

October 2016

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A few important links to our school website:

- [Dress Code](#)
- [Volunteering](#)
- [School Calendar](#)
- [Athletic Calendar](#)
- [Early Childhood Calendar](#)
- [Lunch Menu](#)
- [Forms](#)
- [SCRIP](#)

**Keep In Touch With Us!**

["Like"](#) us on Facebook

[Follow](#) us on Twitter

Email Us at:

Lead Secretary: Teri Reyhons

teri.reyhons@lourdes.pvt.k12.ia.us

Secretary: Elaine Quinn

Elaine.quinn@lourdes.pvt.k12.ia.us

Principal: Jennifer Alongi

jennifer.alongi@lourdes.pvt.k12.ia.us

563-359-3466

School Website

<http://www.lourdescatholic.org>

**Or just stop by!**

1453 Mississippi Blvd., Bettendorf

# Lourdes Catholic School

## H & S Newsletter



### A Message from our Principal—Ms. Alongi

Greetings, Families!

Thank you for supporting your school with your time in the form of [volunteer](#) hours, and also with your prayers. Parents in Prayer has expanded and now meets twice a week to pray for staff, students, and families. We are so blessed to be part of this prayerful community.

Lourdes Catholic School's social media presence has EXPLODED! If you haven't yet "liked" us on [Facebook](#) or "shared" our posts, please feel free to do so! Many parents have commented that they feel like they have been right here at school with us every day! Many pictures and events are posted each week, usually at least one per day, even on the weekends! Check us out, and spread the word to your neighbors and friends in the community!



Please consider purchasing SCRIP gift cards to have on hand as gifts or just every-day shopping needs. SCRIP is on sale every Tuesday and Friday at school in the mornings, and many are kept in stock so you don't need to wait. Download our in-stock [order form](#) to see what is available. Through the profits our school earns with SCRIP, many field trips and educational technologies are made a reality.

Lourdes Catholic School has a Wellness Policy that must be followed. If you have not seen the Wellness Policy, you can check it out [here](#). If your child's homeroom teacher allows birthday treats, you must make sure that the treat you provide is appropriate for any child in the homeroom who has allergies. Check with the homeroom teacher. Store-packaged items with a nutrition label showing that calories, sodium, and fat are in compliance with guidelines are required. We also encourage creative, non-food birthday treats.

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held Tuesday, November 8th from 4:00-7:00 PM, Wednesday, November 9th from 1:45-3:45 PM, and Thursday November 10th from 4:00-7:00 PM. Watch for the Sign Up Genius link to come out soon via email.

November 9th is an early-release day for K-8 students. School will dismiss at 1:10. K-8 Parent-Teacher conferences may be scheduled on that day between 1:45 and 3:45 PM. Click [here](#) for more important dates in November.

Iowa Assessments will be administered to students in grades 2-8 during the week of November 14th-November 18th. Make sure your children get a good night's sleep and eat a healthy breakfast every morning.

May God Bless You,

Ms. Jennifer Alongi, Principal

**Home & School President’s Corner — Nicki Johnson**

I hope everyone had a great October! I was recently reviewing the mission of Home & School and it prompted me to talk about SCRIP in this message. Part of our mission is to “support the school and all of those within through fundraising”. SCRIP and Starry Night are our main fundraisers and I think sometimes SCRIP is confusing to people.

SCRIP is simply gift cards in exchange for cash. When you purchase these gift cards, the store or restaurant then turns around and donates a percent of the sale to our school. This is our main school fundraiser that pays for playground equipment, field trips, technology, art supplies, individual teacher needs, etc.

If you aren’t already aware, our 2016-17 SCRIP sales goal is \$500,000 and our profit goal is \$15,000. As of September 30th, our SCRIP sales are \$47,990 and our SCRIP profit is \$4,128. We are behind in our sales goal, but ahead in our overall profit goal. We're averaging 8.5% per sale which is more than our estimate of 3%. This is great news to start out the year!

**If you shop at Schnucks - please request a rewards card and designate Lourdes as the beneficiary!**

**How your family can help us meet our SCRIP goal –**

- We have 146 families (K-8).
- Our SCRIP sales goal for 2016-17 is \$500,000 in sales or \$15,000 in profit.
- To meet our goal each family would need to purchase \$3424 of SCRIP or \$103 of profit annually to reach our goal.
- This family monthly goal would be \$380 total purchase or \$12 of profit monthly (over a 9 month school year).
- \$380 is easy to spend each month with \$200 from Hyvee, \$100 from Shell, \$50 from Amazon, \$20 at Wise Guys pizza and \$10 at Whitey’s.

