OUR WEEKLY NEWS

"LIGHTING A PATH TO THE HIGHER PURPOSE."

ST. JOSEPH COMMUNITY SCHOOL

March 16th through March 20th

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.

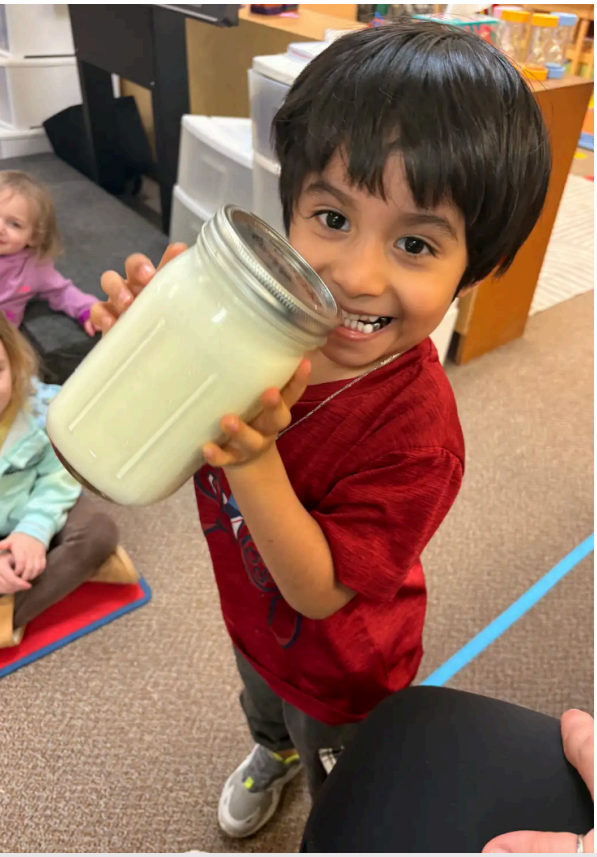
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCY

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

www.stjosephcommunity school.com

@stjosephcommunityschool

216 N.Broadway
New Hampton, IA 50659

ST. JOSEPH COMMUNITY SCHOOL

UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND ST. JOSEPH COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Monday, March 16th
No School - Teacher Inservice

Wednesday, March 18th
Lenten Prayer Service at 10am

Friday, March 20th
Donuts with Dads at 7:50am
All school Mass at 8:30pm
(Led by second grade, song leaders are middle school)

Visit our school calendar to see more upcoming events!

UPCOMING ACTIVITY EVENTS

- **None**

Visit the activities calendar to see any changes or more information!

IT'S TIME TO PICK A WORD...

This week our theme is **"return."** In the first reading from the Book of Hosea, God invites His people to return to Him after they have gone the wrong way. Even when people make mistakes, God always welcomes them back with love.

In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus is asked what the greatest commandment is. Jesus answers that we should **love God with all our heart and love our neighbor as ourselves**. This reminds us that when we choose love and kindness, we are returning to the way God wants us to live.

This week, think about one way you can **return to love**, by helping someone, saying sorry, or being kind to a friend.

ANNOUCEMENTS

Save the Date, Dads!

Join us on March 20th for Donuts with Dads! 🍩
Starting at 7:50 AM, dads are invited to make their way through the front doors to Hynes Hall to enjoy some delicious donuts with their child(ren). After donuts, we warmly invite you to stay and attend Mass with us if you're able. We look forward to seeing you there for a special morning together!



OUR DAILY SCHEDULE

Doors open 7:50 am

Breakfast is served 7:50am-8:00am

School day begins 8:05am

School day ends 3:15pm

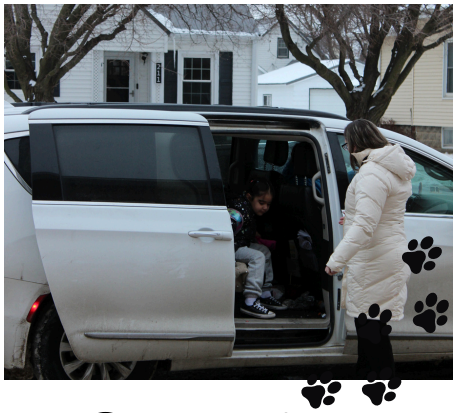
WEEKEND MASS

Saturday Mass Times
4pm at Holy Family

6pm at IC in North Washington or St. Boniface

Sunday Mass Times
8am at Holy Family

10 am at Holy Family



ST. JOSEPH COMMUNITY SCHOOL

MEET THE TEAMS

Early Childhood Team

3 YEAR OLD PRESCHOOL HIGHLIGHT

Colors- purple, brown, black and gray
Letters- Nn, Oo, Bb, and Cc
Numbers- 12, 16, 17, and 13
Shapes- crescent, pentagon, and rectangle
Counting 1-30

What can we do with heavy whipping cream and a mason jar? This is something we experiemented with this week. The students made predictions as to what we could make. We all then took turns shaking the jar. After shaking it for a very long time we had our butter and buttermilk. We then were able to taste test the butter during snack time on our bread. It was a very fun experiment.

