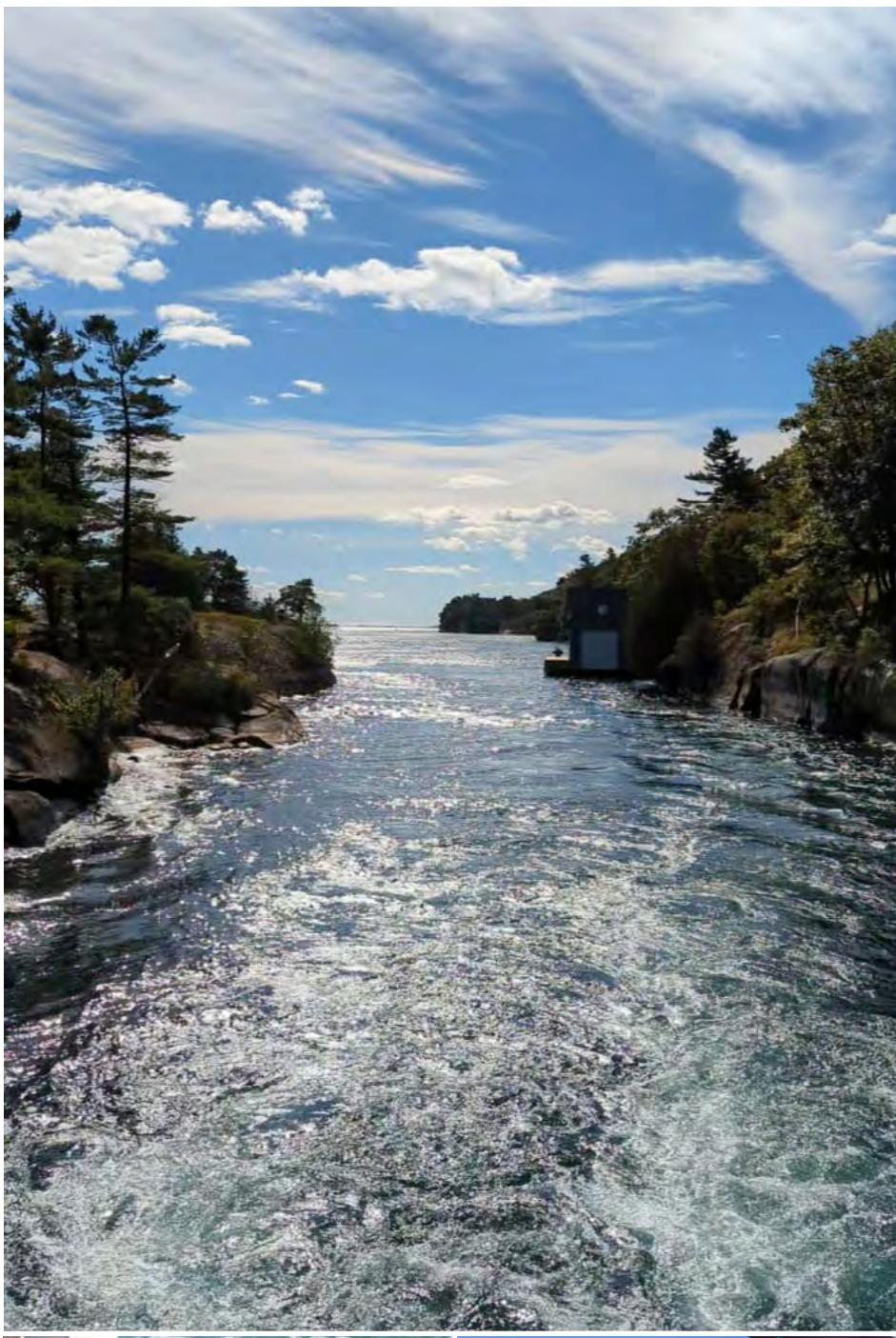
PLEASE REGISTER BY EMAIL [admissions@merrickprep.com](mailto:admissions@merrickprep.com)



## From Classroom to Rapids: An Unforget- table Experience

Merrick Prep kicked off the new school year with an amazing outside-of-class event: **Rafting on the Ottawa River!** It was a perfect day for splashing through the nation's capital: sunny and warm, with a light breeze. Our students were laughing and cheering – they had a blast! Not only was the rafting trip a great opportunity for them to get to know each other better, but it was also a chance to challenge themselves and push their boundaries. They learned a lot about working together as a team, and they had so much fun in the process. We are already excited for our next river rafting trip in the Spring - it will be even bigger and wetter than this year!





## **Our students explore the "Jewels of the St. Lawrence River"**

Just as exciting as the river rafting was our **cruise along the scenic shores of the St. Lawrence River**, one of the most beautiful and biodiverse regions in North America.

The weather was perfect for a cruise and the views along the coast were breathtaking. The students were very excited to get an up-close look at the gorgeous waterfront mansions, cute island cottages and even spotted some wildlife, including double-crested cormorants. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to learn more about the area, the history of the St. Lawrence River, its ecosystem and importance to the region – all while enjoying time outdoors in the fresh air and soaking up the autumn sun.





## A Day of Fun and Learning

**Baxter Conservation Area**, situated on 80 hectares along the shores of the Rideau River, is a great place for experiential learning in the great outdoors. Merrick Prep's first field trip of the school year 22/23 provided our students with a strong understanding of our natural world, how it functions and how we, as humans, fit into it.

All of them were engaged in many (team building) activities such as geocaching, understanding the instincts of survival, and trail walking. They also learned about "Leave No Trace" principles and how to properly care for our natural resources. This was an interactive opportunity for our students to learn more about their environment and how they can help protect it.



