A Note From Mrs. Organ...

OLP School Families,

It is hard to believe that we are moving into the month of February already. This is such an exciting time at OLP, and knowing that we are going to be celebrating with the Chiefs in the Super Bowl again makes it even better!

Catholic Schools Week kicks off the month of February and we are so fortunate to have a creative group of parent planners who have brought this year’s celebration back to the basics of faith, service and community and helped us to focus on how fortunate we are as a Catholic School to have the opportunities we do for our children and families to grow in their faith. We realize you have many options in your child’s education and we appreciate you trusting your students with us and supporting us in so many ways throughout the school year. We celebrate you, our school families, on Monday, February 1 and hope you enjoy the science activity which will be coming home with your students in the evening.

We will also take the time to appreciate our priests, Fr. Tom and Fr. Emmanuel, and all of the wisdom and guidance they have offered to us throughout the year, as well as our staff who have adapted as needed and given their all daily to meet the needs of our students.

Finally, we celebrate our community and all of the essential workers who have done so much this past year to ensure our community needs are met, while putting their own health at risk each day. Our DARE officers have begun coming in to talk to our students about making good and positive choices. The Dare Program focuses primarily on the sixth grade students and also holds several meetings with students in grades 2 and 4. You may see the officers around the school during the day as they hope to become a positive presence in our school community.

We also begin to plan for the 2021-2022 school year. You will soon be receiving information regarding registration which will open on February 16 for returning families. Open enrollment begins on March 1, so we ask you to please make sure you turn in your registration by this time so we can ensure we hold a spot for our returning families. Please do not hesitate to call the office should you need any assistance with your registration or have any additional questions.

Marianne Organ, Principal
A message from Father Tom...

We certainly have reason to celebrate – the Chiefs are going to the Super Bowl AGAIN and next week is the annual celebration of Catholic Schools Week (CSW). This is an exciting time for our city and our school! CSW is a time each year for us to give thanks for the gift of Catholic education and our school community here at Presentation. Even though many of our usual CSW activities have had to be adapted this year, our amazing parent volunteers and hard-working staff have planned a great week for our students. One of the important pillars of our school is the focus on serving others, so CSW always includes a service component. Please support the service projects through the week and be sure to ask your children what they have learned this week about their service partners. We are blessed to have a school that not only focuses on academics and learning, but also nurtures the spiritual life of our children. Thank you for choosing Our Lady of the Presentation and for all the ways you share your time and resources in our community. A special thank you to the parents who have planned the week and help make it a memorable time for our students.

We also give thanks for our dedicated teachers and staff. They are an important reason our school has consistently been recognized for its achievements. Take some time to thank Mrs. Organ, Mr. Podjenski, the teachers, support staff, cafeteria staff, and custodial staff for all the ways they make a difference in the lives of our children.

Also, please remember that Catholic Schools Week actually “kicks off” at all our Masses this weekend, January 30-31. This is a time to show our appreciation for the support of the entire parish. Our school benefits from the generosity and stewardship of all our parishioners as contributions to the parish help subsidize the school throughout the year. If you are not attending Mass in-person this weekend, be sure to watch our livestream Mass on our website.

In connection with CSW, we also highlight our OLP Endowment Fund for Catholic Education. The OLP Endowment Fund helps us provide scholarships to future students who could not otherwise afford to attend a Catholic school. Please consider contributing to our OLP Endowment Fund. If you are a parishioner, you can use the designated envelope in your January packet. You can also use the OnLine Giving tab on our parish website and select the Endowment Fund or drop off or mail in a check to the Office. Any amount is appreciated. The Endowment Fund is a great way to pass on the gift of Catholic education to others.

Fr. Tom Holder
See page 6 of this newsletter for CSW dress down days & activities for Feb. 1-5.

Wednesday, Feb. 3:
- All School Mass - Grades 3 & 4 attending; streamed virtually to all other classrooms

Friday, Feb. 5:
**NOON DISMISSAL/ACED HALF DAY**
- Optional Parent Teacher Conferences; 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 9:
- PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 10:
- All School Mass - Grades 1 & 2 attending; streamed virtually to all other classrooms

Thursday, Feb. 11
- Dress Down Day (Red, Pink, Valentine themed)
- Valentine’s Day Classroom Parties, 2:30 p.m. (No volunteers)

**Friday, Feb. 12: NO SCHOOL-NO ACED**

**Monday, Feb. 15: NO SCHOOL-NO ACED**

Tuesday, Feb. 16:
- Current Family Registration Begins
- Kindergarten Information Night, 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 17: **ASH WEDNESDAY**
- All School Mass - Grades 7 & 8 attending; streamed virtually to all other classrooms
- Pizza Lunch benefitting 8th Grade Class

Wednesday, Feb. 24:
- All School Mass - Grades 5 & 6 attending; streamed virtually to all other classrooms