Of course we always are striving to exceed, not just meet our goals, to provide more for our school and children. Thank you for your participation so far and please continue to participate at the same or even higher levels that you have in the past.

Have a wonderful November!

Nicki Johnson



**\$47,990 in SCRIP sold!**

**What does SCRIP pay for?**

- |                      |                       |                         |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| • Classroom parties  | • Brag Tags           | • Career Fair           |
| • Classroom supplies | • Fruit of the Spirit | • Popsicles in the Park |
| • Fieldtrip Fund     | • Reading Counts      | • Spelling Bee          |
| • Lego robotics      | • Prayer Buddies      | • Catholic Schools Week |
| • Bingo Night        | • Red Ribbon Week     | • Middle School Events  |
| • Drama Club         | • Safety Patrol       | • Playground equipment  |
| • Mock Trial         | • Student Council     | • 8th grade graduation  |
| • Battle Books       | • Unpack the Backpack | • Parish Contribution   |
| • Field Day          | • Variety Show        |                         |
| • Fine Arts Club     | • Visiting Authors    |                         |
| • Chess Club         | • Yearbook Club       |                         |

[SCRIP order form \(in stock\)](#)

[SCRIP order form \(need to order\)](#)

**A message from our Faith Formation Board President—Mike Puthoff**

**Faith Formation Board Updates on the Strategic Initiatives**

Update on Lourdes Catholic School Strategic Initiatives

Leaders in our community continue working on our [strategic initiatives](#) to strengthen our finances and budgeting, community and communications, and marketing and enrollment.

On October 25, we did a check-in session with Dr. Dan Ebener who led us through the planning session this summer. He helped us review our successes and plan to continue our work on future initiatives. Some of successes include increased sharing of activities in the school through [Facebook](#), social events such as Trivia Night and Fall Festival that bring families together from across the Parish, and better sharing of financial data. We will continue to work towards a Parish-wide strategic plan, increasing family involvement in the school, and strengthening the connections of Lourdes Catholic School with all members of Our Lady of Lourdes and St. John Vianney parishes. If you have interest in working on our strategic initiatives, please contact me at email or phone number below.

More information about the Faith Formation Board can be found on the school website under “Organizations” and then the “Faith Formation Board” section. Our next meeting will be on Thursday November 17 at 6:30 PM in the LCS Library. All members of our community are welcome to attend.

Mike Puthoff

2016-2017 Faith Formation Board President

563-505-2731 puthoffmichaell@gmail.com



Lourdes Cub Scouts enjoyed “Pizza with a Priest” and a tour of SJV with Father Ross.

**A Note From the Business Office at Our Lady of Lourdes**

There is a lot happening in the church Business Office as we are preparing for the holidays and 2017. We know that everyone is busy enjoying this beautiful autumn weather, football games, bonfires and visits to your favorite pumpkin patch or apple orchard. With that said we want to send all families a friendly reminder that if you want to take full advantage of your tax deduction to please get your tuition, wraparound care payments, etc. delivered to the parish office. All payments must be received before January 1, 2017 to be included on your 2016 tax statement. Feel free to contact the church office at 563-359-0345 if you have questions.

During this month let us no judge each day by the harvest we reap  
but by the seeds we plant. ~Robert Louis Stevenson

God’s Blessings,

Amanda Strom

Accounts Receivable

# FAMILY

## Annual Mitten Tree Collection



As Thanksgiving approaches we are grateful for all the blessings God has given us. Please help our children give back to the community by decorating our Mitten Tree for those less fortunate than us.

Throughout November Lourdes Catholic School Library will be collecting **new or gently used GLOVES, MITTENS, SCARVES & HATS** (children and adults)



All items will be used to help needy families within our community.

Save the Date March 4, 2017  
At Tanglewood Hills Pavilion, Bettendorf, IA



How can you help to make this year's fundraiser a success?

