

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Holy Angels School - West Bend

"Let Us Build a House Where Love Can Grow"

December, 2016

Holy Angels Website: www.hawb.org

Vol. 28, No. 4

Greetings,

As our family gathers for the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, I can't help but think about how quickly time passes...it's Thanksgiving already!! There are so many blessings which have been given to me. I'm more thankful for each day and it's the little things that really make a difference.

The support for the 21st Century Classrooms project took so many forms. It started with a small committee looking at our school with a deliberate vision of what could be. From there, many people so willingly shared their talents to prepare the project itself and the capital campaign to fund it. As I went out into the community, there was overwhelming encouragement and responses of pledges and donations from so many people.

As we started the project, many families volunteered to prepare rooms for renovation by moving furnishings and dismantling cabinets, blinds and chalkboards. The actual construction work involved Scott Helnes, Jim Schmidt and the summer maintenance crew in ways that I'm sure they didn't imagine. In addition, Tim Heinen and the crew from JL Business Interiors worked around the many twists and turns of the project. Finally, volunteers filled the classrooms again and the teachers put forth the extra time and effort necessary to set up brand new classrooms. It was an amazing effort by everyone and something that I am extremely grateful for!

The support of the Stehling Project continues to provide even more opportunities to be a Premier, Unique and Enduring place in which students can grow! Our benefactors have made it possible for our school to more fully embrace technology as a tool for learning. The project's funding provides the staffing that makes us more effective in meeting the needs of students at all grade levels.

Near the top of my list, I am thankful for the wonderful staff here at Holy Angels that gives so unselfishly to provide a caring learning environment for our students. In a special way, I am thankful that two people stepped forward to create a music department at the last minute. I am grateful for the blessings that Fr. Pat has already shared with our community and look forward to many years with his pastoral leadership.

I am also thankful for the season that is just around the corner...the Advent Season which begins on Sunday. It's a time that I try to use to slow down, to reflect more, to pause and drink in the change of seasons and the change in the day-to-day of life. May these seasons of thanking and sharing bring your family to an even greater appreciation of the many blessings that God provides.

As I approach the Advent Season, my mind wanders to the scene in Bethlehem and the image of Joseph and Mary searching for a house where love can be born and grow. And I look at our world in 2016 and realize that we are all searching for that same thing...a house (and a world) where love can grow. May your gatherings for Christmas be in those wonderful places where love does grow each day...those places you have built.

Peace be with you,

Mike Sternig

We belong to a Catholic community which gathers together to proclaim the Gospel, serve others, and praise God. With the help of parents, teachers and others, we are here to grow in faith, knowledge, values and respect.

advent: time to begin anew

With Thanksgiving and the emphasis on the holiday shopping season, the beginning of a new liturgical year usually gets lost in the shuffle.

At Monday's assembly, we will review the cycle of the liturgical year...The First Sunday of Advent (November 27th) marks the beginning of another cycle in which we: await the coming of the Messiah; celebrate His birth; spend some time counting the weeks (ordinary time); re-focus during the Lenten Season; sing "alleluia" (after 40 days of no A-word) at the Easter celebration; recall the power of the Spirit at Pentecost; and count the weeks (more ordinary time) until the completion of the cycle at the Feast of Christ the King (this past Sunday).

The liturgical year reminds us that we always come full circle...starting out with the Advent Season and ending with the celebration of Jesus as King. With the passing of each year, we are reminded that Jesus is Lord of the Past, the Present and the Future.

One powerful (yet simple) symbol of Advent is the Advent Wreath. It would be wonderful if every family took a little time to make one and use it to mark the waiting time until Christmas.

Our school's Advent Wreath can again be found at the office hallway crossing. It is a reminder that the Light of the World is coming into our world and into our lives.

The song, "We Praise You", will be used during Advent to help remind us that all the works of the Lord are wonderful. God has formed the heavens and the earth and loves us so much that He took on our humanness to bring us everlasting life. We are called to bless the Lord and, in doing so, create a happy home.



winterfest celebrated by junior high

Friday, December 2nd, is just around the corner and junior high students will have the option of extending their school day by over TWO HOURS! Instead of the usual 2:50pm dismissal, students can choose to stay until 5:00pm. Of course the junior high staff will make sure that the students have an assortment of activities to keep them busy...3-on-3 basketball with Mr. Draxler, volleyball with Mr. Breunig, board games with Mrs. Sternig, hockey and ping-pong, twister with Mr. Yu, music (some DDR) and food!