During TED time we read a story called Saffy's Birthday Suprise. During that time we looked at four different emotions: happy, sad, loved and excited. Then, we put an emotion with each section of the story that we read. We practiced some pre reading strategies for a story called Sammy's Kitten and listend to the story. To work our fine motor skills we created a reverse art four leaf clover project with q tips and paint. During our large group carpet time we learned a new Leprechaun rhyme that helps us to work on our counting backward and taking away something from a number.
-Mrs. Schueth

4 YEAR OLD PRESCHOOL HIGHLIGHT

Letters- th, review ch/sh/th, long A, long E
Numbers-29, 30, 20, 21
Shapes-pyramid, crescent, rectangle, rectangular prism
Nursery rhyme- Rain, Rain Go Away

The preschoolers have been having a good time trying to figure out where the leprechaun has used his magic to move his hat each day. During station rotation, the preschoolers have been matching uppercase to lowercase letters, writing their names, building letters, rolling 2 dice and adding them up, measuring, and so much more. They've been having so much fun putting 2 large floor puzzles together and investigating volume in the water table.

Upcoming Dates:
March 16- no school for Professional development
March 20-Donuts with dads
March 30 and 31- conferences
April 2-6 no school
April 24-Muffins with Moms
-Mrs. Abbott



KINDERGARTEN HIGHLIGHTS:

In religion this week, we continued learning about the special gift of people God has placed in our lives. In addition to our families, we are thankful for our friends, teachers, coaches, and neighbors who help and care for us each day. In phonics, we learned about the digraph "th" and practiced reading and spelling words that begin and end with "th." We also worked with the heart words "they," "that," and "this." We enjoyed learning about oviparous animals as we read "Chickens Aren't the Only Ones" by Ruth Heller and discovered that oviparous animals are animals that hatch from eggs. Since we are approaching the exciting time of hatching chicks in kindergarten, it is fitting that we learn about other animals that hatch from eggs as well! The students were excited to use the online resource "PebbleGo" to research oviparous animals before sharing what they learned with their classmates. In math, we began working with concepts of measurement. Even though winter may be reminding us it's not quite finished yet, we are looking forward to the signs of spring ahead. - **Mrs. Flugum**

MEET THE TEAMS

Early Childhood Team

FIRST GRADE INSIDE SCOOP:

Happy Sunday! This past week we continued on our Lenten Journey and we also had a special guest speaker, Father Mark Osterhaus visit our students. Our mass will be on March 27th. If your child had a reading part, it would have come home last Friday in the Friday Folder. In math we started our unit on telling time. This worked on telling time to the hour and half hour. We learned that the minute hand is larger and the hour hand is smaller. We will test over this topic sometime this week as well. Please encourage your child to work on time to the nearest half hour and hour. In science we are finishing up our unit on night patterns, too. In writing we are working on travel posters. We started with the state of Iowa, doing it together. This week they will pick another state to research and write about. Friendly reminder there is no school tomorrow (16th) and to also send appropriate clothing for the weather. Have a great week!- **Mrs. Heying**

Elementary Team

SECOND GRADE NEWSFLASH: A WEEK OF LEARNING AND FUN!

This week the second grade class learns that each one of them is the light of the world. Their light must shine for others to see. We also want to shine by doing good deeds to send glory to God in heaven. We enjoyed a visit from Father Mark and he talked to us about vocations. Each one of us has specials gifts and passions that God has given us. It is our duty to share these gifts with others. The class talked about their own special gifts and how they can share them with the world to let their light shine. Jesus shared with us "I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will have the light of life."
- Mrs. Rochford

THIRD GRADE:

We finished reading "Balto of the Blue Dawn"- a Magic Tree House book that tells the story of a famous musher and his dog, Balto, brought a lifesaving serum to Nome to save people from diphtheria. The Iditarod is run every year to commemorate this fantastic feat of all of the mushers that helped save lives. The students continued to track their mushers as they trek across Alaska on the Iditarod. A few racers have withdraw or scratched, but it is fun seeing their excitement as they see how the positions change. The chapter's theme in religion is the Ten Commandments and the Laws of Love, which was also the theme of our mass on Friday. Mrs. Boge shared her love of song and art to teach us a song to remember the Laws of Love with words and pictures. They sounded so amazing singing it and then doing it in a round!! **- Mrs. Herold**

