



# Prairie Catholic Weekly Newsletter December 19, 2013

## Message from the Principal:

This year as the excitement built for the holiday season I was reminded of how that excitement changes over time. As a child you are excited for the gifts you will receive. It may be a new game, or a doll or your own phone. Whatever the grand prize is, you are excited to possess it.

Then you mature a little and you are excited for the gifts you will receive and to have some time off from school. Those two weeks felt like a month. You have no homework just days to hang out with friends, usually playing with the gifts you got for Christmas.

You mature a little more and you are excited to see those friends and family that you don't get to see enough throughout the year. At a certain age you start to miss your weird uncle with the horrible sense of humor and you can't wait to see those school friends that come home from college. At this age you are still excited for the gifts you will receive but somehow in your head you told yourself I don't want this device, I NEED this device. But at some point you finally mature a lot and understand that the time spent with your family is more valuable than the gifts given back and forth. Over the last two months many parents have told me to cherish the moments your son is young as he will grow too fast and the moment changes. In that spirit, take time to stop this holiday and cherish the time you have with loved ones. I hope you find that special happiness!

- Prairie Catholic would like to congratulate the ten students that qualified for the school geography bee: Lauren Kennedy, Evan Boisvert, Kama Tesar, Gracie Colson, Alexis Nolan, Breanna Teynor, Angela Sebastian, Peggy Koresh, Zach Swiggum and Brytta Sagedahl. This year's champion is Peggy Koresh who beat out Lauren Kennedy in the finals.
- Children's Mass will be held at St. John's on December 24<sup>th</sup> 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 5:10pm. This Mass is very well attended so make sure you get there early.
- **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 29<sup>th</sup> 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.
- Classroom Christmas parties at St. John's will be on Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. At St. Gabriel's, some will be on the 20<sup>th</sup> and some will be on Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. Please look for communication from your student's teacher.
- Anyone interested in volunteering at the book fair at St. Gabriel's during Catholic Schools Week is encouraged to contact Molly Kirschbaum. Molly will be organizing the event and is seeking individuals that would love to fulfill some volunteer hours. Molly can be reached at [mkirschbaum@mchsi.com](mailto:mkirschbaum@mchsi.com) or (563) 880-3883.

- Daycare families, please remember that if you want your bill to be applied to your 2013 taxes, it needs to be paid in full by this Friday.
- The newly formed “Art Blasters” sponsored by Mrs. Welter will meet on January 7th and 21st at 3:30 in St. Gabriel’s art room. Any Prairie Catholic student is welcome to join.
- **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!

**Job well done:** Last year’s Prairie Catholic second grade students (this year’s third grade) scored a Grade Equivalency of 2.7 on the Composite Total of The Iowa Tests. This was good for a 91<sup>st</sup> percentile rank of National School Norms. Great Job!

*Prayer: Heavenly Father, grant us prophets in our day so that we may remain focused on your plan for us. We ask this through your Son, Jesus. Amen.*

### **Mark Your Calendars**

- December 20<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Caroling, pm
- December 23<sup>rd</sup> – January 1<sup>st</sup> – No School
- December 24<sup>th</sup> – Children’s Christmas Eve Mass, St. John’s, 5:30pm
- December 29<sup>th</sup> – Car Raffle at St. John’s Church, 5:00pm
- January 2<sup>nd</sup> – Classes resume
- January 8<sup>th</sup> – Farm to School to unveil photos at student lunch
- January 10<sup>th</sup> – End of First Semester
- January 11<sup>th</sup> – Prairie Catholic Girls Basketball Tournament
- January 16<sup>th</sup> – Report Cards go home
- January 18<sup>th</sup> – Prairie Catholic Boys Basketball Tournament
- January 21<sup>st</sup> – Parent/Teacher Conferences
- January 22<sup>nd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Fundraising Meeting, St. Gabe’s, 6:00pm
- January 23<sup>rd</sup> – Parent/Teacher Conferences
- January 24<sup>th</sup> – No School
- January 26<sup>th</sup> through 31<sup>st</sup> – Catholic Schools Week

### **Basketball Schedule**

- December 20<sup>th</sup> – 5/6 Boys @ River Ridge (Bloomington), 5:30/6:30pm
- December 20<sup>th</sup> – 7 Boys, 5 Girls, 6 Girls @ MFL, 4:00/5:15/6:30pm
- January 4<sup>th</sup> – 5, 6, 7 Girls @ River Ridge Tournament
- January 4<sup>th</sup> – 5 Boys @ Dodgeville, SWBL Tournament
- January 4<sup>th</sup> – 6 Boys @ Barneveld, SWBL Tournament
- January 4<sup>th</sup> – 7 Boys @ SWBL Tournament
- January 6<sup>th</sup> – 6B, 7B, 6G @ Bloomington St. Mary’s, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30pm
- January 7<sup>th</sup> – 5B/7B vs. Richland Center St. Mary’s, 5:30, 6:30pm
- January 9<sup>th</sup> – 5/6 Girls vs. River Ridge, 5:30, 6:30pm
- January 11<sup>th</sup> – Prairie Catholic Girls Tournament
- January 16<sup>th</sup> – 5/6 Girls vs. Boscobel, 5:30/6:30pm
- January 16<sup>th</sup> – 7G/7B at River Ridge, 4:30/5:30pm
- January 18<sup>th</sup> – Prairie Catholic Boys Tournament

