



FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Holy Angels School - West Bend

Come, Holy Spirit... You Are Welcome Here

February, 2018

Holy Angels Website: www.WestBendCatholicSchool.com

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Greetings,

The winter weather has been rather kind to us again this year...not that I'm complaining. However, Catholic Schools Week is just around the corner...as in NEXT WEEK!

Thanks to members of the HAS-PAC for their efforts in planning the Pep Rally Kickoff for Catholic Schools Week on Saturday and to the Marketing Committee for getting the word out about all of the week's special activities. The willingness of a few to coordinate the details make it possible for everyone to have a good time as families and friends. This year's event will include a Student vs. Parent Dodgeball grudge match...beware!! Hope to see you at the Kickoff event on Saturday!

The Kindergarten RoundUp (that's K3, K4 and K5) on Sunday morning is again expected to attract many young families to our school. We hope many of you will simply join us at the Open House from 10:30 until 12:30. Take a look at the changes slowly taking place for the 21st Century Project in the library and computer lab. Parents interested in the K5 program are reminded to submit all of the necessary forms by the February 15th deadline. Based on the amount of interest shown in the K3 and K4 programs, both will likely fill quickly.

We encourage current school families to continue to provide a terrific "network" for any new families and those still searching for a community like HA! If you have neighbors and friends with school-age children, pass the word about Holy Angels, invite them to join our learning faith community.

The School Committee and the Finance and Pastoral Councils have been working on the budget for 2018-2019 and we hope to be able to begin the re-enrollment process in the coming weeks. The task has been made easier by the hard work and decisions that have been made over the past several years to "right size" our school to meet the needs of our parish members. Based on projections in future enrollment, a five-year-plan was developed which took into account changes in the number of classes at particular grade levels. The result was a plan that will again provide modest salary increases for the staff while also minimizing tuition increases.

Many families who received their Financial Statement with the report cards noted that their balance was significantly decreased. Almost \$6,000 was credited to individual family tuition as a result of participation in SCRIP...wow!!! This also means that Holy Angels earned more than \$8,000 to help cover instructional expenses (and keep the Instructional Fee from increasing). Many thanks to the prime-movers of the SCRIP program Leslie Jamieson and Rhonda Faehling and everyone who has helped promote and "grow" the program. If you haven't started to buy and use SCRIP, you're missing a wonderful opportunity!

As already mentioned, planning for Phase Three of the 21st Century Classrooms Project is well under way!! This summer we'll be renovating the library and computer lab. This will entail removing the entire library collection, some construction, painting, re-carpeting, and moving everything back! Then there's the computer lab! In addition, we'll be replacing worn stair treads in many areas. Finally, the lavatories in the main hallway will undergo some changes. Look for volunteer requests in May for some of the moving effort!

Finally, I keep hearing concerns about what our children are exposed to with regard to the political landscape. I think that it is really important for parents to model only the best as they talk to their children about things that they see on the news or in social media. In your family conversations, make sure that Gospel values such as honesty and respect are always what steers your conversations, even when there are divergent points of view. (I also mentioned this last year at this time...too bad things haven't changed much.)

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.

catholic schools week activities abound

During the week beginning January 28th, Holy Angels will join schools throughout the country in celebrating Catholic Schools Week. Over and above the excellent curriculum, our Catholic faith is emphasized here at Holy Angels: strong moral values, Catholic social teaching and service, and respect for life. The entire community has been emphasizing our call to show our faith by our works.

There is also a “pre-week” activity planned by Parent Activities Committee on Saturday night (that’s tomorrow!). During Catholic Schools Week, we will celebrate many of the important aspects of our school which make it special...academics, faith formation, extra-curriculars, community building, family involvement.

