



# Prairie Catholic Weekly Newsletter January 6, 2010

## Messages from the Principal:

Happy New Year! I hope all of our Prairie Catholic families had a fantastic holiday break. I got to spend time with my family and hope you got time to spend with those people who are important to you. Santa Claus was very good to me, but when you have been as good as I have been all year long...

We are starting an important time of year for our school. This time between New Year's Day and April Fool's Day is important because it marks a period of largely uninterrupted teaching and learning. Sometimes it can be hard for students (and teachers) to get into a consistent routine during the fall because there are many holidays, days off and other distractions. The upcoming block of the calendar is a perfect time for teachers to complete major projects and dive into the "meat" of our curriculum. I ask that you also respect this time by taking steps to ensure your children are in school every day and to be ready to help with any homework questions students may have.

### **Prairie Catholic Sweepstakes Calendars are on Sale!**

*First drawing will be held on February 6<sup>th</sup>.*

This is our second fundraiser for the school year. Please do your best to support our school through this sale.

More calendars are available at either school office.

*Many thanks to John Fischer for coordinating the project!*

## News Items:

- The 8th grade class of 2011 has decided to give back to the school by offering "Snack-n-Go." This food stand offers students a chance to purchase snacks after school. "Snack-n-Go" will be located outside Mrs. Igou's room after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays and all items cost 50¢.
- Catholic Schools Week is just around the corner. We have a full week of events planned. The week starts with a student's Mass on Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. Monday starting at 4:00 p.m. will be the Knights of Columbus Knowledge Contest for students in Grades 5-8. Then we will welcome "Opera for the Young" on Tuesday after our all school Mass. Next, family night will be on Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Finally, the middle school students will go on a ski trip on Friday. We will also have "theme" days scattered throughout the week. Look for more information to come!
- Please remember the Calendar feature on the Prairie Catholic website. All of the events happening in and around our school (including basketball) are visible in an easy to read format. Mike and Deb Trautsch, Prairie Catholic Athletic Directors and Patrick Nolan, Prairie Catholic website coordinator, have done a fabulous job of updating events as soon as there is a cancelation or delay. If you have any questions regarding a date, time or location check the website with confidence.
- The Sixth grade will be hosting a Soup and Grilled Cheese Supper with Raffle on January 12<sup>th</sup>. They will be serving from 4:30-6:45pm with the raffle at 7:00pm in St. Gabe's school basement. The proceeds will go toward their Washington DC trip.
- The reigning "Alice in Dairyland" will be visiting Prairie Catholic on Tuesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. Christine Lindner will be giving presentations at both St. Gabriel's and St. John's schools in the afternoon.

- The Prairie Catholic girls and boys basketball tournaments will be the weekends of the 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> and the 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup>. Your help is requested to make the tournaments run as smooth as possible. Remember that this time can be used for family service hours.
- In this brown envelope you will find a Verification of Parent Safe Environment Training form from the Diocese of La Crosse. These sheets need to be signed and turned back into the offices by January 17<sup>th</sup>. Your signature on the first line indicates that you have read the booklets online and watched the online video regarding Child Abuse Procedures in the Diocese of La Crosse. Your signature on the second line indicates that you want to come into the school to read a hard copy of the booklets and watch our copy of the video.

Your students will also receive age appropriate safe environment education while at school. If you wish your student to be exempt from this training please sign the third blank and return the sheet to school.

- Students have asked me over the last week if they can bring their e-readers to school. I'm fine with students bringing their Kindles or Nooks to school but there will be some guidelines for this equipment. First, Prairie Catholic will **not** be responsible for misplaced, stolen, broken or faulty equipment. Second, students **cannot** download material from the schools internet. The devices will have to be downloaded from home and brought to school. Third, you as parents are **responsible** for the content on the e-readers. If a student has inappropriate material on their equipment, the device will be confiscated.

*Prayer: God, our healer, give us confidence in your loving power. Help us to come to you, without embarrassment or shame, in every need. Touch us with your healing grace and make us whole. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## Mark Your Calendars

January 6<sup>th</sup> – 8G & 7G @ River Ridge, 4:30 & 5:30  
 January 6<sup>th</sup> – 7B & 8B @ Bluff View, 5:30 & 6:30  
 January 10<sup>th</sup> – 7B & 8B @ River Ridge, 4:30 & 5:30  
 January 13<sup>th</sup> – 5B & 6B vs. Boscobel, 5:30 & 6:30  
 January 13<sup>th</sup> – 7B & 8B @ Boscobel, 4:30 & 5:30  
 January 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> – 7G & 8G – Prairie Catholic Girls Tournament  
 January 17<sup>th</sup> – 5B & 6B @ River Ridge, 5:30 & 6:30  
 January 17<sup>th</sup> – 7G @ Bloomington St. Mary's, 5:00  
 January 18<sup>th</sup> – 7G & 8G @ Bluff View, 5:30 & 6:30  
 January 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> – Prairie Catholic Boys Tournament  
 January 24<sup>th</sup> – 7B & 8B @ Clayton Ridge, 4:00 & 5:00  
 January 25<sup>th</sup> – 8G @ Bloomington St. Mary's, 5:00  
 January 27<sup>th</sup> – 6B @ Bloomington St. Mary's, 5:30



## Important Dates for this Spring

**March 26<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation Retreat – St. John's – Will start mid-morning and conclude with 4:00pm Mass**  
**April 6<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation – St. John's Church – 6:00pm**  
**April 16<sup>th</sup> – First Communion Retreat – St. Gabriel's – 10:00am through Lunch**  
**May 8<sup>th</sup> – First Communion – St. Gabriel's – 1:00pm**

## Fundraisers

Sweepstakes Calendars – On sale now – First drawing February 6<sup>th</sup>.  
 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Soup Supper with Raffle – January 12