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**Mass Schedule**

**February 3**
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK
Attending Mass – Grades 3 and 4
Coordinating Class – Leadership
Lector – Peter Reddig
Servers – Rose Reddig and Allison Anderson

**February 10**
Attending Mass – Grades 1 and 2
Coordinating Class – Sonderman
Lector – Oliver Hotop
Servers – Maddie Bahr and Brady Goffinet

**February 17**
Attending Mass – Grades 7 and 8
Coordinating Class – Connors/Fletcher
Lector – Marjorie Hotop
Servers – Zoe Evard and Michael Gose

**February 24**
Attending Mass – Grades 5 and 6
Coordinating Class - Feuerborn/Russell
Lector – Paul McClintock
Servers – Maddie Bahr and Kealy Bahr
MASKS & WATER BOTTLES: Please send an extra face mask in your student’s backpack. The health room has been giving out quite a few to students who have forgotten or misplaced theirs and supplies are limited. Also, please send a water bottle. We are going through those quickly as well. Thank you

VALENTINE’S DAY TREAT BOXES: Want a new and fun way to show your kiddo how much you love and appreciate all their hard work? New this year, you can have a fun Valentine’s Treat Box, full of delicious treats and fun activities, delivered to their classroom on Thursday, February 11. Order now through Wednesday, February 3 either by filling out the attached flier and returning it to school or online at https://www.olpspiritstore.com/shop-5. All proceeds go to support the OLP class of 2021.

KINDERGARTEN INFO NIGHT: OLP will hold an informal meeting for incoming Kindergarten parents Tuesday, February 16 at 6:00 p.m. Information will also be available virtually and accessible through the school’s website, olplsschool.org. Current OLP families with an incoming Kindergartener are not required to attend, but if you know of families interested in OLP for their 2021-22 Kindergartener, please share the information with them. RSVP link: http://bit.ly/3bYDNiC.

PIZZA LUNCH: The annual 8th Grade pizza lunch will take place on Ash Wednesday, February 17. Ash Wednesday is the start of the Lenten season, a day of fasting and abstinence from consuming meat for Catholics. Students choosing hot lunch on February 17 will receive a slice of cheese pizza from Main Slice, carrots and a cookie (Gluten free option available). Additional slices will be available for $1.50. No need to send in money - cost of pizza will come directly from students' lunch accounts.

Please discuss with your student(s) how many slices they should be ordering. They will need to provide that number to their teacher by Thursday, February 11.

Proceeds from the annual 8th grade pizza lunch are used to support 8th grade events as well as purchase a gift for the school as a thank you from the graduating class.

NEW PANTHER PARTNER COMMITTEE: OLP is currently forming a new committee for the Panther Partner program. If you love OLP as much as we do, help us grow the school sponsorship program!

This committee will help determine future direction and goals, identify and solicit potential donors and event sponsors, and ensure proper recognition to committed partners. Very few in-person meetings will be required, so don’t let the fear of time commitment stop you! If interested, please contact Whitney Zeiler by Monday, February 1; wzeller@olpls.org or 816.251.1151.

Visit the school website for more information on Panther Partners, https://olplsschool.org/panther-partners.
**NEXT PTO MEETING:** Due to Catholic Schools Week, the date of the next PTO Meeting has been changed and will take place on **Tuesday, February 9, 6:30 p.m.** Please mark your calendars! A Zoom link will be shared closer to the date if you are unable to join in-person.

**SCRIP UPDATE:** *The Chiefs are going to the Super Bowl!* Don’t forget to use Scrip when buying your Chiefs gear and getting ready for the game.

- **Scrip 101 Video.** Have questions about the Scrip program or still hesitant to get started? Check out this [brief video](#) that tells you everything you need to know about Scrip!
- **Get Scrip by Mail:** Do you have family that lives out of town and they want to support your child’s school? Have them sign up for the *RaiseRight app*, and they can purchase cards and have them mailed to their house! There is a small shipping and transaction fee. If a family member is purchasing cards on your behalf, please make sure to provide their name to Brooke Kakuske, Scrip Coordinator, so she can give your family credit.
- **Scrip Cards Available After School on Tuesdays!** Get your cash and checks ready! Brooke will be selling giftcards after school every Tuesday at dismissal.
- **Weekly Order:** Every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m., Brooke will place a weekly scrip order. If you need a physical gift card, this is the time to order. Please order cards for your everyday shopping or gift giving. Remember Brooke always has cards on hand. If you need something, email her to check availability.
- **Scrip Ordering form:** [Click here for the Scrip ordering form](#). If you do not want to sign up for the app, print off the form, complete, and return with payment to school with your student.

