

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Newsletter

We are on God's Mission

Issue 26

Feb. 21, 2018

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School forms leaders of tomorrow by expanding minds, touching hearts and nurturing spirits through the traditions and teachings of the Catholic faith.

Dear Our Lady Families,

Thanks to all parents for attending parent teacher conferences yesterday and today. If we missed talking with you and you would like a conference, please contact your child's homeroom teacher. Together, we help our children succeed and grow.

Awesome News to Share! Our Lady won the Institute for Quality Education's "My School Choice Story" Contest thanks to our impromptu willingness to submit video clips of several students on why their school is great! We submitted these in December and recently received the happy news that Our Lady won the contest! As the first place prize, Our Lady will receive \$1,000 in equipment to be used on Chromebooks. Third grader, Gallagher Cox, was one of the top five of 100 entries for his engaging video; Gallagher will be awarded a \$100 check. Also, as administrator, I am awarded a seat at the American Federation for Children's Policy Summit on May 2 & 3 in Washington, DC. Airfare, hotel and conference are included! The Institute for Quality Education will present Gallagher's check and our new Chromebooks at an assembly on Wed., March 28 at 2:00 PM with some media coverage! So plan now to join us! We are very excited for this award for our school!

PTO News Internet Safety Night is tonight, Wed., Feb.21 for all Our Lady parents. Following Parent Teacher Conferences from 6:30-7:30 PM in the Café, Sheriff Frank Loop and Lt. Brad Powell (internet investigator) will offer advice on how to keep children safe from internet sites and predators, with special tips for parents. Be sure to sign-in so your child earns a comfy clothes day on Friday, Feb. 23. Subway sandwiches, chips, water and Child Care will be provided.

Jump Rope for Heart Money and envelopes were due today, Feb. 21. Please remit tomorrow if you have not sent this in. Thank you for your generosity and support of the American Heart Association.

ISTEP Testing Students in Gr. 3-8 will be participating in the Indiana State-wide Test of Educational Progress from Feb. 27- March 8. These exams are required by the state, and results are one more measure of students' academic strengths and individual growth. Punctual attendance is imperative during this testing window. Please be sure your child is well-rested, has a good breakfast and snacks for the day. We will be providing a calm, reassuring testing environment and make time for activity, too. Teachers will share test schedules with their classes. ISTEP assessments will happen along with learning, assignments and exams in other classes as we head to the end of the quarter on March 9, so together, let's keep our students supported and positive asking only that they give their best effort.

School Safety We will be conducting an Intruder Drill this week and have instructed students appropriately for each grade level. The key words of "locks, lights, out of sight" give prompts to all to move into safe places and be silent. We have received directions from the Floyd Co. police and practice as a faculty to keep students safe. Later this spring, we will also practice having some classes leave the

building to safe areas following the most recent directives in protocol. Our youngest students will only know they are “getting small and quiet” until given the “all clear.” We must prepare for the unimaginable, so that if we ever need to move quickly for safety’s sake, this is automatic as are our fire drills. Our Lady’s School Safety Team is also meeting next week to discuss safety protocol.

Lenten Activities The weekly Lenten resource offered today is to follow [Fr. Mike Schmitz](#) online at ascensionpresents.com/videos_categories/fr-mike-schmitz/ Fr. Mike’s engaging, inspirational, and humorous Catholic videos, discussion, and podcasts covering prayer, relationships, saints, and current Catholic issues offer insight, interpretation and reflection. Grow in your faith this Lent with Fr. Mike! Students in Gr. 2-8 will be attending the [Lenten Reconciliation Service](#) tomorrow at 9:30 AM. All students are working to fill their [Lenten Rice Bowls](#) during the season of Lent by refraining from treats and offering their allowance or savings to help Catholic Relief Services feed the hungry. We will also participate in [Stations of the Cross](#) on Feb. 26 and March 7 at 2:00 PM and March 30 at 8:30 AM.

