



FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Holy Angels School - West Bend

"Come, Holy Spirit... You Are Welcome Here"

January, 2018

Holy Angels Website: www.hawb.org

Vol. 29, No. 5

Greetings,

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! And so...MERRY CHRISTMAS TIME to you! I'll even have Christmas music in the hallways during the week that we return just to remind us that we are to celebrate the Savior's birth beyond the one day in December. We also have a new addition...a nativity scene (crèche) was donated and is located in the main hallway under the Alleluia lettering.

The fifth graders again provided a wonderful setting for the Christmas Eve 4:00pm Mass. Their prologue clearly told the beginnings of the story (and invited people to come back to hear the rest of the narrative in the coming weeks!). Thanks to Lindsey VanderWielen for directing the prologue and the fifth grade choir.

Speaking of fifth graders, I'd like to congratulate them on completion of the D.A.R.E. program during the first half of the school year. Working with Deputy Bill Niehus, the students have learned many important life skills that will keep them safe and help them to become valued members of the community. Their graduation ceremony will be held on January 8th.

I've been absolutely amazed at the generosity of so many people who have supported the 21st Century Classrooms project. A year ago, I commented that we had received sufficient pledges to complete the next phase of the project. At this time, I can report that we have received enough pledges to cover all phases of the project AND we have received payments of over 93% of the pledged amounts to date. What a blessing!

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. As we look at next year's kindergarten classes, we will be holding a Kindergarten RoundUp on Sunday, January 28th 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.

Finally, we have received the official word from the Archdiocesan Office for Schools that Holy Angels School is being recommended for Full Accreditation by the Visiting Team. We will soon receive more feedback from the Visiting Team's report and begin a process of preparing a strategic plan to move our school forward. There are always opportunities for creating a stronger learning environment for our students. Thanks to all who contribute to our school's success. As our mission statement reminds us: "with the help of parents, teachers and others..."

May your New Year be filled with many ways to help welcome the Spirit into your life and into our faith community. The gift and fruits of the Spirit are many...we are richly blessed when we open ourselves and say: "Come Holy Spirit!"

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.

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 28th. 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. Several of the teachers will be available to answer questions or provide insights about the Holy Angels experience. The classrooms and hallways which were remodeled during the summer as part of the 21st Century Classrooms project will also be open for visitors. The Open House concludes at 12:30pm.

Here's a wonderful opportunity to encourage your neighbors and friends to check out Holy Angels. You don't have to be Catholic to become part of a faith-filled learning community!

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

Planning for the Holy Angels Class of 2027 (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 28th, at 10:45am, in Cedar 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 sense of a typical day in the Holy Angels kindergartens. 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 this year's teachers.

The **Five-Year-Old kindergarten** (K5) is a full-day program. Based on parish demographics, 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 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.

The **Four-Year-Old Kindergarten** will have a three-day (MWF) full-day format with a possible option for half-day. Other options for the program may also be considered to respond to enrollment numbers. 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 January 31st; parish members may register beginning February 2nd; and open registration (first come basis) begins February 5th.

Registrations for the K3 program will be accepted on a first-come basis beginning February 1st.

The typical class size for the K3 and K4 program is 15-18 students. For each of the three programs, students must be the appropriate age on or before September 1, 2018.

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 28th 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
28th
10:45am**

class of 2018 looking ahead

As we return from the Christmas Break, the eighth graders will undoubtedly recognize that they are the Class of 2018 and ... it's now 2018! 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 4th. 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 portrait".

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 23rd. The East meeting will be held on January 24th. 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 on February 7th when WBHS counselors will meet with students at Holy Angels.

catholic schools week: starts january 28th

During the week beginning January 28th, 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 and Robotics Club offer pre-engineering components for junior high students. The HABC broadcasting club creates news programs for broadcast. 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 be open to the gift and fruits of the Spirit. 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 27th) - CSW Kickoff Celebration (5:00-7:30pm). See related article.

Sunday - Open House (10:30am-12:30pm) Kindergarten-K3, K4, K5-RoundUp (10:45am)

Monday - Assembly with Kevin Szawala (aka "Mr. Peace"). He is a National Youth Speaker who travels across the country spreading a passionate message of peace, equality, tolerance, understanding and compassion. He will be presenting an anti-bullying message at our parish's middle and high school formation sessions on Sunday and will join us on Monday morning.

Tuesday - Catholic Quiz Bowl (8:15 - primary, 9:00 - intermediate, 10:30 - junior high);

Wednesday - Buddies Service Day (this is a revision)

Thursday - All-City Mass at St. Frances Cabrini (this is a revision)

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



new artistic hands to nurture young artists

We warmly welcome Ann Marie Craig to the Holy Angels School staff! As we begin 2018, she will be teaching art in all grades. Former art teacher Cheryl Hofschulte resigned to take a teaching post at Lumen Christi School. Mrs. Craig is a well-known personality in our community and brings a love of students and enthusiasm for art to Holy Angels. She was introduced to students before the Christmas Break, although she has been a substitute teacher at our school and is familiar with Holy Angels staff and students.

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 2018 Spelling Bee will be held on Tuesday, January 16th, 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 (Catholic schools in Washington, Dodge and Fond du lac counties) Spelling Bee on February 20th.

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 tweets and 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!

january family event prepared by has-pac

Once again the PAC (Parent Activities Committee) 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 27th from 5:00 until 7:30pm as "busy" on your 2018 calendar for the PAC-sponsored Catholic Schools Week Kickoff Celebration. We encourage you to bring another HA or even non HA family with you! It will mark the start to another great Catholic Schools Week! The night will be filled with:

- Music, lets see your best dance moves!
 - A surprise activity to fill the gym with fun and excitement.
 - Table games & more- bring your favorite table games to enjoy with other families, or play with what is provided that night.
 - Kid's Poster Contest - Families will vote for a winner the night of the Kickoff!
- (Watch for more info after break)

- Kohl's Color Wheel, a mobile art experience where kids take part in fun projects through art.

