



December 14, 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...

On Friday, December 22nd, Our Lady of the Prairie students will present a musical program called "Christmas Symbols." The program begins at 1:30 PM in the Church and will be followed by refreshments in the Gathering Space. I hope to see everyone there!

Our Lady of the Prairie Student Council will be sponsoring a food drive next week to support the Belle Plaine Food Shelf. All proceeds will go to help needy families in our

community. The classroom that collects the most items will receive a special treat. The Student Council will be delivering the collected items to kick off the new year.

Christmas Break is December 25th through January 1st. School will resume on Tuesday, January 2nd.

Registration materials for the 2017-18 school year will be sent out in January. Please be on the lookout for this important information.

On behalf of our teach-

ers and staff here at Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic School, I'd like to wish everyone a **Very Merry Christmas!**

As always, please call 952-873-6564 or email me at waleccio@ourladyoftheprairie.com with any questions.

Peace, Wendi Alessio

Mark your calendar:

- ☉ 12/15 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 3-4
- ☉ 12/16 Sing O' Heavens Concert
- ☉ 12/22 School Christmas Pageant, 1:30 pm
- ☉ 12/25-1/1 Christmas Break
- ☉ 1/2 School Resumes



On Tuesdays during Advent I sang a number of Advent carols with students, especially in the grades 3/4 classroom. Our regular soccer game continued despite the snow; some of the younger players seem to be improving their games significantly. Tuesday, December 12, was the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, so I spoke to the students about the miraculous events that happened near Mexico City nearly 500 years ago; in the grades K/1 and 1/2 classrooms this was done with the assistance of a delightful pop-up book. We also installed and blessed an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe in the grades 5/6 classroom that is in fact named after the famous and beloved image of Our Lady.

All the Best in Christ, Fr. Brian Lynch

"SING O' HEAVENS"

THE SING O' HEAVENS CONCERT IS THIS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16. OLP STUDENTS SHOULD WEAR THEIR SUNDAY BEST AND ARRIVE BY 5:20 IF THEY PLAN TO PERFORM DURING THE PRELUDE OR 5:30 IF THEY WILL NOT BE PERFORMING DURING THE PRELUDE. STUDENTS SHOULD BE SEATED WITH THEIR FAMILIES.

Children's Mass



Please join us for our Children's Mass on Friday mornings. Our Student's do a great job and really enjoy seeing Mom and Dad (and siblings too) in the congregation!



OLP School Day Begins at 8:20 A.M.

Parents: Please have your child/ren at school each morning so that they have enough time to take off coats, change from boots to shoes, hang backpacks, etc. and be in their chair by 8:20 a.m. Announcements are read at 8:20 a.m. and we would like all students to hear what is in store for the day.

Here's what's happening in the classrooms:

We are learning the differences between growth mindset and fixed mindset. We believe that our abilities are developed through dedication and hard work. This allows us to see mistakes and feedback as learning opportunities...essential for great accomplishment in life. As a follower of Christ, we are learning that "it's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see." Having a growth mindset helps us be a better version of who we already are.

In Science we are continuing to learn about the human body by creating a life size version of ourselves from the inside! From the muscles in your arm to your pancreas to your diaphragm, we will know and understand the function and significance of each!

-Mrs. Menke

Preschool is ready to celebrate Jesus's birthday. They have been practicing writing their names in cards. We are counting down the days.

Our workshop has been exciting. The children are using their fine motor skills to wrap surprises!

~Teacher Ashley

This week the kindergarten is finishing their unit on the letter Ss (and the Superkid Sal). The first grade is reading different stories and poems and noticing patterns in a text. Both grades are busy working on Christmas gifts for Mom and Dad. This month we get to practice our wrapping in our dramatic play area! We use our motor skills to cut, tie, tape, and wrap presents. We will be all ready when it comes time to wrap mom and dad's gift!

- Mrs. Urlick

1st and 2nd grade has been learning a lot about Advent and ways we can prepare our hearts for Jesus. Next week we will be talking about the Christmas story. In math first grade has started subtraction and has been reviewing skip counting, 2nd grade has been working on fractions and will be starting adding 10. In reading both grades have been working on ed endings, and comparing stories. We can't wait to get in the Christmas spirit next week with a lot of fun activities!

- Mrs. Zabel

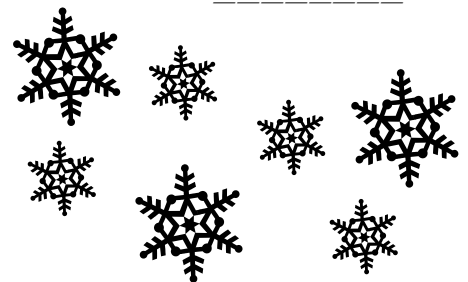
Team 3 and 4 received their first letter back from The Great Mail Race. It was from a Catholic elementary school in Illinois! In math,

the third graders are measuring objects and lines in centimeters and using that to figure out perimeter. In math, the fourth graders are working on fractions and elapse time. Our religion focus is Advent and how we can spread hope and peace to our family, at school, and in our community. In science we learning about the life cycle of a plant and in social studies we are learning about the northeast states.

- Ms. Cates

5th and 6th graders were excited on Tuesday when Father Brian came to bless our new picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe, on the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, in our classroom, The Our Lady of Guadalupe room! The students have also been working hard to learn their parts for our Christmas program called "The Symbols of Christmas."

- Mrs. Alessio



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24 HOUR SICK RULE!

If your child misses school or leaves early due to illness, they may return to school when:

- ◆ Temperature has been below 100 degrees for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medicine (such as Tylenol or Motrin).
- ◆ A minimum of 24 hours has passed since last vomiting or diarrheal episode.

Give Kids a Smile Day Friday, February 2, 2018

Strait Smiles Family Dentistry is among hundreds of dentists across the state who are joining together to provide free dental care as participants in "Give Kids a Smile", a nationwide campaign organized by the American Dental Association.

Patients seeking appointments should be under the age of 18 and accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Information on specific services that will be provided will be outlined when an appointment is scheduled.

Please contact Strait Smiles office staff at 952.873.6380 to discuss appointment schedules.