



December 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...

Friday afternoon Our Lady of the Prairie students will present our musical program, "Walking With the December Saints." The program begins at 1:30 PM in the Church and will be followed by refreshments in the Gathering Space. I hope to see everyone there!

OLP's Student Council recently sponsored an out of uniform day. The event raised \$74 and was used to purchase gifts for the Belle Plaine Rotary Club's Holiday Gift Project. Great

Job OLP Students!

Christmas Break is December 24th through January 1st. School will resume on Wednesday, January 2nd.

Registration materials for the 2019-20 school year will be sent out in January. Please be on the lookout for this important information.

On behalf of our teachers and staff here at Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic School, I'd like to wish everyone a

Very Merry Christmas!

As always, please call 952-873-6564 or email me at walesio@ourladyoftheprairie.com with any questions.

Peace,

Wendi Alessio



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Mark your calendar:



- ☺ 12/21 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 5 & 6
- ☺ 12/21 OLP School Christmas Program, 1:30 pm
- ☺ 12/24-1/1 Christmas Break—No School
- ☺ 1/4/ Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 5 & 6
- ☺ 1/11 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 3 & 4
- ☺ 1/18 Children's Mass Hosted by Grades 1 & 2



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!



I did not get to meet with the 5th and 6th graders the Tuesday before Christmas because they had a Christmas cookie decorating (and eating) assembly with the rest of the students. I met with the 3rd and 4th graders immediately after the Christmas cookie event and read them the Christmas stories from the Gospel of Matthew and the Gospel of Luke. They told me a number of jokes and even a couple riddles. While visiting with the 1st and 2nd graders I also read the two Christmas stories from the Bible; they told me about things they wanted to get for Christmas. I read one Christmas story to the Kindergarten students, a number of whom told me that they are planning to spy on Santa by staying up late on Christmas eve or sleeping in some unusual places with the hope of being awakened and seeing him. They are certainly looking forward to Christmas!

I hope to see you at Mass, whether at the 4:15 p.m. Mass on Christmas eve with many, many children, or one of the more peaceful Masses.

Enjoy the Holy Day!
Fr. Brian Lynch

Here's what's happening in the classrooms:

All grades have been working so hard on their upcoming performance. I am very proud of how focused the students have been this year. We look forward to seeing everyone during our Christmas Pageant, Walking Through the December Saints, on Friday December 21st @ 1:30 pm. Our Preschool friends will be performing three songs at the beginning of the program. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mrs. Gleason

In 5th and 6th Grade Science we have started a unit on Life Sciences. This includes lessons on Classifying Organisms, Cells, the Human Body Systems, and how life systems interact in nature. In social studies we are completing our big unit on the 13 Colonies. The students have been working very hard taking detailed notes, studying with partners, and playing quiz games in preparation of the final test. Topics in this unit included comparing and contrasting the different regions of colonies, their climates and geography, their ways of life, and their unique economies. And we have analyzed the Atlantic Slave Trade including who was involved, what was exchanged, the reasons for it, and the lasting results.

-Mr. Lopahs

In preschool we made surprise gifts for parents and wrote our names in a special card. It's exciting to see how many friends have learned to write their name this month!

In our block center we have a wooden nativity and preschoolers have been building the town of Bethlehem. They are counting down the days till Christmas and are ready for the excitement.

Join us at the Christmas program to help us celebrate. Merry Christmas!

- Teacher Ashley

This week the kindergarten is making a special Christmas gift for Mom and Dad. They will be painting, wrapping, and making a card! We are learning that it is good to give to others. We will also be watching the movie "The Star," which is a movie about how Jesus was born. It will be a busy week with Christmas concert rehearsals, and we are so excited to show off our songs on Friday at 1:30pm! We hope to see you there!

- Mrs. Urlick

I am so excited to be back in the classroom this week! Thank you for all the kind words and support throughout my maternity leave. This week we have been embracing Christmas with lots of fun activities. We have learned about reindeer, watched The Polar Express,

did activities with the nativity story and read The Legend of the Candy Cane. Also, we can't forget about making gingerbread houses! I hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas and enjoys the break.

- Mrs. Zabel

Over the past few weeks we've have prepared for Jesus' big day, Christmas! Learning about the each Advent candle, reading stories, singing songs, and practicing our parts for the Christmas Program. In math, the third graders are working on multiplying single digits the fourth graders multiplying double digits. In science we are looking at how animals depend on other plants and animals for their needs. Finally in social studies, we are learning how people change their environment.

- Ms. Cates

5th and 6th graders have been working on their persuasive writing skills and had the task of convincing the rest of the class that their "Holiday Sweater" was truly the best! The class has also been researching Christmas customs in different countries for a "Christmas Around the World" book that we are creating.

Mrs. Alessio

Give Kids a Smile Day Friday, February 1, 2019

Strait Smiles Family Dentistry is among hundreds of dentists across the state who are joining together to provide free dental care as participants in "Give Kids a Smile", a nationwide campaign organized by the American Dental Association.

Patients seeking appointments should be under the age of 18 and accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Information on specific services that will be provided will be outlined when an appointment is scheduled.

Please contact Strait Smiles office staff at 952.873.6380 to discuss appointment schedules.



24 HOUR SICK RULE!

If your child misses school or leaves early due to illness, they may return to school when:

- ◆ Temperature has been below 100 degrees for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medicine (such as Tylenol or Motrin).
- ◆ A minimum of 24 hours has passed since last vomiting or diarrheal episode.