

# Knighly NEWSpaper

Published By The OSM Student Council - December 2023 - Edition #3

## **An Update on Football** *Written By Brady Murphy*

### **Chicago Bears**

Bears: The Bears just ended their season on a high note going 7-9. Although they did not make the playoffs, they received the number 1 pick through a trade with the Panthers the previous season.

### **College Football**

College Football: The Michigan Wolverines ended their 26 year drought and won the 2023 National Championship with a 34-13 win against Washington. The team led by Illinois native JJ McCarthy (Nazareth Academy), Blake Corum and Coach Jim Harbaugh. The team ended the season 15-0.



## **History of New Years** *Written By: Emily Pienta*

The earliest recorded festivities in honor of a new year's arrival date back some 4,000 years to ancient Babylon. For the Babylonians, the first new moon following the vernal equinox, the day in late March with an equal amount of sunlight and darkness, heralded the start of a new year. People in the US celebrate by families and friends gather to share a meal and "ring in" the New Year, often with a toast and a song. Americans also enjoy the tradition of watching the New Year's festivities at Times Square (New York City) which are broadcast on TV. In Brazil, people head to the beach to celebrate. Then in Spain, they celebrate by eating 12 grapes. In India, they build a sculpture of an old man and burn it down. While in Japan they eat soba noodles unlike France who feast with champagne. In Haiti, they share soup jomou, while in Denmark they throw old plates. Canada goes ice fishing to celebrate while in the Philippines they serve 12 round fruits. This is just a few ways that New Year's is celebrated around the world. Every country is unique and has different ways to celebrate New Year's.



# Pop Culture

## *Taylor's Era*

*Written By: Fiona Dollear*

The Era's Tour started in March. The concert was the first ever concert to pass 1 billion dollars in revenue. The show is concluding in december of 2024 and has a total 151 shows in across of 5 continents.

On June 18th, 2023 the Titanic submersible was lost. The submersible was made by the company OceanGate and costed 250,000 to hop on the ride. The Titan had only completed 13 out of 90 test dives and 5 lives were lost.

Barbenhimer hits the theaters in the summer of 2023 and it was a race to see which movie would become more popular, together, the films made 244 million dollars just in opening weekend. Barbie made 1.4 billion dollars and Oppenheimer made 946 million.



**TAYLOR SWIFT  
THE ERAS TOUR**

## *Wonka-A Familiar Name*

*Written By: Hank Pensinger*

With the Christmas season now over, and a new year just beginning, there is so much to unpack when it comes to pop culture news. On the film side of things, movie-goers were treated to a slew of new releases over the holiday break. This includes *Wonka*, a film centering around the origins of the famed chocolatier. The movie released on December 15 to box office success and heavily positive reviews. Other high profile releases included *The Boys in the Boat*, *Aquaman: The Lost Kingdom*, and *Ferrari*. *Aquaman* came out on December 22 while *The Boys in the Boat* and *Ferrari* hit theaters on Christmas Day. Many of these films saw success during the Golden Globe Awards with *Wonka* being nominated in several categories. However, the far and away winner of the award show was *Oppenheimer* which racked up several accolades including best director, best score, best male actor, and ultimately best motion picture drama. Finally, over the Christmas season, many songs dominated the airwaves. Mariah Carey's "All I Want For Christmas Is You" and Kelly Clarkson's "Underneath the Tree" are some modern songs that could be heard on repeat over the past few weeks with timeless classics such as "White Christmas" also receiving their fair share of listens.



# Top Gifts

Written By: Marko Zafirovski

\$50



With the rise in popularity of astrology, there is this candle based on your birth date and zodiac signs. It has a specialized smell and has facts about your personality.

\$27



Do you ever find yourself being bored or down? Well, there is this poster that has one hundred activities you can do to make sure you stay physically and mentally healthy! You just have to peel of a sticker and follow the directions in the picture.