- Have your business or family sponsor the event
  - Donate items for Silent auction, Live auction or Raffle basket
  - Volunteer on a committee or help at the event
- Contact Chrissy Hayes at [chayes@me.com](mailto:chayes@me.com) for more info

Thanks to your generosity at last year's fundraiser the school is now enjoying:

- New computers for the Computer Lab
- Science friendly furniture & refrigerator
- Reading & Language Arts textbooks
- Art Class drying rack
- Hand washing sink for Pre-K classroom
- Playground mulch
- Athletic equipment for volleyball
- Athletic equipment for floor hockey

## LET US GIVE THANKS BY GIVING TO THE Backpacks with Snacks Program

Backpacks with Snacks is based on a national program to provide a backpack full of nutritional snacks MONTHLY to children on free or reduced fee lunch. Our Lady of Lourdes Church is providing backpacks to participating students at Lourdes Catholic School (5) and our partner school, Grant Wood School (30) in Bettendorf.

We are asking each student to donate from the list below:

- Pre-School/Kindergarten – Peanut Butter
- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade – Raisins or Fruit Snacks
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – Applesauce cups
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – Fruit Cups
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Jelly (no glass)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Granola Bars
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Pudding Cups
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Cereal (full size boxes)
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Whole Grain crackers

Please bring in your donations by Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> and place them in the marked containers in the Parish Center or Gathering Space of Church.

# FELLOWSHIP



Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>  
5:30-6:30pm at Lourdes Catholic School

Please join us for a 60 minute parent education session on bullying prevention.

Guest speakers will be Barb Brunken, Mississippi Parent AEA and Christine Schmidt; founder of the It's All Love, Only Love Coalition.

Refreshments will be provided.

and more to come! there!

## Get ready for... Scrip Slam

On Tuesday, November 15, we will have a **one day only** scrip slam contest!

The class with the most scrip orders (by percentage) on **Tuesday, November 15** wins a pizza lunch at a VIP lunchroom table!

If there are siblings in multiple classes please designate which class to be credited for the sale OR turn in an order form for each class. All orders count, even special order or pre-order that is delivered to the school.

Buy your Tickets Here!



Preschool thru 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students can purchase all of their Christmas Gifts at...

## ST. NICK'S SHOP

Where: Lourdes Library  
When: November 28 - December 2, 2016

How: Student's shop during school hours (Preschoolers & Kindergartners will have a 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> Grade shopping buddy!)

**New & Different Gifts to Shop From!**  
All gifts are wrapped and priced at \$2.00.

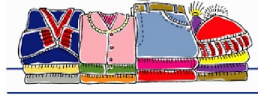


Nick's Shop allows the children to Christmas shop on their own for their families/friends & teaches them the joy of giving! All gifts are gifts to choose from babies to grandparents (and dogs & cats too!)

A Gift List Sheet will be sent home a week before event.  
Organized and sponsored by Lourdes Home and School Board.

LOL is hosting a clothing drive on November 12th in the Gathering Space. Donations can be dropped off at the school office or church office by Thursday November 10th or to the church gathering space on November 12th. Please contact the church office if you have questions or are interested in volunteering for this event.

## Clothing Drive



# SERVICE

# FAITH

## \*\*\*ATTENTION LOURDES CATHOLIC SCHOOL\*\*\*

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders need your help!

Now through the November 30<sup>th</sup>, the 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will be collecting coats (gently used or new) or cash donations for the David E Lane Memorial Coats for Kids coat drive.

Cash donations are used to help fund additional coat purchases and to assist with the cleaning bill at Burke Cleaners. If you would prefer, cash donations can be mailed the Coats for Kids Program, in care of Mississippi Bend AEA, 729 - 21<sup>st</sup> St, Bettendorf, IA 52722 or online at [qcacoatsforkids.org](http://qcacoatsforkids.org). Donations are tax deductible.

Kids come in all shapes and sizes, so we will take all sizes infant through adult. We would ask that the adult would wear. The most popular sizes are still those for elementary school aged children, size 4 - 18.

\*\*Another fun fact from the Denise Zimmer, Head of Environmental and Facility Services at MBAEA: We are dependent upon community donations to ensure that every child without a winter coat receives one. Last school year, we gave out 2,792 coats, 1,573 hats, 1,219 gloves, 164 scarves and 173 pairs of socks.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR HELP WITH THIS 2<sup>nd</sup> GRADE SERVICE PROJECT!



**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

To see the schedule of early-outs, please check the [Full Calendar](#), on the school website. Here are some important events to add to your calendar NOW!

