



Our Lady of the Valley Catholic School

NEWS YOU CAN USE

What a fantastic Spaghetti fundraiser & Talent Show we had on Saturday! THANK YOU to Morris & Alberta Melani and to Mrs. Grisso for your time and talent in preparing, cooking and serving the delicious meal! Please check out all of the wonderful pictures taken by Mr. Scott and Mrs. Almenas on our Facebook page and on the website, www.olvwasilla.com



AUCTION MEETING Tuesday, March 28th 3:30pm in Mrs. Cain's room. If you haven't signed up for your Volunteer Auction spot, one has been assigned to you. Please attend to know where you are helping out or to switch spots! Your participation is crucial for its success. The more that is raised the more we grow and help others in need of financial aid.

Cross Country Time!

Track and Field Season is upon us, and I am so excited to work with your student-athletes again. I will be holding a mandatory parent informational meeting on Monday March 20th directly after school at 3:30 in the Preschool Classroom. We will discuss the schedule, meets, gear and practice expectations. Please let me know if you will be attending. Thank you so much for your time and consideration. Here's to a great season! Coach Verna 907-355-7161

OLV Sponsoring Soup & Stations of the Cross: Friday, March 24th 6pm.

Students should arrive no later than 5:30pm. Please let us know what type of soup you can bring!

Have a blessed and safe week!

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 3/10 No School
- 3/13-17- Spring Break
- 3/20: Track & Field Mtg. 3:30 in PK room
- 3/24: Soup & Stations 6pm
- 3/28: Auction Meeting 3:30
- 3/30: State Spelling Bee
- 3/31: State GEO Bee
- 4/2: OLV sings at the 11:30 Mass followed by PVO meeting
- 4-21-17 AUCTION SET UP! ALL Hands on deck 7am-11pm
- 4-22-17 10th ANNUAL AUCTION

HOT LUNCH

Price: \$5

Tuesday 3/7: Chef Greg Baked Chicken, vegetables, pie & drink

Thursday 3/9: Chef Greg Hot dogs, beans, vegetable, dessert & drink

BIRTHDAY SHOUT OUTS

MARCH:
10- Mrs. Cain
16 -Cale

APRIL:
2-Joseph & Taylor
25-Cathie
27-Robert
30-Catherine

STUDENT COUNCIL CORNER

President: Laurel Cain
Vice President: Lucas Ruda
Secretary: Ellie Hennemann
Treasurer: Rosie Hennemann

Class Representatives:

P-K: Lyra Abruska
1-2: Regan Campbell
3: Henry Benshetler
4: Margaret Borges
5: Sara Campbell
6: Vivian Borges
7: Tittan Olson

PVO OFFICERS:

Brenda Almenas, President
Gini King-Taylor, Vice President
Tiffany Borges, Secretary

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Uli Johnson
Christy Passard
Patrick Cook
Susan Colligan

OLV SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD:

Linda Giani, President
Gabriel Hennemann, Vice President
Sandra Blum, Secretary
Linda Peters
Mary Pffnner
Alice Massie
Amanda Weglin
Dr. Kelly Maixner

EXECUTIVE SCHOOL BOARD

Fr. Joseph Mc Gilloway
Fr. Jaime Mencias

MRS. VERNA GIANI - PreK

Dear Preschool Families,

I hope you've had a blessed start on your Lenten Journey. This coming week is a short week with no school on Friday, we will be studying St. Patrick's Day all week. We will pick up with our dogs/wolves study after Spring Break. If you would like to build a leprechaun trap at home and bring it in to share with class and leave it over the break we just may find some gold in it when we return. As always please send in snow gear and snacks for your child daily. Remember to log your reading minutes for our Idita-Read program.

Have a Safe & Blessed week. ~ Mrs. Verna



MRS. DEB WAISANEN - Kindergarten

Dia dhuit! Are you feeling a wee bit Irish after a weekend of designing leprechaun traps? I hope you remembered the rule that the trap could be as simple or complex as one wanted. MOST important- it was stress-free and you have fun designing it with your child. Let your child's creativity flow!