Lastly, we have an ancestry kit. You can figure out your ethnic background by simply sending a sample of your saliva to people at Ancestry.com. Within two to three weeks the virtually send you the results back

\$60

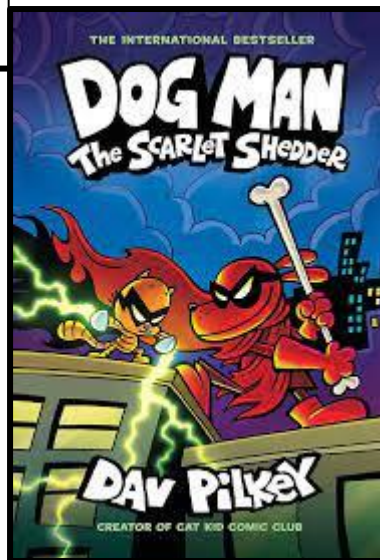


# Top Reads

Written By: Marko Zafirovski



A classic, The Wings of Fire Series. It follows the story of five dragons that are part of an old prophecy. This book is recommended for more advanced readers.



Are you looking for a novel with a bright and funny storyline? You should read Dog Man: The Scarlet Shredder. It is a new addition to the Dog Man series that will be coming out in March of 2024. Dog Man is kicked out of his town and has to find a way to protect the people who shunned him.



Lastly, we have science fiction and the realistic fiction story Divergent. The novel takes place in Chicago where everyone is split into five factions that are all defined by one main trait. Beatrice tries to survive through this turmoil and crack the system.

Made by Gabriel Morales

# Guess the Movie!

*Try guessing what movie each character is from!*

*Answers on the next page!*



1



2



3



4



5

# Crafts!

*Written By Ellsie Berchman*

## Snowman Craft:

*Materials used: Toilet paper roll, paper, tape, and markers.*

Step 1: Cut paper and cover the roll with it; use tape to attach it



Step 2: Draw a face on the paper like a snowman



Step 3: Decorate the snowman cut out some accessories



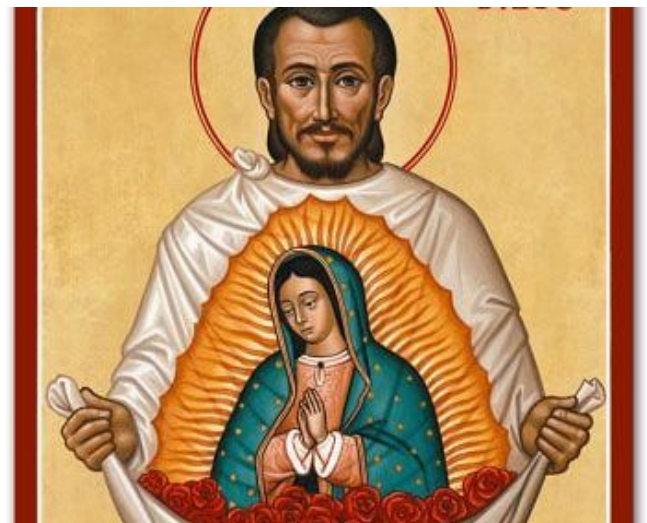
# Saint Spotlight

*Written By Fox Boveroux*

The saint of December is Juan Diego. St. Juan Diego is an important saint because of his special relationship with Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mary, Mother of God. St. Juan Diego had converted to Catholicism under the influence of Spanish colonizers. One day, on his way to church, he saw a beautiful woman appear, proclaiming she was the Virgin Mary. Our Lady asked Juan Diego to have a church where they stood, Tepeyac hill. St. Juan Diego obeyed and went to the Bishop and told him what had occurred, but the Bishop didn't believe him.

The next day, Juan met Our Lady again and said that he did not have enough proof that she had appeared. She told him to climb to the top of the hill, and take the flowers there and bring them to the Bishop. The flowers were Castilian roses, which are not native to Mexico, grew in Spain, and didn't grow at that time year. He wrapped them in his Tilma. He went back to the Bishop and released the roses from the Tilma. The Bishop saw they were Spanish Castilian roses, that had fallen, but when he looked up, he saw the miraculous image of our Lady of Guadalupe.

St. Juan Diego was canonized on July 31st, 2002 and his feast day is December 9th. He is famous for the apparitions and there are several miracles surrounding the image, and it is located at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, right on Tepeyac hill. Do some research yourself on the Tilma and it's miracles! You'll find a lot of information!



## Answers To Guess The Movie!

1. Cheshire Cat, *Alice In Wonderland*
2. Genie, *Aladdin*
3. Rapunzel, *Tangled*
4. Woody, *Toy Story*
5. Tinker Bell, *Peter Pan*



# Current Events

*By Brooklyn Bobb*



## PANDAS RETURN TO HOMELAND

Have you ever gone to the zoo and looked at the unique and **diverse** animals? Zoos allow us to view animals that often live in far places. These animals include tigers, monkeys, gorillas, and much more. Recently, pandas from China have been returned to their **origin**. If you would like to know more about this, continue reading.

