



Prairie Catholic Weekly Newsletter December 12, 2013

Message from the Principal:

For all those who braved the elements, last night's Christmas Concert was a fantastic show. Mrs. Stiemke and the students should be very proud. As my opening remarks touched on, our Christmas Concert is so much more than dressing up and belting out some classics. To Prairie Catholic our concert is one way to express our faith. Every song last night had a religious theme that the administration didn't have to approve. We are happy to be Catholic and our faith will be on display.

I would also like to thank Shirley Cipra for playing the piano, Mr. Stiemke for his work on the sound board and microphones, Terri Connell for her two extra hands of help and Molly Kirschbaum and Trisha Hager for their work decorating the church. Thank you very much!

- Children's Mass will be held at St. John's on December 24th at 5:30pm. Any students in second through eighth grades that would like to join the Children's Choir should be in the loft at 5:00pm. This Mass is very well attended so make sure you get there early. Also, we are looking for more students for the manger scene. Please call either school office if your child is interested in either role.
- **CAR RAFFLE!** You can get your tickets in many locations including both school offices. Tickets are \$20 each or 6 tickets for \$100. We are limiting the number available to 3,000 tickets, so get yours early. Grand prize will be a 2013 Dodge Dart. First prize will be \$2,500 and there are **10** second prizes of \$250. The drawing will be on Sunday, December 29th at 5:00pm in St. John's Parish Hall. Holy Family and Prairie Catholic would like to thank Sut Hill for their generosity with this fundraiser. We would also like to thank Mary Neisius for all of her work organizing this event.
- Parents, please remember to bring in a doctors/dentist/orthodontist note when your child returns to school. Each absence needs to be coded correctly so their files are current. Please also remember that in Crawford County each child is only allowed 10 absences before they are considered truant. We have some students that are well past 5 absences for this semester.
- Prairie Catholic is very proud of all the competitors in the first Math Counts competition that was held yesterday. Prairie Catholic swept the individual competition with students Evan Boisvert winning and Zach Mara placing second.
- Classroom Christmas parties at St. John's will be on Friday, December 20th in the afternoon. At St. Gabriel's, some will be on the 20th and some will be on Thursday, December 19th. Please look for communication from your student's teacher.
- The newly formed "Art Blasters" sponsored by Mrs. Welter will meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month from 3:30 – 4:30 in St. Gabriel's art room. Meetings will be held through April. Any Prairie Catholic student is welcome to join.
- The deadline for the Knights of Columbus Christmas Poster contest is Monday, December 16th.

- **GIVE THE GIFT OF HEALTHY EATING THIS CHRISTMAS!** The Prairie Catholic Wellness Committee has ten Super Snacks for Super Kids recipe books left. These would be a wonderful gift for any parent, grandparent, daycare provider, teacher, or anyone else who has the important job of providing nourishment for children. The books are hard-covered, with color photographs and recipes for over 60 mouth-watering snacks. The cost is \$20.00, 100% of which will remain at Prairie Catholic to support the wellness initiative. To purchase, stop by the Czajkowski Higgins & Rider office at 105 East Blackhawk Avenue, or call Lara Czajkowski Higgins at 326-8434. Get yours soon, as supplies are limited!
- The basketball game scheduled for the 6th grade girls has been cancelled. The 7th grade team will still play but at 5:30pm at St. Gabriel's school gym.

Job well done: Last year's Prairie Catholic third grade students (this year's fourth grade) scored a Grade Equivalency of 4.0 on the Composite Total of The Iowa Tests. This was good for a 93rd percentile rank of National School Norms. Great Job!

Prayer: Holy Spirit, your presence is blessing and we are often surprised at how you appear in unexpected ways. Keep us aware of how much you love us and care for us daily. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mark Your Calendars

December 16th – Deadline for Knights of Columbus Christmas Poster contest
 December 17th – Band Concert at Bluffview for grades 6, 7 and 8
 December 17th – 2nd Grade Caroling, pm
 December 20th – 2nd Grade Caroling, pm
 December 23rd – January 1st – No School
 December 24th – Christmas Eve Mass with children's parts
 December 29th – Car Raffle at St. John's Church, 5:00pm
 January 2nd – Classes resume
 January 8th – Farm to School to unveil photos at student lunch
 January 10th – End of First Semester

Basketball Schedule

December 12th – 7 Girls vs. Richland Center St. Mary's, 5:30
 December 13th, 14th & 15th – 5/6/7 Boys Wauzeka Tournament
 December 14th – 5Girls @ Prairie du Chien, SWBL Tournament
 December 14th – 7Girls @ Pecatonica, SWBL Tournament
 December 17th – 7 Boys vs. Cassville, 5:00pm
 December 20th – 5/6 Boys @ River Ridge, 5:30/6:30pm
 December 20th – 7 Boys, 5 Girls, 6 Girls @ MFL, 4:00/5:15/6:30pm
 January 4th – 5, 6, 7 Girls @ River Ridge Tournament
 January 4th – 5 Boys @ Dodgeville, SWBL Tournament
 January 4th – 6 Boys @ Barneveld, SWBL Tournament
 January 4th – 7 Boys @ SWBL Tournament
 January 6th – 6B, 7B, 6G @ Bloomington St. Mary's, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30pm
 January 7th – 5B/7B vs. Richland Center St. Mary's, 5:30, 6:30pm
 January 9th – 5/6 Girls vs. River Ridge, 5:30, 6:30pm
 January 11th – Prairie Catholic Girls Tournament!

