



FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Holy Angels School - West Bend

"By our Works... We Show our Faith"

January, 2016

Holy Angels Website: www.hawb.org

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Greetings,

A couple of weeks ago it looked like we would never see snow...how quickly things can change. I was getting caught up on a few things at school on Monday and suddenly it was white outside!!! At least the maintenance staff didn't have to think about snow removal on Christmas!! I hope that your family's celebration of Christmas was a peace-filled experience!

The Advent (waiting) Season is really behind us and we can truly celebrate Christmas in its fullness. The liturgical calendar in the hallway at school clearly shows that the season really BEGINS on December 25th! There's snow everywhere...hmmm. And so...MERRY CHRISTMAS TIME to you!

I've been absolutely amazed at the generosity of so many people who have supported the 21st Century Classrooms project. As I sit here writing this newsletter, it is with a deep sense of awe and gratitude that I can tell you that we've reached our goal in the capital campaign! We can move forward to getting the archdiocesan proxy necessary for a project of this kind.

Jim Schmidt and I have also identified a few other areas that could use attention that were not part of the original plan. These are on the general maintenance list of items such as the replacement of stair treads and carpeting in the K5 classroom (following repairs for water issues). The cost of replacing lockers is expected to be higher than originally projected by our consultant. And so, we'll continue to accept donations to cover the costs of everything that needs to be done.

Catholic Schools Week is coming! One of the important aspects of this celebration is taking an opportunity to spread the "good news" about our Catholic schools...especially Holy Angels!! I hope that as you tell others about HAS, they'll be eager to become part of this marvelous community. We'll be encouraging families to register for K3, K4 and K5 during Catholic Schools Week. We also hope that families will consider transferring to HAS so that their children may experience what we can offer each day.

As we look at next year's kindergarten classes, we will be holding a Kindergarten RoundUp on Sunday, January 31st, at 10:45am. We will continue to create the necessary programming to meet the needs of our parish families. Be sure to "pass the word" about our kindergarten programs.

In our marketing of Catholic schools in the West Bend area, the shift in the coming weeks will focus on Cabrini and Holy Angels. Although we are saddened by the closing of St. Mary's, together we will continue to provide opportunities for those seeking Catholic education and formation for their children here in West Bend.

May your New Year be filled with many ways to "show your faith" by your good works. May all of our efforts make the world a better place and bring God's Kingdom to light! The "works of the Lord are all of them good"...may you find His peace and joy in bringing His goodness to others! As our kindergartners pointed out recently JOY means Jesus, Others and You.

Peace be with you,

Mike Sternig

open house offers chance to come and see

In celebration of Catholic Schools Week, Holy Angels School will have an Open House on Sunday, January 31st. This year's Open House will again offer an opportunity for the community to "come and see".

Beginning at 10:30am, interested families and parishioners are invited to wander throughout the school to see what Holy Angels has to offer our students and families. Many of the teachers will be available to answer questions or provide insights about the joys of being part of HAS. The recently remodeled prototype 21st Century Classroom will also be open. The Open House concludes at 12:30pm.

Here's a wonderful opportunity to encourage your neighbors and friends to check out Holy Angels. If you know someone who will be making the transition from elementary school to middle school, suggest HA for a terrific middle school experience in a caring faith community.

rounding up future kindergartners...k3, k4, k5

Planning for the Holy Angels Class of 2025 (next year's Five-Year-Old Kindergarten class) has already begun. In addition, planning for next year's K3 and K4 programs is also underway. We invite all prospective kindergarten students (K3, K4 and K5) and their parents to attend the Kindergarten Roundup which will be held on Sunday, January 31st, at 10:45am, in Walnut Room, during the Open House (see above).

Following a general presentation about Holy Angels School, the kindergarten teachers will provide parents (and future students) with a breath-taking description of a typical day in kindergarten (they're really good at that!). Actually, there is nothing "typical" about a session in kindergarten at Holy Angels, except that each one is filled with all sorts of learning experiences and excitement!

Next on the morning's schedule is an opportunity to visit rooms and meet teachers and other parents. The three kindergarten classrooms will be open for tours and an opportunity for parents to chat with Kris Matthews (K5) and Sheila Rose (K4/K3).

The **Five-Year-Old kindergarten** (K5) is a full-day program. Because of the increased instructional expectations, Holy Angels no longer offers a half-day program. Based on parish demographic it is anticipated that one K5 session will meet the needs of active parish members interested in a Holy Angels education. If the number of registrations for a class is sufficient to warrant it, establishing a second class would be considered.

The typical class size limit for K5 is 25 students. The current Policy 5111.2 indicates that a priority list will be established based on parents' date of registration in the parish as well as involvement in the life of the parish (active in parish ministries, participation in the sacramental life of the Church, appropriate financial support of the parish), and involvement in the life of the school (active as a volunteer in school activities). Registrations are accepted and students are assigned to sessions using the priority lists.

