

## Principal's Report

December 5, 2017

### I. Enrollment updates

- 365 students for 2017-18.
- PreK 3 has 41 enrolled.
- PreK 4 has 41 students.
- K-8 has 283 enrolled.
- We have 241 families enrolled.
- PSR has 60 students enrolled.
- AWP has 10 in AM and 93 in PM enrolled.

### II. Good News About School

- I was honored to have lunch with 24 students on honor roll. PTO paid for the hospitality. Students had Pizza with the Principal November 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Our 7<sup>th</sup> grade students gathered with the 7<sup>th</sup> grade classes of our City Catholic schools for a retreat at SHG West. They concluded the day in prayer during Mass at St. Agnes Church.
- On Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup> we celebrated Mass with our Veterans. Following Mass the Veterans came to school for an assembly. After praying together, our 8<sup>th</sup> grade lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance and we sang The Star Spangled Banner. The SHG band followed with Patriotic songs. Mrs. Butler and Mr. Scott shared stories about their work with the Armed services and how we can help Veterans today. Mrs. Butler organized a collection for 135 men and women serving in 3637<sup>th</sup> Support Maintenance Company. Mr. Sander composed two songs for the assembly, and shared his talent with the students by singing them while playing the guitar and harmonica. We listened to a book, *The Wall*, and ended with a video, *I Fought For You*. Fr. Joe blessed our Veterans, and students sang our Song of Blessing. Veterans pictures were displayed on our *CTK Wall of Honor* next to a beautiful military display set up by Mr. Scott. Mr. Scott stayed for the entire day giving presentations about the display and in classrooms. Veterans Day will always be remembered at CTK School.
- We collected food for 60 Thanksgiving food baskets for Catholic Charities.
- Our All-School Liturgy remembered their deceased relatives and friends in a school Mass of Remembrance on Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. Students carried up names and we prayed for their eternal rest.
- Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade went to St. Joseph's Home to perform service together with the city Catholic schools on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Parent Teacher Conferences were held Monday and Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Our technology teacher returned Monday, November 27<sup>th</sup> from maternity leave.
- Our Bonus Raffle began at Oktoberfest. This year envelopes are given out after masses with raffle tickets for our parishioners to buy or sell. 1460 tickets have been sold already!

- Our Speech team, under the direction of Mary Harmon competed at the City Schools Speech meet on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at LFS. 10 Firsts and 2 seconds.
- MAGIC match update: Currently we are up to 43 sponsors with \$18,585 in gifts and pledges.
- Monday we had our first Advent prayer service lighting the first candle preparing the way for the baby Jesus to come! The school Advent Wreath and large Manger are used in preparing the way for Jesus in the gym. December 3<sup>rd</sup> is the first week of Advent, so first thing each Monday morning at 8:10am we have our Advent Candle lighting. "Preparing" the manger is a practice of preparing a soft setting in the manger for the Christ child by using pieces of straw or strips of yellow construction paper as tokens of prayers and good work and acts of kindness, performed through the penitential season of Advent. Each week when we come together in the gym, we will light the school advent candles on our wreath, then, we will let students add one "piece of straw" or yellow strip of paper for each act of devotion, good work, act of kindness or sacrifice performed. They will place their strip of paper into our large CTK manger. In this way we prepare our hearts for the birth of the Christ-child. "Thus the Christ child, coming on Christmas Day, finds ample supply of tender straw to keep Him warm and to soften the hardness of the mangers boards."

### III. Curriculum Updates

- Training is scheduled for new Foss Science Kits in Grades 1-2-3.
- Our counselor, Kristen Clow is using "Say Something" a program teaching youth and teens how to recognize the signs and signals of at-risk behaviors and potential threats in social media, to educate our Jr. High on violence. We must take action with this information to stop the act of violence before it starts. Kristen looks to build a culture of looking out for one another and report possible threats of violence when someone sees, reads or hears something.

### IV. Upcoming Events

- Advent (Candle lighting in gym Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>)
- First Reconciliation for our 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students on Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am
- St. John's Breadline Christmas Caroling 9:45-10:30am, Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Hope School to watch our Nativity program dress rehearsal.
- All-School Nativity Program in the Gym, Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm.

### V. Staff

- Erin Sellinger joins us as the new Parish Office Manager.

### VI. Building Needs/Conditions

- Strobe light needed in preschool bathroom area, and smoke detector in the MP room.
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- Water heater needed in preschool wing.
- Shout out to Dan in Maintenance. He's using cedar wood from his land as a natural repellent for mice and bugs in our classrooms. The cedar wood is beautiful and smells so good!!
- Windows are not functioning properly with handles falling out, and air escaping. With winter coming, teachers are wondering about efficiency and heat loss. Some of the classrooms are very hot or very cold with the amount of windows.
- One preschool bathroom will have the sink lowered for easy access for preschool size.
- The playground has chipped paint on the iron bars. They will check back in the Spring and repaint or replace.
- Lockers
- Flooring in the Multi-purpose room and Music Room is not repaired yet.