



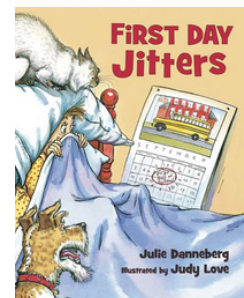
One of the things I have always loved about teaching is the first weeks of school. A new beginning, new opportunities, new friends, and new learning. Although, fall and the start of the school year is an exciting time, that doesn't mean that it doesn't bring about nervous feelings for BOTH teachers and students. Just read *First Day Jitters* by Julie Danneberg.

Please be patient with both your child(ren) and teachers. It takes time to get into a new routine. Begin by establishing a routine at home with your child. Working together as a team will make the transition to the school year easier.

Each month you will receive this monthly newsletter that has important information. If events get changed or added, they will be shared on the weekly email newsletter.

Please take time to read all communication that comes your way. There are so many great things happening at St. Joe's we want you to be informed!

Enjoy the Labor Day Weekend!
Mrs. Shelly McDonald
Lead Teacher



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."

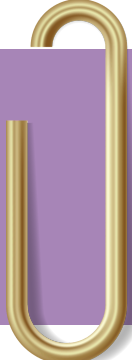
Lydia Gessner // Class of '16

A Panther Spotlight

We would like to shine a light on Past Panthers! Hear from a former graduate of St. Joseph Community School!

"It has been remarkable to witness the astonishing growth Amber Kurash has demonstrated in her role as Chair of St. Joseph Community School Board over the past few years! She excels in her ability to communicate and her follow through on concerns. Amber is a passionate advocate for our students and staff, she leads with confidence and enthusiasm, and she collaborates well with the board members and administration to direct our school towards excellence in academics, perseverance in faith, and selflessness in service."

Amber Kurash // Class of 2003
St. Joe's School Board President



FAMILY

Reminders

LUNCHROOM NOTICE:

To help our lunch period run safely and efficiently, microwaves are not available for elementary students to heat cold-lunch items. With a large number of students eating within a limited lunch period, we do not have adequate staffing to help students with microwave use while also supervising the lunchroom. Heating times can also vary greatly, creating concerns with food becoming too hot for students to safely handle or eat.

A great alternative—and one that many of our families already use successfully—is an insulated food Thermos. Families can heat food at home in the morning and place it in a preheated insulated container. This allows students to enjoy a warm lunch that is ready to eat as soon as lunchtime begins.

We are thankful for the many changes that Mrs. Brase has included in the lunch menu this year. With a variety of options of food items each day, we are confident that most students will like one of the items offered and be able to eat hot lunch at school.

CLASSROOM HEADPHONES:

All classrooms have provided each student a pair of headphones to be used with iPads or Chromebooks. If the pair of headphones break, we ask that parents purchase a pair to be used for the remainder of the year that will be the student's to keep.

PARK AND REC INFORMATION:

The Park and Rec September Calendar:
https://d2jqoimos5um40.cloudfront.net/site_0642/4358b8.png



SCAN FOR CALENDAR



Glance of Activities Happening

		1	2 All School Mass at 8:30am	3	4 2 Hour Early Out	5
6	7 <i>No School - Panther Zone Closed</i>	8	9 All School Mass at 8:30am	10	11 Patriot Day Dress in red, white, and blue	12
13	14 Dress Up: Pajamas	15 Dress Up: Rich Day	16 All School Mass at 8:30am Dress up: Color War	18 Dress Up: Jersey Day	18 NH Homecoming Dress Up: Spirit Day	19
20	21 <i>No School - Professional Development day</i>	22	23 No School Mass	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 All School Mass at 8:30am			

September 9th

Lectors (or readers) are 4th grade

Cantors (or song leaders) are 7th and 8th grade

September 16th

Lectors (or readers) are 3rd grade

Cantors (or song leaders) are 5th and 6th grade

September 30th

Lectors (or readers) are 5th and 6th grade

Cantors (or song leaders) are 3rd grade

MASS
Parts





3 year old Preschool

We kicked off our 3 year old preschool year with many fun activities. So far we have learned a few new songs, and all about different routines in our room. We also started to work on our letters/sounds, shapes, numbers, colors, and rhyming words. We also have been playing some games that help us get to know each other, share, and work on taking turns. ***Mrs. Schueth***



4 year old Preschool

What a great start to preschool! We have met new friends and teachers, learned so many things about preschool, and had so much fun! The preschoolers even learned that shapes are math! ***Mrs. Abbott***



Kindergarten

We have had a busy couple of weeks learning routines and expectations. We know how to care for our supplies and are getting very good at keeping our classroom tidy. We are also learning how peacemakers work to create peace in our classroom and care for their friends by solving problems peacefully. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." - Matthew 5:9 We are looking forward to an amazing year with these kindergarten disciples! ***Mrs. Flugum***

First Grade

We are off to a great start in first grade! We are learning and practicing our classroom rules and expectations while getting to know each other and our routines. We are also learning new things and reviewing skills we learned before to help us feel ready for a wonderful year of learning! ***Mrs. Heying***

Second Grade

We're off to a great start in 2nd grade! Students are learning classroom expectations, exploring planets and our solar system, and practicing addition and subtraction strategies. We're excited for a year of learning and fun!