Pandas are known for their black and white fur and adorable **dispositions**. When looking at a website of the cutest baby animals, you will often find pandas in the top five. These very reasons are why they were brought to the United States. The main goal of this was to save the species by breeding them. The pandas were first brought in 1972. That was 51 years ago! Since then, the pandas have **flourished**. Now, they will return to China.

There were two notable pandas who came to the zoo in 2000. Their names are Mei Xiang and Tian Tian. Originally, they were only supposed to stay for ten years. However, when the time ran out, the pandas stayed in America. Now, they will return home.

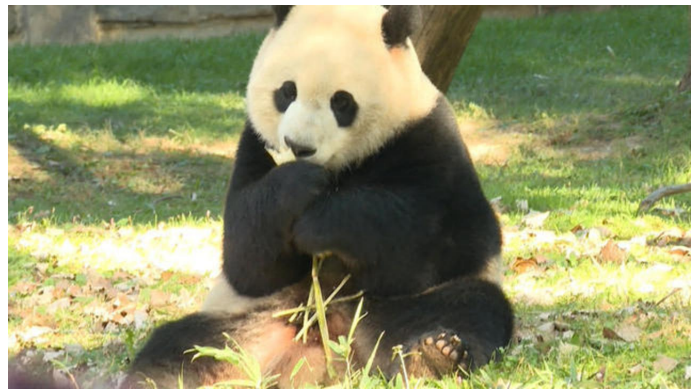
### Vocabulary

Diverse: different

Origin: where an article is created

Dispositions: personalities

Flourished: grow



# Top 5 Highest Grossing Animated

## Movies of 2023

Written By Will Kent

1. Super Mario Bros  
Movie  
Domestic Total-  
\$574.9 M



2. Spider Man Across  
the Spider Verse  
Domestic Total-  
\$381.3 M



- Elemental  
Domestic Total-  
\$154.4M



5. Teenage Mutant  
Ninja Turtles:  
Mutant Mayhem  
Domestic Total-  
\$118.6M



3. Puss in Boots: The last wish  
Domestic Total- \$185.5M





# Recipes To Try

*Written By  
Samantha Tokarz*

## How to make Chewy Chocolate chip Cookies:

*Things you need:*

- 2 1/3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
  - 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 3/4 cup unsalted butter melted and cooled just until opaque
  - 1 cup brown sugar
  - 1/2 cup granulated sugar
  - 1 egg room temperature
  - 1 egg yolk room temperature
- 1 1/2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips

*Instructions*

1. Whisk together the melted butter, brown sugar and granulated sugar in a large bowl for two minutes.
2. Whisk in the vanilla extract, egg and egg yolk until the mixture is light and creamy.
3. Add the flour, baking soda, corn starch and salt and mix just until combined.
4. Stir in the chocolate chips.
5. Scoop out cookie dough, about 1/4 cup per cookie, and roll the dough balls in your hands until smooth. Place on a parchment lined baking sheet and chill in refrigerator for 1 hour or in the the freezer for 30 minutes.
6. Bake for 12-15 mins

**Congratulations! You have cookies!**

# Where in the World is Nicky The Knight?

*Written By Samantha Tokarz*



## Guess where Nicky went for Christmas Vacation?

### Hints:

1. It is in South America
2. It is a tropical place.
3. This country is a big fan of soccer.
4. This country/city has one of the biggest carnivals in the world.
5. They have a famous statue of Jesus Christ.

## Can you guess where Nicky went?

*Answer will be in next  
month's paper, so lookout for  
it!*





# STUDENT COUNCIL MONTHLY UPDATE:

*A look back on the month and what the S.C. has done!*



By: Zuzanna Gorecka



December was a very busy week for Student Council. We spread Christmas cheer by caroling in front of the school. We also decorated the first and second floor with ornaments that the students made themselves. Student Council organized and decorated the gym for middle school winter dance.

