



# School News

*Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School - Building the Spirit Within*

January 2017

## *From the Principal...*



Welcome back!

I pray that your Christmas break was everything you planned for and needed. This month is a busy month for us at school with testing, consultant visitors, Kindergarten Round-Up, registration for next year opening up, and Catholic Schools Week.

Over break I was able to take some time and reflect on my time at OLL during 2016. We have a lot to celebrate and be thankful for. A few highlights for me are:

- Working with the PTO and volunteers on our first Spirit of the Ice in January
- Improved registration numbers for the 16/17 school year
- Celebrating our grandparents and other VIP's at Generation Day
- Walking in the Spirit of the Lakes parade
- Starting the school year off with a Red Carpet
- Middle school attending the Mass of the Holy Spirit at the Saints Stadium
- Surpassing our Rake a Thon goal and spending the day serving others
- Working with the staff and school board to finalize the MNSAA School Strategic Plan
- Having the best faculty and staff any principal could ask for
- New social events for families

The list could go on, but I must stop somewhere.

Our K - 8th students will start their NWEA MAP testing January 16. These tests are a great benchmark to see how students are progressing and if there needs to be any changes in their learning plans. As always, please help them prepare by ensuring enough sleep and healthy breakfasts in the morning.

Please look over the calendar inside and see what is happening. We have a lot of fun activities planned this month and I hope to see you then!

Becky

## *Note From Father Tony...*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,



A Happy New Year to you all! This Sunday we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany. The word Epiphany literally means an appearance or manifestation and traditionally this feast has been a commemoration of the moment when the magi came from the east to pay homage to the new king and to bring their gifts. The church has always seen in this event of men from a foreign, non-Jewish, land a manifestation that Jesus the messiah came for all men and women both Jews and gentiles. Over these past couple of weeks as we have recounted the great Christmas story and we have been reflecting on the various participants in this drama. One of the things that has occurred to me is that all the holy men and women who play a part in the story have something in common; they all find their identity in something other than themselves – they find it

in God and his promises. They all exhibited faith in something other than their own gifts and abilities.

One of the great questions that every human being faces is – who am I? It's what some people call one of the great existential questions. It's the question that asks; what am I here for, Do I really matter, who is the real me. We live in a modern society that in many ways is obsessed with self. And people spend an awful lot of time and money trying to figure out who they are. There is a tendency to think that the more I look in on myself the more I will discover who I really am. Without disparaging self-reflection and contemplative thought, I think that in the gospels we see people who did the opposite. They focused their attention on God and allowed him to tell them who they really were. They found their true identity in the one who made them. In a certain sense you might say that they found out who they were by a manifestation of God – by an Epiphany.

In this New Year my prayer for us all is that we find our true identity more and more in the One who made us and who loves us.

God bless,

Fr. Tony

## Family Fun Night

Our next Family Fun Night is Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. All families are welcome to join us for dinner, fun and games. This month's theme is Snow Days.

## Preschool Lunch with Father Tony

All preschool parents are invited to have lunch with Father Tony on Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:30. Please RSVP to Kassie Ricke by 6:00pm January 5<sup>th</sup>. [kricke@schoololl.com](mailto:kricke@schoololl.com) or 952-472-1284 x156.

# Catholic Schools Week January 29- February 4, 2017



Catholic Schools Week (CSW) starts on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> with a pancake breakfast after masses. Danceline will perform after the 10:30 mass. CSW is celebrated with special events and themes each day, such as the favorite talent show and winter fun day. We will start the week off with Pajama Day. Watch for more information to come about other dress up days and activities.

## Kindergarten Roundup

### 2017 Kindergarten Roundup

January 16, 2017  
6:00 - 7:15 PM  
Childcare Provided

#### Our schedule:

- 6:00pm - Arrival and dinner for students and parents
- 6:20pm - Welcome and prayer
- 6:25pm - Visit Kindergarten classrooms
- 6:30pm - Mini classes
- 6:50pm - Breakout sessions
  - students- music room
  - parents- tour and info session
- 7:10pm - Future Kindergarten performance
- 7:15pm - Optional Bus ride

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School  
2385 Commerce Blvd  
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For more information please contact  
Kassie Ricke • 952.472.1284 Ext. 156

Join us to learn how Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School  
educates the whole child: mind, body & spirit.



- Service to others
- Family Community
- Faith and moral compass
- Individualized Learning
- Just Right learning level

Praise God  
Work Hard  
Love One Another

## School Open House

We will have an all school open house on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am-1:00pm. All students are invited to present a science project for the optional science fair that will be held during the open house.

Please spread the word to your friends & neighbors.

## State of the School Meeting

Mark your calendars for the important State of the School Meeting which will be held on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. You will hear how we are doing and where we are heading. You won't want to miss it!

## Spelling Bee



A Spelling Bee for students in 5-8 will be held in January. Three contestants will be selected to compete at HFCHS against the other six CSC schools on Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>.

## Chess Club

Students in grades K to 8 are invited to join Our Lady of the Lake Chess Club. Students do not need to know how to play. Registration forms went home with the kids but can also be found on School Speak or you can stop by the office to pick one up.

## End of First Semester Means Changes

January 20<sup>th</sup> brings an end to the first semester. During the Second Semester, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders will have art and 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will have speech.

## From the Health Office

Here are some general guidelines for when to keep your child home:

If your child

- Has a fever of 100 or more. The student should stay home for 24 hours after the temperature returns to normal without the aid of medicine.
- Has vomited or had diarrhea. Please keep your child home until 24 hours after the last episode.
- Has any rash for which you do not know the cause. Check with your health care provider before sending your child to school.
- A persistent cough that makes it difficult for the student to take part in class.

**Remember: Good hand-washing stops the spread of many communicable diseases.**

## Spirit of the Ice Festival

The 1st Annual Spirit of the Ice Festival is January 28<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 – 2:00 p.m. Embrace winter and have fun with other school and parish families. There will be activities inside and out, including ice bowling, snow shoeing, mini golf, carnival games, ice skating, wagon rides, crafts, and the Knights of Columbus annual FREE THROW contest! Food will be available for purchase, otherwise this event is FREE!

## Playground helpers needed – Please!

We have an on-going need for playground helpers. January, February and March are very open, so if you can help, please let us know. You can find the sign up genius link on our website under the Parent Tab and General Parent Information. Thank you to those who have stepped up to help us out on the playground. Some of you have done double duty and we appreciate it greatly!

# January 2017 Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Mass 9:00 Teachers	5	6	7
8	9 Dance Line Family fun night 5:00- 7:00	10	11 Mass 9:00 Gr. 7 & 8 Preschool Parent Lunch w/ Father Tony	12 Chess Club	13	14
15	16 Dance Line Kindergarten Roundup 6:00	17	18 Mass 9:00 Gr. 1 & 2	19	20 End of First Semester	21
22	23 No School		25 Mass 9:00 Gr. 5 & 6	26 Chess Club Spelling Bee at HFCHS	27 No School	28 Spirit of the Ice Festival 12-3
29 All school open house 11:30-1:00	30 CSW Pep Rally Time 9:00	31 CSW	1 Mass 9:00 Gr. 3 & 4 CSW Talent Show Time 12:45	2 CSW	3 Middle school ski trip to Hyland Lower grades to Inneractive Playground	4