



September 20, 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...

Happy Fall! It is hard to believe we are already in our third week of school! Our teachers have been working with your child to assess their learning, group them for math and reading, and create positive learning experiences all day long!

It's Marathon Time! Earlier this week you received marathon pledge forms. Students should begin turning in their pledges next week. We will be tallying progress toward our school goal of \$7,000!

Class goals are:

- Mrs. Urlick's Class- \$1556
- Mrs. Zabel's Class- \$2140
- Miss Cates Class- \$1750
- Mrs. Alessio/Mr. Lopahs Class- \$1556

(This is \$194.50 per student.)

All Families invited – Sunday, October 14 – to our **Marathon of Prayer!** We will be attending Mass and having a Prayer Intention Marathon Walk. Lunch will be provided by the K of C and prizes will be awarded. Please save the date to join us!

This week, K-2 students had their initial fall assessment through FAST testing. This will give teachers a summary of where students are at coming from summer break. We will be assessing the students throughout the year and results will be sent home when available.

If your child qualifies for Title services, you will receive a letter. All Title services will be held at OLP at least once a week for your child and will be provided

by the Belle Plaine Public Schools.

Scrip every week: Would you like to earn tuition credit? Do you shop at Coborn's or Walmart? Order your scrip cards weekly! For your everyday shopping you not only earn tuition credit, but you help the school in reaching our fundraising goals.

We are still looking for a few volunteers. We need help serving lunch daily so we can continue to provide hot lunch for our students. Call the office if you would like to volunteer at OLP – 873-6564.

Peace, Wendi Alessio



Mark your calendar:

- © 9/15 Children's Mass- Hosted by Grade 5 & 6
- © 9/20 School Picture Day
- 9/22 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 3 & 4
- © 9/22 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 1 & 2

Spiritwear Orders

If you placed an online order for spiritwear, please remember that checks are due on Friday, September 21. Orders that have not been paid for will not be printed.



A special welcome to our new families. It has been delightful to have your children join Our Lady of the Prairie School! Our new students have really brought tremendous gifts with them, and I am grateful that they are sharing them with us. Thank you parents for these new friends. I spend Tuesday mornings in the classrooms; 30 minutes in each. I generally talk with them about something religious. This past week I spoke to each classroom about what we do at Mass in church on Friday mornings. I have also been reading them a book in which our Archbishop answers the questions of students in our Catholic schools.

Going forward, in Mrs. Alessio's 5th/6th grade classroom, we will be praying with scripture. In the other classrooms I will often read a Bible story or something about the life of Jesus. You will hear plenty more (too much?) about our soccer games in the future!

Blessings,
Fr. Brian Lynch

Did you know that we have a trailer behind the garages at the preschool building that you can drop off your aluminum cans in? Proceeds directly benefit OLP School. Thank you!



Here's what's happening in the classrooms:

We have kicked off the 5th and 6th grade school year "Exploring" the world of Social Studies and Science. Each week we have an Explorer of the Week detailing a famous person from the world of Science or History. Students had a blast recording their video summaries of Marco Polo using the FlipGrid app, and they will prove their knowledge about Christopher Columbus in the same way. We are also analyzing the Age of Exploration from multiple perspectives including the famous explorers and those natives "discovered" by the Europeans.

In Science we are exploring our natural world covering natural resources and how we interact with the earth. Also we have discussed the cause and effect of several natural phenomenon's such as hurricanes and volcanoes to see how our earth is formed and changed over time by natural forces.

-Mr. Lopahs

Welcome back to school! The first few weeks have gone by so quickly. Preschoolers are getting to know one another during circle time we play a name game. Who's shoe is this? Our first day of school book was Rocking in my School Shoes.

Each child has also created an

all about me project to share some of their favorite things. One of our Stories was Be Who You Are. Our topic was God created us all differently. Preschoolers are learning how to play with one another and make friends. Ask them who some of their new friends are at school!

- Teacher Ashley

This week the kindergarten class is reviewing school rules. We are practicing how to line up at the door, how to raise our hand when we want to speak, how to use our indoor voices, and so much more! We have also started some beginning of the year testing so we can have a baseline of what students know. This week students were introduced to our first Superkid, Cass. Cass loves to cook with her cat Coconut! Already this year is off to a great start!

- Mrs. Urlick

We are off to a great start in 1st and 2nd grade! In reading we are reviewing a lot of sounds to help in reading and writing, we also have been reading some SuperKids stories. In math both grades are working on different ways to solve addition problems. In religion we have

been talking about God's creation and how Jesus is the son of God. This week we are starting our book buddies with preschool, we will be reading with preschool every other Wednesday afternoon.

- Mrs. Zabel

The third and fourth graders had a great start to the school year. A highlight was our virtual field trip to the 9/11 memorial sites! In math, the third graders are working on comparing and rounding numbers. The fourth graders are working on place value and expanded form. In science we are learning about the plant life cycle and in social studies we are learning about what make a community.

- Ms. Cates

The 5th and 6th graders are off to a great start! In reading this year, we will be learning about the different reading genres and have started the year out by learning more about realistic fiction. In Math this week 5th graders learned about multiplication and multiplying numbers by 10, 100, and 1,000 and 6th graders worked with exponents. In Religion this year we will be focusing on Jesus and the Sacraments.

- Mrs. Alessio

School Marathon

(Sunday, October 14, 2018)

The School Marathon is fast approaching!! An envelope was sent home in your child's backpack with details and pledge collection forms. Get out there and start collecting pledges!! 100% of your pledges collected go directly to your fundraising assessment fee!

Calling all Dads and Moms

We are still in need of lunch volunteers! In order to run the hot lunch program at Our Lady of the Prairie, we are in need of more preschool to 6th grade parent volunteers. Currently, we are most in need of Monday help, and need one additional volunteer for each day of the week. If you have small ones still at home, bring them along! The time commitment would be approximately 11:20am to 12:40pm (this includes food prep to clean-up). Call Nora Wermerskirchen at 952-270-0781 with your availability. Thank you!

