



# Prairie Catholic Weekly Newsletter February 4, 2016

## Messages from Principal:

It never fails that Catholic Schools Week always has unpredictable weather. Well it is very predictable: lots of snow, lots of wind and very cold! To remind everyone tomorrow is the annual ski trip for the fifth through eighth grades to Mt. La Crosse from 8:00am-4:00pm. Please note that this return time is after the school bus has left our building. Students will need transportation to get from the school to your home. The elementary students will have a movie in the afternoon. The Home and School Association will also host a sledding party at La Riviere Park from 4:00-6:30pm.

- Iowa Testing scores are included in this mailing for students in 2<sup>nd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades.
- The Prairie Catholic School Library has extended the Book Fair until next Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. Maybe Grandparents would like to visit the decorated library.
- The school would like to thank the Men's Club for their work preparing the Burgers and Fries meal last night. It was a great turn out for a no school day. I would also like to thank the teachers for their work preparing and offering their activities.
- The school will host Parent/Teacher Conferences on Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-8:00pm. The school can request a meeting, parents can request a meeting or you can choose not to meet. All parents are welcome, even if you did not sign up. Stop by your child's classroom and visit with their teacher.
- Grandparents Day and Mardi Gras are early on the calendar this year! We will celebrate on Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. Grandparents or VIP's are welcome to eat lunch with students starting at 11:00am. Fr. Weighner will celebrate Mass at 12:15pm in St. Gabriel's Church. The 7<sup>th</sup> Grade will host Mardi Gras carnival games from 1:00-2:45pm. Make plans to attend either or both events! *The school needs to know by tomorrow, Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> if a grandparents or guest will be joining us for lunch on Tuesday.*
- Prairie Catholic will host The Knights of Columbus Knowledge Contest on Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm in the school. Students in 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> can compete in Math and Spelling Tests against students from neighboring schools.
- The library staff has been very busy. With the guidance of the administration and parents, they have taken the lead on two projects. **First**, they have written a new set of guidelines for book selection and inclusion in our library. Please understand that our library needs to be held to a higher standard than public libraries due to our Catholic identity. Some of our titles have been deemed more appropriate for more mature students. The books that we are labeling "YA" (young adults) are not filthy but rather age appropriate titles or series that have one aspect that young readers may not be ready to explore. An example would be Stuck in Neutral a story about a boy that has a handicap but the adults in his life incorrectly believe that he also has a disability. These books can be accessed by a 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade student if their parent signs the release form that is included in this mailing. **Second**, the staff has put together information that parents can use to check students Accelerated Reader points from home. The information is also included in this mailing. Parents can log onto AR through Renaissance Home Connect and check their student's goals, histories and achieved points. From there, they can log onto Destiny, our library management system to check the books in our school library for titles that interest the student and the number of points it is worth.

- The Student Council will be taking orders for Valentine candy grams starting January 26<sup>th</sup> through February 8<sup>th</sup>. The cost will be \$.50 apiece. Delivery will be Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The students will attend Ash Wednesday Mass on February 9<sup>th</sup> at St. Gabriel's Church.
- The school's Box Top deadline is February 28<sup>th</sup>. Those \$.10 labels have added up to over \$21,000 in 20 years. You can drop them off at the school, the back of both churches or at Coordinator Rhonda Stubbe's home at 328 N. Beaumont. Let's earn another \$1,000 in more free money!
- Lenten mite boxes are included in this mailing. If this is new for you, the boxes are used to collect change that will be donated to Santa Cruz, Bolivia.
- Parents, please remember that in the case of inclement weather Prairie Catholic will follow the public school late start/early out postings. The school would like to remind parents to listen to the radio each morning if you have questions about weather related delays or cancelations. Please remember that if Prairie du Chien Public School has delayed or canceled, the same applies to Prairie Catholic.
- A quick note regarding Prairie Catholic Daycare. During the event of a late start, the daycare is open at normal time, 7:00am. If school is then canceled before lunch, we would like to close. If school is cancelled after lunch, the daycare is open until normal closing time. Thank you.

*Prayer: We do not want to be a noisy gong, O God. We want to be a quiet and persistent reflection of your love for us. We need your help to figure out what it means to love others. Help us know what that looks like. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.*

### **Job well done!**

This year's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Iowa Assessments have been reviewed and the results are positive. The National Percentile Rank of their Average Student Standard Score in the area of English Language Arts Total was in the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile! Great Work!

### **Mark Your Calendars**

February 5<sup>th</sup> – Ski Trip  
 February 5<sup>th</sup> – Elementary Movie Day  
 February 5<sup>th</sup> – Sledding Party, La Riviere Park, 4:00-6:30pm  
 February 9<sup>th</sup> – Mardi Gras and Grandparents Day  
 February 9<sup>th</sup> – Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4-8:00pm  
 February 10<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday  
 February 11<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade First Reconciliation  
 February 11<sup>th</sup> – Knights of Columbus Knowledge Contest, 4:00pm  
 February 16<sup>th</sup> – Hard Work Counts, 12:45-2:45pm  
 February 17<sup>th</sup> – Math Counts



*Hello  
February.*