## December's "2 on the 20" By Sebastian Sandoval

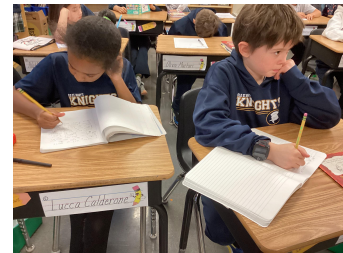
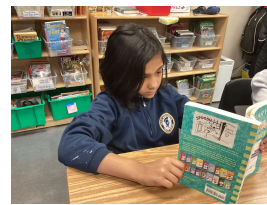
Elaborating on the Christmas caroling, It was very jolly! Even though it was cold, it was worth it to see everyone smile and laugh! We also did 2 on the 20! Also believe or not, it was Nicky the knight! While this is our 20th year as a school, we will be cheering on the 20th day of each month to remind you of this great accomplishment! Way to go OSM! If you ordered a 20th Year sweatshirt, you will be able to wear them during Catholic Schools Week!



# Grade Update: Third Grade

*Written By Makenzie Ward and Chinedu Madu*

Third Grade has been up to many different things in December like angels that they made including making hallway decorations for Christmas and the new year. They are doing a lot of projects for reading. Third grade has also been doing Multiplication and division in math class as well as talking about the things they loved and did not love over their break. In ELA class third grade has had a writing unit in which they are writing information topics on which they are experts on reading and writing



## 6 Unique New Year's Traditions Around the World!

*Written by: Mackenzie Sullivan*

### #1: Ecuador: Burning Scarecrows

In Ecuador, for New Year's Eve, they burn effigies, most often representing politicians, pop culture icons, and other figures from the year prior in the center of a bonfire. These burnings of the "año viejo," or "old year," as they're called, are held at the end of every year to cleanse the world of all the bad from the past 12 months and make room for the good to come.

### #3: Japan: Ringing Bells 108 Times

In this tradition, Japan rings their bells 108 times. They ring them so many times in alignment with the Buddhist belief that this brings cleanliness. It's also considered good to be smiling going into the New Year as it supposedly brings good luck.

### #5: Russia: Drinking Ashes

In this tradition, Russians drink ashes! But don't be worried these are not human or anything of the sort. Rather, in Russian culture, it is New Year's Eve tradition for folks to write their wishes down on a piece of paper, burn them with a candle, and drink the subsequent ashes in a glass of champagne!

### #2: Scotland: First Footing

In this tradition in Scotland, the day before January 1 is so important that there's even an official name for it: Hogmanay! According to Scottish beliefs, the first person who crosses through the doorstep of your house after midnight on New Year's Day should be a dark-haired male if you wish to have good luck in the coming year. Usually, these men come bearing gifts of coal, salt, shortbread, and whiskey, all of these have the idea of having good fortune.

### #4: Italy: Wearing Red Underwear

In this tradition, Italians wear red underwear! In Italian culture, the color red is associated with fertility, so people wear it under their clothes in the hopes that it will help them conceive in the coming year!

### #6: Scotland: First Footing

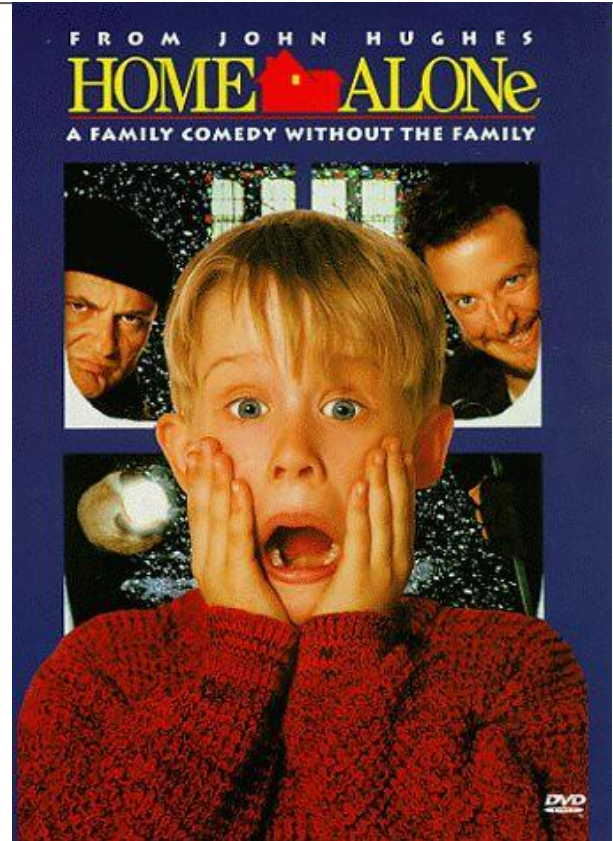
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# Home Alone Summary

