



PRAIRIE CATHOLIC WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

October 25, 2018

From the Principal

Dear Families,

We're nearing the end of our first quarter of school. It's hard to believe how fast time moves past us! A few questions have come up about AR points and homework. I would like to take the time to address both.

We use AR points to insure your child is reading and more importantly understanding what they have read. Without comprehension, reading is a frustrating, pointless exercise in word calling. It is no exaggeration to say that how well students develop the ability to comprehend what they read has a profound effect on their entire lives. A major goal of reading comprehension instruction, therefore, is to help students develop the knowledge, skills, and experiences they must have if they are to become competent and enthusiastic readers.

Our number one goal with homework is **READING!** Every subject area has a foundation in reading. If your child is reading below grade level, it will affect other subject areas. Each subject area for example: math, social studies, religion, science, etc. have textbooks and resources that are at grade level reading or higher. You must be vigilant in holding your child accountable to reading at the very **LEAST** 20 minutes a day.

The importance of reading to children at an early age and getting them engaged in sound reading practices. Exposing children to a variety of books and reading with them daily are important components of the literacy process. Although, many times the mothers appear to be most involved, research is beginning to capitalize on the importance of both parents. While fathers can contribute significantly to their child's reading, they are also considered a fundamental factor in academic success in education in general.

Lap literacy is an effective means of empowering and encouraging parents to read with their children.

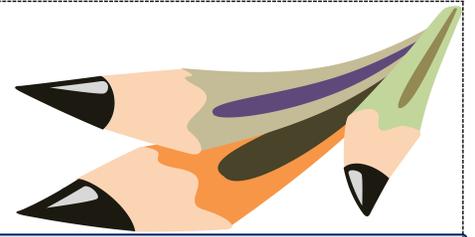
This entails the teacher sending home books daily to be read to the child and by the child. By providing quality-reading materials at the appropriate level, the teacher facilitates parental involvement that is meaningful for the student. Lap literacy has the benefits of reading aloud as well as many others. These benefits include teaching the child the value of reading, that reading is important enough to spend quiet, quality time on, and building a child's self-esteem. A child with adults that do not see the value of reading aloud to them is deprived the opportunity to engage in a powerful tool for teaching reading. Along with the thrill of reading with an adult come the skills needed to read independently.

The Long-Term Effects of Skipping Your Reading Homework

When elementary school students have math worksheets to fill out, spelling tests to study for, after school activities to participate in, and chores to finish, it's no wonder that the standard daily reading homework assignment can fall to the wayside. It may seem like a small concession necessary to prioritize a busy life. After all, parents may reason, their child can catch up on reading over the weekend, over the summer, or during a less hectic time. But the effects of regularly skipping that reading homework can have long-term effect on a child's life.

Father, Thank you for my family. I ask you bless them with Your favor. Provide for all of their needs. I ask You to protect them from harm and evil. Surround them in the shadow of Your wing. Go before them and prepare the way for them. If any path is crooked, I ask you to make it straight. Protect them the schemes of the enemy and keep them from deception. Bring Your perfect peace to their hearts. In Jesus name I pray, amen.

With peace,
Mary Henry, Principal



Halloween Party – Prairie Catholic will be having their Halloween party on Wednesday, October 31st. Students will change into their costumes at approximately 12:45 pm. The Student Council will have games, haunted house, and dance party for students. We will have a movie for students to enjoy. Please remember costumes cannot be bloody, gory, or in poor taste. The dress code still applies for the costumes.

Conferences – Parent/teacher conferences are **Tuesday, November 6th and Thursday, November 8th from 4:00pm - 8:00pm**. You will be meeting with one or more of your children's teachers for a conference. The individual conference provides a chance for you and the teacher to discuss the progress and potential of your child.

Veterans Day Program – Beginning on November 1st, all pictures and projects will be displayed and will remain up for the month of November. On **Monday, November 12th**, Prairie Catholic will have a special Veterans Day Program.

7th and 8th grade Washington D.C. Trip Meeting – The Washington DC Trip Parent Meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 14th**, at 5:30pm. Our Legacy guide will be in Prairie du Chien to discuss the trip. This is a mandatory meeting for all planning on attending the trip.

Truancy - The school would like to remind families that each student is allowed 10 sick days per YEAR. Partial days are counted in this number. Truancy starts on number 11, so please ensure your student is here, and that all appointments have a medical note for the file.

Colder Weather – We may not have wanted it, but the weather has turned more fall like. With that, please send your student to school prepared to be outside in the morning and for recess. Coats, hats, and gloves are a good idea!

It's Finally Here - Saints & Soles - The 3rd Annual Saints and Soles 5K Run/Walk & Kids Run will be held this **Saturday, October 27th**. Do you have your costumes ready? Registration forms can be found on Prairie Catholic's website, or the morning of the run! Hope to see you there.

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
- November Event/Hot Lunch Calendar
- Fall Fest Volunteer sheet – 5th - 8th grade
- Importance of Reading flyer
- Scrip Form

Upcoming Events

October 26th – No School- Teacher In-Service
October 27th – 3rd Annual Saints & Soles 5k Run/Walk

October 31st – Halloween Party – 12:45pm
November 1st – All Saints Day – All students will attend Mass – Program 12:30pm -1:00pm - Middle School Students

November 1st – Report Cards go home
November 4th – Fall Fest – St. Gabriel's
November 6th & 8th – Parent/Teacher Conference

November 9th – No School
November 12th – Veteran's Day Program
November 14th – Washington DC trip – Parent Meeting

November 21st – 23rd – No School - Thanksgiving Break

November 30th – Mid Term 2