All registrations for K5 received by February 15th will be ordered according to the priority policy. Registrations must include parish information, an original birth certificate for recording information, baptismal certificate (look for those now!), and non-refundable \$25 registration fee. Registrations received after February 15th and registrations of non-parishioners will be added to the list in the order received.

Based on preliminary feedback from perspective parents, the **Four-Year-Old Kindergarten** will likely have a three-day full-day format. A three-day or five-day morning program may also be considered. A final decision will be made in the coming weeks. The sessions will provide a wonderful experience of playing and working with other children in a structured setting. The K4 program has provided a foundation for developing the social skills which help lead to a successful transition to the K5 program. The **Three-Year-Old Kindergarten** will continue to be a Tuesday-Thursday morning program.

Registrations for the K4 program are accepted on a tiered basis with registration of current school families accepted starting February 3rd; parish members may register beginning February 5th; and open registration (first come basis) begins February 8th.

Registrations for the K3 program will be accepted on a first-come basis beginning February 4th.

The typical class size for the K3 and K4 program is about 15 students. For each of the three programs, students must be the appropriate age on or before September 1, 2016.

If you want your child to be part of the special opportunities offered at Holy Angels School, plan now to attend the RoundUp on January 31st or contact the school office. If you know of someone with a three, four or five-year-old, be sure to pass along this information.

**Kdg
RoundUp:
January
31st
10:45am**

class of 2016 looking ahead

As we return from the Christmas Break, the eighth graders will undoubtedly recognize that they are the Class of 2016 and ... it's now 2016! The students will soon be looking down the road in anticipation of graduation and entry into high school.

The eighth graders will have their graduation pictures taken on Thursday, January 7th. Graduates will be receiving proofs at a later date. Orders will be placed at that time. Because there are multiple proofs available, retakes are usually not possible...students should come prepared for their "graduation picture".

Eighth graders should also note that there are two Orientation Nights for WB East and West High Schools. Students and parents anticipating attending West will meet at the high school on January 26th. The East meeting will be held on January 27th. Parents and students will be receiving recommendations from the junior high staff to help them in choosing courses for freshman year. The course selection process will be completed in February when WBHS counselors will meet with students at Holy Angels.

catholic schools week: starts january 31st

During the week beginning January 31st, Holy Angels will join schools throughout the country in celebrating Catholic Schools Week. The local theme for the West Bend Catholic schools is again "The Good News in Education". With many changes taking place in public schools across the state, Catholic schools continue to be the good news in what schools can provide.

In addition to a strong core curriculum, there is a continued emphasis at Holy Angels on fine arts and world languages. Holy Angels students use a variety of technologies as tools for learning...junior high students use personal Chromebooks as part of their daily experience. The Project Lead the Way curriculum Robotics Club and Techno Club offer pre-engineering components for junior high students. The Resource Learning Centers provide a multitude of enrichment opportunities and additional learning support.

Over and above the 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. In particular, school families will again provide Meals on Wheels in connection with CSW (see related article). There is also a "pre-week" activity planned by PAC.

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 30th) - CSW Kickoff Celebration (5:00-8:00pm)

Sunday - Distinguished Graduate Award presentation; Open House (10:30am-12:30pm)
Kindergarten-K3, K4, K5-RoundUp (10:45am)

Monday - Catholic Quiz Bowl (8:25 - primary, 9:10 - intermediate, 10:30 - jr high);

Tuesday - All-School Special Assembly

Wednesday - Area Celebration Mass at Cabrini

Thursday - Service Day with Buddies

Friday - Student/Faculty Basketball Game (1:40pm).

d.a.r.e. graduation begins commitment

Each year, fifth graders at Holy Angels participate in the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program. The ten-week program. The D.A.R.E. program enables students to interact with police officers in a safe classroom environment. This helps students and officers meet and understand each other in a friendly manner, instead of having to meet in a negative situation such as a crime or when officers must intervene in problem setting. Students in the program are taught by local police officers about the dangers of drug use in an interactive in-school curriculum which lasts ten weeks. They sign a pledge not to use drugs or join gangs.

The program is also an important crime and violence prevention education program. Assertiveness and self-defense education can help prevent students from being harmed. This year's program was again taught by Detective Hope Demler of the Washington County Sheriff's Department.

This year's D.A.R.E. Graduation will be held on Thursday, January 14th, at 1:00pm. Several students will present their essays on the information and values they discovered during the program. Students will also confirm their pledge to a drug-free life style as they graduate from the program and move on to middle school and beyond.

spelling bee for lumen alliance schools

Each year, about this time, top spellers compete in the annual Spelling Bee in schools across the area. Holy Angels is no exception. The local 2016 Spelling Bee will be held on Tuesday, January 12th beginning with the primary students (grades 2-3) at 8:15am, followed by intermediate (grades 4-5) at 9:00am, and junior high (grades 6-8) at 1:00pm. The event is held in the HA Gym.