FOURTH GRADE:

cThis week in Social Studies we have been learning about the Iditarod! Students had the opportunity to randomly select a musher and have been tracking their musher's progress each day along the Iditarod trail. It has been exciting to see how the race changes daily and to follow the journey across Alaska. We also learned about the famous sled dogs Balto and Togo and the important roles they played in history. During our I.R.A. (Independent Reading Activity) time, we began reading *Balto of the Blue Dawn*. As we read, we practiced using context clues to help us determine the meanings of unfamiliar vocabulary words. Students also worked on developing their summarizing skills by using a graphic organizer to help identify the most important details in a story. In Math, we have been working with fractions. This week students practiced adding and subtracting mixed numbers. We spent time reviewing strategies to make sure students understand how to regroup when needed and how to check their work for accuracy. It has been a great week of learning, and the students are enjoying following the progress of their mushers in the race! **- Mr. Larsen**

MEET THE TEAMS

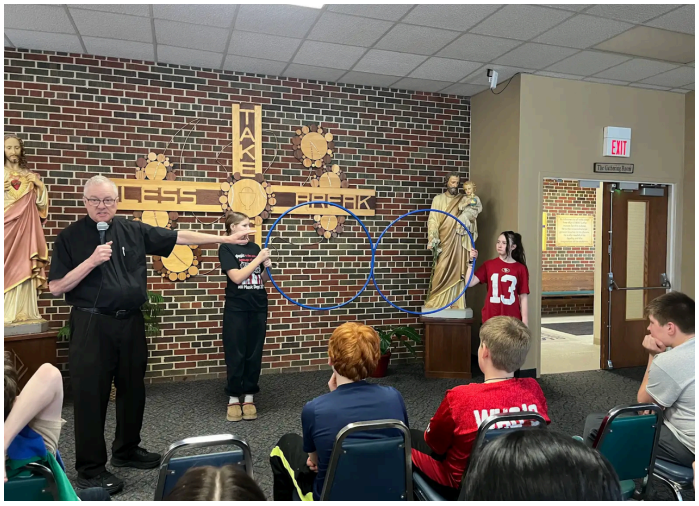
Middle School Team

MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Father Mark recently spent time with our middle school students talking about vocations and how each person is called by God to use their gifts and passions in the world. He reminded students that we are given one life, and we should strive to live it in a way that thanks God for all He has given us. Father Mark also shared that it's okay if our plans change—God gives us a new chance every day to grow and discover how we are meant to serve others.

He encouraged students to begin each day with a simple prayer: "Thank you, God, for this day. You have given me one life to live, and I ask you to help me live it the best I can."

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





Specials

PE:

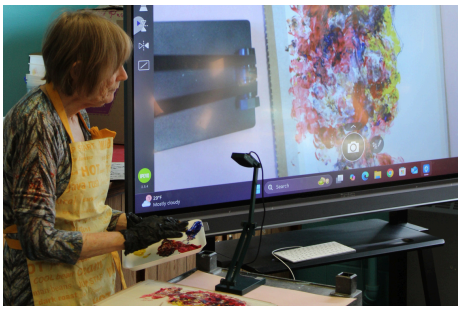
This week in PE, our older students wrapped up the handball unit. They continued enjoying the new tag game introduced last week as a warm-up, which keeps everyone active while building awareness, quick reactions, and good sportsmanship.

Our younger students focused on developing fundamental movement skills through rotation stations. They practiced tossing and throwing, worked with hula hoops, and built coordination through jumping activities. It was a great week of skill-building and active fun for all grades!

- Mr. Henry and Mrs. Larsen

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!





Building on the illustrations of Tommi de Paola, and his book "Now One Foot, Now the Other", the K-2 students traced rectangles over magazine pictures, cut them out, then glued them onto wooden blocks donated by a grandparent, Rich Crooks. Then these students designed the other sides with their initials and the numbers used for their birthdate. Skills involved were tracing, geometry, cutting, tracing, understanding their initials, and birthday month. As well as social graces of writing a thank you. They are having fun stacking and playing with the blocks in their classrooms and will take them home later. A scene from "Now One Foot, Then the Other", shares how the grandpa and his grandson love to read and tell stories together. Second Graders are writing and illustrating 3x3 inch little book stories. Each of their little books will be encased in decorated little boxes for their own classroom library collection. The University of Iowa has a collection of Miniature Books https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tbEEKCvv8tc which inspired this Art activity.