

## October 2025

#### Dear OLP Families,

The transition into Fall and the changing of the seasons is always such an exciting and refreshing time. Just as the colors around us begin to shift, I see our students stepping into this new season with growth and maturity. They are embracing the expectations of their new teachers and grade levels, and it is a joy to watch them thrive.

As we move into October, I'd like to share some upcoming events and important dates with you:

#### · Respect Life Day - October 2

Our students in grades 7 and 8 will take part in a special day of reflection and learning focused on life issues. They will hear from individuals and organizations in our community who work to preserve the sanctity of life. Students from other area Catholic schools will also join us, making this a truly special experience of faith and fellowship.

#### · FIRE Week - Week of October 13

We will celebrate Fire Week with many exciting events, culminating in the FIRE Ball. Thank you to those who have worked so hard to plan and support this year's celebration. FIRE Week is a beautiful opportunity to honor the diversity and individuality of our students, recognizing their unique learning styles, strengths, and abilities. Please be on the lookout for more details to come.

### · End of First Quarter - October 20

The first quarter will conclude on this date.

#### · Parent-Teacher Conferences - October 23

Conferences will provide an important opportunity to connect with your child's teacher and partner together in supporting their growth this year. There is a link below in the newsletter to sign up for your conference time.

#### · Trunk or Treat - October 24

Join us for a fun evening of community and fellowship at our annual Trunk or Treat! This is always a highlight for families and students alike. Information on purchasing tickets will be shared soon. Trunk or Treat is planned by out 8th grade students and their families and all money raised goes to a fund for their graduation events and celebration.

### · 3rd & 4th Grade Fall Concert - October 28

Our 3rd and 4th grade students will welcome the season with a Fall/Halloween-themed concert. We are so proud of their hard work and look forward to sharing their talents with you.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. This year is off to a wonderful start, and I am grateful for the partnership we share in guiding your children academically, spiritually, and personally. I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming events.

With gratitude and blessings,

### Mrs. Marianne H. Organ

Principal

Our Lady of the Presentation Catholic School









During all school mass days, anyone entering the church after 8:15 will need to check in at the school office.

# THIS ISSUE:

October Calendar/Lunch Menu Volunteer Opportunities School News Parent Teacher Conferences FIRE Week PTO/Extra-curricular Parish Information Community Happenings









# A message from Father Tom Holder

It's hard to believe October is just around the corner, but it has been nice to have some cooler weather as fall begins and the blessing of a new season arrives. We ended up having great weather last Friday for the annual Golf Tournament and another full tournament of golfers. Thanks to everyone who participated and supported the event. A special thanks to Nicolette Fuchs and Kelly John for once again organizing the event and making it a great success.

We have continued focusing on our "Simply Serve" theme at our School Masses and throughout the week. The teachers and students have already been finding creative ways to incorporate the theme into daily activities and they have been gaining inspiration from some of the saints in our tradition. I encourage you to also find ways as a family to live the spirit of Simply Serve. A big thanks to the PTO for providing the Simply Serve t-shirts that our students can wear to school Mass.

On Thursday, October 16, at 6:30pm we will be hosting a parish-wide "Simply Serve" Evening of Reflection in the church. All adults are invited as we focus on building a culture where service is at the heart of our faith and lives. Please take time to join us.

In our faith tradition, the month of October is designated as a month to honor Mary, our Blessed Mother, and to focus on Respect Life issues. Throughout the month of October, we offer various opportunities to pray the Rosary in the parish and school. Before each weekend Mass in October, we will pray the Rosary 25 minutes before Mass begins. Come a little early and join in the prayer. The school will pray a Living Rosary the afternoon of Friday, October 10. We will also have an outdoor Rosary in honor of Our Lady of Fatima on Saturday, October 11, at 11am by the Mary garden on the north side. Make the Rosary a regular habit of prayer in your family.

