



**IMMACULATE HEART OF
MARY-ST. CASIMIR SCHOOL**

One God, One Faith, One School

School phone: 882-6631

Email: johnstona@ihmlansing.org

and utesm@ihmlansing.org

Web page: <http://ihmlansing.org>

February 4, 2018



Mission Statement

IHM-St. Casimir Catholic School challenges students to discover God's gifts spiritually, intellectually, socially and physically within a community that nurtures, honors and respects the unique person.

Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time: Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted. Psalm 147

SOUL FOOD

Dear Parents, If you ever have a concern or would like to meet with me, please call me at the Rectory (393-3030) and I am happy to meet.

Fr. John

Counting our Blessings

Your children gave some great responses when asked to name the blessings of being in our Catholic School. One of those that stood out was their recognition of the blessing of our diversity. This acknowledgment was followed by the prayers of intercession that were led by students representing five different languages.

Jesus taught us that with blessings comes responsibility. "Anyone who has been given much, much will be expected of him." (Luke 12:48). From blessings should come gratitude. Give thanks to God for our diversity and for the opportunity to experience the blessings and challenges that flow from that gift from God. *Fr. John*

A WORD FROM MRS. JOHNSTON

Wow! Our kids gave us a wonderful reminder of the many blessings they receive from a Catholic School education. Winter Concert was truly a blessing to all of us. Thanks, kids, for reminding us of why we as parents sacrifice to send our children to a Catholic school. Moms and Dads, you are truly a blessing to your children.

Thank you, PTO, for spoiling all of us rotten this week. Our teachers had an absolutely incredible breakfast on Tuesday and even had seconds for lunch. The students were excited to have popcorn, a movie and relax on Friday afternoon. This was a fun week packed with celebration after celebration after celebration. The biggest celebration is learning about our faith every single day.

I cannot believe it is already time to send home **registration forms!** They are in the family envelopes this week! We have been working on the budget for 2018-2019 since December and I think we can finally say that we have prepared a balanced budget. As you all know with year to year considerations, tuition always gets some adjusting and to create a balanced budget, we had to increase tuition. For 2018-19 the tuition increase is only 2%. This is an additional \$5.91 per month for one child. Another way to look at this is that it will cost \$5,496 to educate one child for one year. Subsidized tuition for one child is \$3,625 and through parish subsidy you receive \$1,871 toward your child's education. (Two and more children receive a greater subsidy.) Thank you, parents, for your commitment and thank you to our parish families for their dedication and commitment to assure we can have our children receive a Catholic education.

Our fund raiser fee will remain \$100 per family and our technology fee will stay at \$90 per student. We are very blessed to have tuition assistance, so see Chris Wilcox's column to know how to attain the necessary directions to apply. If you have any questions about the tuition, please do not hesitate to give me a call or stop in to see me.

Did you see the announcement of the **contest on our Facebook Page?** Go to the school Facebook ([Immaculate Heart of Mary - St. Casimir School](#)) (or access through the school website (ihmlansing.org)) and share the Preschool/Kindergarten Roundup Information and for every share you will be entered into a drawing for lunch with the principal!

Thank you, kids, for sharing the blessings we receive in our Catholic school education!
Angela

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Spelling Bee: Congrats to the students in grades 4-8 for participating in the Brian Hufnagel Memorial Spelling Bee. The Hufnagels are still providing funds so that the top three winners in each grade will receive a trophy!
Grade 4: 1st J.P. B.; 2nd place tie: Tommy H. & Jefferson E. Grade 5: 1st Finn K., 2nd place tie: Aymeric N. & David M. Grade 6: 1st Miliana L., 2nd Alexis G., 3rd Orion M. Grade 7: 1st Amy M.; 2nd Ethan W.; 3rd Elliana O. Grade 8: 1st Anna Kate J; 2nd Alex O; 3rd Drew T.

