

INCARNATION CATHOLIC SCHOOL REPORT: February 4, 2019

Leah Coghlan, Principal

Catholic Schools Week:

This year, Catholic Schools Week had many wonderful highs:

- Letters of thanks were written to the parish parishioners. Students thanked the parishioners for their support of the school.
- Two mission collections were completed. Students in prek-4 brought in dignity items to be placed in *Blessing Bags*. These bags were initiated and supported through a grant written for the St. Remy Project at the University of Dayton. The *Blessing Bags* will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul. Students in grades 5-8 brought in single serving items to support the Centerville Food2Go program. This initiative sends food home with students who experience insecurities in that area.
- 250 pizzas provided a fun lunch on student appreciation day, and students were able to view music videos made by their peers. The faculty did not contribute a video this year; instead, electing to provide live entertainment throughout the program. The teachers brought down the house with an Incarnation Lip Sync Battle. Four inflatable T-Rex dinosaurs made appearances throughout the day to celebrate the students' special day.
- *Mrs. Sherri Masline*, music teacher, and our students helped Fr. Smith celebrate the parish Catholic Schools Week Mass on Friday morning. Friday afternoon ended Catholic Schools Week with a schoolwide family-style game hour as students brought non-electronic games from home to share with their classmates.

Guest Speaker: Through the generosity of UBS Family Wealth Partners, the Bradley Family, and the Incarnation PTO, world renowned motivation speaker Marc Mero visited Incarnation School on Wednesday, January 30 and delivered his powerful message to students in grades 5-8. From Mr. Mero's website: *Marc Mero, Former WWE Wrestling Champion and Author of "How to be the Happiest Person on the Planet," reached the pinnacle of sports-entertainment success – then lost it all – but in the process discovered what's most important in life. Everyone faces adversity. "It's not how many times you get knocked down, it's how many times you get back up. You can do anything you set your mind to!"*

Marc shares his captivating journey with audiences worldwide and inspires people to examine their life choices. Listeners feel a greater sense of appreciation toward their relationships and the "gift of time" – and are empowered to make a difference in their personal life, school, career, and community. As the founder of the nonprofit organization, Champion of Choices, Marc dedicates his life to helping others be the "Champion" they're destined to be!

School Enrollment:

The 2018-2019 school year began with a student enrollment of 886 children. After changes due to relocation of several families during the year and enrollment of new families, the current enrollment is 885. New student registration, including early childhood and kindergarten children, begins Sunday, February 24th. Data is tracking toward a strong enrollment number: in the 2017-2018 school year, six tours were given to date. In the 2018-2019 school year, 21 tours have been given to date. This interest has been very exciting! School Registrar, *Mrs. Kim Shields*, reports that interest is extremely high and she is receiving many calls and emails each day from interested and prospective families.

Knights of Columbus Essay Winners:

Each year, students from the Dayton area compete in the Knights of Columbus Vocations Essay Contest. This year, students were challenged to write an essay in which they described a day in the life of a priest, religious brother, or sister. Teachers invited priests and religious brothers and sisters into their classrooms to share their lives with the students. All students from grades 4 through 8 submitted essays and were judged by the Knights of Columbus Council and seminarians. *Mr. Ed Ponder*, from the Monsignor Lawrence K. Breslin Council, congratulated the winning students and gave them certificates following the all-school Mass on Friday, January 25th.

Junior High Science Fair:

Students in seventh and eighth grades prepare and present a science fair project as part of the rigorous science curriculum. They begin work in September by selecting their topic and formulating a question, hypothesis, and procedure. Research, testing, and data collection commences and is all showcased for judging. On January 24th, 162 projects were presented to 47 judges. All judges work in scientific fields and judged projects that related directly to their areas of expertise. 68 projects earned superior ratings (there were two perfect scores!) and are eligible to continue onto the Montgomery County Science Fair on March 2nd at the Dayton Convention Center. Thank you to the Junior High Science Teachers, *Mrs. Cassie Garison and Mrs. Corrie Weckesser* for their time, talent, and dedication to the students. Congratulations to all of our wonderful Junior High Scientists!

Coming soon:

Kindergarten Information Night (February 7th)

Mrs. Lisa Grunder, Kindergarten teacher, and *Mrs. Christine Trombley*, Early Fives Teacher, represented Incarnation School at an informational Kindergarten Parent Meeting at Woodbourne Library on January 28th. They joined a panel of other local early childhood teachers to present readiness information to parents.

On Thursday, February 7th, many teachers will welcome prospective families into the school for Incarnation's Early Childhood and First Grade Family Information Event. Families will be welcomed by school personnel and junior high students. They will be encouraged to explore the school, hunt for activities in various classrooms, interact with teachers, and enjoy pizza and fellowship in the school café. Informational paperwork and preregistration folders will be distributed during the event and all of the Early Childhood and First Grade Teachers will be present to give answer questions about the various aspects of Incarnation School. We are very excited for the new event!

Open House and Learning Fair (February 24th)

If you have not had the opportunity to visit Incarnation's Open House and Learning Fair, please plan on it this year. This exciting day is Sunday, February 25th from 9:30am to 1:30pm. Teacher Tour Guides will be available to guide visitors through the school, and the classrooms and hallways will be filled with student work. There will also be music from our orchestra and band. Come and walk in the footsteps of so many parish children. This is truly a memorable day! February 24th is our first registration day for new families; we are always excited to meet new friends and welcome new families into our community!

Upcoming Events:

- Guest Speaker: Stephen J. Smith – speaks to students about Social Media during the day on February 5th. Please join us for the adult program at 6:30pm in the Parish Center Lobby.
- Valentine’s Day Parties – February 14th beginning at 1:45pm.
- 1st and 2nd Grade Program: Join us for this delightful, high energy program – February 28th at 7:00pm in the Parish Center Gym.