



Prairie Catholic Weekly Newsletter February 6, 2014

Message from the Principal:

I would like to take this opportunity to talk about the very positive testing results that Prairie Catholic earned this year. As families know, you received your child's Iowa Tests results. The school also receives scores and we use them to discuss highs, lows, what works and what doesn't. I as an administrator look at every child's results and stop at any individual scores that are an extreme. As a parent you can read the paperwork that details your child's strengths and areas of weakness. Most people use the percentile rank of the each category to rate their students work against the "average" student.

The school reports include grade result groupings. From our information there is no way to compare complete schools verses other schools. I can however see, "Percentile Rank of Average Student Score: National School Norms." Each student's scores are averaged in a particular class and test. That score then is ranked versus other grades in the nation. For example: The 8th grade earned a Percentile Rank of Average Student Score: National School Norms of 99 in Language total. That means that the average of all the student's scores on the Language test in 8th grade was high enough that they scored higher than 98 % of the other 8th graders that took the Iowa Tests.

Prairie Catholic has seven classes take the Iowa Tests and each class gets "total" results in eight categories. Of the 56 "totals" we received (7x8) our classes ranked over the 90th percentile in 38 categories. We were above the 80th percentile in 54 of the 56 categories.

Great job students, teachers and parents! Your commitment is paying off with results.

- Prairie Catholic would like to wish a former student Matt Antoine good luck in the upcoming Olympic Games. Families can get Matt Antoine Commemorative Buttons for \$2 at either school office. Proceeds from the button sale will be to Matt to support his training.
- Prairie Catholic would like to congratulate the Spelling Bee Champion Renae Irvin and Runner-Up Evan Boisvert. Renae and Evan will be competing in the regional bee at North Crawford on Tuesday, February 11th. Other students competing in the school bee were: Logan Higgins, Regina Turner, Nick Mara, Avary Sheffland, Sadie Koresh, Clare Teynor, Jonah Linder, Zach Mara, Jack Peterson, Weston Hill, Faith Dillman, Anthony Irvin and Mitchell Luster.
- Prairie Catholic would like to thank Mrs. Mary Turner for her great work with the students in Friday's play. The students did such a great job you may not have known that they missed valuable practice time due to the weather.
- I hope your family enjoyed the sledding party and dance last Friday night sponsored by the Home and School Association. Both events were fun for the children and adults! Thank you Home and School!
- The Library Staff would like to thank everyone who helped make the Scholastic Book Fair a big success. Total sales were \$2089 which gives the school a cash profit of \$522. This year part of the proceeds will be used by classroom teachers to purchase Smart board software for their classrooms. All remaining funds will be used to purchase library books.

- A special thanks to Molly Kirschbaum for her willingness to chair the book fair! Her efforts are very much appreciated! The coin challenge brought in a total of **\$579.04**. 73 books were placed back into the classrooms for teachers and students to use. All St. Gabriel's students will receive an ice cream party for their hard work during the coin challenge. Three individual classes, Mrs. Steiner's Pre-Kindergarten, Mrs. Wachuta's second grade and Mrs. Carlson's third grade, all brought in over \$100 each. Great job!
- Yesterday Prairie Catholic had 36 students involved in Hard Work Counts at the bowling alley. The administration would like to congratulate all the students on their hard work.
- Prairie Catholic hosted the Knights of Columbus Knowledge Contest on Monday. Winners include: Madelyn Gerhards – 6th grade Math, Alexis Nolan – 7th grade Math, Anthony Irvin – 7th grade Spelling and Renae Irvin – 8th grade Spelling.
- The Prairie Catholic Math Counts teams will be participating in their final competition on Wednesday, February 12th.
- Mrs. Igou will be working with the students to offer Snack and Go at St. John's school on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Items are cheap and can offer a student something between school and practice.
- Any families that want to be included in the Prairie Catholic Family Directory need to have the information to the school offices by Friday, February 14th.
- Mrs. Welter would like to remind all families that **Art Blasters** will be meeting on the **first and third Tuesdays** of the month.
- Have a Heart Day is Saturday, February 8th. Dental Associates of Prairie du Chien will be providing dental work to children ages 4-18 for no charge. Contact the dental office to schedule a time.

Prayer: Jesus our leader, those who listened and heeded the Good News found new life in Christ. May we embrace your leaders who abide by your Spirit of goodness and who bring us your word. In your name we Pray. Amen.

Mark Your Calendars

February 11th – Sectional Spelling Bee, North Crawford, 10:00am
 February 12th – Math Counts Competition, 1:00pm
 February 19th – Second Grade First Reconciliation, St. Gabriel's, 1:30pm
 February 21st – No School
 March 28th – Kindergarten Screening, St. Gabriel's

Basketball Schedule

February 7th, 8th & 9th – Wauzeka Girls Tournament
 February 17th – 5/6 Girls @ Boscobel, 5:30/6:30pm
 February 22nd – 5/6 Girls @ Aquinas Tournament