October is also **Respect Life Month** in the Church. This is a time to raise awareness about the various life issues in our world. As people of faith, we are called to protect life from conception to a natural death. Many of the service partners our students learn about and work with through the school year are focused on protecting life. Take time as a family to learn about the life issues and talk about ways we can all show greater respect for life.

October 4 is the feast day of one of our more well-known saints, **St. Francis of Assisi**. Because of his love for creation and all of God's creatures, one of the ways we celebrate him every year is with a *Blessing of Pets*. We will offer this special blessing on <u>Saturday</u>, <u>October 4</u>, at 3:00pm in the new parking lot addition next to the Gym entrance. This is a great way to gather with your children and your family pets and connect a fun tradition with family life. Please join us.

Many Blessings!



"DO SMALL THINGS WITH GREAT LOVE"
-SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA

# **OCTOBER**

# **Important Dates**



All School Mass

Students may wear Simply Serve Shirts with uniform bottoms.



PTO Meeting



9

All School Mass

Students may wear Simply Serve Shirts with uniform bottoms.

15

All School Mass

Students may wear Simply Serve Shirts with uniform bottoms.

Konrad's Trivia Night Fundraiser

20

End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

22

All School Mass

Students may wear Simply Serve Shirts with uniform bottoms.

23

No School



No School Trunk or Treat



28

3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Concert "Let's Boo-gie"

29

All School Mass

Students may wear Simply Serve Shirts with uniform bottoms.

30

Halloween Class Parties @ 2:30pm



No School







# MASS SCHEDULE

Date: Wednesday, October 1

Class: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Lector: Jacob Tran

Senior Server: Nathan Wendt

Servers: Anna Ciaccio & Golden Glynn

Date: Thursday, October 9

Class: Leadership

Lector: Reid Kauzlarich

Senior Server: Julia McNamara

Servers: Lizzie Nurrenbern & Bennett Placke

Date: Wednesday, October 15

Class: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Lector: Zoey Wales

Senior Server: Bailey Vestal

Servers: Jett O'Connell & Eliza Ruiz

Date: Wednesday, October 22

Class: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Lector: Scarlett McClintock

Senior Server: Jackson Stringer

Servers: Finn Dobbs & Jordyn Evans

Date: Wednesday, October 29

Class: Leadership Lector: Anna Ciaccio

Senior Server: Emma Kakuske

Servers: Josiah Anderson & Ruth Ciaccio





# OUR SCHOOL

# FROM MS PIERSON SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER

Dear Parents,

We are in the second unit of Friendzy. Time flies when you are having fun! This month we are teaching the students the Catchphrase **LISTEN UP**! In this unit we will learn about **Whole Body Listening**; learning to listen with our whole selves so that others feel seen, heard, and valued.

Catchphrase (main point for students to catch on to): "Listen Up!"

Key Verses (Biblical anchor points):

**Deuteronomy 6:4-5**: "Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

Proverbs 2:2: "Tune your ears to wisdom, and concentrate on understanding."

Here's what Whole Body Listening entails. Whole Body Listening is a concept we will learn in this lesson to help focus and actively listen with more than just our ears. It involves ALL of these parts of our body: ears, eyes, brain, mouth, heart, hands, and feet. We can learn to be whole body listeners through Friendzy!

We encourage you to Continue the Friendzy Conversation with your student!! Here are the main points your student will learn in Unit 2:

- 1. Listening is a whole-body activity. Turn your body toward the person speaking and use your eyes to SEE the person's expressions and posture, your ears to TAKE IN what they are saying, your heart to RELATE to whatever emotions they are communicating so that you can RESPOND with wisdom and love, in words if necessary.
- 2. Listening can keep peace. When we are quick to listen and slow to speak, we can be sure we are understanding others more clearly before we jump to conclusions or have misunderstandings that lead to hurt feelings and anger. Wait to speak until you are sure you understand.
- 3. Listening demands good questions. Some people need to be drawn out. Some people need help making their point. Questions like, "tell me more" and "how does that make you feel?" can be powerful to help people feel loved and safe in friendship. Be curious about your friends.
- 4. Wise words heal hearts. Affirming words that follow active listening can heal hearts and build friendships. When we "concentrate on understanding", we will respond to our friends with wisdom and encouragement that builds friendships and changes the culture of our schools.