Shout Outs Our [Academic Olympic teams](#) did great yesterday during competition at Providence High. We are proud of all student competitors. They worked as a team and cheered one another on! Grade 8 came in third overall; Grades 6 & 7 made it into the championship round, ending up second over all. Thank you to our parent drivers, readers and mentors for your help with practices and the competition. Congratulations to Kindergartner, [Lydia Dwyer](#), and her PDA All Star Tiny Pompon Team who competed at the national level. Her team brought home the national champion title plus best overall choreography award. What a medal Lydia earned! Congratulations! We are also proud of Our Lady students who recently competed in the [ISSMA Solo and Ensemble Contest](#) at Floyd Central. Our musically talented students include Abby Larson, Leah Robinson, Erin Popson, Olivia Head, Samantha Murphy, Halle Clemmons, Christian Robinson, Laney Dykes, Mary Clare Furnish, Kalena Martin, Alli Wade, Cailey Welch, Jacob Woods, Ashley Zeller, Sarah Boehm, Katelynn Clemmons and Will Dykes. We are proud of your practice and performance!

Main Event Just two days to go! The class that sells the highest percentage of \$25, \$50 and \$100 raffle tickets by this Friday, Feb. 23 wins a comfy clothes day and pizza party! Text your friends and relatives, contact those outside connections. Main Event is held on Saturday, April 7 in the transformed Our Lady gym and is the main parish fundraiser of the year! With a theme of Casino Royale, it’s sure to be a night of funding and fun! Raffle and dinner tickets will also be sold after masses on Feb. 24 and 25.

Middle School Slide Gr. 4 students and parents, save the date! Middle School Slide is a required event on [Thursday, April 12 from 5:30-7:00 PM](#) (The date was changed from March 8 to accommodate Gr. 3/4 basketball schedule.) Find out all the details of the wonderful world of middle school at Our Lady! Make a smooth transition, get lots of information and enjoy pizza and soft drinks!

Café Servers Parents and grandparents, thank you for helping serve lunch in the Café. Our students love to see you and how we appreciate the smiling faces and extra hands at this busy time of day. Email Sandy at sgilland@olphna.org if you can assist.

Chess Camp Mrs. Gilbert is offering Chess Camp during Spring Break, Mon.- Wed., March 12-14 from 9:00-11:00 AM in the Aftercare room. Coach Corbin will be back, along with his assistant, to teach students how to play chess from the basics all the way to advanced play. Students of **all** chess playing levels are encouraged to attend! The cost is \$60 for 3 days of Chess Camp. Permission slips are located outside Mrs. Gilbert's office, in aftercare, as well as on the website. Return payment (cash or checks payable to Bri Gilbert) and completed permission slips no later than Friday March 2 to the office.

With limited spots, it's first come first served! Please contact Mrs. Gilbert at bgilbert@olphna.org or 812-944-7676 ext. 13 with questions.

Guitar Club Mr. Jeremy Sebolt, Our Lady substitute teacher in Gr. 1, K and Gr. 6, and guitarist for The Rumors, is offering guitar lessons for interested students, 9 years old or older. Sessions begin in April on Mondays from 3:00-3:45 PM at a cost of \$60 per four lessons. See the flyer on the website for details.

Office of Catholic Schools Annual Special Publication The students in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis Catholic schools are doing great things! Please take a moment to review the 2017-2018 Special Publication from the Office of Catholic Schools at <http://www.archindy.org/OCS-Special-Publication-2017-2018/> highlighting our schools' many accomplishments!

Here's to a prayerful, peaceful week of learning and growing closer to God,
Mary Ann

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Wednesday, Feb. 21	Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart (Packets due today) Parent-Teacher Conferences, 3:00-6:00 PM Internet Safety Night, 6:30-7:30 PM in the Café, presented by the Floyd Co. Sheriff's Dept.
Thursday, Feb. 22	Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart continues Lenten Reconciliation for Grades 2-8 beginning at 9:30 AM Parish Lenten Retreat begins, 6-10:00 PM in Wagner Hall
Friday, Feb. 23	Parish Lenten Retreat, 6-10:00 PM in Wagner Hall
Saturday, Feb. 24	Parish Lenten Retreat, 8 AM-Noon
Monday, Feb. 26	ISTEP Applied Skills begins in Grades 3-8 2:00 PM, Stations of the Cross in church
Wednesday, Feb. 28	1 st Communion Meeting for parents and children, 6:30 PM in Wagner Hall
Monday, March 5	SPIRIT DAY
Wednesday, March 7	I-READ Testing for Gr. 3, Wednesday and Thursday Stations of the Cross, 2:00 PM in church
Friday, March 9	8:00 AM All School Mass 3 rd Quarter Ends
M-W, March 12-14	Chess Camp (pre-registration required)
M-F, March 12-16	SPRING BREAK/INTERCESSION WEEK/SNOW MAKEUP DAYS IF NEEDED
M-F, March 19-23	SPRING BREAK