



# PRAIRIE CATHOLIC WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

December 6, 2018

## From the Principal

One of the many blessings of a Catholic education is that our students are allowed to celebrate the Christmas season, and they are given the intentional opportunity to prepare for Christmas during the season of Advent. Their wonder and delight is a precious reminder of the blessing the season of Advent affords to us.

It can be so easy to let Advent fly by without taking much time to stop and reflect on the gradual coming of the Messiah or the enormity of our Savior's humble entrance into our world. We are preparing our children's hearts for the coming of the baby Jesus, our Catholic school makes celebrating the season of Advent a priority. Our PCS helps our students to understand that the real reason for our expectant joy leading up to Christmas is not hope of the presents under the tree, but rather the hope and gift of Jesus Christ — the light of the world coming to transform us so that we can transform our families, our school and our world.

Our PCS students hopefully wait and reflect as they light the candles of the Advent wreath. Our schools students give of themselves in service to others in meaningful ways to reflect Christ's gift of himself to us and to remember our responsibility to share the light of Christ with the world. Through the sacraments and prayer, students prepare a place in their hearts to welcome the Christ child.

As Advent progresses and the number of days to Christmas decreases, our school will become even brighter beacons of hope of the true message of the coming of the baby Jesus at Christmas. Christmas trees stand tall, lights twinkle softly, and Nativity scenes with empty managers remind students that faithful waiting is not always easy, but it can be immensely rewarding. Our students have been singing and practicing Christmas carols and will perform a play at our Christmas program on Wednesday, December 12th at 6:30. Our students have the opportunity to experience Advent and Christmas through eyes of mercy and eyes of faith.

And that is what brings the Nativity scene to life at the children's mass on Christmas Eve.

From all of us at Prairie Catholic School, we wish you a wonderful Advent season as we all prepare for the coming of our Savior.

May God bless you with his peace,

Mary Henry, Principal



**Christmas Mass Sign-up** – Help is still needed for the Christmas Eve Children's Mass and servers for other Christmas Masses. Sign-up sheet went home last week. Please consider participating.

**Christmas Program** – This year's Prairie Catholic Christmas Program will be **Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm in the School Cafeteria**. The make-up date will be the following Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. **Dress Rehearsal** will take place on Tuesday, **December 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am** in the school cafeteria.

**Progress Reports** – Progress reports will be coming home today for all middle school students. Please remember that grades are as of Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. Sign into Skyward to view current grades. Please sign and return the bottom of report by Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.



**Food and Personal Item Drive** – The PCS Student Council is sponsoring a Food and Personal Items Drive. The class that brings in the most food items will win an ice cream surprise! The items can be brought in to your child's homeroom teacher by Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to think of others during this holiday season. Thank you!

**Library - Book Fair** - The PCS Library will again be hosting an Usborne Book Fair during Catholic Schools Week in January 2019. However, you can order NOW to have books for your Christmas giving AND the library will receive credit for your order. Shop online now through our **eFair!**

- Shop online at **PrairieUsborne.com**
- Select "**Prairie Catholic School**" as your event
- If you choose FREE SHIPPING to Organization your books will be delivered after the Book Fair closes in January
  - OR
- Choose Direct Shipping to receive your books before Christmas (order by December 14<sup>th</sup>). If you select direct shipping you will be charged a small shipping fee.

**Illness** - We ask that your child remain at home if he/she has diarrhea, a sore throat, earache, a skin rash, an eye infection, vomiting, or an elevated temperature. Often a day at home and bed rest will prevent more serious illness, encourage more rapid recovery and diminish the opportunity of the disease spreading among your child's classmates.

**Calendar Sweepstakes** – **On sale now:** *Prairie Catholic Sweepstakes Calendars*. We are off to a great start! The first drawing will be held Sunday, February 3, 2019. This fundraiser could raise as much as \$16,000.00 for the support of Prairie Catholic Schools. We need everyone's help for this fundraiser to be successful. More calendars are available in the school office. Please turn in sold slips and money to office. Good luck & keep selling!

## Coming Home Today

Below is the information coming home this week. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

- Newsletter
- Weekly Church Bulletin
- Progress Reports – Middle School
- Local and National Scrip Order Form
- 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade Permission Slip – Phil Burgess Residence – Rock Specimens
- 3, 4, 7 & 8 grade Permission Slip – Nursing Home Caroling
- Little Saints Learning Center Newsletter
- Teaching the Way of Love - December Newsletter
- Usborne Book Fair Flyer
- Math Counts Permission Slip
- Bluffview Middle School Band/Choir Concert – Band students

## Upcoming Events

- December 10<sup>th</sup>** - K - Cookie Decorating
- December 10<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>** - Student Council -Change Challenge
- December 11<sup>th</sup>** - BV Middle School Winter Band/Choir Concert
- December 12<sup>th</sup>** - Math Counts Competition
- December 12<sup>th</sup>** - Prairie Catholic School Christmas Program 6:30pm
- December 13<sup>th</sup>** - Academic Eligibility
- December 14<sup>th</sup>** - Middle School Retreat @ Richland Center
- December 17<sup>th</sup>** - End of Food & Personal Item Drive
- December 17<sup>th</sup>** - Grades 3, 4, 7, & 8 Nursing Home Caroling
- December 20<sup>th</sup>** - Grades 3 & 4 – Phil Burgess Residence - Rock Specimens
- December 21<sup>st</sup>** - Ugly Sweater Contest
- December 21<sup>st</sup>** - Christmas
- December 24<sup>th</sup> – January 1<sup>st</sup>** - Christmas Break
- January 2<sup>nd</sup>** - First day back!