For some grades, preliminary classroom spell-downs are used to determine the participants; at other grade levels, written pre-tests may be used; and still other grades may determine participants using spelling grades. The winner and runner-up of the junior high Spelling Bee will represent Holy Angels at the Lumen Alliance (the Catholic schools in Washington, Dodge and Fond du lac counties) Spelling Bee on February 22nd.

Parents are welcome to watch and encourage the participants. Of course, parents can encourage their own child's accuracy in everyday situations just by taking notice of their spelling on assignments or even everyday notes around home. Even at a time when texting is affecting the way in which thoughts and ideas are shared, correct spelling is still a valuable tool in the communications world...just ask any employer!

has-pac prepares for january event and more

Catholic Schools Week Kickoff Celebration:

Once again the PAC will be sponsoring a family event at the start of Catholic Schools Week. The Walnut/Cedar Rooms and the HA Gym will be filled with activity so...take out your pen and mark January 30th from 5:00 until 8:00pm as "busy" on your 2016 calendar for the PAC-sponsored Catholic Schools Week Kickoff Celebration. It will mark the start to another great Catholic Schools Week! The night will be filled with:

**CSW
KICK-OFF
CELEBRATION
JANUARY 30TH**

- Music, lets see your best dance moves!
- Volleyball games in the gym (teams of 4 will sign up that night so make sure to get there early)
- Table games - bring your favorite table games to enjoy with other families.
- Kohl's Color Wheel, a mobile art experience where kids take part in fun projects through art.

- Concessions with pizza, candy, nachos, popcorn, soda, water and more.

If you are willing to volunteer an hour of your time to help set-up, at the concessions, with activities or clean up the night of the Kickoff, send an email to ingridlaforest@yahoo.com. Hope to see you all at the Catholic Schools Week Kickoff Celebration on January 30th!

Grandparents Day:

The annual Grandparents Day will again be held in spring...April 15th.

fish fry / gifts from the heart coming in spring

Many thanks to all who have already offered to generously donate items from their heart for this year's Gifts from the Heart Raffle. This year's format will again offer the opportunity to personally select from the many wonderful prizes as you place your raffle ticket in the buckets location in the gym throughout the exciting night of activity!

The Gifts from the Heart committee is now starting to put together the booklet which contains descriptions of all those wonderful gifts. If you have another terrific gift from your heart that you want to share, please contact Ross Zautner right away with your information. If you'd like to contribute to make the cash prizes even more eye-popping, simply send your donation (be sure to mark that it is for the Gifts from the Heart Raffle) to the school office.

There will also be classroom gift baskets and several other special items available through the Silent Auction. Just wait til you see what's up for auction!!!

Be sure to mention this wonderful event to family and friends over the holidays (oops...the holidays are over...just give 'em a call or send them a text message or email today!).

The Gifts From the Heart Raffle along with the Famous Friday Fish Fry will be held on Friday, March 18th. Mark the date on your new 2016 calendar!



delivering meals on wheels - 2016

Holy Angels families have again been asked to participate in the Meals-on-Wheels Program in conjunction with Catholic Schools Week. Many families have gotten involved in the past. In fact this will be the 11th year that Holy Angels School will participate in this service activity. The response from the families who participated has been overwhelmingly positive.

The response from the area shut-ins has been tremendous as well. Those receiving the meals have expressed the joy that Holy Angels student have brought to their day as the students made deliveries.

We have again offered the opportunity for families to serve others in our community (something important for a Catholic school) by participating in the Meals-on-Wheels Program during the week of January 25-29.

This year, sign up forms will sent home using an email attachment when we return from the Christmas Break. If you'd like to be part of this service opportunity for you and your child, please return the emailed form. If your form gets caught up in a spam filter somewhere, please contact the school office or go to the links on our school website.

Special thanks to Kristin Walker for coordinating the program this year.

gathering to plan for success

It seems like just a few days ago that parents and students were gathering with teachers for P/S/T Conferences. In order to follow up on plans which were developed at that time, another conference opportunity has been scheduled. This year's P/S/T2 will be held on Tuesday, February 2nd, from 4:00 until 6:00pm. Mark your new calendar now!

**P/S/T-2
Feb. 2nd**

During the school year, there are many informal opportunities for teachers and parents to share information about student progress. The StandardScore online grade book can be a valuable resource in helping parents keep track of student progress. Parent who have misplaced their child's password code can simply send an email to the principal requesting the code.

P/S/T2 is scheduled in order to provide another avenue of communication. Parents will receive more information about this opportunity in January and a schedule will be included with report cards on January 22nd.