The week’s activities will include:

- + **Saturday (January 27th) - CSW Kickoff Celebration (5:00-7:30pm)**
- + **Sunday - Open House (10:30am-12:30pm); Kindergarten–K3, K4, K5-RoundUp (10:45am)**
- + **Monday - Morning Assembly with Mr. Peace (how to make a more peaceful world)**
- + **Tuesday - Catholic Quiz Bowl (8:25 - primary, 9:10 - intermediate, 10:30 - jr high)**
- + **Wednesday - Buddies Service Day...honoring veterans not able to make the Honor Flight to DC**
- + **Thursday - WB Catholic Schools Mass at Cabrini**
- + **Friday - Student/Faculty Basketball Game (1:40pm).**

celebrating valentine tradition early

Although everyone seems to know that Valentine’s Day is February 14th, the annual Valentine’s Party at Holy Angels will be held on Friday, February 9th...only because students will have the weekend to recover from the fun and activity. Next year, we’ll actually celebrate on the 14th (and have a long weekend!).

This year’s celebration will begin at 11:00am with over 20 booths and games. Each of the homerooms, several “special” teachers, and the Student Council are sponsoring an attraction as students and parents help decorate and run each booth. Games typically cost 25¢ or 50¢ to play.

Attractions include: the world famous Cake Walk, Fish Pond, Lollipop Tree, the ever-popular Ring-a-Can-of-Soda, Tic Tac Toe, Football Toss, Bingo, Toss Across, and the World’s Best Valentine’s Day Raffle. Free Throws for Fun returns this year with a prize for every player. The Jumping Jupiter, which is being provided by Tennessees Ace Hardware, returns for more thrills and spills (not too many). For safety purposes, students may not jump into, onto or through others during this activity.

This year will again feature a very special raffle with five \$100-value prizes. Thanks to a generous (and anonymous) donor, there will be a special raffle booth and five winners will be picked for a \$100 credit toward tuition and fees.



At 2:00pm, students will return to their homerooms so that the areas used for the Valentine’s Party can be undecorated. Parents are asked to lend a hand in cleaning up the gym, Walnut Room and Cedar Room. The raffle drawings will then take place in the gym and Cedar Room followed by dismissal.

Students in the three-year-old kindergarten are also invited to join the fun, however, parents must accompany their children. Students in the full-day K4 program will spend some time at the Valentine Party with their class. Orders for lunch have already been placed; those who did not place an order are urged to bring a bag lunch. Some food items will be available for purchase.

Parents are reminded to send their donations of cakes and soda to school on the day of the party. Families may still donate items for the Valentine’s Day Raffle. Simply send your item to the school office (marked “Valentine Party”) by February 5th. We are always in need of items for junior high students.

The annual event has a colorful past which continues to evoke scores of memories for Holy Angels graduates as former students *still* talk about slides down the fire escape!

Throughout its history, the Valentine’s Party has provided funds for a number of missions, charities and other needs as chosen by the Student Council. This year, a portion of the proceeds will be used to help the Quilting Ladies of Holy Angels, Ronald McDonald House, our sister parish-La Sagrada Familia, and Humane Society of Washington County.



artist-in-residence coaches *godspell jr.*

This year's Artist-in-Residence, sponsored by the Stehling Project, is linked to our Music Department. We are so fortunate to have many different opportunities for musical enrichment in our area. Staying with tradition, our junior high students will be putting on a musical this spring. This year, Holy Angels became an official member of Musical Theater International, which provides an opportunity for a wide selection of junior musicals to choose from.



Mrs. Scheit chose *Godspell Jr* for this year's production. To give the students the best possible experience, Holy Angels reached out to the educational department of First Stage Children's Theater in Milwaukee. They provide workshops for schools where educators come to the classroom and provide a personalized educational experience to enhance the curriculum.

Workshop leader, Emilie Thomas, created three involved classes for each junior high grade. The first class focused on how to create visual pictures onstage. Students learned the three rules for stage blocking; proximity, planes and levels; and then blocked scenes from *Godspell* using what they learned.



The second class was geared towards focusing energy and excitement in a musical number. Students learned choreographed moves as well as were able to improvise with a specific focus to create a dynamic musical performance.



Lastly, the final class focused on the importance of auditions. This gave students an opportunity to learn the dos and don'ts of auditioning for a production. They learned how to fill out an audition form as well as how to "prepare" for a cold read.

The workshops that First Stage provided were well planned and fun for the students of Holy Angels. It was an important and exciting addition to the curriculum this year. Mark your calendar now for April 26th to see the results as Holy Angels presents its production of *Godspell Jr!*

top spellers participate in local bee

This year's annual Spelling Bee was held on January 16th and featured some of the top spellers from grades two through eight. Students were challenged with common words and some that are simply not simple to spell. The following students participated in this year's competition...

