

OUR WEEKLY NEWS

"LIGHTING A PATH TO THE HIGHER PURPOSE."



February 9th through February 13th

St. Joseph Community School's mission is that we are here to lead students to their fullest potential. We focus on four main categories: *academic excellency, faith, leadership, and service.* All of these categories are meant for them to thrive and also encounter Christ while on their journey.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCY

FAITH

LEADERSHIP

SERVICE

Proverbs 27:17



What are you waiting for?
START YOUR PATH HERE



"At St. Joe's, my faith was cultivated and intertwined with academics, volunteering, and athletics, and truly everything that we did. This was so valuable and formative during my growing up years, alongside what I was learning at home and at church about my faith."

Lydia Gessner // Class of '16



UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND ST. JOSEPH COMMUNITY SCHOOL

This week, we're celebrating our first-ever Superhero Kids Week! Each day, we'll highlight different kids and the "super powers" God has given them, unique gifts that help them love others and follow Jesus.

Monday, Feb. 9th

- Wear Clara shirt or blue for Diabetes Awareness day
- All School Assembly at 10am for Diabetes Awareness

Tuesday, Feb. 10th

- Wear purple for International Epilepsy Day
- All School Assembly at 10am for International Epilepsy Day

Wednesday, Feb. 11th

- Wear blue and yellow, or mismatched socks for Down Syndrome Day
- All School Assembly at 10am for Down Syndrome Day

Thursday, Feb. 12th

- Wear purple or Skylar shirt for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) Awareness Day
- All School Assembly at 10am for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) Awareness Day

Friday, Feb. 13th

- All School Mass at 8:30am (*led by Kindergarten and song leaders are 2nd grade*)
- Wear rainbow for Autism Awareness Day
- All School Assembly at 10am for Autism Awareness Day

Visit our school [calendar](#) to see more upcoming events!

UPCOMING ACTIVITY EVENTS

- **Tuesday, Feb. 10th**
 - 8th Grade Boys Basketball at Sumner-Fred starting at 4:15pm
- **Thursday, Feb 12th**
 - 8th Grade Boys Basketball vs Waukon at 4:15pm

Visit the activities [calendar](#) to see any changes or more information!

ANNOUNCEMENTS ACTIVITY EVENTS

Don't forget to turn in your sold raffle tickets for Night Out with St. Joe's! 💎 Every ticket helps make this special evening a huge success for our school community. We're counting down to an incredible evening filled with fun, community, and great memories. Be sure to visit our website to purchase your event tickets and secure your spot — you won't want to miss this! Get ready for a FUN night out supporting our school and celebrating together! 🎉🌟



OUR DAILY SCHEDULE

Doors open 7:45am

Breakfast is served 7:45am-8:00am

School day begins 8:05am

School day ends 3:15pm

WEEKEND MASS

Saturday Mass Times

4pm at Holy Family

6pm at IC in North Washington or St. Boniface

Sunday Mass Times

8am at Holy Family

9am at Holy Family



MEET THE TEAMS

Early Childhood Team

3 YEAR OLD PRESCHOOL HIGHLIGHT

Colors - purple, gray, and brown
Letters- Dd, Hh, Ll, and Kk
Numbers- 6, 9, 11, and 12 Shapes- rectangle, rhombus, crescent, and pentagon

This week we got back into a little more normal routine after some fun and exciting weeks. During phonics, we worked on rhyming words, initial sounds, blending and segmenting words. We talked about all the letters and the sounds we are learning help us to read. Then we looked at words and practiced segmenting and blending them while visually looking at the words. We also continued our work on patterns. They have been doing great job with these. We discussed all the things we love about preschool and created a display for the hall. We also worked during independent instruction time on identifying numbers, identifying numbers on tens frames, and identifying numbers on dice. We worked on counting during this time as well as identifying letters in our names and writing our names. We were finally able to get outside a little bit, but still enjoyed our time in the gym together.

-Mrs. Schueth

4 YEAR OLD PRESCHOOL HIGHLIGHT

Letters- G, U, N, L
Numbers-15, 13, 11, 9
Shapes-crescent, rectangle, rectangular prism, pentagon
Nursery rhyme- Polly Put the Kettle On

This week, the preschoolers worked on writing, counting, letter sorting, drawing, and identifying quantities during station rotation. During our math time, we learned about and created growing patterns. They have some yummy ice cream cone patterns in their folders! During group time, we talked about balls that are used in sports and how they are the same and different. We were able to enjoy some time out on our playground in the fresh snow for the first time in a few weeks! - Mrs. Abbott

Upcoming dates

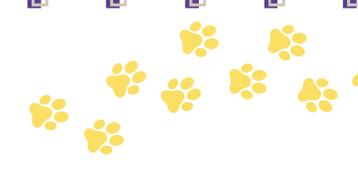
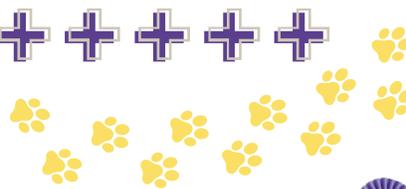
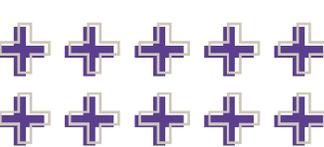
- **February 16-** No school for PD
- **February 21-** Night Out with St. Joes!
- **March 16-** No school for PD
- **March 20-**Donuts with Dads
- **March 30 and 31-** Conferences

