



March 18, 2022

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...

Dear Parents,

We are at the end of a beautiful weather week, the end of our third quarter of school, and the end of our last day of school before spring break. We are all ready to celebrate our accomplishments completed so far.

During the last quarter of school we need to start planning the 2022-23 school year. We will be hiring a new teacher for the second/third grade classroom. I had a second grader this week trying to sweet talk me into being the new 2/3 teacher. (He seemed to forget that I was retiring.) Then he asked me to sub. I think that he was probably subconsciously trying to make sure he has a teacher for next year. We want to make sure that happens. So, if you haven't yet had a chance to fill in your registration forms yet, please do so. We want to make sure of our numbers as we are finishing up the budget.

As our spring break starts get out and enjoy the weather. Some of you might be heading out of town for a short vacation. Some of you will be doing a 'staycation' by doing an overnight somewhere fun for the kids. Or you might be like me and just recharging at home, reading a good book, and enjoying family. Whatever you are doing may God keep you healthy and safe out on the highways.

God Bless you all!
Peg Scott

Calendar of Events

- 3/18 9am Mass & Stations of the Cross
- 3/18 Report cards sent home
- 3/18 4:30-6:30pm Knights of Columbus Fish Dinner in Parish Hall
- 3/21-25 SPRING BREAK
- 3/25 4:30-6:30pm Knights of Columbus Fish Dinner in Parish Hall
- 3/28 School Resumes
- 3/31 8:30am Mass hosted by grades 2-3
- 3/31 6:45pm PTA Meeting in Roedel Hall
- 4/1 9am Mass & Stations of the Cross
- 4/1 4:30-6:30pm Knights of Columbus Fish Dinner in Parish Hall

A Word from Father Michael..

Stations of the Cross

Our church has a long tradition and blessed devotion to marking the steps of Jesus on Good Friday. Tradition holds that the Blessed Virgin Mary often made the visit following in her son's footsteps on the way to Calvary. Early Christian pilgrims to the Holy Land would also trace the Lord's footsteps from his condemnation to his death and burial. As we recall that sad event, we remember how much we are loved by God, that he would send His Son to live and die for us so that we could be with Him forever in heaven! It is a great blessing to make the Stations of the Cross and I have enjoyed praying the stations each Friday with our schoolchildren.

As we wander from station to station, we make a spiritual pilgrimage being reminded of the stops of our Lord along the Via Dolorosa (Way of Sorrow) in Jerusalem. It begins at Pilate's Palace Court and ends at Jesus' grave site (now the Holy Sepulchre Church). Each station commemorates a significant act of our Lord on that fateful day.

At each station we pray and meditate on the fourteen final acts of Jesus on Good Friday. The Church attaches a plenary indulgence to those who make the Stations of the Cross. So there is great motivation to make sure that we realize the benefits of this pious devotion. We must always remember that the 14th Station (Burial in the Tomb) is also the site of the resurrection! So from the sorrow comes great joy!

God bless you,
Father Michael Kaluza

OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE
CATHOLIC SCHOOL GALA & AUCTION



SATURDAY, APRIL 23

5:00 - 9:00 PM
200 EAST CHURCH STREET BELLE PLAINE



PLUS CASH PRIZES FOR \$3000, \$2000 & \$1000

SILENT & LIVE AUCTION ITEMS

ALL YOUR FAVORITE GAMES!

POKER // BLACK JACK // ROULETTE // AND MORE

FOOD, WINE & BEER AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT SCHOOL OFFICE (952).873.6564
OR PURCHASE FROM A SCHOOL FAMILY
MUST BE 18 OR OLDER TO PURCHASE

Here's what's happening in the classroom:



Mrs. Olson (Teacher Ashley) Preschool

Preschoolers are enjoying the change in weather! In Science we talked about clouds, rain, and rainbows. At circle time we used shaving cream and droppers to create rain cloud in a jar. We've been exploring colors. Using different textures we made a rainbow collage. Will we find the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow? God gave us eyes to see things big and small. Preschoolers were given magnifying glasses to see things small. Maybe we will find the little leprechaun. Happy St. Patrick's Day!



Miss Schroers Kindergarten & 1st Grade

In the K-1 classroom, we have been learning about honoring saints such as Mary and Joseph. One way we can honor and love Mary is by saying the Hail Mary prayer. Another saint we will be learning about this week is Saint Patrick. In math, the kindergarteners are working on breaking apart numbers and making addition problems. The first graders are working on subtracting sums using different strategies. The class continues to work on reading more challenging books. We love it when we can read to our preschool reading buddies each week!



Mrs. Cates 2nd & 3rd Grades

Congratulations to my second grade friends who recently received the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Such a special Sacrament and big thank you to Mrs. Daly for helping them prepare for it. This week we had fun celebrating St. Patrick. We had a special dress up day and learned about Saint Patrick. As for our learning, in math, third graders are working hard on their telling time and elapsed time unit. My second graders are working on collecting data and interpreting different types of graphs. In religion we are continuing our Lent unit and took some time to learn more about Saint Patrick and Saint Joseph. In social studies, we read different biographies, selected one, and presented a report on them. Finally in science, we are talking about assembling and disassembling objects. We used our knowledge to create a leprechaun contraption. Contraptions included a beach chair, the Jefferson Memorial, a house, a train, a trap, a coffin, and a house-trap-motorcycle-robot.



Mr. Lopah 4th, 5th & 6th Grades

The 4th, 5th, and 6th graders are headed for Spring Break on a high note! They have been working so hard on their Informative Writing skills by entering in not one, not two, but THREE local essay contests! I am so proud of all their hard work with writing (and typing) their essays. In math they are learning to convert units of measurement such as inches to feet, pints to gallons, meters to kilometers, and the like. In Social Studies we have entered our World War 2 Unit and are exploring the causes of the war and the early battles. And in Science we are entering our Ecosystems unit by reviewing our facts on Biomes and Food Chains.



Mrs. Gleason Music

5th and 6th graders completed their music history course on Medieval Music and are now entering the Renaissance Period. 4th graders are working hard on their recorders and can now play songs with 4 different notes!

2nd and 3rd graders are studying different instruments found in the Orchestra. They are doing great at identifying the various sounds of the instruments.

Kindergarten and 1st graders are doing some fun dances in music class! Attached picture is of the 5th/6th graders learning an Irish jig.

Our younger school children have learned a beautiful Lenten Song to the tune of "Frere Jacques". Be sure to ask them to sing it for you!



Watching Live Catholic School Raffle