Primary level participants included: Nikolas Guminski, Maddy Barnes, Joey Kohnen, Jake Behn, Ryan Friemel, Daley Rabideaux, Jack Walter, Juliana Kroening, Nathan Landvatter, Aiden Gundrum, Moira Andrews, Abby Glaszcz, Shaelyn Hagel, Emmalee Heniadis, Madeline Klausmeier, Jack Kohnen, Madison Ratzel, Andreis Reinheimer, Melanie Sopkowicz, and Kaitlyn Wendelborn. Moira Andrews took top honors with Melanie Sopkowicz earning second place.



At the intermediate level, Maddee Bell earned first place honors while Jeremy Dorow took second place. Other participants included: Mitchell Birchbauer, Rylee Faehling, Greta Friemel, Addisyn Gundrum, Jaylee Heinen, Mikey Held, Ella Kohnen, Layla Reichenberger, Elli Schrauth, Ben Schroeder, Gabe Guminski, Henry Peplinski, Jimmy Schiller, Grace Peters, Sam Ciriacks, Derek Hetzel, Maya Beistle, and Jack Dahlberg.

Junior high participants included: Bryce Barnett, Emilia Guse, Brooke Koebel, Hailey Kiefer, Kade Rossebo, Claire Cegielski, Emma Hertel, Brianna Zywicki, Maria Olson, Megan Minz, Jack Bell, Aislinn Carey, Jordan Clark, Amber Georgeson, Tadd Jamieson, Caroline Peplinski, Jack Sadownikow, Fiona Shaw, Olivia Walker, Sam Wiedmeyer, Owen Schmidt, Ericka Beistle, Greta Zier, Hannah Schroeder, Isaac Fichtner, Caelen Spartz, Konnor Sadownikow, Jenna Rondorf, Nick Whittle, and Brooke Deppert

The last two standing in the competition were Caroline Peplinski and Greta Zier. Greta outlasted Caroline in our local contest to claim top honors.

They will both represent Holy Angels at the Lumen Alliance Spelling Bee on February 20th. They will compete with students from Catholic schools in Washington and Dodge counties.

basketball potluck and awards

The 2017-18 basketball season is quickly coming to an end (after three months of intense action!). The annual Potluck Supper and Award Banquet will be held on Monday, February 26th, beginning at 6:00pm. Parents will be receiving invitations (please RSVP right away) and directions regarding what to bring in the coming weeks.

The event provides an opportunity to share a meal together and recognize the many efforts that made the basketball season a success in a variety of ways. Holy Angels graduates are also featured each year as guest speakers.

all sorts of interesting odds and ends...

Geography Bee Searches the World...

The annual Geography Bee will be held on Wednesday, February 21st. The event features challenging questions about the physical planet, geo-political features, famous sites, and more. Participants (and the audience) will try to come up with the correct answers to questions posed in a variety of ways.

Of course the Geography Bee will begin with a round of questioning about one specific topic such as "All About Alaska". The Geography Bee begins at 1:10pm in the gym. Thanks again to Mrs. Walker for organizing this year's Bee. Good luck participants!!

8th Grade Course Selection...

Holy Angels eighth graders planning to attend West Bend East or West High School will be meeting with counselors on Monday, February 7th, at Holy Angels. Students will submit their course selections for freshman year and briefly discuss academic plans with the counselors.

Rummage Sale...

Due to the scheduling of this year's spring break, there will not be a Rummage Sale in 2018. Each year, Holy Angels attempts to align the calendar with that of the West Bend school district. Looking ahead to next year, it again appears that the Rummage Sale might not work into the calendar for spring. In the meantime, please consider donating items to St. Vincent DePaul to support their work in the community.

Optimist Award...

Congratulations to Ericka Beistle who was recently recognized at the Optimist Club's Student of the Month for January. Ericka is active in the community volunteering at WBHS home gymnastic meets and through the Boys and Girls Club. She has also served meals at St. Ben's in Milwaukee and delivered meals to the homebound by participating every year for the Meals on Wheels Program. Ericka has also volunteered and participated in the A.L.S. Walk. Ericka serves Holy Angels in both the school and parish as an altar server.