2 Peter 1:5-7: As we continue our focus on endurance, Josh tells us: "Saint John Crysostom says that endurance is the queen of all virtues. Endurance is a very important virtue. We need to use this virtue in our everyday lives. The word endurance means the ability or strength to continue or last, especially despite fatigue, stress, or other adverse conditions; stamina. We can use endurance in a race to keep the same speed, and have stamina left to sprint the end. Endurance could be used in a faithful way by praying to God throughout every day. Also by enduring God's love and living as a follower. Endurance is the queen of virtues and it is important to use all the time."

Blessings, Mary Margaret

TUITION CONSULANT COMMENTS

FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS: Financial Aid Applications are available at the Diocese of Lansing website. Choose the Schools tab and scroll down the page to find the link or use this link: <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>. All applications must be done online; there is a cost of \$30 and you will need to provide documentation of income for the 2017 year. You may start an application save it and come back to it later. Filling out this application is **mandatory** for financial aid review and it automatically puts you in for consideration for the Diocesan grants and our Mary Goeddeke Educational Fund. A single application is used for your whole family – IHM-St. Casimir **AND** LCHS. **THE DEADLINE IS MARCH 1, 2018 FIRM!** Do not delay!

Chris Wilcox, Tuition Consultant

UPCOMING EVENTS: **Check out the Google Calendar on the ihmlansing.org homepage for more....**

January 28: Catholic Schools Week!

February 3: 4:30 Youth Choir at IHM Mass; Family Dance, 5:30-7:30 IHM PFC

February 6: Kindergarten/Preschool Round Up, 5:30-6:30, Kindergarten/Preschool Rooms

March 1: FIRM DEADLINE FOR FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS

WEEKLY LITURGY: Mass, Wednesday, 8:00.

SCHEDULE: February 6: 8:00 Mr. Nyembwe Presentation. February 9: 7-9:00 pm Gr. 7-8 Dance, IHM PFC.

EVENTS: February 3: CSW Mass 4:30 IHM; 5:30-7:30 Family Dance, IHM PFC. February 6: 5:30-6:30 Preschool/Kindergarten Round Up. February 7: 5:30 PTO; 6:30 School Committee.

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION: It's Box Tops submission time again! Turn in your Box Tops before 2/9/18 so they can be included in our school's April check – it's our last chance this school year to earn cash for our school. All Box Tops turned in after this date will go toward next fall's check. We earned \$358.60 at the fall 2017 drive, with \$310.10 remaining from the May 2017 drive; the check for school supplies in December was \$668.70. The PTO chooses where to use the funds earned.

If you are able to assist with clipping and counting, please let Casie Medina, medina.casie@yahoo.com, or Chris Wilcox know. Estimated time commitment 1-3 hours, from the comfort of your own home. Thanks for your help!

¡Es momento de presentar los Box Tops nuevamente! Entregue sus Box Tops antes de la FECHA para que puedan incluirse en el cheque de abril de nuestra escuela – es nuestra última oportunidad de este año lectivo para obtener dinero para nuestra escuela. Todos los Box Tops que se entreguen después de esta fecha pasarán al siguiente cheque de otoño.

Informe a Casie Medina, medina.casie@yahoo.com, o Chris Wilcox si puede ayudar a cortar y contar los Box Tops. ¡Muchas gracias por su ayuda!

K-GRADE 6 FEELIN' GOOD MILEAGE CLUB: Registration for the 2018 Feelin' Good Mileage Club begins February 1! Registration cards are coming home TODAY! Register online at www.sparrowmilesclub.com and be entered to win a \$50 gas card!!! Registration is open Feb 1-March 5, 2018. Please register even if your child is not interested now. They often all want to join in once we start! Register by March 5 and your child will be ready to start when we return from Spring Break! The program runs from April through May. (Register now so there is no delay in their Mileage Club participation.) Thanks for your cooperation.

CONGRATS FREE THROW COMPETITORS: Great job students who represented IHM-St. Casimir at the Knights of Columbus Free Throw competition last weekend! We are so glad you took advantage of the opportunity! Special congrats to Ian, Jayce and Leland who are advancing to the next round of competition in a couple of weeks! Go Eagles!