This week we will put our reading and writing skills to practice while learning about St. Patrick. When he was about 16, Patrick was captured by Irish pirates from his home in Britain and was enslaved for six years in Ireland. While in captivity, Patrick worked as a shepherd and built a strong relationship with God through prayer. Eventually, Patrick escapes and travels 200 miles to the coast where he travels by ship back to his native land of Britain and continues to study Christianity. Upon returning to Ireland years later, St. Patrick taught the Irish about the doctrine of the [Holy Trinity](#) by showing people the [shamrock](#) and explaining the Christian teaching of three persons in one God.

OLV has talent and thank you to all the parents that helped with Saturday night's talent show. Wow! The children were REMARKABLE and after spring break we will start learning another song in sign language.

Have a safe and blessed spring vacation with your family and don't forget to read and record your Iditarod reading minutes to hand in after spring break. We are hoping many children will be in Nome by the Monday we return.

Peace of the Lord! ~ Mrs. Waisanen

MRS. JOYCE LUND - GRADES 1 and 2

My class was busy this week with a variety of church seasonal learning experiences. Students wrote a short paragraph about Mardi Gras after listening to a presentation by Jenny Michelson from the Diocese Office. This paragraph was followed by writings about Ash Wednesday. Busy learners orally presented their space journey along with the finished craft.

The 1st & 2nd grades did an awesome performance at the Talent Show. They knew their dance steps and showcased poise and confidence with their expressions & actions. I was very pleased with their dance routine. Learning a dance routine involves multiple mental skills in addition to timing, rhythm, sequencing and physical coordination. OLV students did a super job on their talent.

Our religious theme this week is: “The second week of Lent”

Bible Verse: “He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” Luke 11.1

Spelling religious words: 1st grade: Bible, bell 2nd grade: Tabernacle, vestments

Saint of the Month: Saint Teresa of Avila

Virtue of the Month: Temperance: only having a healthy amount of something good

We use the virtue of temperance to fight temptations and to use well the good things that God gave us, like food, games, and toys.

Oral fluency: Remember to sign your child’s Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race checkpoint page. Their nightly homework reading can be applied to their “Race to Nome” work page.

Math: Students will be practicing their money math skills this week.

Thank you to Mrs. Hsu for volunteering last week.

Thank you parents and staff for contributing to the success of our OLV Talent show and spaghetti dinner. The love for our school is evident by your labor, contributions and support. We are blessed to be a part of this Catholic school community. God bless all of you!



MRS. BRENDA ALMENAS - Grades 3 and 4

March: Virtue of the month: **Temperance** / Saint of the month: **St. Camilus de Lellis**
Classroom News/Upcoming Events:

What a beautiful **Ash Wednesday** Mass we had. With our purple books we are ready for our Lenten journey!

Last week we started the "**Iditaread**" race, use the detailed log your child received last Monday to keep track of their reading time, pages read, and book read. Then initial the log so your child will get credit for it and he/she can advance to the next checkpoint.

- - Congratulations to Simon & Margaret! It was a tough competition and they earn their spots as "judges" for the Talent Show. Congratulations to our class, all of the students did fantastic. Thank you to Mrs. Benshetler for organizing the pies for the Talent Show, and to all the parents for the wonderful variety of pies. Thank you to Mr. Scott for assisting with photography, Mrs. Higgs for taking care of the register, Mrs. Massie for helping the cooks serve the wonderful meal. A special thank you to Mrs. Houston & Mrs. Jacks for taking care of those of us with special dietary needs. And to all the parents that helped set-up & clean-up, Thank You!

Thank you to Mrs. Giani & Mrs. Benshetler for sending emergency snacks. We will have the "take one, bring one" policy regarding the snacks.