#### G.E.A.R. Up to Listen Up! ///

**G—Get Quiet**: Turning off the external noise of media creates space to focus on quieting down the internal conversations happening in our own minds.

**E—Engage**: Be present in conversations by actively listening with your whole body. When appropriate, engage, and ask questions. Practice patience, wait for your turn to talk, and be careful not to interrupt.

**A-Accept**: Actively listening is a way we accept the gift of what others are sharing. Let's be friends who accept the gift of other's stories, receiving them with kindness and respect.

R-Respond: Responding with whole-body listening communicates we are engaged, we care, and we're listening.

#### **ASK THOUGHTFUL QUESTIONS ///**

Next time you have your eyes glued to a screen and begin to tune out the world around you, consider pausing and asking yourself these helpful questions to practice the skills of self-awareness and social awareness in your home:

- > What is happening around me?
- > Who is present in the room that I need to be aware of?
- > Do I need to pay attention to them?

### WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU ///

Has there been a time this month that you "caught" your child using whole body listening, tell us about it!

### We are better and stronger together!

Blessings,

Kelley Pierson Social Worker

# VOLUNTIER-OPPORTUNTIES

\*\*All volunteers are required to complete Virtus Training (virtusonline.org and <a href="https://protectmokids.com/">https://protectmokids.com/</a>). Both are available online and when completed certificates need to be emailed to or dropped off at the school office. These are both diocesan requirements for volunteers in any school.\*\*

Safe Environment Requirements>>

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CAFETERIA HELPERS are needed to assist with serving lunch each school day. All volunteers must be Virtus trained prior to signing up. Cafeteria sign-up

CROSSING GUARDS are needed to help with morning drop-off 7:30-8:00 a.m. If you are interested in helping get students through the parking lot safely before school, please email Mr. Podjenski,  $\frac{dpodjenski@olpls.org}{dpodjenski@olpls.org}$ .

PARENT ON PATROL Half and full days available. Volunteers provide an extra presence around the school building, at recess, in the cafeteria, etc. If you are interested in participating in the POPPS program please contact Gaetano Falcone at popps@alplsschool.org.

# OUR SCHOOL



Our Lady of the Presentation

### Picture Day is:

Tuesday, September 30, 2025

WagnerPortraitGroup.com
Online Pre-Order Password:
4F6P5X9V



### Picture Day is September 30th

We need 2 volunteers to help this day between 8:00-1:00. If interested, please contact Mary Kay in the office.



# End of Quarter Reminders

As we approach the end of the first quarter on Monday, October 20, we would like to remind you that all **FACTS Financial Accounts** must be up to date in order for your child's report card to be released. This includes balances for lunch funds, incidentals, daycare, and tuition, as outlined in your payment plan.







It is the tradition of FIRE Partner schools to celebrate the week leading up to the largest fundraier and signature event, FireBall. Our local Friends of Fire Committee has worked to create a fun filled week for our community and to help our students learn to appreciate the differences in each of us!

#### FIRE SHIRTS ALL WEEK!

COIN WARS MON 10/13 - THURS 10/16!

Donate coins in the jars in the cafeteria or Venmo @Lori-Meyer-37 with your student's grade to participate.

RAFFLE TICKETS DUE WEDNESDAY 10/29!

MONDAY - SHINE A LIGHT ON INCLUSION
Students will each decorate a flame and describe what inclusion mean

Students will each decorate a flame and describe what inclusion means to them

TUESDAY - TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY

OLP Friends of Fire will prepare lunch in appreciation of our teachers

WEDNESDAY - STUDENT APPRECIATION DAY

Students will be sent home with a special treat with a message to share about inclusion with family

THURSDAY - STUDENT ASSEMBLY

Students will learn about the FIRE Foundation and OLP TEAM Lab and will listen to stories at our all school assembly

FRIDAY - DRESS DOWN DAY

# FIRE WEEK 10/13 - 10/17

# ALL INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE AT <a href="https://olplsschool.org/fire-program">https://olplsschool.org/fire-program</a>

We are gearing up for all things FIRE in the next few weeks!