The annual Junior High Winterfest is sponsored by the junior high staff to provide a chance for students to kick back and enjoy some out-of-school (but in-school) fun and time together. At the end of the first quarter, students with a clean slate (with regard to missing assignments and detentions) enjoyed an hour out of class with bingo, snacks,

and prizes donated by the junior high staff.

building a house...faculty serves community

The Holy Angels primary teachers are again involved in a service project to benefit the "Family Promise" Organization of Washington County. "Family Promise," is a community-based approach to solving homelessness. On the evening of Tuesday, December 13th, Mrs. Rose, Mrs. Matthews, Mrs. Ristow, Mrs. Kincaide, Mrs. Altendorf, Mrs. Walter, Mrs. Faehling, Mrs. Gibbon and Mrs. Hammen will serve others in need of holiday cheer and support.

The teachers will serve a meal, provide time with Santa, actively engage in arts 'n crafts projects and share gifts for each family member in attendance. About ten to fifteen families will join us at Holy Angels for a night of food, fun and entertainment.

Special thanks to the primary level families and teachers for donating small gifts to help fill gift bags for Santa to distribute. Finally, we thank Rhonda Faehling and Renee Altendorf for their extra time in planning the schedule of events to benefit others.



christmas story told by students

The time has come again for the Holy Angels Christmas program. Because of the changes in the music department, this year's program will feature students in grades kindergarten (K5) through five. The junior high will be involved in the spring performance.

Be sure to mark your calendar for Thursday, December 15th, at 6:30pm, in church. Please note that this is a different date than the one that appeared on the original school year calendar.

This year's program will include a re-telling of the story of Jesus' birth along with seasonal songs. Perhaps a few congregational songs will also help to give focus to the sacredness and the joy of the holiday/holyday season to come.

mary built a house

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8th celebrates Mary's constant "yes" to God's call throughout her life. We will celebrate this special feast day for the patroness of our country with an all-school Mass prepared by the third grade.

Some people mistakenly think that the feast day has a connection with the conception of Jesus. It actually celebrates the wonderful gift that Mary received as she lived her life completely redeemed...from the moment of *her* conception. Because of Mary's "yes" to God's invitation to be the mother of Jesus, we are able to celebrate God-with-us, Emmanuel. Her words and actions consistently echoed, "Whatever God wants, I want". Mary created a home where God's gift of love (Jesus) could grow and is a model for us today.

academic honor roll—first quarter

The Holy Angels Academic Honor Roll recognizes students for their academic achievement. Students with a 3.00 or higher grade point average are listed on the Honor Roll, those with a 3.50 GPA are designated as "high honors" (noted with an *). The GPA is calculated using weighted grades based on the number of classes per week. For example, a "B" grade in physical education or fine arts is weighted 2/5 of a full "B", compared to a class that meets every day.

Students who make the Honor Roll five times receive a bumper sticker (new design!). Congratulations to the Honor Roll students for the first quarter grading period: **Sixth Grade:** Thomas Arndt, Veronica Beisbier, Jack Bell*, Aislinn Carey*, Madeline Ciriacks, Sophie Dahlberg*, Natalie Daute, Jackson Davies, Ellie Eckert*, Payton Fountain, Amber Georgenson*, Jessica German, Allison Glaszcz*, Delanie Heinen*, Thaddeus Jamieson*, Jonah Nagel*, Nicholas Paul*, Caroline Peplinski*, Mason Peters, Nathan Ratzel, Emily Rauch*, Kaylee Schiller*, Alex Schneeberger, Fiona Shaw*, Mya Spaar, Calen Stanek*, Tyler Tennies*, Ava Tolfa, Olivia Walker*, Nora Walter*, Samuel Wiedmeyer*, and Matthew Zier*.