MIDDLE SCHOOL DIOCESAN YOUTH RALLY: Students in grades 6-8 are heartily encouraged to attend the Diocesan Youth Rally on Saturday, March 10 in Jackson at Lumen Christi High School! This annual event has been a great experience for students who have attended in the past. Students must register with a group – IHM Youth Director, Toni Watters, is happy to have any school students register with IHM Parish if they choose. **Early registration is a lower cost, so get the paperwork in to the IHM Parish office by February 16 and save money!** Virtus-trained parents are need to drive; please consider helping out! For questions or concerns contact Toni Watters, 393-3030 or 269-240-2044.

JR. COUGAR BOYS' BASEBALL: Attached is the information for Jr. Cougar Boys Baseball (ages 10+) on the registration/evaluation day. If you are unable to attend, please contact Coach Farlin at baseball@lansingcatholic.org. We will be dividing players into teams after evaluation/sign up day. Your son's coach will then contact you regarding practices. The cost this year is \$100 a player. This will cover the league fees, fields, umpires, baseballs, jersey and hat.

YEARBOOK ORDERS: Yearbook order forms are coming home again in case you cannot find yours. The order is due **February 16, 2018**. The basic, all color, soft cover yearbook is \$20.00. Lifetouch offers a number of upgrades if you choose. You may pay online. Details on the order form. We do not order extras for sale in the spring – it is too expensive, so don't miss your chance!

IHM PARISH NEEDS A VOLUNTEER: IHM Parish needs a volunteer to cook dinners for the upcoming Alpha sessions on Tuesday nights. Even if you cannot commit to every Tuesday, they would love help on any given Tuesday. Please call Jen Brown for more information or to sign up, 393-3030 ext. 216.

MSU: INTRODUCE A GIRL TO ENGINEERING: Saturday, February 24, 2018

Who: 4th -8th graders (Students must attend with a chaperone, 1 chaperone to 5 students maximum)

What: Attendees will get the opportunity to rotate through 5 different hands-on Engineering activities. The format will be similar to an Open House. You get to pick what you want to see!

When: Check-in 12:30-1:00pm (1345 Engineering Building); Program: 1:00-4:00pm

Where: Activities will take place in the MSU Engineering and Anthony Hall buildings

Cost: FREE

Registration is required. Chaperones remain with their 4th-8th graders for the entire duration of the event. Registration deadline is January 31, 2018 or until maximum capacity is reached.

Register at: <https://www.egr.msu.edu/wie/k-12/programs-outreach> Questions can be directed to wie-outreach@egr.msu.edu SUBJ: Introduce a Girl to Engineering or [\(517\) 432-1273](tel:5174321273)

CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS:

Grade 1: We had a FUN week! A Snow Day, Catholic Schools Week, the hundredth day, Winter Concert, Student Appreciation Day!

Grade 4: The 4th graders learned more about the accomplishments of Harriet Tubman, as we continued to read "Freedom Train".

Grade 2: We continue to identify the *parts of speech* in our sentences. We know the noun, verb, and pronoun; now we are learning adjectives.

Grade 7 Literature: 7th grade is looking into the real dangers of the drinking water among the world's poor. This will go hand in hand with our beautiful novel.

Grade 8 Literature: 8th grade will be analyzing photographs from the Holocaust. This should build their background knowledge to aid in understanding our class novel.

Religion 6: It seems to be pushing things a bit to have a study of Passover, but that's where we are this week. The students tried some of the REAL foods of the Seder, and that included horseradish for the bitter herb. It was a challenging new food for many of the students, but we understand that it represents the bitterness of slavery.

Music: Our students sang and played beautifully in our Winter Concert last night. We are blessed! We are blessed to have the gift of music, blessed with a wonderful school, and blessed to be a part of such a great community! Thank you for coming and supporting our students!

Grade 6 Science: Last week, 6th Grade had a hands-on learning opportunity! We dissected a pig's heart.



Grade 5: We enjoyed many fun activities this Catholic Schools Week: Snow day, Spelling Bee, Winter Concert and Student Appreciation Day to name just a few!