- Concessions will be available for your family's supper, snacks, baked goods, 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, you can volunteer by going to the "SignUpGenius" link (the link will be set up shortly and more information will be sent home!) Hope to see you all at the Catholic Schools Week Kickoff Celebration on January 27th!

**CSW
KICK-OFF
CELEBRATION
JANUARY 27TH**

spring's coming...so is fish fry/gifts from the heart

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 Amy Barnes or Kara Guse 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. We've already heard of some really interesting items...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 16th. The Celtic Company will again perform...it's a day before St. Patty's Day! Mark the date on your new 2018 calendar!



delivering meals on wheels in 2018

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 13th 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 22-26. Please note that we do not have school on Monday which might be better for some families to participate.

Sign up forms will be sent home using an email attachment to a Friday Email Blast. If you'd like to be part of this service opportunity for you and your child, please quickly return the emailed form. If your form gets caught up in a spam filter somewhere, please contact the school office.

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

gathering to plan for more 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 6th, from 4:00 until 6:00pm. Mark your new calendar now!

**P/S/T-2
Feb. 6th**

During the school year, there are many informal opportunities for teachers and parents to share information about student progress. The StandardsScore online grade book can be a valuable resource in helping parents keep track of student progress. Many parents (or students) really take advantage of this opportunity, while others seldom check on progress. Parents 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 details about this opportunity in January and a schedule will be included with report cards on January 26th.

18-19 school year calendar is a work in progress

As the calendar rolls forward into 2018, many parents have to post vacation requests. At this point in time, we do not have the entire 2018-19 calendar set.

Holy Angels will likely begin school on the Tuesday before Labor Day as usual, with Open House on August 26th and the first day of school on August 28th. There will be an Archdiocesan Convention on October 5th. The Thanksgiving Break will again include the day before the holiday. The Christmas Break will begin after the December 21st closing prayer service with a return to classes on January 2nd. The Spring Break for the West Bend public schools will again be the last week in March (25-29). The break for Easter (April 21st) will include Good Friday and Easter Monday. Holy Angels will follow these spring closing dates.

valentine party to be held on february 9th

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 9th. 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).



40th annual basketball classic

The 40th annual (yes, 40 years!) Holy Angels Basketball Classic will feature some of the top seventh and eighth grade boys' teams from West Bend and surrounding area.

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 15th, and Wednesday, January 17th, with preliminary round play. The finals and championship game for the eighth graders will be played on Saturday, January 20th. The following week will feature the seventh graders with the opening matchups on January 22nd and second round on January 24th. The final round and championship will be played on January 27th.



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.

In last year's high-scoring eighth grade championship game, Badger-Red jumped out to a 19-12 first quarter lead against Holy Angels and maintained a seven point margin going into the final stanza. The Royals were not able to overcome the deficit as Badger-Red claimed the title with a 59-46 win.

At the seventh grade level St. Mary's-Menomonee Falls took the title, while Holy Angels-Blue claimed third place honors with a 49-32 win over Holy Angels-White.

The 2018 Classic will continue to feature a halftime event...and 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.



students pack forensics team en route to state

The new forensics season is off to a great start as sixth, seventh, and eighth graders select pieces and begin practicing for the competitive season that begins in February. By the end of the season, they will be polished, confident speakers competing at the state level.

This year's team includes eighth graders Greta Zier, Avelina Wolfe, Caitlin Wohlt, Hannah Schroeder, Leah Rosene, Ricky Conlin, Lola Chemer, Joe Held, Daniel Krause, Alex Gonzalez, Ericka Beistle, Kira Guse, Brooke Deppert, Jenna Rondorf, Leah Nagel, Lydia Bollen, and Isabelle Sternig.

Seventh graders include Caroline Peplinski, Ellie Eckert, Matt Zier, Sophie Dahlberg, Maddie Ciriacks, Allie Glaszcz, Estella Lambie, Amber Georgenson, Aislinn Carey, Fiona Shaw, Delanie Heinen, Macey Steier, and Olivia Walker.

Our sixth grade participants include Hannah Andrews, Lorna Bonertz, Claire Cegielski, Hailey Kiefer, Jade Ericson, Kate Wiedmeyer, Brooke Keobel, Megan Minz, Bryce Barnett, Tyler Sternig, and Olivia Klausmeier.

We are very proud to say that 40% of our junior high students are involved in our forensics program!

Our parent volunteer judges this year include Mrs. Krause, Mrs. Schroeder, Mrs. Held, Mrs. Steier, Mrs. Eckert, Mrs. Klausmeier, Mrs. Kiefer, Mrs. Cegielski, and Mrs. Wiedmeyer. Our thanks to these parents for sharing their time and talent with us. We could not have a forensics program without them!

The Middle Level Forensics Association (MLFA) season looks like this:

Friday, February 9, 2018...**St. Frances Cabrini** Meet; 3:45-9:00

Friday, February 16, 2018...**Badger** Meet; 4:10-9:30

Friday, February 23, 2018...**Silverbrook** Meet; 4:15-9:30

Friday, March 2, 2018...**Central Middle School** Meet, Hartford; 4:15-9:00

Saturday, March 10, 2018...**St. John the Baptist** Meet, Plymouth; 8:15-1:15

Saturday, March 24, 2018...**MLFA State Tournament** @ West Bend High Schools