



OLOF September Newsletter



Our new middle school lockers look great!

Purchased with the proceeds from our 2016 Reverse Raffle Fundraiser.

Important Dates:

- **Early Dismissal - Noon**
Friday, September 2, 2016
No ASC/ No Lunches
- **Labor Day-No School**
Monday September 5th
- **Fatima Family Day**
Tuesday, September 13th
8:30am-11:00am

**Detailed information on Page 3.*

Principals Notes

Mission Statement:

Our Lady of Fatima Parish School is a learning community founded and supported by parishioners, rooted in traditional Catholic values for the purpose of educating our children to become humble, faith-filled citizens who generously offer their God-given gifts for the good of all people.

Ren Web bills will be sent out the first of every month via email. You can pay your bill by sending in cash or a check to the school office or by paying with a credit card in the school office. You can also check your account anytime via Parents Web.

"We have had a great first month of school here at OLOF and we look forward to a successful rest of the school year!" Miss Saseen.

Don't forget...

Subscribe to your student's class page on our website for the weekly parent updates.

How to subscribe:

- ~ Go to olofps.org
- ~ Select Class Pages - Under the Student/Parent Tab
- ~ Scroll to the bottom of the page
- ~ Type your email address (only one email address can be entered at a time)
- ~ Select the class or classes you would like to receive updates (you can select multiple classes) If you have a middle school student, please select the classes individually. If you would like to receive messages from the specials teachers, please select them individually.

See what is happening around campus by visiting our social media pages:



ourfatimafamily



OLOFPS54



Lots of smiling faces on the first day of school!

**Chess Club begins
September 7, 2016
3:20pm-4:15pm.**

Chess club will meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. There is a \$5 per student - per semester fee that will be charged to Ren Web accounts.

Snacks will be provided to club members.



PreK

PreK2 Angels in Training are enjoying exploring their new school environment and meeting new friends and teachers. We are learning to sing our ABCs and practicing counting aloud as a group. We are looking forward to a fantastic school year!

PreK3 class is busy exploring our large classroom and getting to know each other. We are learning how we are alike and different from our friends. We know we are all special in our own ways. We have begun our letter of the week series with the letter A. We are learning how to share and play with our new friends. Pre-School is so much fun!

PreK4 class is very busy learning our daily schedule, seeing old friends and making new ones. We have started writing lines to help us with future letter writing. Next month we will study patterns in Math and start learning letters A-C. We are off to a fabulous start!

Elementary

Kindergarten

The kindergarteners are working hard learning how to be successful students in our school. We are learning our classroom rules and procedures, all while learning so many other things. In religion, our students are learning to properly make the sign of the cross. We are forming the letter A correctly in writing. In math, we are relating objects to numbers and number words. We are so happy to be together and learning.

1st Grade

Wow! It's hard to believe we are almost two weeks into the new school year! My first graders are fabulous! We started the year learning our rules and procedures for doing things. They caught on very fast!

We have jumped into reading! The kids enjoy the Ashlock Phonics program every day. They are learning sounds of each letter and blending the sounds to make words. They are doing hands on math activities, as well as learning about living and nonliving things. We are off to a great start!

2nd Grade

2nd graders are starting to get adjusted into the new school year! We have been learning rules and procedures for the school and the classroom and reviewing old knowledge to refresh. We are looking forward to very special 2nd grade events in the upcoming year such as safety town, First Reconciliation in December, and First Communion in May. We hope to have a great year!

3rd Grade It has been a great beginning for back to school in third grade. We started our new school year with many getting to know you activities as well as writing and discussing our thought, fears, and expectations for this year. In math, we are beginning the year with a review of time, money, and basic math facts. In reading, we will be learning about non-fiction stories. In Language arts, we are writing complete sentences and detailed paragraphs as well as daily journal topics. In social studies, we are learning about the culture and customs of different communities. In religion, we are learning about the trinity and what it means to be Catholic. I am very excited to begin this new school year with my awesome new students and their families!

4th Grade August has been a great month of getting to know each other, and leaning our school routine. Our class has enjoyed reading the novel Shiloh. We are beginning a new book George Washington's Socks, which incorporates time travel with the American Revolution. We have also taken Star Reading assessments, so we will begin September in AR program. We look forward to studying the early civilization of North America; the life cycle of plants and the study of ecosystems. Also we will be furthering our math skills. We are looking forward to Fall!

5th Grade Reading - We are reading realistic fictions this nine weeks and working on characterization, character development, conversation, theme, message, and research.

Mathematics - We will review the first few weeks of the month and then move quickly into fractions - equivalent fractions, comparing and ordering fractions, and adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators.

Social Studies - We are learning about the creation of our government. Students will complete an in class research project where they will develop their own government.

Science - We will be learning the scientific method and performing science experiments related to Newton's laws of motion.

Middle School

Spanish

Welcome back! I am so blessed to be able spend time teaching your children Spanish this year. I've missed them over the summer break! We've been working hard on reviewing vocabulary and grammar concepts. Hispanic heritage month begins in September. We'll be completing various cultural lessons with the students throughout the upcoming month!

Music

Although the beginning of the year is generally slow going for band classes I can now say... every child from grades 4-8 has a musical instrument and music for the new school year. In addition our Middle School Select Choir has 30 members, the largest choir we've had in quite a few years.

We're all set in all classes to make beautiful music this year!

Language Arts

The school year is off to a great start in middle school Language Arts! Students began the year reviewing the elements of a story as well as studying parts of a sentence and kinds of nouns. The sixth grade has been reading several excerpts from novels, the seventh grade has been reading autobiographical short stories, and the eighth grade has been reading the beloved short story "Flowers for Algernon." Students in all three grades are also working on individual descriptive writing projects.

