

May 3, 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...

Next week we celebrate National Teacher Appreciation Week. Teachers inspire and lead. They provide so many great things on a daily basis that we sometimes forget the contribution and great impact they make. Parents, if you haven't sent a message recently to your child's teacher, please take a moment to reflect on all the wonderful things they do for your family. Then drop them a note saying "thanks!" It would only take a few minutes of your time and would be so appreciated! Congratulations to our

2<sup>nd</sup> Graders! They will be receiving First Communion on Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. What a wonderful, beautiful day for all of them! Thanks to Pat Schroers, Loree Heinkele, and Chelsea Zabel for all of their hard work with our children in preparation for this event.

May Crowning will take place on Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at our All-School Mass. Our first communicants and 6<sup>th</sup> graders will lead Mass that day and crown our mother Mary. Please join us!

It is hard to believe we have just four weeks of

school remaining. This is certainly time to double our efforts in the academic area. Parents-please help your children keep focused on their school work as the days get longer and nicer.

As always, if you have questions or concerns, please email me at [waleccio@ourladyoftheprairie.com](mailto:waleccio@ourladyoftheprairie.com)

Peace, Wendi Alessio

### Mark your calendar:

- ☺ 5/4 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 5/6
- ☺ 5/11 May Crowning Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 1/2
- ☺ 5/18 Birthday Mass Hosted by Grades K/1
- ☺ 5/20 School Waffle Breakfast
- ☺ 5/28 No School Memorial Day
- ☺ 5/31 Last Day of School Noon Dismissal—parent pickup



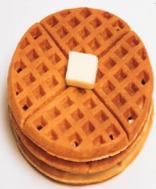
Our second grade students have been preparing to receive their First Holy Communion, most of them will do that this coming Sunday at a special 11:30 a.m. Mass. After giving them a blessing at Mass for years it will be a joyful challenge for me to remember to give them Holy Communion instead!

We are back to playing a more recognizable form of soccer, on grass instead of snow, at recess on Tuesdays! If you had told me a couple years ago that we would have played soccer throughout the winter months I don't think I would have believed you. It only happened because the kids are such good sports and have so much fun playing. One student recently told me he was going to practice soccer over the summer!

I also recently had a chance to play Duck, Duck, Gray Duck with the preschool students and their teachers. It was surprising to me how much they enjoyed that game.

I certainly prefer spring to winter. It has been a joy for me to spend that time with the students outside.

All the Best in Christ,  
Fr. Brian Lynch



**WAFFLE BREAKFAST  
and  
CCW BAKE SALE  
Sunday, May 20  
8:30 to Noon!**

### Children's Birthday Mass



Join us at Mass on Friday, May 18, 8:30 am, where we will recognize our students celebrating April, May, June and July Birthdays! Coffee, Juice and Donuts will follow Mass in the Gathering Space.

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

- Pre-K has been learning some kindergarten songs! We pulled out the parachute and used it for a circle game song.

-Kindergarten has been practicing their steady beats and drawing the directions of melodies on the white board.

-1st and 2nd graders are focusing on composing their own melodies. It's been fun playing them on the resonator bells to hear how they sound.

-3rd and 4th graders performed a few songs for the school and did such a great job! We named the group the "Rockin' Recorders".

-5th and 6th grade will be starting a unit on modern music appreciation, focusing on opera, Broadway, and American influenced music.

Mrs. Gleason

Preschoolers are practicing using Positional Words! At circle time we played a game with scarves called Over and Under. We also read the story Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt. Preschoolers planted seeds filling their own cups with dirt then placing the tiny seed inside. Our sensory bucket is filled with bugs! Students are catching bugs and sorting them by color.

Preschoolers are learning the Creation story. One of our favorite

songs is Hippopotamus Hip Hooray God Made all of Us!

Teacher Ashley

This week the K-1 students are finishing up different units. The kindergarten is going to learn about the letter Bb, and the first grade is learning about how the letter y can sometimes sound like the long e sound. Both K and 1 are beginning to take the MAP tests this week, and will continue this next week. The biggest excitement in our room is the fact that each caterpillar in our room has turned into a chrysalis! We are anxiously waiting for the time when they change from a chrysalis into a butterfly!

Mrs. Urlick

The second graders had a great time at their First Communion workshop last weekend, now they are anxiously awaiting their First Communion on Sunday. We received class caterpillars last week and are learning about their life cycle. They are already in stage 3, chrysalis. In math the 1st graders are working on addition with a missing addend, second grade is working on subtraction with borrowing and rounding. We have a lot of fun events coming up in May so make sure to

watch the calendar and look for email updates!

Mrs. Zabel

Last week, Ms. Cates' friends had fun learning about Earth Day and the importance of the three R's. In math, the third graders learned about estimating sums and differences. The fourth graders continued to work on long division with and without remainder. Our religion focus was on the third commandment. In science we are learning about the different states of matter and in social studies we are learning about the southwest states.

Ms. Cates

It's hard to believe that there are only four weeks of school left! The 5th graders have been busy learning divisibility rules in math. The 6th graders are excited about their field trip to the "Festival of Nations" on Thursday at the convention center in St. Paul. They have also become pros at adding integers.

- Mrs. Alessio

## YEARBOOK ORDER

Yearbook orders need to be in to the office by Wednesday, May 9, 2018.

The yearbooks should be here before the last day of school, if not, we will contact you when they are in!



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

## LUNCH ON MAY 31, 2018



Please join us on the last day of school for a hot dog lunch! Lunch will be served at 11:30 and school will be dismissed at noon. There will be no afternoon bus—this is a PARENT PICK UP DAY.

## Hands For Prayer

