



October 4, 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...

**WELCOME OCTOBER!** We welcome the beautiful fall colors that are beginning to show! Students are looking forward to fall trips that will be taking place this month. The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders are very excited that they will be going to Stillwater on Friday to go on a riverboat cruise with our visitors from Kitui Kenya. Preschool through fourth grade will be visiting Emma Krumbes on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

**WOLF RIDGE:** On Monday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, our 6<sup>th</sup> graders head to Wolf Ridge for three days of education and fun. They return on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>. This is an annual event that is shared with our friends at Trinity Lutheran School.

Thanks to our parent chaprones!

**SCHOOL WILL BE IN SESSION NOVEMBER 9<sup>th</sup>!** We will not be participating in the E-Learning Day on November 9<sup>th</sup>. Our Lady of the Prairie School will be in session on this day. Since the Belle Plaine schools **WILL NOT** be in session, parents will need to provide transportation to and from school on this date because there will be no busses running on this day.

**MARATHON IS ONLY TWO WEEKS AWAY! KEEP THOSE PLEDGES COMING!** To date students have brought in \$570 toward our school goal of \$7,000. Students should

be turning in their pledges weekly. We will again be tallying progress toward our school goal of \$7,000! Class goals are:

K \$1556  
1-2 \$2139.50  
3-4 \$1750.50  
5-6 \$1556  
Student Goal - \$194.50 per student

**Don't Forget!** School will not be in session on Thursday and Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> due to MEA Break!

Peace, Wendi Alessio



## Mark your calendar:

- © 10/5 Children's Mass—Hosted by Grade 5 & 6
- © 10/12 Children's Mass—Hosted by Grades 3 & 4
- © 10/14 OLP School Marathon
- © 10/18-19 No School—MEA
- © 10/26 Children's Mass—Hosted by Grades 2 & 3



The first week of October was special for Our Lady of the Prairie School because we had some friends visit us from Kitui, Kenya in Africa: Fr. Julius Muthamba and Mr. Benedict Kinuva. Fr. Julius is a Catholic priest responsible for a number of Catholic schools in Kenya while Mr. Kinuva is a teacher in a Catholic School in Kenya. The two visited with our students on the morning of Tuesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Scarcity of water is major challenge for the people of Kitui, and it is quite tempting to have Kenyan children be part of the solution to this urgent problem rather than invest in their future through education. Our friends from Kenya thanked us for our support of the Living Waters Project which has raised money for the purchase of 10,000 gallon water storage containers. These are used to store rain water that comes to Kitui during the rainy seasons so that it can be used during the drier seasons. Without these containers, the water rushes away from Kitui and is not available to the people there for very long.

Our students had many, many questions for our friends. It was delightful to experience their interest in Kitui, Kenya. With Mrs. Carolyn Gleason's help and technology, we soon hope to reach out to school children in Kitui.

All the Best in Christ,  
Fr. Brian Lynch

## OLP SCHOOL MARATHON—SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14

The School Marathon is fast approaching!! Turn your pledges in to the office so we can track where we are at! Remember, 100% of your pledges collected go directly to your fundraising assessment fee!

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

Music is in full swing at OLP! 1st-6th grades recently participated in a cantor workshop that allowed students to practice speaking into the microphone and practice good habits in church. Preschool has been discovering different ways to move our bodies to music as well as keeping a steady beat. Kindergarten is discovering fast/slow and loud/soft within music. 1st/2nd grade is practicing rhythms and learning solfège symbols. 3rd/4th grade is reviewing notations and rhythms as well as working on new songs for children's mass. 5th/6th grade is working on new songs and advancing in rhythm and notation exercises.

-Mrs. Gleason  
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It has been a fun and busy time in Mr Lopahs' 5th and 6th grade Social Studies and Science class! We have been diving head-first into the European Age of Exploration and examining the motivations as well as the points of view of the explorers as well as the natives they encountered.

In Science we have been exploring Minnesota's natural resources. We also are just beginning our unit on Simple Machines and how they are used in the real world.

-Mr. Lopahs  
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Preschoolers are learning about Autumn. We played a game called: What am I? I described different things found during the season of Autumn and they took turns guessing. As they guessed we erased the picture off the white board. Our class is learning how to take turns and share as we play new

games. At circle time we read the book When a Leaf Blew In. Then we worked together as a class to retell the sequence of the book. What did the animals do when the leaf blew in? I have added farm animals, corn, beans, and tractors to our sensory table. Preschoolers are practicing color sorting, counting, and patterns while exploring the sensory table. Feel free to bring more Autumn treasures you may find for our Science shelf.

- Teacher Ashley  
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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: Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country.

This week the kindergarten class is MAP testing. It will be great to get a baseline for what students already know. This week we also met our newest Superkid, Oswald. Oswald loves the letter O, and he also loves creating odd animals through drawing, painting, or crafting. In math we are learning about how to sort by color, and how to sort by shape. Students are also reviewing how to act when our friends bother us, or if they are in our personal space. We are working on using kindness to solve our problems.

- Mrs. Urlick  
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In first grade reading we have been working on the WH and TH sounds, we have also been working on WH sight words. In second grade we have been working on nouns and verbs. In math both grades have been working on addition, first grade is working on different adding strategies and second grade is working on adding 3 numbers together. We have been talking about how to write letters and soon we will be writing letters that we will send in the mail. In science we have been talking about our senses and tools scientists use.

- Mrs. Zabel  
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I cannot believe that September is already over! Our friends were excited to meet and talk with our friends from Kitui, Kenya. In math, the third graders are working on solving story problems. The fourth graders are working on adding with missing numbers. In science we finished our plant unit and will take our first science test! In social studies we are comparing and contrasting communities around the world.

- Ms. Cates  
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The fifth and sixth graders were so excited to have our visitors from Kitui Kenya come to talk to us at an assembly this week. They had a great time asking question and learning about life in Kenya. Students also can't wait to go on a riverboat cruise Friday in Stillwater with our Kitui friends!

- Mrs. Alessio  
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## SCRIP IS OFFERED WEEKLY!

**Order your gift cards now, for shopping you plan in the future** – everything from groceries, to gas, to restaurants. It's money in your pocket and builds a tuition credit for the OLP 2016-17 academic year! Relatives or friends may also place orders and credit your family – this helps build your credit, quicker!

**HOW DOES IT WORK? ALL ORDERS NEED TO BE IN BY FRIDAY** with your check at 3 p.m. to process and receive by the following Friday.

**Please note:** We must have a minimum of \$1,000 in orders in order to process as we do pay shipping on non-local scrip orders. If we have lower orders, we will not process until the next order. Call with questions 952.873.6564.