This is such an important time for our community to raise awareness and celebrate how blessed we are to have our children attend an INCLUSIVE CATHOLIC SCHOOL!

FIRE WEEK 2025: 10/13-10/17

OLP FIRE WEEK THEME: SHINE A LIGHT ON INCLUSION!!!

• We need "all hands-on deck" to make this week really special.

We are hoping all members of our school can contribute to the success of FIRE week 2025 and consider please donating what you can (time, talent, treasure). Every dollar raised to support the FIRE Foundation is given back to the schools that support our children in the classroom.

We've listed our needs with a brief description/information and links in the table below.

Needs	Description	LINKS
Volunteer Opportunities	<ul> <li>Volunteer positions needed:         <ul> <li>Sell FIREBALL raffle tickets at masses 10/4-10/5 (Sat 4:30 pm, Sun 8 am, 10 am, Noon) – we need 3 positions needed for each date/time slot!</li> <li>FIRE week decorations coordinator – we need someone to organize, procure, and coordinate decorations for the hallway / stage for FIRE week. All decorations need to be purchased and delivered by 10/12/25.</li> <li>FIRE Decorations volunteers – Please donate time to help decorate the school on Sunday 10/12/25! 20 + slots are needed! We appreciate any time you have!</li> <li>Coin wars coordinator(s) – During FIRE week, students collect coins as donations. Each lunch shift would collect coins, coordinator would count donations, select a prize &amp; deliver prize for winning lunch group!</li> <li>Teacher luncheon coordinators – During FIRE week, OLP friends of FIRE host a luncheon for staff and teachers to show appreciation for all they do. Coordinator determines menu, coordinates signup for lunch help including paper goods, set up, serve and clean up. Luncheon is Tuesday 10/14!</li> <li>Treats coordinators - very year the FireWeek Committee will gift the students with some type of treat during the week. This volunteer(s) will coodinate, buy, plan and/or make these treats. Treat day is Wednesday 10/15!</li> <li>Dress down day coordinator – Collect money to donate towards raffle sales – Dress down is planned for Friday 10/17!</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	VOLUNTEER SIGNUP GENIUS LINK  Please reach out if you have any questions: Lori Meyer (lorimariebailey@hotmail.com), (816) 674-4241 or Leigh Casey (leigh.casey@merck.com) (816) 582-5770
Procurement - Silent Auction Amazon Wishlists	Each year OLP helps to donate 2 silent auction packages to sell at the FIREBall event. We need your help with purchasing items from these Amazon wishlists to fill these packages! All items once purchased go directly to FIRE. Thank you for your generosity!	It's a Love Story - Taylor & Travis FIREBALL Silent Auction Package LINK Guys's Package - FIREBALL Silent Auction Package LINK
RAFFLE TICKETS	FIREBall's marquis fundraiser is the FIREBALL RAFFLE.  A few changes to this year's raffle.  • All tickets are electronic – no more paper tickets  • There is no FIREBALL cup, just one shared goal to sell 10,000 tickets!  • OLP has set a school goal to sell 1300 tickets!!  • Tickets are \$10 each  • Raffle sales run 09/29-10/29  • GRAND PRIZE = \$5000 (you do not need to be present to win!)  You and your child please sell raffle tickets to family, friends!! Help us meet our goal! Students will receive a prize if we meet the 1300 ticket goal!!	9/29-10/29
Teacher Luncheon Donations	Please consider donating drinks and desserts for Teacher Luncheon on 10/14! All items need to please be in Donovan Room by 10 AM on 10/14.	TEACHER LUNCHEON DONATIONS
FIREBALL	And the finally the wonderful FIREBall event, which is being held on November 1, 2025 at the Kansas City Convention Center.  Tickets and sponsorships are still available.  It is always a fun night where over 800 guests from all over Kansas City will come out to support inclusive Catholic education.  We would love to see you there!!!!!!	Get your tickets before they sell out at firefoundation.org/events/firebal

# OUR PTO





# OUR EXTRA-CURRICULARS

### Interested in Coaching? It's Never Too Early to Sign Up!

Whether you're interested in Basketball, Cheerleading, or other sports, now is the perfect time to apply.

