



October 25, 2018

The "Know it all" News

Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic Church and School, 215 North Chestnut 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 Terry Feddersen 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 close to \$5,000 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 next month. Thank you for

your dedication and support to Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic School.

Our Lady of the Prairie is almost finished with 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 ideas 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 15th from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet will be sent home at the begin-

ning of next week. Please fill it out and return it to school by Friday, November 3rd.

Somewhere in the newsletter each week will be a random sentence. When you find the sentence, cut and paste it into the subject of an email to Ms. Alessio and your name will be put into a drawing for a \$10 Kwitk Trip gift card. This weeks random sentence is: Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.

Just a reminder! OLP will be in session on Friday, November 9th. It is a parent drop off and pick up day. Students will also need to bring a sack lunch and drink on this day because there will be no hot lunch served.

Peace, Wendi Alessio

Mark your calendar:



- © 10/26 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 2 & 3
- © 11/1 All Saint's Day Holy Day of Obligation Mass times: 6:30 am, 8:30 am, and 6:00 pm
- © 11/4 H.S.A. Holiday Boutique, 9 am to 1 pm
- © 11/7 Picture Retakes— 8:30 am
- © 11/9 OLP SCHOOL WILL BE IN SESSION. This is a Parent drop off/pick up day. Send bag lunches no hot lunch available.
- © 11/11 OLP School Waffle Breakfast/PREP Bake Sale

Picture retakes
November 7, 2018
8:30 am



I continue to pray with the 5th and 6th grade students, using passages from the Gospel of Luke. With the younger students I have completed reading from "Ask the Archbishop," a book in which our own Archbishop Hebda answers questions from students in Catholic grade schools in our Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Our soccer rivalry continues, and with an interesting development. Recently, after a few unusual victories by the Cuckoo Monkeys, members of the Yellow Jackets recognized that they almost always win when Mr. Patrick Schroers, our parish religious education program director, plays goalie for them. That very Tuesday, Mr Schroers did play goalie from them, and the Yellow Jackets won, 1 - 0. No word as to whether or not Las Vegas is on to this potentially catastrophic "tell" in the sports gambling industry.

All the Best in Christ,
Fr. Brian Lynch

Here's what's happening in the classrooms:

Preschool has been exploring high and low pitches as well as working on our steady beats. We always do a calm listening song at the end of class. They do a great job keeping still and listening! Kindergarten has been discovering forms of songs. We have been adding triangles, drums, and woodblocks to our songs. 1st/2nd grade have been doing partner songs and adding actions to the songs. We also started performing songs adding our boom whackers, hand drums, and other auxiliary percussion instruments. 3rd/4th graders are working hard on rhythm exercises. 5th/6th graders are advancing in Choir Karate! Each student advances at their own speed with their music knowledge and can "test" into the next colored belt when they are ready. Ask your child what color their current belt is.

-Mrs. Gleason

The intense learning continues in Mr. Lopahs' 5th and 6th grade Social Studies and Science class! We are finishing up our unit on Simple Machines and have been using our classroom examples to demonstrate Newton's Laws of Motion. In Social Studies we successfully completed our unit on the European Age of Exploration with students understanding the motivations of the explorers as well as the points of view of the natives they encountered. In our next unit we are discussing the First Settlements

in America (before the 13 colonies) and introducing a brand new topic never before discussed - Government!

In Technology we have been practicing our keyboarding skills by working with games that have challenged our K-6 students. These challenges have ranged from typing in the chosen letter before the rocket leaves the screen (Rocket Typing, Jr) to matching up the missing keys on the blank keyboard (Keyboard Challenge). These games can be found on the site/app ABCya.com. Next up we will begin to explore the world of "coding" which will enable student to program their own video game.

-Mr. Lopahs

God said, "let there be light." This week we talked about night and day. God separated the light from darkness. Our classroom will be dark for a day to get our students ready for Halloween. We will explore shadows with flashlights.

We also learned the word Nocturnal and what it meant. Preschoolers played a game and pretended to be Owls they slept when the light was on, then flew around our classroom when the light was off. One of our favorite stories was Night Animals.

Happy Halloween!

- Teacher Ashley

This week the kindergarten met our new Superkid - a super DOG -

Golly! Golly loves sniffing garbage. We thought that was rather odd! In math we are practicing making equal groups with our teddy bear counters. We learned that "equal" means that both groups have the same amount. This week we have a couple of field trips (Emma Krumbiee's and a service project). We love getting out doing fun things as a class! It's another great week in kindergarten!

- Mrs. Urlick

A great big thank you to Mrs. Ginny Morgan for stepping in to the 1st and 2nd grade class room while Mrs. Zabel is on maternity leave. We are so lucky to have her!!!

- Mrs. Zabel

We had so much fun helping our community by raking leaves for our fall service project. It was nice to help those in need. In math, the third graders are working estimating sums and the fourth graders are adding numbers in the millions with and without regrouping. In science we are taking a closer look at the different traits animals have to help them survive in the wild. Finally in social studies, we started our year long project called The Great Mail Race. We wrote a letter to one Catholic school in each state. Hopefully we will hear from each state by the end of the school year!

- Ms. Cates



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.



Congratulations to Chelsea & Brandon Zabel on their new baby boy!