



February 28, 2019

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...

What a great time the Gala was on Saturday night! It was nice to see everyone there and to enjoy everyone's company. Even the weather cooperated until the end! Thank you so much to Troy and Nora Wermerskirchen for chairing this event and to everyone who helped out! We sold 326 Raffle Tickets and the event was a success.

If you haven't submitted your registration for the 2019-20 school year, Please do so! The registration fee goes up to \$100

per family on March 1st. All families in K-6 are encouraged to apply for financial assistance through the TADS program. This application is all completed online at www.TADS.com

The Our Lady of the Prairie HSA Read-a-Thon starts today! You should have received a packet of information on Wednesday with all the details. The Read-a-Thon runs March 1st through the 31st with pledges do in by April 8th. We will be having a kick-off "Reading Party" on Monday,

March 4th. This is a great time to encourage your children to read every night!

The K-6 students will be attending Ash Wednesday Mass at 8:30 a.m. on March 6th and will be participating in Stations of the Cross after the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Fridays during Lent. We would love for you to join us!

Peace,
Wendi Alessio

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I continue to use my Tuesday mornings in the classrooms to read our students Bible stories. As you may recall, I often pray with the 5-6th grade students using the Gospel passage we will hear at Mass on Wednesday morning. In the other classrooms I read stories from children's Bibles, often at their request. Recently, in the 1-2 grade classroom, I had a sustained fit of laughing that was embarrassing. It was set off because I tried to use the game of musical chairs to explain the "casting of lots" used to identify Jonah as the cause of the stormy sea, and one of the students voiced disbelief that they would have played musical chairs on a ship in danger of sinking! It was a reasonable response, but I certainly didn't mean it that literally. Anyhow, I guess it was a chance for the kids to see that I am human, perhaps more than they had thought.

All the Best in Christ,
Fr. Brian Lynch

Here's what's happening in the classrooms:

We are entertaining warm thoughts in 5th and 6th grade as we continue our current Life Science unit - Plants! Through the use of multiple resources we are gathering information about the different parts of the plant as well as exploring specific plants from around the world. As the students have been sharing their findings with the class it reminds us all that winter will, eventually, end and the green images we see on the screen will in fact re-appear outside. Again, eventually. For Social Studies we are on the brink of War in the North American British Colonies. The 5th and 6th graders are learning about what it meant to be a Loyalist or a Patriot during the time of the American Revolution and are seeing the points of view of the conflict through the eyes of those involved.

- Mr. Lopahs

This week kindergarten met a new superkid! Her name is Ettabetta and she loves the letter Ee! We learned that she loves to do puzzles and solve riddles. In math we are learning about what makes different numbers 1-10. In

our play corner we have been busy making Valentine's for everyone in the school. We are excited to see what our play corner changes to in March! This week we are also talking about dental health, and we will be making a project to help us remember to brush our teeth!

- Mrs. Urlick

What a winter! We have been playing catch up all month in our room. In reading both grades are working on long vowels, first grade is learning about silent E and second grade is working on vowel pairs. In math we are working on measurement and double digit addition. We are excited to start the Read-a-thon, watch for information to come home soon. Thank you to everyone who attended the Gala!

- Mrs. Zabel

Saturday is the official start of the Iditarod. Students are learning about Alaska, the race, and picked a musher to track throughout the race. This unit is a highlight for many. We will

be praying for the mushers, the dogs, and for good weather. In math, the third graders are double digit multiplication. The fourth graders are working on long division, with and without remainders. In science each student is re-searching a type of severe storm, hurricanes or tornadoes. We will present our findings to the class next week.

- Ms. Cates

The 5th and 6th graders are excited about the upcoming Read-a-Thon sponsored by the Our Lady of the Prairie School HSA. They can't wait for the "Reading Party" on March 4th! Students have been working on the study skill of note taking. For our latest book report students have been reading a book from the "Who Was..." series and taking notes on new vocabulary and interesting facts. They will be using their notes to write a report on a president or first lady and give a presentation on the person they read about.

Mrs. Alessio