## Giving Back to the Community

**Merrick Prep students regularly have the opportunity to make a real difference in their community through volunteer work.** In fact, all of our students are required to complete a minimum of 40 hours of community involvement activities before they can graduate – and there are a lot of benefits that come with it: Working together for a good cause not only strengthens relationships with others, but also develops important skills such as leadership, time management, and commitment - all qualities that will be very helpful in our students' future careers. That's why a group of dedicated Merrick Prep "early birds" gave up their Saturday morning sleep-in to volunteer at the Lions Community Garden in Merrickville. They planted garlic bulbs for harvesting, turned and mixed manure under the soil, and pulled weeds in preparation for the cold season.

We are proud of our students and would like to thank the Lions Club for their time and effort in helping them learn more about gardening and winter preparations in Canada.





## "So Many Options!"

### Exploring Different Universities at the Ontario Universities' Fair

At Merrick Prep, **our goal is to ensure that each student gets accepted into their first-choice post-secondary institution.** To make this happen, we have dedicated staff who get to know each student's interests and career aspirations. This way, we can help them find their "perfect university match".

We also want to make sure that our students are aware of all the different options available to them. That is why our grade 12 students took a trip to the **Ontario Universities' Fair** in Kanata where they were able to speak with representatives from Ontario's universities, large and small. They came away with a lot of valuable information including degree programs, campus life, and anything else that may help them choose the right university for them. All were excited about the prospect of university, and some had already begun to narrow down their choices. Others were still undecided, but the event helped them to get a better sense of what each university had to offer.

We are confident that this experience gave them a sense of "what is out there" and will help set them up for success as they prepare to move on to the next exciting phase of their lives.





## The First House Cup Challenges of the School Year 22/23

Joining one of our Houses is an exciting tradition and helps **build the sense of community and belonging** among our students. At the beginning of the school year 22/23, all students were allocated to one of **our three Houses**.

**Barnard House**, donning the colour blue, representing Louis and Francois Barnard – owners and founders of Merrick Preparatory School.

**Clarke House**, dressed in red shirts, representing Gary Clarke, a visionary who contributed significantly to constructing the school campus.

And **Rickers House**, wearing orange shirts, in honour of Don Rickers – the founding Headmaster at Merrick Preparatory School.

Excitedly, our students wear their respective House colours for House Competitions at the end of each month. Those are packed with physical and knowledge-based challenges, creative endeavors, and theatrical performances – all of which award points to the winning House at the end of each competition.

Our very **first** House Cup Challenge of the school year 22/23 was a fun, communicative game where students were guided by their fellow Housemates to complete little tasks while being blind-folded. There was lots of laughter and competitive spirit on the field and the game was close throughout, but in the end, **Barnard House** pulled ahead and scored the first points of the year.

Our **second** House Cup Challenge was just as exciting as the first. Appropriate for October: Pumpkin carving! But the task was not only to create unique and aesthetically pleasing pumpkins, but also to incorporate the representatives of each House into the final presentations. The students did not disappoint, and each House came up with some truly creative and innovative designs. It was a close competition, but eventually **Clarke House** was declared the winner!

**Congratulations to Barnard and Clarke House for their success in the first two House Cup Challenges and best of luck to Rickers House as they race to catch up.**

# REFERRAL PROGRAM

Those who have experienced a Merrick Prep education know its value. That is why our greatest supporters are our students, parents, and alumni. With this in mind, we created our Referral Program which is designed to support current and former MPS students.

## FURTHER DETAILS

- [Financial Handbook](#)
- [Admissions Team](#)

\* Additional discount applicable only when second and third student is referred and enrolls in the same academic year.

## ① Boarding Referral Program

**\$10,000 Referral Discount** to the referring student's tuition fee when the referred boarding student enrolls.

**Additional \$2,000 (totaling \$12,000)** referral discount for **second** boarding student that is referred and enrolls\*.

**Additional \$3,000 (totaling \$15,000)** referral discount for **third** boarding student that is referred and enrolls\*.

**\$5,000 Career Contribution** to any **alumni** who refers a boarding student that enrolls.

## ② Day and Synchronous Referral Program

**\$3,000 Referral Discount** to the referring student's tuition fee when the referred day or synchronous student enrolls.

**Additional \$1,000 (totaling \$4,000)** referral discount for **second** day or synchronous student that is referred and enrolls\*.

**Additional \$500 (totaling \$4,500)** for the **third or more** day or synchronous students that is referred and enrolls\*.

**\$1,000 Career Contribution** to any **alumni** who refers a day or synchronous student that enrolls.

## Important Dates

**Last day of classes/Departure date for Winter Holidays:**  
Friday, December 16, 2022

**Winter Holidays - School closed:**  
Saturday, December 17, 2022 –  
Sunday, January 1, 2023

**Return from Winter Holidays:**  
Monday, January 2, 2023

**End of Semester One:**  
Wednesday, February 1, 2023

**Start of classes, Semester Two:**  
Thursday, February 2, 2023

## Follow us on social media

-  [@MerrickPS](#)
-  [merrickpreparatory](#)
-  [Merrick.Preparatory.School](#)



## Don't Delay – Apply Today to Join Merrick Prep!

Our registrations are open, and we have already started accepting applications for the school year 2023/24.

At Merrick Prep, we provide a **Distinctly Canadian – Uniquely Global** experience that will prepare our students for their first-choice world-ranked university.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at  
[admissions@merrickprep.com](mailto:admissions@merrickprep.com).

We look forward to hearing from you!