



March 1, 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...

On Friday we will celebrate Read Across America Day! Preschool thru 6th graders are invited to bring pajamas to change into after Mass, so they can cozy up to a good book! Teachers have planned special activities and students will have the opportunity to enjoy some extra reading time. On a daily basis, students experience a variety of reading from oral reading to silent reading, read aloud books by adults or with peer partners, guided reading, and choral reading. At OLP we strive to build as much reading as possible into each day.

When students go home each day, they should have at least 15 minutes of planned reading. So snuggle up! What could be better than a great book with your favorite snuggler?

THE GALA IS FAST APPROACHING – Saturday, April 7! We still need your help to sell our \$100 raffle tickets! **PLEASE ASK YOUR NEIGHBORS, FAMILY, and FRIENDS.** This is our most important fundraiser of the year! Also, if you haven't already, don't forget to volunteer to sign up to help at this fun event!

If you haven't submitted your registration for the 2018-19 school year, Please do so! Registration opens to the public on March 12th. All families in K-6 are encouraged to apply for financial assistance through the TADS program. This application is all completed online. If you have any other questions on tuition or scholarship opportunities please contact me!

Peace,
Wendi Alessio



Mark your calendar:

- © 3/2 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 5/6
- © 3/9 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 3/4
- © 3/16 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 1/2
- © 3/23 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 5/6
- © 3/26-30 No School—Spring Break
- © 4/2 No School—Easter Monday



I continued to pray with the 5th and 6th graders in their classroom. We read the whole Book of Jonah during the first week of Lent. It is surprising how little of Jonah's story is about the whale that swallows him, and yet it seems to be the most memorable aspect of the story. With the 3rd and 4th graders I read Bible stories about King Saul, his son Jonathan, and the young man who would become King David. With Kindergarten and the 1st and 2nd grades, I read from a book about the life of Jesus.

We played soccer at recess on Tuesdays despite the accumulation of snow. The snow certainly slows down the game! The rivalry between the Coo Coo Monkeys and Yellow Jackets continued to be evident both on and off the field of play.

All the Best in Christ,
Fr. Brian Lynch



BAKE SALE!!

On March 11th we will be holding a school sponsored bake sale combined with the PREP breakfast. We ask that each olp school family donate an item to the sale (i.e., pan of bars, cupcakes, cookies, etc.). Please deliver them to the parish hall before 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 11. There will be a sign-in sheet for you to write your name and the item that you donate on. Thank you for your help with this fundraising opportunity!

Here's what's happening in the classrooms:

Pre-K and Kindergarten have been exploring steady beats found in spoken word within books. Kindergarten is also identifying eighth and quarter notes by either marching or jogging to music. 1st/2nd graders are working on pitch recognition and understanding steps and skips in reading music. 3rd and 4th graders are working hard on playing recorders and reading music! 5th/6th graders are continuing their study on music history. We are currently listening and analyzing music from the medieval period.

Mrs. Gleason

In Religion we are learning about Lent...what it is and how it is different from other seasons. Lent is a time to live simply and make special sacrifices. We are working to appreciate the small things. Most of us spend our lives waiting for the big things...a special birthday party, graduation, marriage. In doing this we fail to appreciate the small things...the things that go missed because we are busy waiting for the big things, the things that make up the majority of our lives. We are learning to see these small things as big things and how we can appreciate each moment of God's plan for us in a meaningful way.

In Social Studies we are learning about the Western Region of the United States. We have been researching the Louisiana Purchase and the geopolitical significance of this event. We are also following the Lewis and Clark expedition: the motivations behind it and how it was meant to be a diplomatic mis-

sion to form alliance with western Native American tribes.

Mrs. Menke

Preschool is learning about Lent. We are reading *What Color is Lent?* We made a colorful paper chain and discussed the colors seen in church. Our book talks about the season of Lent and watching the grass get greener till Spring arrives. Each page is full of lesson from the Bible.

Our class will start reading fairytales and nursery rhymes. You may hear lots of rhyming words at home.

Teacher Ashley

This week the first graders are learning all about the "bossy e," also sometimes known as the "super e." This e makes the other vowel in the word say it's name. The kindergarten is starting to learn about our newest superkid, Frits! Frits loves to go fishing. In religion we are using our file folders as a tool to help us keep our Lenten promises. It also helps us to keep track of how many days are left in the season of Lent.

Mrs. Urlick

We have been reading a lot of Dr. Seuss this week to celebrate Read Across America. We will celebrate his birthday on Friday with a PJ day and fun Dr. Seuss themed activities. In math 1st grade has been working with rulers and is starting to learn to

add 2-digit numbers. 2nd grade is starting to add numbers with sums greater than 100 and subtracting 2-digit numbers. In religion we have been focusing on Lent and how we can grow closer to Jesus during this time. In science we are talking about Life cycles and will be watching the life cycle of a plant over the next couple weeks.

Mrs. Zabel

This week we started to learn about the Iditarod. Each student got to pick a musher to track and we will continue to track their progress as they make their way across Alaska! In math, the third graders are learning how to estimate and measure to the nearest half and fourth inch. The fourth graders continue to work on two-digit multiplication. Our religion focus continues to be Lent and why we celebrate this special season. In science we learned about crystals and in social we continue to learn about the southeast states.

Ms. Cates

The 5th and 6th graders are loving the novel *George Washington's Socks* that we started last week. They are enjoying learning more about the Revolutionary War while learning more about the genre of historical fiction. While reading they are also building comprehension and vocabulary skills and having fun at the same time!

- Mrs. Alessio

New Website

OLP has a new Website!! Please check it out using the link below and let us know what you think!



<https://school.ourladyoftheprairie.com/>