16-17 school year calendar up in the air

As the calendar rolls forward to 2016, many parents have to post vacation requests. At this point in time, we do not have the entire 2016-17 calendar set.

Holy Angels will likely begin school on the Tuesday before Labor Day as usual, with Open House on August 28th and the first day of school on August 30th. There will be an Archdiocesan Convention on October 14th and District Inservice on October 28th. The Christmas break will begin after the December 22nd closing prayer service with a return to classes on January 3rd. The Spring Break for the West Bend public schools has not been established yet. In the past, their break has been at the end of March. Easter, 2017 is on April 15th ... stay tuned.

valentine party to be held on february 12th

The annual Valentine's Party is one of those "memories" which are recalled by generations of Holy Angels students. This year's event will be actually be held on the Friday before Valentine's Day...February 12th Here's a chance for students to win some prizes for their favorite "valentine" at home!

Among the varied activities and games each year are the Raffles...one for the younger students (K-4) and one for the older students (5-8).

We've been blessed in the past by generous parents and parishioners who donated items for the raffle. We again are putting out a request for raffle items, especially for the upper grades. Some suggested items include: gift certificates, movies, CDs, sporting event tickets, posters, etc.

Also needed are prizes for the fish pond. "Still packaged" toys from McDonalds or other fast food restaurants are great! Simply send donations to any of the teachers (they will pass things on to this year's coordinators).



38th annual basketball classic

The 38th annual Holy Angels Classic will feature some of the top seventh and eighth grade boys' teams from West Bend and surrounding area. This year's Classic will again focus on providing a showcase for the WBE and WBW teams of the future as West Bend parochial and public middle school team compete.

The "West Bend Championship" event will give the winners local "bragging rights" for a year. The tournament also offers an opportunity for the West Bend high school coaches to catch a glimpse of their incoming freshmen players for the next couple of years. In addition, several teams from the Washington-Ozaukee Catholic Conference are also participating.



The tournament has a two-week format to better accommodate the league schedule for the local middle schools. The eighth grade division starts things off on Monday, January 11th, and Wednesday, January 13th, with preliminary round play. The finals and championship game for the eighth graders will be played on Saturday, January 16th. The following week will feature the seventh graders with the opening matchups on January 18th and second round on January 20th. The final round and championship will be played on January 23rd.

Teams will be competing for the tournament title and individual first place trophies at each grade level. Second place teams will receive individual medals. All other players will receive ribbons at the conclusion of each game on Saturday.

This year's participants include 8th grade teams from Holy Angels, Good Shepherd, two teams from Cabrini, a pair of teams from Badger, St. Francis Borgia, and St. Joseph. At the seventh grade level, Holy Angels will host Cabrini, Port Catholic, St. Kilian and two teams representing Badger.

Last year's Classic saw Holy Angels (see photo) come up short against Lumen Christi in the championship game of the 7th grade division, earning 2nd place honors. At the eighth grade level, St. John's defeated Badger-Red to claim the title.

The 2016 Classic will feature a new halftime event...but will maintain a chance to win a bike provided by Mountain Outfitters. Chances to participate in the halftime event can be purchased at the admissions table for 25¢.

The funding for most of the school's athletic programs is provided by the Holy Angels Classic. Your support of the tournament and the athletic program is appreciated. We are grateful to the advertisers who contributed to the tourney booklet.

Many thanks to those who have already signed up to give of their time in making the HA Classic possible. Parents of all basketball players (boys and girls) are reminded to sign up for one of the various duties at the Classic by going to the LINKS section of the Holy Angels website and follow the link to Athletics..

odds and ends...but good stuff just the same

rummage sale...

After all the Christmas gifts have been unwrapped comes the familiar question: Where will we put all the new stuff? Well, winter break is a perfect time to have the kids clean out their closets, book shelves, and toy boxes (parents can join in too!). Set aside and box up your unwanted items now in anticipation of the 6th annual Holy Angels Rummage Sale. This year's sale will take place during Spring Break, April 2nd and April 3rd. When the time comes for us to collect donations, you will have a head start. So far, your donations to the past four sales have helped us earn over \$25,000. Remember, all proceeds from the sale directly benefit HAS, so extend the season of giving!

mass participation...

Holy Angels students participate in the parish community by serving as lectors, song leaders, greeters, and Mass planners at a weekend Mass. The 3rd graders will have special roles at the 8:00am Mass on Saturday, January 17th.

band practice startup...

Band lessons and band practice will begin the week after returning from the Christmas Break on January 12th!!! Dr. Rich will be ready and waiting to help students create more excellent music!!

free throw contest...

The annual Knights of Columbus free throw contest will be held at Holy Angels on Saturday, January 9th, at 2:00pm. For more information, contact John Beisbier (338-8663).