**Help raise money for your child's school!** Please contact Brooke Kakuske if you have any questions, scrip@olpls.org.

**CSW COIN WARS:** This year Coin Wars will be a little different due to the COVID-19 restrictions. Coins will not be collected so we will be using the [OLP-PTO Venmo account](#). Donations can be made each day (and if there are multiple students in the family, please declare the amount for each grade and the homeroom teacher). * If you do not want to donate online, checks can be sent in with your child made out to: OLP PTO – memo – Coin Wars/Grade/Teachers name OR leave at the Front Office with Mary Kay in an envelope labeled – Coin Wars. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND IN CASH.**

At the end of each day the three leading grade levels will be announced via REMIND and on the [OLP PTO Facebook page](#). All proceeds will go to the OLP’s winning class service partner and a portion will go to the Byrne Out Foundation.

*Donations will be counted through 6:00 p.m. on **February 4th.** General donations will be divided amongst all grade levels. The Winning Classroom and chosen Service Partner will be announced on **Friday, February 5th** and will be on the OLP PTO Facebook page. The Winning classroom will receive a Pizza Party!*

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to: Valerie Hoover, [vhooverkc@yahoo.com](mailto:vhooverkc@yahoo.com) or Elizabeth Gonzales-Manns, [eagonzales11@gmail.com](mailto:eagonzales11@gmail.com).
Catholic Schools Week 2021

January 31 - February 5

National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. Through all the events of the week, our school will focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation. The 2021 theme is FAITH. EXCELLENCE. SERVICE.

Below is the week at a glance:

**MONDAY**
- Celebrating Our OLP Family
- Dress in OLP Spirit Wear
- Coin Wars (virtual)
- Virtual Family Science Night with Steve Spangler

**TUESDAY**
- Celebrating Our Students
- Pajama Dress Down Day
- Special Student Treat
- Coin Wars (virtual)

**WEDNESDAY**
- Celebrating Our Vocations
- Dress In Your Sunday Best
- Students will be creating a special gift for Fr. Tom & Fr. Emmanuel.
- Coin Wars (virtual)

**THURSDAY**
- Celebrating Our Community
- Career Dress Up Day
- Service Project: The Byrne Out Cancer Foundation
- Coin Wars (virtual)

**FRIDAY**
- Celebrating Our Faculty & Staff
- Dress Like A Teacher Day
- Staff Appreciation Lunch & Gifts
- Coin Wars (virtual)

Detailed information for each day of the week will be shared closer to the dates...be on the look out for announcements via email and Facebook. If you have any questions feel free to email Erin Bailey @ ebailey0716@gmail.com. If you are interested in volunteering please see the SignUp Genius in the January Panther Prints.
Winter Greetings!

As we lean into February, and the New Year I think we are still going to continue with a theme of “changes” and a new normal for the year ahead.

I continue to marvel at how adaptable our school and parish community have been as we continue to navigate these new norms. It is certainly admirable that all interested parties (including the students) continue to embrace the changes and forge ahead with the task at hand... “learning and leading”!

As we start the month with the continuation of Catholic Schools Week, I have to reflect on how Catholic education has been an influence on my own family’s life. My husband and I have raised three daughters. All of which attended OLP and Archbishop O’Hara. It was not always easy to get all three educated in a Catholic setting and keep up with other financial obligations. But without hesitation, it was probably one of our most impactful decisions that we made as a couple to send our children to Catholic schools.

As we now watch our daughters break into adulting there is no doubt that their livelihood has been influenced by what they were taught both at school and at home. All three of them “get” that there were sacrifices in order to send them to OLP. They all cherish their time that they had in the presence of the Lord as they learned in the classroom. They are hopeful that the tradition can continue with their own families. And most importantly, we as parents can see that our daughters are trying to be the best faith filled individuals that they can be and lead meaningful Christian lives. We are so grateful and blessed that our children had the opportunity to experience a faith filled education at OLP.

Thus, I hope that if you are having any doubts on registering your family for the following school year, please continue to pray for the right answer for your family. I hope that you too will be able to look back someday and know that the sacrifices were for the “good of His glory”.

As the “Parish At Large” Representative for the Advisory Board, please feel free to reach out if you want to connect. It is indeed a pleasure serving and supporting such a great community!

Blessings,

Denise Brage
School Advisory Board Member

P.S. May you have a blessed Lenten Journey that begins on the 17th!
PARTNERS IN FAITH: Click the link to access the February Partners in Faith. This newsletter is presented by Jo Engert, Director of Children’s Faith Formation at Our Lady of the Presentation Parish, with helpful information to help children grow in their Catholic faith. The publication is presented in both English and Spanish.

LENTEN BLESSING BOXES: Support our Annual Lenten Blessing Boxes. Our Lenten Blessing Boxes support our Parish and 4th grade service partner San Rafael Cedros, El Salvador. The money collected through our Lenten Blessing Boxes fund our 32 school scholarships for students in San Rafael Cedros. Lenten Blessing Boxes will be sent home, one per family, the week of February 15, just in time for Ash Wednesday.