In school, Ericka has been a safety patrol for two years. She actively participates in HAS Hope Club and has rung bells for the Salvation Army. This year Ericka participated in running the games for the Family Promise Christmas hosted at Holy Angels. She participates in girl's volleyball, track, Forensics, Bell Choir, F.A.D. (art club), Yearbook Committee and in Math Olympiads at Holy Angels.

In their recommendation, teachers noted that: "Ericka is a hard-working, upbeat and positive person, who brings out the best in others and sets a good example. She is easy to be around and can be counted on to do the right thing, because it is the right thing to do. Ericka is without doubt an optimistic young woman."

FSEA Continues with More Excitement...

The first three-week series in this year's Future Scientists and Engineers of America begins after school on February 7th with "Flight and Crash Test Dummies" with instructor Brian Hubbard. Participants will be discovering all sorts of implication of friction.

This year's FSEA program is offered to students in grades four through six. The next series for this year will begin on March 14th, with the final series starting on April 25th.

School Retreat and Lent...

Ash Wednesday actually falls on Valentine's Day (and Easter is on April Fool's Day...first time since 1945) so it's a good thing our Valentine's Party is on February 9th. As part of the observance of the start of Lent, students in each of the levels will be having a retreat with activities to help bring focus to this special time in the liturgical year. Of course, we'll begin with Mass and Distribution of Ashes. The day usually provides a more quiet experience of school as we all reflect on our goals for this Lenten Season...welcoming the Spirit more fully into our lives.



march 16th is coming: fish and gifts

This is the 29th Year of the Gifts from the Heart Raffle! We have again been blessed with many extraordinary donations from our Holy Angels community. You'll be amazed as you sit down and page through the raffle booklets which will be coming home in the weeks to come with your contact person (if your contact person is doing the job!). If you do not receive yours or need additional booklets for family and friends, they will be available in the church entrance, the school office, and several local businesses and offices.

Prizes include: Apple Watch Series 3 with GPS and Cellular; Google Home Mini; 5 night stay at a condo in Colorado; 55" Samsung Smart TV; Cash Prizes; Milwaukee Job Site Radio/Charger; Amazon Echo; Nintendo Switch; Fitbit; Carpet Cleaning; Tickets for Brewers, Zoo; many gift cards from area stores; and many other fantastic prizes. Truly something for everyone! You may just want to set some extra money aside for this year's event!



Remember Raffle tickets can be purchased in the gym and placed in the appropriate bucket only on the day of the event. Because of recent rule changes, winners need to be present at the drawing to claim their prize (or designate someone to accept your prize for you...Mr. Sternig might be a trustworthy person). Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

There will be a special Silent Auction Event during the Gifts From the Heart Raffle for gift baskets prepared by the various grade levels and other unique items. Spirited bidding will result in a terrific item for someone (and some needed funds for our school). The top bidder for each item will be announced during the evening. Many thanks to everyone who has offered items for this year's raffle!

This year's Famous Friday Fish Fry will again offer a terrific menu, including the delicious fried and baked fish, that will keep people coming back each year. The entire Walnut Room and Cedar



Room complex will provide ample seating for an all-you-can-eat fish fry. The homemade dessert selection will be immense! The large venue will provide a more leisurely dining experience before diners move on to the excitement of the Gifts from the Heart Raffle. The Carry-Out line will continue to provide fast take-home service. The Celtic Company will be back to perform Irish dance during the Gifts from the Heart Raffle display time. Remember, the drawings for the raffle will begin at 8:00pm.



Watch for your raffle books in the weeks to come and mark your calendar for Friday, March 16th for the Holy Angels Famous Friday Fish Fry and Gifts from the Heart Raffle. Be sure to tell your friends!

p/s/t2 coming after report cards

The teachers at Holy Angels have continued to inform parents regarding their child's progress in school. Throughout the first semester, teachers have been sending home information about what is going on in school...academic topics, homework and project information, special events, etc.