Tuesday 11/8 - Parent-Teacher Conferences 4-7pm

Wednesday 11/9 - Parent-Teacher Conferences 1:45-3:45

Thursday 11/10 - Parent Teacher Conferences 4-7pm

Friday 11/11- No School Veteran's Day

M-F 11/14-18- Iowa Assessments (2nd-8th grade)

Tuesday 11/14 K-8 Flu Shots (optional)

Thursday 11/17 Faith Formation Board Meeting 6:30pm

Monday 11/21 - No School Presch/Prek Parent-Teacher Conf.

Tuesday 11/22 - No School Presch/Prek Parent-Teacher Conf.

W-F 11/23-25 - No School all grades Happy Thanksgiving!

M-F 11/28-12/1 St. Nick Shop in the library

**Tuesday 12/13 1:30pm Band/Choir Concert for school**

**Tuesday 12/13 6:30pm Band/Choir Concert for families**

**Thursday 12/15 9am Presch/Prek Christmas Program Church**

**Thursday 12/15 6:30pm 1st-4th Christmas Program Church**

**Monday 12/19 5pm Athletics Banquet**



**From the LCS Library - Birthday Books**

The birthday book program is an optional program in which students can purchase a new book for the library with a \$5.00 donation. A special sticker with the students name and birth date is placed in the front cover of the book. The birthday student is the first one to check it out and a photo is placed on the bulletin board so that other students can see the collection of new books that have been donated so far this year.



Birthday cards will be sent out at the beginning of your child's birthday month (other than the summer birthdays which will be distributed on their half birthday). However, students are welcome to purchase a birthday book at any time of the year! All money is used to purchase additional books for the library!

**Lourdes Library Catalog**

Students can utilize the Lourdes Catholic School [library catalog](#) anywhere they have internet access. The catalog can be searched by title, author, subject, series and numerous variables from reading level to interest level. If we own a title, the catalog provides a description, the subject/genre, reading level, interest level, page length, **reading counts quiz level & points**, if applicable and if it is currently available for check out!

**A note from the nurse's office - Mrs. Huiskamp**

Cold and flu season is soon approaching; here are some guidelines at Lourdes to help keep our students from spreading their colds.

Please keep your child home if he/she shows any of the following signs:

1. FEVER of 100 or greater - students must be fever free for 24 hrs. without medication before returning to school.
2. VOMITING or frequent Diarrhea - 24 hrs. must elapse without vomiting before students may return to school.
3. Frequent uncontrolled COUGH.

When your child is home sick from school, please call the school office to report the absence. When calling the school to report the absence, please give at least two symptoms of your child's illness. This information is reported to the Health Department daily in order to track illnesses. The only information given to the Health Department is the number of sick students and their symptoms.

On the **14th of November**, Genesis will be offering a free seasonal flu clinic for K-8th grades at Lourdes.



A consent form is required to participate in the clinic; information and consent form will be sent home with correspondence on Tuesday, November 1st.

### Girl Scouts

LCS Daisy Troop 1531 enjoyed making a paper mache bird bath together. It was messy, and fun!



Together, Cub Scouts and Girls Scouts from LCS attended and walked in the Bettendorf Halloween Parade. Thank you to the Hartman family and friends, for donating the use of their truck and trailer for the first-ever Scout float! The kids had a blast representing LCS!



### Cub Scouts

Cub Scout Pack 199 have had a busy October! We continued to sell popcorn at HyVee, after Masses and at LCS Girls' Basketball games. Our boys have worked hard toward their individual and Pack goals. At our October Pack Meeting, the Scout Oath theme was "kindness" and the seasonal theme was "creepy crawly". We welcomed our newest members of the Pack - our Kindergarten Lions! During the meeting, we worked through five "centers" in the library. The boys watched a pay it forward video, discussed how kindness can be free, played spider bingo, made worm compost habitats and kindness books for each other. We will be quickly moving into the season of service, and



planning a project with a local nursing home. Make sure you stop by the morning masses on December 11th when Cub Scouts will be hosting "Donut Sunday"!



Many of you have heard of “Eggly” ...we even have an Eggly pumpkin in our contest this year. Here is Mrs. Volden’s story, of how Eggly came to be one your child’s favorite learning friends....

It is an honor to be asked to write a newsletter article regarding the history of Voweletics’ development and its theory for teaching children to read. Voweletics is the supplemental reading program used at Lourdes to teach foundational reading skills in our primary grades. As the founder, here is my story.....



