



October 26, 2017

The "Know it all" News

Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic Church and School, 200 East Church Street, Belle Plaine, Minnesota 56011

The Principal Says...

This week our students are definitely experiencing fall! Cooler weather and changing leaves are a part of this fall experience. The changing seasons are such a beautiful gift God has given us. Please remember jackets, hats, and gloves so students stay warm during chilly fall recesses.

THANK YOU! The Marathon event earlier this month was awesome! A big thank you to the Schatz family for planning the event and the Knights of Columbus for sponsoring both the walk and the pizza lunch! We also would like to thank all the families who attended. To

date, we have brought in over \$6,859 in pledges! All participants received an out-of-uniform pass. Students who received the most pledges received prizes and the top student in each class (excluding top prize winners) will be having a catered lunch with Mrs. Alessio later this month. Thank you for your dedication and support to Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic School.

Our Lady of the Prairie is well into our first quarter. Teachers are busy working with your child to ensure that learning is a successful experience while the students are here at OLP. Here are some ide-

as to try at home to create extended learning experiences:

- Set up a homework area in your household
- Review your child's back pack nightly
- Communicate regularly with your child's teacher
- Read together each evening
- Pray together every night

Fall Conferences will be held on November 13th and 16th from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet will be sent home at the beginning of next week. Please fill it out and return it to school by Friday, November 3rd.

Peace, Wendi Alessio

Mark your calendar:



- ☺ 10/27 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 1 & 2
- ☺ 11/1 All Saints Day—Holy Day of Obligation
- ☺ 11/3 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 3/4
- ☺ 11/5 HSA Holiday Boutique, 9 am to 1 pm
- ☺ 11/10 Children's Birthday Mass Hosted by Grades 5 & 6
- ☺ 11/12 Waffle Breakfast
- ☺ 11/13 Conferences, 3:30 to 7:00 pm
- ☺ 11/14 Old Log Theater Field Trip
- ☺ 11/16 Conferences, 3:30 to 7:00 pm
- ☺ 11/17 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 1 & 2
- ☺ 11/17 Family Fun Night! 6:30 pm



As you know I have been spending much of my Tuesdays with our OLP school students. In addition to the 1/2 hour I spend in each classroom during the morning, I have been with them for recess. At recess I generally play in the soccer game, usually as a goalie. We have had great weather this fall soccer season and it has been quite enjoyable. Though I did not play much soccer as a child, I had great experiences of soccer as a young adult, and think it is a great way for our students to get exercise both now and as they get older. At the end of the day on Tuesdays I gather with grades 2-6 in the church for about 1/2 hour of prayer. We have been praying the Rosary in the context of Eucharistic adoration and we conclude with Benediction. We have been practicing and singing a contemporary arrangement of "Holy God We Praise Thy Name," and I hope to add more songs to our prayer time.

All the Best in Christ, Fr. Brian

N42...N42...N42...?

BINGO!

OLP Family Fun Night

Friday Nov. 17 6:30-8:00 PM

FUN WITH FRIENDS, SNACKS, AND FANTASTIC PRIZES, INCLUDING CASH!!!

Free Will Donation to Play

Sponsored by Catholic United Financial

Here's what's happening in the classrooms:

In Religion we are learning about the Gospel, what it means and how we can share the Good News of Jesus Christ at home, school and in the community.

In Social Studies this week we are learning about the American people, their culture, the government and our economy. We will spend some time making economic choices and learning about trade-off and opportunity cost.

In technology 5th and 6th graders are going to explore the world of coding! Coding is what makes it possible for us to create computer software, apps and websites. There is an enormous range of educational benefits including computational thinking, creativity, the learning process, the possibilities, and the results of the benefits. There are so many opportunities for students to learn and understand coding. We will embark on this adventure together!

-Mrs. Menke

Night time sounds of crickets chirping, bats swooping, and owls wooing have been coming from our preschool classroom.

We are learning about the letter N. Our preschoolers came up with a list of fun things: N is for Night, Ninja, Noodle, Nap, Nickel, and much more!

Learning about Night and Nocturnal Animals has made for an exciting week with our lights out. Exploring shadows will prepare children for Halloween. I can't wait to see everyone in their costumes.

Miss. Ashley

This week the first graders are practicing writing number sentences both vertically and horizontally. We are also representing different forms of the same number. For example: $2+3=5$, and $4+1=5$ too! In religion first grade is learning about how Jesus loved everyone, and how people followed him.

The kindergarten students are acting out story problems. We use different math manipulatives to tell stories so we can start understanding that "more" means that you are adding, and "less" means you are taking away. In religion kindergarten is learning about how God made all of the animals! We have been talking about what our favorite animals are and why we love them.

- Mrs. Urlick

The 1st and 2nd graders were excited to lead Mass this week and have been working hard on their readings. In Math both grades have been working on writing different kinds of number sentences. 2nd

grade has been working on contractions in reading and 1st grade has been working on questions words. In Social Studies we have been talking about the 3 branches of our government. We are excited to learn about bats next week for Halloween and celebrate with some other fun activities!

- Mrs. Zabel

Team 3 and 4 had a lot fun writing, filming, and sharing out their persuasive essays on why we should not carve a pumpkin for Halloween. In math, the third graders are working on temperature and rounding and the fourth graders are working on elapse time and expanded form. Our religion focus is on our conscience. In science we learned how plants make food and in social studies we finished our unit on exploring the United States.

- Ms. Cates

The 5th and 6th graders have been discussing what makes a good paragraph. We have been working on writing a topic sentence and supporting sentences. In math, 5th graders have been working on multiplying a two digit number by a two digit number and 6th graders have been multiplying decimals.

- Mrs. Alessio



Children's Birthday Mass

Join us at Mass on Friday, November 10, 8:30 am, where we will recognize our students celebrating August, September, October, November and December Birthdays! Coffee, Juice and Donuts will follow Mass in the Gathering Space.

Veterans Day 2017 is fast approaching-November 11. Our Lady of the Prairie School would like to send letters of encouragement and pictures to our veterans who are now serving in the armed forces. If you would like to submit the name and address of a family member now serving, or of an OLP alumni now serving, please do so. If you wish to send additional items (snacks/prayer cards/,etc.) please get them here asap. We would like to send the letters/packages by November 1st as overseas mail can take up to 2 weeks for delivery.



Brrrrrr.....

With the cold weather approaching, please remember to send appropriate outdoor clothing for your student(s) including coat, hat and mittens (snow pants and snow boots will be needed soon too!!)

Just a reminder that for the months of October through April, shorts are no longer a uniform option.