Seventh Grade: Caley Beimborn, Ericka Beistle*, Lydia Bollen, Lola Chemer*, Richard Conlin*, Brooke Deppert, Jonathan Dorow*, Blake Ericson, Isaac Fichtner*, Alex Gonzalez, Aiden Guse*, Joseph Held*, Michael Kleinhans, Daniel Krause, Will Mueller*, Leah Nagel*, Jacob Rauch, Brandon Reichardt, Leah Rosene*, Konnor Sadownikow*, Owen Schmidt*, Hannah Schroeder*, Caelen Spartz, Isabelle Sternig, Keegan Tennies*, Nicholas Whittle*, Caitlin Wohlt, Avelina Wolfe, and Greta Zier*.

Eighth Grade: Taylor Chemer*, Kate Davies*, Casey Gerber, Andrew Glaszcz*, Curtis Holbrook, Morgan Krause*, Elizabeth Meurer*, Payton Rossebo, Veronica Sadownikow*, Tyler Stanek, Aaron Tennies, Brooke Voelker, Nate Waech, Jordyn Wedemayer, Laura Zautner*, and Joseph Zimmer*.

students involved in advent outreach

The season of Advent is for sharing and caring. Students are encouraged to personally do something special in reaching out to others as they try to "build a house (anywhere) where love can grow".

The primary students are opening their hearts to help Family Promise of Washington County (our neighbors across the street). Family Promise helps struggling families achieve independence through providing food, shelter, and support services. Students will provide small gifts to help fill gift bags for the children involved in Family Promise (see related article for faculty involvement).

Intermediate students are preparing Christmas cards which will be delivered to many of the elderly of our parish through outreach coordinator Colleen Mas. Junior high students have been involved an effort to provide food for others with the Holiday Food Box Drive for St. Ben's in Milwaukee.

basketball games to begin after t-break

A new basketball season is again upon us as Holy Angels sponsors eight interscholastic teams this year. The interscholastic program includes fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grade boys and girls basketball teams.

At the fifth and sixth grade levels, there is a single boys and girls team for each grade. Holy Angels will have two teams for the seventh grade boys; the seventh girls will combine with the Cabrini team. There is only a boys team at eighth grade with two girls also providing the Cabrini team with additional scoring power!

Needless to say, the Holy Angels gym is constantly being used for practices or scrimmages again this year. The teams have been practicing since the beginning of November and now it's time for the games to begin as Holy Angels hosts the first conference games beginning November 30th.

The emphasis for the fifth grade teams has always been on development of skills and team play and placed a greater emphasis on balanced playing time and opportunities for all participants. The program intends to blend the best of intramurals and interscholastic competition. At this year's league meeting, participating schools made a commitment to a "balanced playing time" approach at both the fifth and sixth grade levels for the 2016-17 season.

The Washington-Ozaukee Catholic Conference consists of teams from Port Catholic, St. Francis Borgia-Cedarburg, St. Joseph-Grafton, St. Gabriel-Hubertus, St. Kilian-Hartford, St. Frances Cabrini and Holy Angels.

Most of the games will be played at one location on weekends, although some games are scheduled during the week to provide for double squad teams. Because of the number of schools in the league, each team will play the other on a home-and-away basis.

This season, the WOCC will also play some games against teams from the North Shore Conference. Several Saturday mornings in January and February have been reserved for inter-league games which will be scheduled in the coming weeks. The complete schedule of practices and games can be found on the school website by following School Links to the Athletics information. It is updated regularly...check the date!

Parents are reminded to check with their team coordinator regarding the concessions and admissions schedule. This year, parents are assigned to their son or daughter's home games. Parents are needed for regular season games and also for the HA Classic (Classic signup will be online).

This year's Royals include...**Fifth grade girls:** Lorna Bonertz, Briannah Busch, Brooke Koebel, Claire Cegielski, Tess Laforest, Megan Minz, Maria Olson, Kate Wiedmeyer, and Brianna Zywicki. John Minz and Kris Bonertz are the coaches. **Fifth grade boys:** Brady Barnes, Bryce Barnett, Aydan Busch, Cade Kohlen, Cameron McAndrews, Kade Rossebo, Tyler Sternig, Jack Waala, and Bo Tennes. John Barnett is the coach and is assisted by other volunteers.