Through my teaching, tutoring and desire to provide positive learning-to-read experiences, my entrepreneurial spirit began with a plan to write a book series that emphasized life values. The book series was to be written with decodable words to make reading little, life-lesson books easy for young children. I wanted joyful, meaningful reading books for early readers. They were intended to emphasize values such as kindness, gratitude and a positive attitude. I kept a journal filled with ideas for the characters and story topics.

During this time, I tutored children in early reading skills. In fact, many of our former Lourdes students who are now in high school or college, were my students. Does that age me terribly?!? Repeatedly, parents would say their favorite part of the tutoring session was the five minutes at the end of the tutoring session. Parents were asked to come into my home so I could go over step-by-step the reading skill we practiced that day. Parents are a child's strongest advocate. I felt strongly that when parents understood exactly how to help their child, children always improved their reading skills. Developing a love for reading together AND being equipped with phonetic rules to give their child a boost, makes all the difference for children.

I soon realized that the first need to be met should be to provide the reading tools, so the direction changed in the creative development. The original book characters became the vowel sound guidewords and their values were written into the teaching text. My talented daughter Kate, drew the characters and designed all the graphics for the teaching content; while I created the content and the songs both for the character values and the essential reading rules children need in order to sound out words. Being a variety show girl all my life, what could be more fun than to do this through song? Readersville was created where good readers go to learn to read and have fun doing it!

Hence, Voweletics evolved over the past 10 years into both a phonetic reading and spelling curriculum for primary grades in schools and a home product for parents looking for a way to help their children with reading. Originally called the BuddyUp Reading Program, parent/child buddies would attend a ten-week course at the Bettendorf Community Center. Parents and children embraced the program and children experienced great reading improvement, so the learning method was refined and a patent application process begun.

The patent attorney urged us to create a more novel name. So immediately following our meeting, Kate and I went to our usual spot where creative ideas always seemed to flow....Azteca. J While sharing chips, salsa and a side order of guacamole, Voweletics™ The New Phonetics came to fruition. Knowing the vowel sounds is THE hardest part of learning to read. Voweletics teaches to the 18 different vowel sounds in our English language and the seven associated vowel pattern rules to know when to use these varying vowel sounds. Etics..the study of... hmmm...the vowels! Voweletics seemed a perfect name for the teaching method. BuddyUp Reading transformed into BU Publishing, L.L.C. that now publishes Voweletics. Plans are still underway to come full circle to write whimsical books with the Voweletics characters showing residents in Readersville how to treat others with kindness and express good life values. My personal journal continues to grow with ideas.

The magnitude of gratitude I have for Lourdes Catholic School administrators, teachers, parents and children is immense. At Lourdes, I was able to take an idea, develop it and run with it ONLY because of the support of so many people in our Lourdes family. Thank you for love I feel here every day and the opportunity to allow me to grow Voweletics at our school.

*From the Guidance Office - Mrs. Johnson*

**November:** Peace- a sense of well-being and fulfillment that comes from trusting in God. "Let the peace of the Lord rule your heart." Colossians 3:15

Robotics Competition: All three of our Lourdes Robotics teams will compete at the regional competition on Sunday December 11th at the Putnam Museum in Davenport. All are welcome to come cheer these teams on and see what Robotics is all about!



You may see a new furry friend at Lourdes! Linda Taylor and her therapy dog Honey will be making periodic visits to the Lourdes classrooms. Be sure to wave at Honey when you see her in the halls!

LCS students had the opportunity to hear Christine Schmidt talk about Christ's love and kindness this month. Ask your kids how they can share Christ's love to others using their words and actions.



*PreK Faith Fridays*

The PreK Faith Friday program is off and running! We have 9 faith-filled Fridays scheduled between now and Christmas. We are hoping to offer it again January through May in the morning, and exploring the possibility of offering it in the afternoons then too. Topics covered include: learning the sign of the cross, about prayer, about how we are all important to God, friendship and love.



Thank you to the all of the LCS families for investing in the reading interests of your students, and the entire school. Our Fall Book Fair sales totaled over \$6,000! Scholastic awards a large portion of that back to Lourdes to continue purchasing books and equipment for our school.

Keep reading LCS!





# Kids Korner

**"I love the teachers and students, both are very encouraging and thoughtful."  
-Anna, 7th grade**



**"I love that my teachers make me smarter."  
- James, 4th grade**

**"I like the library. I like my teacher. I like my principal. I like my friends."  
- Keira, 2nd grade**



**"I love that the teachers are so nice and help you when you need it the most."  
- Shannon, 4th grade**