Social Studies

6th Grade Social Studies

In social studies we are learning about the events that led up to World War I. Next month we will start learning about the rise of imperialism and new empires. Then we will examine the causes of World War I.

7th Grade Social Studies

The seventh grade social studies class has been living in Ancient Egypt! We've been studying daily life of Ancient Egyptians, the building of the pyramids, and the language of hieroglyphics, among other topics. Students were separated into groups and tasked with the project of pretending they were Ancient Egyptians working for the Tourism Bureau. Each group was responsible for researching and presenting a proposed "tour" of Ancient Egypt to the

rest of the class. Next we will work on a project about the pharaohs, and then we will move to Ancient Greece.

Math

Grade 6 (General Math)

These students have been learning about multiplying whole numbers and money, unknown numbers in all 4 basic operations, order of operations, fractions, linear measurement, and the metric system.

Grade 7 (General Math)

These seventh graders have been studying about variables and expressions, powers and exponents, order of operations, equations and mental math, perimeter and area, and problem solving. They played a bingo game on perimeter and area.

Grades 7 and 8 (PreAlgebra)

Both of these classes have been busy learning about powers and exponents, order of operations, comparing and ordering integers, and the 4 basic operations with positive and negative integers. They did a scavenger hunt on integers and are making board games with them.

Grade 8 (Algebra 1)

This class has been studying exponents and powers, order of operations, equations and inequalities, problem solving, tables and graphs, functions, the real number line, and integers.

Grade 8 (Algebra 2)

Fatima is pleased to announce that this is the first time in the history of the school that we have offered an Algebra 2 course. These 3 brave students have been learning about real numbers, algebraic expressions and models, solving linear equations, rewriting equations and formulas, and problem solving.

Fatima Family Day

Tuesday September 13, 2016

8:30am – 11:00am.

R.S.V.P.'s due September 6, 2016.

Morning Events:

- 8:30am-9:00am **Welcome Social**

Guests will be greeted in the Parish Hall, a continental breakfast and name tags will be provided.

- 9:00am-10:00am **Classroom Activities**

Family Guests will go to PreK-8 classrooms and participate in activities with students.

- 10:00am-11:00am – **Assembly**

"At Fatima, Character Counts" (All grades and family guests are invited to attend)

- 11:00am – **Guest Departure**

Religion

How do I know God is present in my life? Students named proofs of God's existence and compiled the information into a persuasive paper. Then in groups, compared their information and presented it to their classmates. We have been learning the three features that most religions have in common and that we must respect people of other faiths that try to live a good and holy life. The students have named ways that they can follow Jesus and live out their discipleship and how they can participate more actively in the church. We have met St. Blaise Pascal through research and learned what he had to say about the human heart. Saul who became Paul was another interest in our classroom. We looked at St. Paul's travels and discovered we can read about his travels in the book of the Acts of the Apostles.

The middle schoolers have been the leaders for our weekly class masses for the first three weeks of school. They have begun working on their first quarter service hours. Some have already completed the three required hours with some students going above and beyond.

Science

6th Grade Science

In science this month we have been learning about what science is, and the different branches of science. We will be learning how scientists use models in science to represent things that are either too big or too small to see. Next month we will look at how scientists evaluate scientific explanations.

7th Grade Science

The 7th grade class has been learning all about minerals this month. We learned what the characteristics of minerals, and the atomic pattern of crystals. Next month we will learn how to identify a mineral sample using the Mohs scale of hardness. Then we will cover why we use minerals.

8th Grade Science

The 8th grade has been learning all about traits and how they change over time. We are currently learning about genetics and how to use Punnett squares. Next month we will cover environmental impacts over time. That topic covers natural selection, mutation, and selective breeding.

ART

Our **Pre-K** 4 year olds are learning about moveable parts of the body, how to use straight and curvy lines, horizon lines and several shapes by drawing a house, a sailboat and a full figure of the body. The **kindergarten** students are working with lines too. They created Mr. and Mrs. Foot and will learn to use a ruler to create a cityscape of skyscrapers with unusually shaped windows. **First** grade made a line/shape creature and will be working on color mixing with the primary colors. The **second** grade are studying characteristics of color by using cool colors for a seascape and then warm colors for a desert scene before moving on to a full 12 point color wheel. **Third** grade students began with a drawing of a primitive shelter as an introduction to architectural systems. They will create an illustration of a part of a Swahili folktale to transfer into a metal repousse piece. The **fourth** grade is learning to use contour lines and will do several drawings that also incorporate spatial techniques; then, they will create a fall line drawing. Our **fifth** grade will review contour lines and build on that with continuous and blind contour drawings of shoe and still life before beginning a lengthy weaving project. The entire **middle school** is groaning through 1pt. and 2pt. perspective drawings as a review, but I see much improvement already in their understanding of the concepts. We will put there review to use in box drawings. The **sixth** grade will move on to a still life work, while the **seventh** will begin a wire sculpture and the **eighth** will work on coil and slab construction of a larger clay work. We are off to a great start!

Visit our newly
designed school
website
olofps.org

All school events,
activities, sporting
events, ect. are posted
on the school website
calendar

Don't forget to
subscribe to your
students class page(s)
for the weekly class
updates!

*Where faith, learning
and service have no
limits.*

WV History

West Virginia history students have been learning their basics - counties and regions as well as the natural resources, economic opportunities, historical landmarks, and events for which each area is known. We have created a relief map displaying all of these and they are displayed in the downstairs hallway. We have also been learning how the Culture of Appalachia is different than other areas in the United States and will soon learn why this is. Over the next few weeks we will study the music, food, and folk tales of the area and then move into the events leading up to the French and Indian War.