Student grades have been posted online by teachers using StandardScore and many parents have been keeping up-to-date regarding their child's progress.

On the evening of February 6th, teachers will be available from 4:00 until 6:00pm for parents who have requested a second Parent/Student/Teacher Conference. These P/S/T2 Conferences are provided to give parents an opportunity to meet with classroom teachers if there is a continuing concern about a student.

Parents will be asked to identify these concerns when requesting a conference time on the form which is being emailed to parents. Please return requests by January 31st; confirmations of conference times will be sent home.

40th annual basketball classic concludes

The 40th annual Holy Angels Basketball Classic was again played in two sessions this year...eighth grade, followed by seventh grade.

The eighth grade Classic featured an eight-team bracket format. In the first round, eventual champion St. John XXIII (formerly Port Catholic) defeated Holy Angels-White; Messmer-St. Mary's won over St. Mary's Visitation; St. Boniface defeated St. Kilian; and Holy Angels-Blue lost to St. Alphonsus. In the second round, Holy Angels-White, St. Kilian, St. John XXIII, and St. Boniface all posted victories.



In final round action, Holy Angels-White hung on to defeat St. Kilian, 41-38 to claim 4th place. Starting with a 16-7 first period edge, the Royals maintained a lead throughout the game. However, the Cougars fought back with a fourth period run to make things interesting. Jayden Omernick paced the Royals with 15 points with Danny Krause and Issac Fichtner adding 11 and 8 points respectively. Meanwhile HA-Blue fell behind early in their loss to St. Mary's, 55-28. Keegan Tennies led HA scorers with 14 points.



St. John XXIII and St. Boniface met in the championship game with the Phoenix coming out on top, 53-24. Leading all scorers was Mikey Ross with 21 points including four three-pointers.

Final 8th grade standings: 1st - St. John XXIII; 2nd - St. Boniface; 3rd - Messmer-St. Mary's; 4th - Holy Angels-White; 5th - St. Alphonsus; 6th - St. Kilian; 7th - St. Mary's Visitation; and 8th - Holy Angels-Blue.



In the seventh grade division of this year's HA Classic, the six teams participated in two pools to determine matchups for the championship round.

In pool play on Monday, St. John XXIII posted a pair of wins over St. Joseph-White and St. Boniface-White to secure a spot in the championship game on Saturday. In other Monday games, Holy Angels and St. Joseph-Green both defeated St. Kilian to set up their matchup for a chance at the championship game. On Wednesday, St. Joseph-Green defeated Holy Angels to earn a spot in the championship game. St. Joseph-White took second place in its pool with its win over St. Boniface.

The Saturday finals include: 1st/2nd place - St. John XXIII vs. St. Joseph-Green; 3rd/4th place - Holy Angels vs. St. Joseph-White; 5th/6th place - St. Boniface vs. St. Kilian.

Thanks to everyone who: helped with the tournament booklet (especially the sponsors); worked in the concessions area, admissions and shootout table; announced and scored the games; or served as security and cleanup. Our gratitude goes out to Mountain Outfitters for again providing a bike for the Halftime Shootout. Special thanks to members of the Athletic Committee for their countless hours of service.

teachers to train for tragedy

Holy Angels School has created a binder of Crisis Response Plans which is found in each classroom in case of an emergency situation. One area which has undergone significant changes involves situations with an active shooter in the building. In the past, conventional wisdom called for a simple lockdown in all situations. Recent studies of active shooter situations have resulted in a multi-faceted approach which takes into account a wide range of possible scenarios.

One current approach, called ALICE training, has been utilized in many schools and districts. A recent article in the Daily News depicted the training which took place for teachers in the local public schools.

On the February 12th inservice day, teachers from Holy Angels and Cabrini will be involved in a similar training which will be provided by the West Bend Police Department. The ALERRT training model has been developed by Texas State University and the FBI and involves strategies for dealing with an active shooter event.

Depending on a quick analysis of a situation, teachers and students would follow an ADD strategy. ADD stands for Avoid, Deny, Defend. Another way of describing this approach is: Run, Hide, Fight. This type of response involves more than a simple lockdown when other strategies might provide greater safety.

More information can be found at: <http://www.avoiddenydefend.org>