Getting started early ensures you'll have plenty of time to complete VIRTUS training and be ready for a great season ahead!

Apply today: <a href="https://olplsschool.org/coaches-application">https://olplsschool.org/coaches-application</a>

Volunteers Needed for games hosted at OLP Gym!!

OLP Athletics is needing volunteers to help with all games hosted here at our school. To sign up <u>CLICK HERE</u> or follow the link below. <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D49ACA72CABF58-58370739-copy#/</u>

# ORDER YOUR OLP ATHLETICS GEAR





















# **OLP VOLLEYBALL GYM SCHEDULE**

# Thursday 9/25

6:00 PM 7th Grade A Presentation-CM Visitation-SW 7:00 PM 7th Grade A Visitation-SW St. Therese-JH 8:00 PM 7th Grade A Presentation-CM St. Therese-JH

### Saturday 9/27

9:00 AM 3rd Grade Presentation-SN Pembroke Hill-TM
10:00 AM 4th Grade Presentation-RG St. Andrew-JT
11:00 AM 6th Grade Red Presentation-CB St. Elizabeth-CD
12:00 PM 6th Grade Red St. Elizabeth-CD St. Peter-SM
1:00 PM 6th Grade Red Presentation-CB St. Peter-SM

### **Eastland Catholic Football**

weekend schedule for Saturday 9/27/25

4th/5th Flag football team will play at Bishop
Miege 12pm against Nativtivy

7th/8th Tackle Football team will play at St Thomas Aquinas High School at 5:00pm against Holy Southern

# OUR PARISH



St. Francis Pet Blessing Saturday, October 4 3 p.m. All pets welcome!







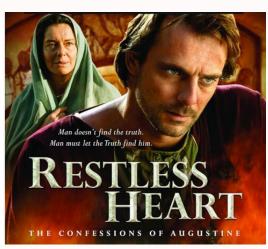
## Movie Night

Restless Heart: The Confessions of St. Augustine

Monday, September 29 6:30 p.m.

(2-HOUR, 15-MINUTE FILM, RATED PG) \$5 DONATION FOR FILM AND SNACKS















# OUR COMMUNITY



#### Fall Campout - Oct 17-18 (Longview Lake)

- Face painting,games, firepit, and s'mores!
- Must be a registered Scout to stay overnight but can join in the day activities!

Official Pack Meeting – Oct 27 @ 6:30 PM
OLP Auditorium – perfect time to join and get involved.

Other Upcoming Adventures: Pinewood Derby • Zoo Overnight • Hockey Night with the Mavericks • Soccer Night with Sporting KC

If you have questions regarding the Pack Calendar or would like more information about Pack 4391, please contact:

Cubmaster: Rob Beavers, 816-916-3731, robbeavers@gmail.com Committee Chairperson: Joshua Boeckmann, 314-795-4513, Joshua.boeckmann@gmail.com



### 8th Graders

- Applications for acceptance are open! Click HERE to apply to be a student at St. Michael the Archangel for the 2026-2027 school year. Students wanting to attend St. Michael will need to take the High School Placement Test (HSPT). Click <u>HERE</u> to register for the December 6 exam.
- Are you interested in shadowing a Student Ambassador at St. Michael? Dates are still available to spend the day with us! Click **HERE** to schedule a Guardian for a Day!
- Parent Information Meeting, November 18 beginning at 6:15 pm. Topics regarding admissions, financial aid, academics and mission of the school will be shared. No RSVP needed.

ST. MICHAEL

the ARCHANGEL