

Principal's Report

January 7, 2019

I. Enrollment updates

- We have 415 enrolled. -- included in this count are the Moore family who just joined us in 1st & 3rd. We lost 1 student in 5th who moved.
- We have 57 preschool 3's enrolled.
- We have 51 preschool 4's enrolled.
- We have 307 students in K-8
- We have 50 in PSR enrolled

II. Good News About School

- St. Nicholas visited our students after Mass on December 5th to prepare them for St. Nicholas day on Dec. 6th. Mark McDonald welcomed the students as St. Nick. Preschool children thru 8th grade listened with delight to his story about his life and adventures of love! He took questions and gave each child three gold coins as the children left the church.
- We enjoyed lighting the Advent Candles together as a school on Mondays in the Gym with a short prayer service and continued the new tradition of filling the wooden manger with hay for the Baby Jesus, or yellow strips of paper for each act of devotion, good work, act of kindness or sacrifice performed.
- Our 2nd grade students and PSR students made their First Reconciliation.
- Our school choirs sang at the KofC Breakfast to benefit Catholic education Dec. 9th.
- Our 3rd thru 7th grade students went to Reconciliation before Christmas.
- We collected gifts for the Senior Center.
- PTO had a Spirit Night fundraiser at Papa Murphys.
- Our Jr. Crusaders went caroling to St. Johns Hospital and St. Joseph's home.
- Our Raffle drawing was held on the 18th in our 5/6th grade Science Lab, and a school board member was one of the many winners!! We had a Facebook LIVE event for the Bonus Raffle ticket drawing! 2961 tickets were sold.
- The Nativity Program was very well received with all preschool through 8th grade students participating in the reason for the season. We had a packed gym!! My response to this joy filled crowded event was to build a bigger school!! Children from The Hope School attended our dress rehearsal and also enjoyed the performance.
- We gave the children a challenge during our annual Christmas Sing-A-Long. 5th grade won, singing the Twelve Days of Christmas which was artfully choreographed. They were so amazing all the students couldn't help but laugh and cheer!
- Winter camp went well for students needing daycare over break. They had a new theme each day and were happy to play together each day.
- Invest in Kids Scholarship donations began again. There are three steps to donating: There are three steps in donating. 1. Register with mytax.illinois.gov 2. Reserve your Tax Credit with the Illinois Department of Revenue 3. Then Donate. This is the step with Empower Illinois where you designate CTK school. Go to empowerillinois.org
- Scholastic Bowl began practicing today.

III. Curriculum Updates

- We are exploring a new curriculum for Social Studies/History for next year.
- New Science curriculum – Amplify. K-8 program that address all of the Next Generation Science Standards. Develops problem solving.
- iLit – online program for students struggling with Literature.
- REFLEX Math – Grades 2-5 and others that would benefit from computation skill practice.

IV. Upcoming Events

- Auditions for the Wizard of Oz.
- Texas Road House Line dancing lessons.
- Texas Road House PTO Spirit Night dinner, January 22nd.
- BSS hosts all 6th graders for School Choice get together on January 24th.
- Catholic Schools Week Jan. 27th – Feb. 2nd.

V. Staff

- Help wanted in Maintenance. Butch resigned leaving a full time position available.
- A preschool Aide, Jordan Thomas resigned. Haylee Catalano will work MWF in preschool as an aide to Janine DesMarteau-Morris.
- John Sivak is no longer a playground supervisor. Janine McDonald has filled this position.
- Patti Kaufmann will sub as Cafeteria Manager for a maternity leave in February for Samantha Black. She is expecting a baby girl then. She will be off for 12 weeks, but will come in to do payroll and clerical work.
- Several teachers and their families are recovering from surgery, or grief from losing a loved one or praying for a family member in the hospital. We pray for healing.

VI. Building Needs/Conditions

- Roof & windows are in poor condition. More leaks are becoming visible with each rain.
- Simplex Fire panel has flaws in it and requires expensive visits to test control panels. Might want to consider replacing with George Alarm – local & parishioner.
- Flooring in the Multi-purpose room and Music Room needs replacing. Dan is wondering if this water under the floor boards has come from a roofing problem.