*Written By: William Johnigan*

Home Alone begins with a crowded home filled with family members from Chicago and Paris. Kevin McCallister is ignored by his parents, and he asks other family members for advice on packing for travel. His brother Buzz looks out across the street and sees the mysterious old man named Marley. Kevin then creates a mess when he gets mad that Buzz ate Kevin's pizza. Kevin's mom then sends Kevin up to the attic, where he will sleep for the night. The next morning, the whole family is late to get to the airport, and in a hurry, they forget Kevin.



Kevin wakes up to find that his family is gone. Kevin then plays all around the house, but finds out that two burglars, Marv and Harry, are trying to break in to the house. Kevin befriends his mysterious neighbor and sets traps for the burglars to fall into when they try to break into the house. Kevin gets caught by Marv and Harry, but is rescued by his newly found friend, Marley. Kevin goes to sleep missing his family and is surprised to find his mom on Christmas morning. The rest of Kevin's family comes, and they have a wonderful Christmas.



# Riddles!

*Written By Patrick O'Kelley*

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1. I have cities, but no people. I have roads, but no cars. I have forests, but no trees. What am I?
  2. What gets wetter as it dries?
  3. I am tall when I am young, and short when I am old, what am I?
  4. What is seen in the middle of March and April that can't be seen at the beginning or end of either month?
  5. A girl has as many brothers as sisters, but each brother has only half as many brothers as sisters. How many brothers and sisters are there in the family?
  6. What disappears as soon as you say its name?
  7. What are the next three letters in this combination? OTTFFSS
  8. This belongs to you, but everyone else uses it.
  9. What comes once in a minute, twice in a moment, but never in a thousand years?
  10. Which word in the dictionary is always spelled incorrectly?
- 

## ANSWERS

1. A map
2. A towel
3. a candle
4. the letter "r"
5. Four sisters and three brothers
6. silence
7. E N T, each letter is the first word of a number, One, Two, Three, etc.
8. your name
9. the letter "m"
10. "Incorrectly"

# Hidden Figures

By Matty Manglavil

Can you find  
all five candy  
canes?





# The History of **CHESS**



By Matty Manglavil

Chess: One of the first board games, and now an actual sport that people are grandmasters in. This was born from an old indian game called chaturanga before the 600s AD. This spread throughout Asia and Europe, and evolved into what we know today: Chess, around the 1600s.

One of the first masters of chess, was Ruy Lopez. Ruy Lopez was a Spanish priest who studied the game of chess very thoroughly. He wrote a book in 1561 and greatly improved chess theory, and made people think about chess a lot differently.

Fast forward to the 1800s. Chess has continued to grow and spread all around the world, and was constantly improving. A new style of chess pieces came to play made by Jaques of London in 1849. These pieces look like what we know today, the classic chess board. Competitive chess also became popular at the time, and around the 1900s, the introduction of chess clocks was put into play, which changed the game forever. Chess is an amazing sport, board game, and if you want to try chess, the board is yours.

# KNIGHTLY INTERVIEWS

*Written By Chinedu Madu*

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**Ms. Kennedy**

Ms. Kennedy has been at OSM for 13 years. She started in 2011 and came here during Dr. Mary Lee Callihan's time as principal. OSM has been her first and only teaching job. She originally came to OSM as a substitute teacher but was later told there was a opening for a science teacher role that she eventually took. Before OSM, Ms. Kennedy was an X-ray tech. Afterward, she became a stay-at-home mom before coming to OSM. Her favorite thing about OSM is the faculty relationships and the great community of people as well as the school's ability to provide for students. Thank you Ms. Kennedy!



**Ms. Zara**

Ms. Zara has been at OSM for 4 years. She came here when Ms. Smith was the principal. This also has been her first and only teaching job. Before OSM she was in a master's program in business . She has always taught 4th grade as a homeroom teacher along with ELA and religion at in her time at OSM. She came to OSM because she saw how much teachers care about students and empower students to be the best they can be. Her favorite thing about OSM has been the school spirit. Thank you Ms. Zara!