KINDERGARTEN HIGHLIGHTS:

It was great to settle back into our routine this week after all the fun and excitement of Catholic Schools Week! In phonics, we were introduced to long vowel sounds and practiced sorting words into categories with short and long vowel sounds. We read "Slowly, Slowly, Slowly, Said the Sloth" by Eric Carle and explored shades of meaning as we discovered words with similar meanings to "slowly." In science, we built bird nests using paper bags and soft classroom materials to make them safe and cozy. This hands-on activity helped us think about how animals change their environment to meet their needs. In math, we continued working on different ways to add number parts to make the same whole. We are looking forward to our first kindergarten Mass on Friday. Please continue practicing your child's part with them so they can confidently share the Good News. Thank you for your support!

- Mrs. Flugum





MEET THE TEAMS

Early Childhood Team



FIRST GRADE INSIDE SCOOP:

Happy Sunday! This past week during our religion time we continued to practice for our mass that we had on Friday! The kids have done a great job getting ready for this. In math we focused on tens and ones and adding digits with regrouping as well. In social studies we are working on where we are and how maps can help us. In writing we finished up our animal reports. The students used technology to find information about their animals. They did a great job! In phonics we are learning to whale talk and break words into syllables. We also hit day 100! We hope you have a great week! Just a friendly reminder to send in any tickets you have sold as well as a water bottle and their Friday Folders! - **Mrs. Heying**

Elementary Team

SECOND GRADE NEWSFLASH: A WEEK OF LEARNING AND FUN!

This week the second grade class is learning strategies for adding two-digit numbers. The class has learned how mental math makes solving problems easier. This week we will learn how regrouping helps solve problems. Continue to discuss vocabulary with your child and practice regrouping tens and ones to help reinforce concepts. Ask your student to model tens and ones while practicing the skills they have learned. - **Mrs. Rochford**

THIRD GRADE:

After an amazing Catholic Schools Week, we were happy to get back into a routine. "Knots on a Counting Rope" was our interactive read aloud this week. It is a beautiful story about memories and time spent with loved ones. We learned a little bit about the Navajos, their lifestyle, art, jewelry, homes, and that they live near the Four Corners in the United States. Storm spotting is what science revolved around. We learned about the different kinds of clouds and what they mean. It is fun keeping an eye on the sky. Division meanings was what we worked on in math. They created a story problem to go along with the array they made for the Array City. Father Chris blessed our throats on the feast of St. Blaise. He also told us a bit about Candlemas, the official end of the Christmas season. It is also the day candles for homes and churches are blessed. We are grateful for all of the support for our amazing school! - **Mrs. Herold**

FOURTH GRADE:

Dear Families,

We had a blast last week celebrating Catholic Schools Week with so many fun and meaningful activities! Thank you to all of the parents who were able to join us throughout the week—we truly appreciated your support. This week, we were ready to get back to our normal classroom routine.

Reading:

We read Knots on a Counting Rope and enjoyed discussing its themes of perseverance, storytelling, and the special bond between generations.

Math:

Students completed their Unit 9 test covering basic division. They worked hard applying strategies we've practiced, and I'm proud of their effort!

Social Studies:

We continued watching the movie Cool Runnings and discussed the true story of the Jamaican Bobsled Team, focusing on perseverance, teamwork, and believing in yourself even when the odds are against you.

Religion:

In Religion class, students learned about the Sacrament of Baptism and its importance in the Catholic faith.

Thank you for your continued support at home. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions!

Warm regards, **Mr. Larsen**



MEET THE TEAMS

Middle School Team MIDDLE SCHOOL:

On Wednesday, your middle schoolers watched a fun, interactive presentation about money management from the National Theatre for Children (brought to us by the Iowa Department of Insurance and Financial Services).

They learned some really practical skills such as:

- How to budget using the 50-30-20 method
- The difference between credit and debit cards
- How savings and compound interest actually work
- Setting realistic money goals Your student brought home a packet with conversation starters and activities to help you chat about these topics together.

Ask your student what they learned—they might surprise you with what they remember!

- Mrs. Stumme, Mrs. Shatek, Mrs. Denner, and Mrs. McDonald



Specials

PE:

This week in PE, students participated in simulated bowling alleys set up around the gym. They practiced rolling skills, accuracy, and control while bowling and keeping track of their own scores. The activities encouraged focus, sportsmanship, and number sense—and the students had a lot of fun along the way!

- Mrs. Larsen, Mr. Henry

OUR ART GALLERY:

We are so blessed to have Mrs. Boge as our art teacher! With her college training in art, she brings fun and engaging lessons every week while teaching the fundamentals of art. Check out your students' incredible masterpieces, they're truly inspiring!