Mr. Larsen



Third Grade

Herold Speedway is off to a fast start! We have gotten to know each other better through some fun books and activities. We worked on place value and writing numbers in standard, expanded, and word form. It's going to be a great year!

Mrs. Herold



Fourth Grade

The fourth grade class has started the year with a Charlotte's Web book study. We look forward to sharing more of this with families during fall conferences. The class enjoyed the read aloud A Boy and a Jaguar and talked about the importance of sharing the gifts God gave us with everyone. **Mrs. Rochford**

Middle School Grade

We have been busy getting back into the swing of things as we begin a new school year! It has been wonderful settling back into our routines and building our classroom community. In Religion, we have been refreshing our skills for serving and leading at Mass. we a Started our first topic and spent time discussing prayer and the beauty of God's creation, thinking about the many ways we can recognize God in the world around us. In Reading, we have been getting to know ourselves as readers! Students have been exploring the kinds of books they enjoy and working on finding "good-fit" books that are both interesting and just right for them. We have also been gathering beginning-of-the-year reading data, which will help us get our reading groups up and running soon. We are off to a great start and are excited to continue learning, growing, and getting back into our school-year rhythm! **Mrs. Shatek**



Music

We're ready to make beautiful music and memories at St. Joes! Students will work with percussion instruments to learn rhythm and guitars to enhance musicality. We're looking forward to an exciting fall season of music and fun! **Mr. Speltz**

P.E.

We're kicking off the year by talking through our routines and learning how to follow directions. We are focusing on respect, responsibility, and safety.

Our learning targets: I can compare behaviors that demonstrate respect as well as disrespect of self and others. I can apply safety principles. I can engage in physical activities with responsible interpersonal behavior.

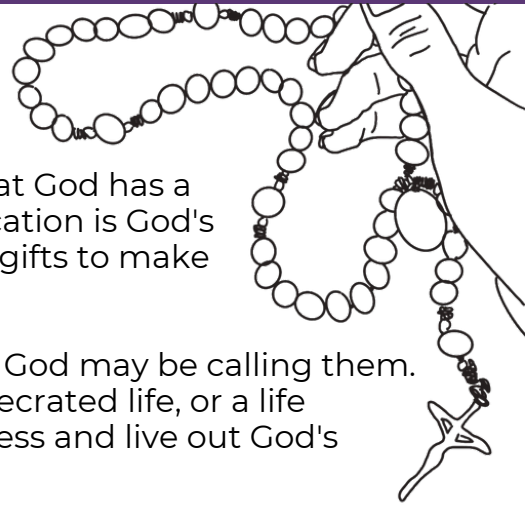
Art

This year's Art class theme is "Shape Up! " In all classes we are reviewing basic geometry plane and shapes from which drawing and sculpture ideas blossom. **Mrs. Boge**

Mrs. Sorenson



Vocation Spotlight



What Is a Vocation?

At St. Joseph Community School, we help students understand that God has a special purpose for each of their lives. In the Catholic Church, a vocation is God's call to each person to love Him, serve others, and use their unique gifts to make a difference in the world.

We encourage students to begin thinking and praying about how God may be calling them. Whether that call leads to marriage, priesthood, religious life, consecrated life, or a life dedicated to serving others, every person is called to grow in holiness and live out God's purpose.

Through prayer, learning, service, and conversations with faithful role models, we help our students explore the important question: "What is God calling me to do and who is He calling me to become?"



Saint or Blessed Friend of the Month

Who is Venerable Fulton J. Sheen?

This month, our students will learn about Venerable Fulton J. Sheen and his deep devotion to the Holy Hour, spending time in prayer before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. His example reminds us of the importance of slowing down, listening to God, and making time for prayer as we discover the unique vocation and purpose God has for each of our lives.

We are especially excited to celebrate on September 24 with Catholics around the world, in celebrating Fulton Sheen's beatification! He is one step closer to becoming a saint. His story is especially meaningful to us because he has a local connection. He served in Peoria, Illinois. As we celebrate his life and witness, we hope our students are inspired by his faith, his love for the Eucharist, and his commitment to sharing Christ with others.

Pray for us, Blessed Fulton Sheen!

