

# NEWSLETTER

Winter 2020



**MERRICK**  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL



## Winter is all about creating new memories!

During the winter months and with the start of the second semester, students' days are filled with academic and learning activities. It was a very busy and exciting couple months at Merrick Preparatory School as we try to keep our students active and teach them different ways to enjoy themselves while our weather is very different for most of our students' home countries (for some of them it is the first time to see snow). These past months our students have been busy participating in volunteering opportunities like supporting our local Christmas parades and events.

At MPS we try to give our students the opportunities to learn more than just curriculum: some of our students attended the Model United Nation conference at the University of Toronto. It gave them the chance to exercise research, public speaking and teamwork. A great way to prepare for university and their careers.

Our students competed in the University of Waterloo International Math Competition as well as attended a basketball tournament with other private schools in Ottawa.



## Headmaster's Greeting

It is amazing how fast time goes – we are already one month into the new year (2020!) and the Chinese New Year has come and gone as well! Our students have completed Semester One and Semester Two has started.

With the start of the semester, two new students have joined us: Awa from Senegal and Maria Helena from Brazil! Welcome Awa and Maria Helena!

Our graduating class of 15 has already started to receive early offers of admissions to universities. To date our graduating class has received 20 early offers of admissions from Bishops University (physics), Carleton University (engineering and architecture), University of Edinburgh (engineering), University of Ottawa (physics and mathematics), Queen's University (science), Trent University (Business), Macro-media University Berlin (Business), University Colleges Leuven-Limburg (Business), University of Arizona (engineering) and IUBH Berlin (Business). I know many more offers are still to come and many outstanding scholarships too!

Looking back to the start of the school year it is hard to believe how much we have grown! We added grade 9 with students from Nigeria, Syria, China, Japan, Canada, Senegal. We also added local "Day" students into our student population of international boarding students, continuing to diversify our student population, making us Distinctly Canadian and Uniquely Global! This year we have 17 different nationalities represented in a student population!

We continue to update our facilities, with new snack bar, and many rooms freshly painted: student work area, laundry room, hallways and our large Kilmarnock classroom. Other changes include adding to our Admissions Team, with Daniel Robles as our Marketing and Communications Coordinator, David Venneri as our Recruitment Officer for Africa and Middle East and Johanna Ziegler as our Recruitment Officer for Latin America and Eur-Asia.

We look forward to continued growth, change and renewal and new and wonderful experiences for our students. If you know of anyone interested in joining a world-class boarding and educational experience, please have them contact us! We always love the excitement and joy of having new students join the Merrick Preparatory School family!

Sincerely,

Kevin Farrell  
**Headmaster**  
kevinf@merrickprep.com

**Take a Virtual Tour with us at Merrick Prep!**

<https://bit.ly/2w5GnQH>

# Merry Christmas

## Volunteering and sharing the holiday spirit

During the month of December our students and staff volunteered in different holiday events around Kemptville and Merrickville. The value of helping others and building a sense of community are very important for their future.

We also had a Christmas door decorating contest that allowed students to be creative and share the holiday spirit with the rest of the Merrick Prep family.



## MPS student at the top 2% of the International Waterloo Math Contest

Congratulations to our 19 amazing students that participated in the University of Waterloo International Math Competition at the end of November 2019.

Almost 30,000 students wrote the test from around the world. In total, 18,502 students wrote the Senior test and two of our Merrick Prep students received a Certificate of Distinction for being in the top 20%; Stephen Solaja was in the top 15% and Allen Wu reached the top 2%.



We are very proud of them!

## House Cup Challenge continues...

Our three Houses continue the battle while honouring a key contributor to the founding of Merrick Preparatory School: Barnard House (blue); Clarke House (red); and Rickers House (orange). Being part of a team is a big part of Canadian life and with our house challenges we continue to help our students to experience the fun that comes with it.

The academic and non-academic challenges continue to build comradery, school pride and teamwork skills while earning points for their Houses. Playing Pictionary, demonstrating organizational skills by setting up each room to perfection before the holiday break and competing in different winter-outdoor activities were the challenges during the past 3 months.



Are you ready for the next challenges?

## First Semester Awards

Congratulations to all our students that 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.



Your Merrick Prep family is very proud of your success and hard work!

## Welcome new students to semester 2

With the beginning of our second semester we welcomed our two new students to the Merrick Prep family: **Awa Niang** from Senegal & **Maria Helena Barbosa** from Brazil.



## Our basketball team was back in action!

On February 6th, 2020 our MPS basketball team participated at the private schools' tournament in Ottawa. Great determination and a fantastic team building experience. We are very proud of you!



## MPS Annual Hockey Game

The traditional Staff vs Students hockey game was hosted at the Smiths Falls memorial Hockey Arena on February 19th, 2020. Since hockey is one of Canada's most popular sports, our students and staff played a friendly match on the ice and we had a great team building experience.



## We are a boarding school with a strong family focus

In some provinces in Canada, we celebrate Family Day the third Monday in February. At Merrick Preparatory School we are proud to offer a distinctive family setting of boarding school life that ensures students to feel safe and supported as they are challenged to explore new interests and get prepared for their future.

Happy Family Day from our family at Merrick Prep to yours!



# MPS at the University of Toronto Model United Nations

Merrick Preparatory's first-ever Model United Nations team travelled to the University of Toronto for their 2020 conference. Model UN is a popular activity for those interested in learning more about how the UN operates.

Many of today's leaders in law, government, business and the arts – including at the UN itself – participated in Model UN as student. Merrick's students represented their assigned countries in committees ranging from the Economic and Financial Affairs Council, Committee on the Status of Women, The Special Political and Decolonization Committee, United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and the Organization of African Consolidation. The students did an excellent job, making new friends and cooperating to find solutions to incredibly complex issues. Congratulations!



## Important dates

### March Break:

4pm Friday March 13, 2020 to 1pm  
Sunday March 22, 2020

### First day of classes after March Break:

March 23, 2020

### School Field Trip:

April 20–24, 2020

### Final Exams for Semester Two:

June 16–19, 2020

### End of Semester Two:

June 19, 2020

## Stay social with MPS!

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!**