Sixth grade girls: Allie Glaszcz, Estella Lambie, Caroline Peplinski, Lydia Reichenberger, Fiona Shaw, Amber Georgenson, and Macey Steier. They are coached by Jeremy Lambie and Cory Reichenberger. **Sixth grade boys:** Thomas Arndt, Jack Bell, Jackson Davies, Jackson Sadownikow, Cal Stanek, Matt Zier, Tadd Jamieson, Nathan Ratzel, Alex Schneeberger, Tyler Tennes, Jonah Nagel, and Sam Wiedmeyer. Steve Stanek and David Tennes share the coaching duties.

Seventh grade boys: Riley Becker, Joe Held, Alex Gonzalez, Michael Kleinhans, Will Mueller, Jayden Omernick, Jacob Rauch, Caelen Spartz, Keegan Tennes, Jonathon Dorow, Blake Ericson, Isaac Fichtner, Aiden Guse, Chase Koebel, Danny Krause, Konnor Sadownikow, Owen Schmidt, Cole Stellmacher, and Nick Whittle. The coaching staff for the teams are Randy Tennes, Gary Held, Scott Sadownikow, Todd Guse, and Kevin Mueller. **Seventh grade girls:** Jenna Rondorf, Avelina Wolfe, Greta Zier, and Hailey Matenaer.

Eighth grade boys: Quentin Butschlick, Casey Gerber, Andrew Glaszcz, Curtis Holbrook, Christian Spaeth, Ty Stanek, Brady Steier, Aaron Tennes, and Nate Waech. They are coached by Todd Tennes and Bill Waech. **Eighth grade girls:** Ronnie Sadownikow and Ellie Meurer.

The 39th annual Classic continues to focus on offering the best in West Bend area boys basketball. This year's event will again feature seventh and eighth grade teams from area middle and parochial schools. Eighth grade teams will play during the week of January 16-21 while seventh grade team compete the week of January 23-28. The first round action each week will take place on Monday, second round games will be played on Wednesday, and final round each week and championship game are played on Saturday morning.

**Find the complete
schedule of
practices and
games at :**

**www.hawb.org
follow the school
link;
go to School Links
to Athletics**



dads, donuts and lots o' fun

The Five-Year-Old Kindergarten will have some December Donut Delights for themselves and a special guest. The annual Donuts with Dad Day is just around the corner. Mrs. Matthews will welcome some really big kindergartners to the classroom on Thursday, December 15th, from 8:30 until 11:30am.

Of course, the dads don't just share donuts with their children. They'll also have a chance to experience a day in the life of a kindergartner. The usual Thursday begins with Today's News followed by Daily 5. Religion, Reading and Language Arts activities lead up to...taa-daa...some special phy ed classes. Dads are encouraged to wear their gym shoes!. There will be lots to do at the various learning stations. The kindergartners always enjoy having so many dads with them for all of the fun!!

preparing for cold 'n flu season

Television commercials are again running the latest remedies for the cold 'n flu season. Parents are asked to simply use common sense when deciding to send their "sick" child to school. A simple rule of thumb might be: Would you want someone with the same symptoms sitting next to your child all day? Here are some repeat suggestions...

Fever: a child with a temperature higher than 100.6 should stay home, they should stay home until they are fever-free without medication for 24 hours; **Cold:** keep a child home if there is a hacking cough or heavy nasal congestion; **Sore Throat:** keep child home and contact doctor if white spots can be seen, if fever is present or if sore throat lasts more than two days; **Vomiting:** keep child home until able to keep food down for 24 hours (yes, 24 hours!); **Diarrhea:** keep child home (repeat...keep child home); **Rash:** keep child home unless cleared by a doctor; **Pink Eye:** keep child home if eye is pink/bloodshot with white/yellow discharge and/or eye tenderness (may attend school with clear drainage and no tenderness).



In an effort to help contain flu and cold viruses and other nasty things, students are urged to wash their hands or use hand sanitizers. Parents will be receiving information which they can use to spend time with their child, talking about personal hygiene and protection. Students will also receive information which will be discussed in their classroom.

In addition, there will be portable hand sanitizing stations in the lunchroom area for students as they enter the lunchroom. The question of the day, especially during cold and flu season, is: "Have U Washed Your Hands 2 Day?"