# KNIGHTLY INTERVIEWS: NURSE EDITION

*Written By Cate Crowley*

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**Nurse Aimee**

Nurse Aimee has been a nurse here at Old St Mary's for 13 years. Nurse Aimee started nursing because of her love and compassion for kids. She also wanted to make a positive impact on people's lives. She chose to be a nurse at Old St Mary's because its close knit and supportive community. Which therefor made OSM unique and drew her to the job. She looks forward to the daily interactions with the students. She takes pride in comforting each and every student whether the ailment is a stomach ache or an accident on the playground. Since she has started working at OSM her goal is to always make the nurse's office a warm and welcoming community. Thank you Nurse Aimee!



**Nurse Beth**

Nurse Beth is another nurse here at Old St Marys. She has worked here for 6 years. What made her want to become a nurse here at Old St Mary's is both of her girls went to school here and she is very involved with our school community. She was on the school board and has always been a welcoming and kind soul to our school. Her favorite part of our osm community are the friendships she has created with parents and kids. The friendships and the bonds she has created have lasted for years. Throughout her life she has always wanted to be in the medical field. Her father was in the medical field as well. She also chose this career because nursing has opened many career paths for her. On behalf of the Old St Mary's school community we are so grateful for you Nurse Beth. Thank you for all that you have done here at OSM. We appreciate you!



# Comic



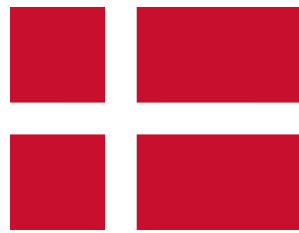
## OSM's Christmas Traditions

*Written By Zuzanna Gorecka*

Over the years, Old Saint Mary's has celebrated Christmas in many unique ways. Some traditions have been perpetuated for years, while others have only just started! One example of an older tradition is that the younger grades have always held Christmas parties. If you're in PreK to 5th Grade, expect parties with many fun activities and games like bingo or whoosha. This year, Ms. Zara's fourth grade class played bingo and made slime. Also this year, Student Council decorated the first and second floors with ornaments that were colored in by every class. Middle school also got to have the first annual Winter Dance! We also love how we wrap our the year with our all-school Christmas Sing-Along! This year, we sat in our Houses to join in on the fun. If you want there to be any new traditions next year, feel free to notify your student council reps!

# Nation Spotlight

*Written By Ben Kepler*



**Denmark**



**Finland**



**Iceland**



**Sweden**



**Norway**

This month of Nation Spotlight is going to be different because we are focusing on 2 regions! Scandinavia and Norden are the regions we will be learning about this month. There are 3 countries in Scandinavia, but 5 in Norden. Sweden, Norway, and Finland are in Scandinavia, while Iceland and Denmark join these three to make Norden! Here is a fun fact for each nation:

- **Iceland**
  - Many people from Iceland believe in Elves, and they celebrate 13 different santas!
- **Sweden**
  - If you want a hotel to stay at but you get really hot, there is a hotel made of ice!
- **Norway**
  - In Svalbard, which is in Norway, the sun doesn't set for 4 months!
- **Finland**
  - Finland was the very first ever country in the world to give women full political rights (If you don't know what that means, it means to vote and be in the government).
- **Denmark**
  - The Danish language has a word for a warm feeling, like a hug, but not a word for please!



# Upcoming Events

*Written by Gabriel Morales*



**January 10-12th—Spelling Bee**

**January 15th—NO SCHOOL, MLK Day**

**January 16-26th—I-Ready Testing Window**

**January 16th and 18th—Talent Show Tryouts 3:00-4:15**

**January 17th—END OF SEMESTER**

**January 17th—2nd Grade First Eucharist**

**January 19th—Final Spelling Bee Rounds**

**January 20th—OSM hosts Debate Tournament**

**January 21st—Knights Around the World, 12-2, Gym**

**January 24th—Report Card Day**

**January 28th—Catholic Schools Week Kick-Off Mass**

**January 29th-February 2nd—Catholic Schools Week**

**EVERY SUNDAY—Parish & School Open Gym 2 PM -**

**3:45 PM, younger students must be accompanied by adults.**

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# GO KNIGHTS!