



April 19, 2018

# 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...

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter is upon us! It is hard to believe that we only have eight weeks of school left in the 2017-18 school year! This is the time of year to reenergize ourselves to close out a school year full of learning. Parents – keep motivating your children.

What a great time the Gala was on Saturday, April 7th! It was nice to see so many of you there and thank you so much for volunteering your time to make this such a great event. Thank you to Troy and Nora Wermerskirchen for chairing this event again and to everyone who helped! We sold 346 Raffle Tickets and the event raised over \$37,500 for our school!

On May 5<sup>th</sup> the Catholic Center of Excellence will

be sponsoring their annual CSCOE Bash. This year's theme is "Called to Greatness" and the goal is to raise funds to support greatness in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) for 22,000 students in the 79 Catholic elementary schools in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Join Archbishop Hebda, Bishop Cozens, CSCOE President Gail Dorn, and Matt Birk as we celebrate our accomplishments, honor the dedication of the people on whose shoulders we stand, and build a bright future for the next generation. Please consider attending and supporting this wonderful event. For more information on tickets, <https://www.cscobash.org/purchase-tickets>

[cscobash.org/purchase-tickets](https://www.cscobash.org/purchase-tickets)

If you haven't submitted your registration for the 2018-19 school year, please do so! All families in K-6 are encouraged to apply for scholarships and financial assistance through the TADS program. This application is all completed online.

Peace,  
Wendi Alessio



### Mark your calendar:

- ☉ 4/20 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 5/6
- ☉ 4/27 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 3/4

## Children's Mass



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



At the risk of disappointing sports fans everywhere I will take a break from my regular updates concerning the Coo-Coo Monkeys vs. the Yellow Jackets soccer rivalry to thank all of you who supported the OLP School Gala in various ways. Special thanks are overdue to Nora and Troy Wermerskirchen for all the hard work they put into the event this year and every year. We rely on this event to make our school budget, and without it, I don't know how we would make ends meet.

Your very presence at the event helps create the festive atmosphere that helps to ensure a successful event that people look forward to attending. Please take time right now to put next year's Gala on your calendar: Saturday, February 23, 2018 right after the 4:15 p.m. Mass.

Thank you all!  
Fr. Brian Lynch



*God is good, all the time...  
...all the time, God is good!*



# Here's what's happening in the classrooms:

Preschool and Kindergarten music classes recently visited the church choir loft and discussed how a piano and organ work. We have actively been working on note and rest values in 1st/2nd grade. 3rd and 4th grade classes have been progressing in their recorder units. Please continue to encourage them to practice at home. 5th and 6th graders will be finishing up our unit on Music History. We have entered the Modern period of music and have been listening to music from Scott Joplin and Andrew Lloyd Weber.

Mrs. Gleason  
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Preschoolers are learning about birds and how to build a nest. The letters we are focusing on are E, H, and R. Students are writing these letters and practicing letter sounds. What starts with an H? Our class came up with a list: Hen, Hatch, House, and Happy.

This week we are focusing on robins and rain. A few of our stories this week are Robin's Home, Nest, The Best Nest, and The Egg. We are all looking forward to some Spring weather.

Teacher Ashley  
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This week the K-1 students are working hard on our classroom book! Our book is titled "Our Book of Prayers." Each student chose two topics to pray about, they wrote their own prayers, and made an illustration to go with it. We are shipping our class book to our publisher this week. We can't wait to see how it turns out! On Friday we are going to watch "The Lorax" in celebration of Earth Day over the weekend. It's important to take time to think about how we can take care of God's creation!

Mrs. Urlick  
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We have been working with long vowels and vowel pairs in first grade, in second grade they have been working on soft C and G as well as silent letters K and W. These are tricky concepts and they have been doing great! In science we started growing seeds in a bag, we are writing about their changes and will be learning about different plant parts. In religion 2nd grade is hard at work preparing for First Communion, we are learning about why we receive communion. In writing we are working on how-to writing, first we will write about how to make a S'more, then the students will choose their own how-to topic. We also have some exciting news

to share in our room, Mrs. Zabel is going to have a baby! She is due in October.

Mrs. Zabel  
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Ms. Cates' friends did a fantastic job performing our latest play of "The Legend of Slappy Hooper". In math, the third graders learned how to divide and solve square root problems. The fourth graders started to learn how to multiply three-digit numbers and compare fractions. Our religion focus was on the second commandment. In science we finished our rocks and minerals unit and in social studies we continued to learn more about the Midwest states.

Ms. Cates  
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The 5th and 6th graders are learning more about verb tenses and when they should be used. They are using these rules to make their writing more concise and interesting. Next week students will be beginning a new book report project. In math both classes are learning about mean, median, mode, and range.

- Mrs. Alessio  
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## 18th Annual OLP School Gala THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who donated items to make up such wonderful FULL baskets, and to all who attended to show support for our Catholic School. A special thank you to the families and teachers that signed up to work a shift. It really takes a lot of dedicated people to make this a successful event. THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Troy and Nora Wermerskirchen  
Gala Chairs



## 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.