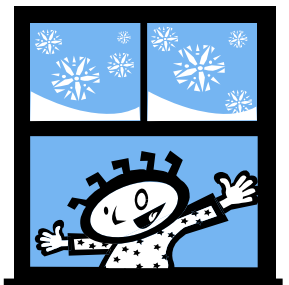
if the snow falls hard in west bend

During possible snow emergencies, we will post the latest information on our school website. Parents are able to get the information they need without tying up the phone lines. We also pass information along to parents using these local and Milwaukee radio and television outlets: WTMJ-AM, 94.5 KTI-FM, or TV4. The web site <www.touchtmj4.com> also carries weather emergency information.

As soon as we hear anything about a closing or a delay, the first step is to post it on the school website (the principal can do that from home on a cold and snowy morning!). Information about emergency closings during the school day will also be posted first on our school's web site...check the Holy Angels web site. Emergency announcements will also be emailed to parents on the bulletin/newsletter email list.

Because we rely on Johnson Bus for transporting many students, any time the West Bend Public Schools call off school, delay a starting time, or close early, Holy Angels is automatically included. Be sure to listen to the radio or check the website for details. Many families make it a point to start the day by checking the Holy Angels home page "just to make sure"!

It should be noted that other school activities are NOT automatically cancelled because of a weather-related school closure. Often, conditions improve during the day and there is no longer a safety concern for an evening practice, game, meeting or performance. A separate determination is made for evening events.



students serving others...has-hope

Fifth through eighth grade students at Holy Angels actively demonstrate their willingness to be “angels to others” by answering the “call to serve” as part of HAS-HOPE. Throughout the first quarter, students who are part of this service team at HA, have participated in several volunteer opportunities, reaching out to Help Other People and the Environment.

As the cooler weather finally caused leaves to fall, members participated in the Interfaith Caregivers leaf raking project. Holy Angels students helped those who couldn't take care of the leafy mess in their yards.

Members recently made holiday treats for visitors to the Kathy Hospice. Their efforts will hopefully be something uplifting for those who visit friends and relatives.

Where else will you find HAS-HOPE? On the Saturday after Thanksgiving students will ring bells in front of Shopko for the Salvation Army from 10am to 12pm. On Sunday, December 4th the Hope Club will be volunteering their time at Enchantment in the Park selling concessions in support of Senior Citizens Activities.

Hope Club is open to all students in grades 5-8. Their next meeting is December 13th, after school until 3:30pm. Many thanks to Nicole Eckert and Mandy Sadownikow for coordinating the group this year.



fsea returns for more fun while learning

Planning for the Holy Angels chapter of the Future Scientists and Engineers of America (FSEA) has taken a little longer than in the past. However, this year's program for fourth through eighth graders will again include projects which are sure to be challenging and creative.

For the 2016-17 school year, the line-up includes a series on chemistry, one involving engineering and building, and a series involving hovercrafts, air power and propulsion. The three-week sessions usually meet on Wednesdays at 3:00pm in the Science Room after school. However, due to the huge interest, some events may be held in other locations around the school.

Signup information will be sent home after the Thanksgiving Break and the sessions will begin after the first of the year.

d.a.r.e. graduates another class

The fifth graders have been working hard during the first semester as members of this year's Drug Abuse Resistance Education program. Working with Deputy Bill Niehus, the students have learned many life skills to help them cope with negative influences and make good decisions. They have also studied the effects of various substances on the body. Students are preparing personal statements regarding these life choices.

The D.A.R.E. graduation will bring together all that the students have learned. Representatives from the community will be on hand to congratulate the students on their completion of the program and to encourage them to put into practice what they have learned. The graduation will be held on December 9th, at 1:30pm.

The Washington County Sheriff's Department is the sponsor of the D.A.R.E. program at Holy Angels and other area schools.

accelerated readers...but which class is truly on top?

The first quarter saw this year's sixth grade jump into a commanding lead in the tally of Accelerated Reader points. As of November 4th, they have amassed a whopping 1369.7 points! Next in point total is the seventh grade with 565.4 points. The fourth and fifth grades are next with 447.2 and 417.1 respectively. Eighth graders have earned 316.2 points and the third graders have tallied 314.1 points.

Of course some grades simply have more students so here's the “per student” point total for each grade: Grade 3...11.63; Grade 4...18.63; Grade 5...16.68; Grade 6...34.24; Grade 7...14.88; Grade 8...15.06.

Students earn points by reading books on the Accelerated Readers list and answering questions about the book. A list of AR books and more information for parents can be found on the school website following the School Links.