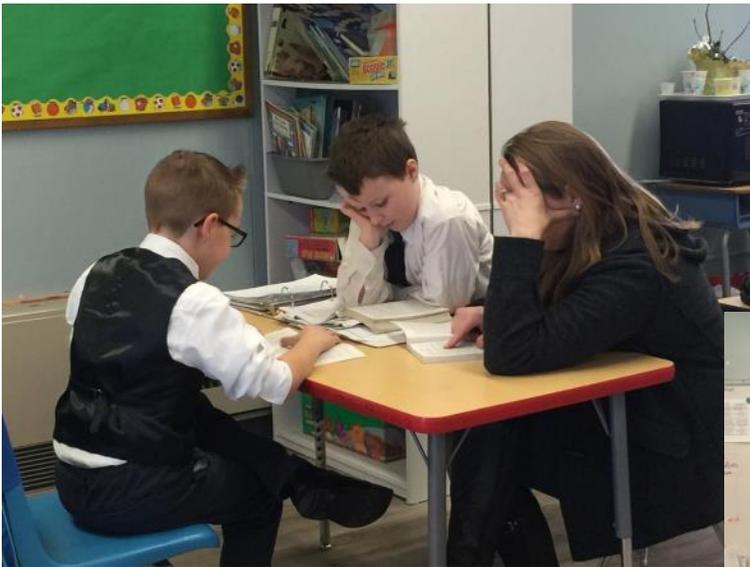
Remember the **Science Fair** is fast approaching, and the design is now overdue.

Next week is **SPRING BREAK**, have fun and rest, but keep on reading!

PLEASE REMEMBER it is cold outside, make sure your child has his/hers complete winter gear, they go outside every day unless the temperature is -10 degrees.

Please check and initial the student's planner daily.

Have a blessed week! -Mrs. Almenas



MRS. HEATHER GRISSO - Grades 5 and 6

Thank you all who attended the pasta dinner. It was a fantastic time, and the students performed amazingly. Thank you also to Timmy & Phoebe's grandparents, Morris & Alberta Melani, the food was excellent! A big shout out to all my classroom parents who answered my text to stay afterward and help with the clean-up! I think we cleaned up in record time and for that I am truly grateful!

This week is a short week, but we will continue working on Unit 10 vocabulary and Week 23 in spelling in order to take the tests on Thursday.

The students will also be performing their Reader's Theater plays tomorrow at 1:30 p.m. in the science room (St. Stephen building) for any parents who are able to attend and watch these hilariously, funny, folk tale plays. The entire performance lasts about an hour.

Yesterday, I had the honor as the sponsor of attending the 9 a.m. Mass with one of our very own 6th grade students, Selena. As a catechumen, Selena, was officially sent off by Father Joseph to attend the Rite of Election blessing by Bishop Etienne at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Anchorage. There Selena joined many others all over the Archdiocese who are eager to become full members of the Catholic Church at this year's Easter Sunday Vigil Mass. I look forward to watching Selena grow in her faith and spiritual journey that lasts a lifetime.

St. Colette, patron saint of orphans, pray for us!



MRS. JENNIFER CAIN - Grades 7 and 8

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. –Psalm 51:10

Ora (Prayer)

Welcome to Lent! This week all eleven students participated in the Ash Wednesday Mass in a leadership role! Thank you 7th and 8th grade sacristans, altar servers, lectors, and preschool helpers! We are also spending time daily doing various Lenten reflections.

Labora (Work)

SS: This week we are learning all about the Renaissance, Humanism, and the Reconquista. We are also learning how to take Cornell Notes and our note taking skills and summary skills have vastly improved over the past two years I've had these students! Well, done!

ELA: It's the tumultuous time after Caesar's assassination in Act IV of Julius Caesar. There is lots of uncertainty over the future of Rome and the key players are all vying for power. Our portfolios are coming along nicely and we've completed our final drafts of diary entries for acts I-III. Next week we'll finish the play and finish our diary entries for acts IV and V. After spring break we will complete the letters to and from our character to complete our character study portfolio. I am very impressed with the quality of writing, editing, and revising, I've seen throughout this project!

Communitas (Community)

In addition to being asked to serve in the Ash Wednesday Mass, we were also asked to write the script for the talent show! This was truly a group effort with many students giving up their free time after school to work on the script! We hope you enjoyed all of our corny jokes and puns...we really had a great time writing the script! Thank you to students and parents for all the hard work, donations of time, talents, and pie to make our annual talent show such a success!

Reminders for next week....

All book reports and book reviews are due Wednesday, March 8. Our history test on Ch. 9 (Renaissance, Reformation, and Revolution) will be next Thursday, March 9 and there is no school March 10-17 for Spring Break. Don't forget to keep working on your science projects (due April 7) and the Iditaread competition!