

# OUR WEEKLY NEWS

*“Lighting a path to the Higher purpose.”*

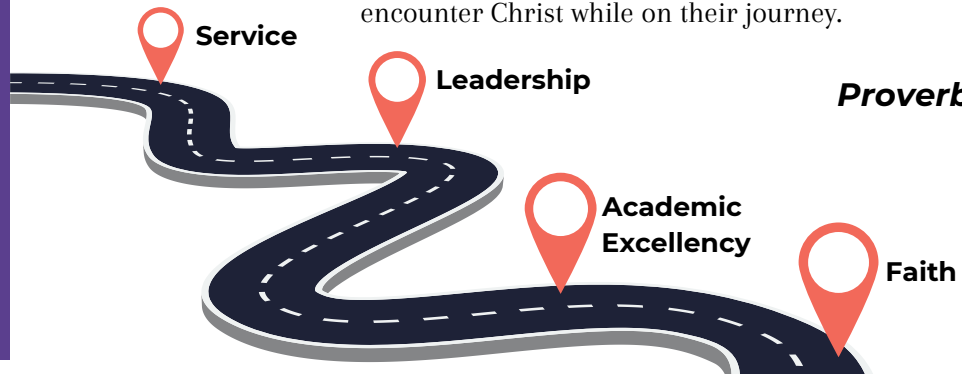


September 15th - September 21st

## On Our Journey

*Lighting a Path to a Higher Purpose*

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.



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.stjosephcommunityschool.com](http://www.stjosephcommunityschool.com)

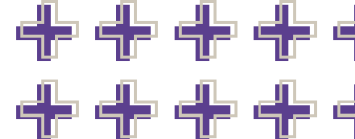


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216 N. Broadway  
New Hampton, IA 50659





# UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND ST. JOSEPH COMMUNITY SCHOOL

**Monday September 16, 2024**

- No School - Teacher Inservice

**Tuesday September 17, 2024**

- St. Joseph Community School Board Meeting at 6pm

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

## ATHLETICS EVENTS HAPPENING

**Tuesday September 16, 2024**

- 7th grade football at Charles City starting at 4:15pm
- 7th grade volleyball at Waukon starting at 4:15pm
- 8th grade volleyball vs Waukon starting at 4:15pm

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

### OUR DAILY SCHEDULE

Doors open 7:45am

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

School day begins  
8:05am

School day ends 3:15pm



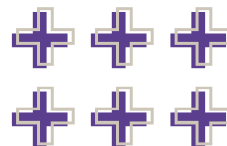
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## How To Access Ordering Gallery

Scan code below and follow these 5 easy steps!

### Step 1

Type the **School Name** into the Search box, select the **State**, then click **Search**.



### Step 2

Please choose your school from the list provided below.

### Step 3

Select **Get Code** next to the picture day you need the code for.

### Step 4

Enter your child's **Last Name** and **Student ID Number**, then click **Search**.

### Step 5

Click on the **Student Code** to access your student's image gallery!

## Any Questions?

Live Chat Us Online At [www.strawbridge.net](http://www.strawbridge.net)

or

(866) 624-6229 or [customerservice@strawbridge.net](mailto:customerservice@strawbridge.net)

## Walking School Bus

YOUR FAMILY IS INVITED TO JOIN THE WALKING SCHOOL BUS TO ST. JOSEPH COMMUNITY SCHOOL THIS FALL! THE WALKING SCHOOL BUS WALKS ON MONDAY MORNINGS IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER, STARTING AT 7:40 AM AT THE CORNER OF MAIN STREET AND SHERMAN AVENUE.

PLEASE CONTACT ASHLEY TO SIGN UP OR LEARN MORE- EMAIL [ACHRISTENSEN@UERPC.ORG](mailto:ACHRISTENSEN@UERPC.ORG) OR CALL 563-419-6112.

## Information

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO LOOK AT OUR PROJECTED FUNDRAISING FORECAST FOR THIS YEAR CLICK [HERE](#).

# MEET THE TEAMS

## SPECIALS

**PE** this week, we did some work learning the different what the different whistles mean and how to move to them. We also worked on learning how we are to move when the music is on or off. We all then completed a different Fitness challenge using these movement methods based on our age level. The students did a great job with this. Some of the movements proved to be challenging, but they all tried. We also learned the expectations for how to get partners through the toe to toe method. Finally we played Red Light Green Light or Line Tag together.- **Mrs. Schueth**

For **music** this week we are doing a lot of work with beats and rhythms. The kindergarten through 2nd students have been enjoying singing songs and trying to keep beats on their bodies. One of their favorite activities this week was echoing bobo. Bobo makes a pattern for the students and then they have to make that same pattern with their voice/movements. Another new thing for Kindergarten through 1st grade we did was start to introduce instruments through the game "What's that Sound?" The 2nd graders did a great job of using color plates to dance, keep a beat, and sing the song Grand Old Flag. They were also introduced to some Tempo Vocabulary: Presto, Allegro, and Moderato. The 3rd and 4th grade students did their favorite movement activity of Jump in, Jump out. We also learned a new song called Let Us Chase the Squirrel. We then used this song to practice singing in a round. The middle school students for music this week played one of their favorite classroom games of Four Corners, but our version had a music twist. The students had to pick a corner and then rhythm cards were dealt out to each corner. A random rhythm would be played and they then had to figure out which corners rhythm would be played. The last person standing won.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD

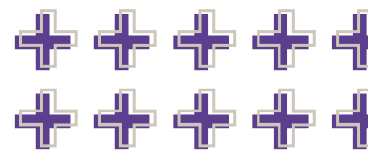
This week we did some more work on how to be a problem solver. A timer was introduced for students to use when they see a friend has a toy that they would like. They have to grab a timer, tell the friend they are going to set the timer and when it is done they would like to play with the toy. Then when the timer is all finished, they may set the toy if they would like to play with it again. The students have been doing a great job with this. For our focus wall, we have been focusing on: the color green, the number 4, the shape circle, and the letters Oo and Kk. We also reviewed the sounds of all of the letters we have learned so far and they are doing a great job with the sound and motion that goes with it. Another new thing we have been working on during phonics time is saying two words and smashing them together to make one word. They all seem to really enjoy this activity. One of the best things about this week is we had two new friends join our class and we are so grateful to have them to learn and play with.- **Mrs. Schueth**

This week we started focusing on a letter, number, and shape each day. Letters- B, J, A, C Numbers-1,3,5,7 Shapes- circle, square, rectangle, triangle Nursery Rhyme- 1,2 Buckle My Shoe Finger Play- Red Light, Red Light In small groups this week, one activity called tactile trackers works on eye hand coordination by tracing lines with a finger. Another small group is playing color and shape bingo with Miss Megan, and the independent group is working on fine motor skills with play dough. We have been playing games to help us learn everyone's names and exploring instruments.- **Mrs. Abbott**





# MEET THE TEAMS



## EARLY CHILDHOOD

This week we had the opportunity to help harvest carrots in the school garden with the help of our middle school buddies. We also had our first mindfulness yoga this week where we learned to calm our bodies. In science this week we were wrecking ball operators and worked to knock down a concrete wall without hitting the houses. We learned that the harder you swing the ball the harder it hits the wall and knocks down the houses. How much force we use became very important. In phonics we have learned the phonemes /n/ /r/ /l/ /s/ and /f/. In reading we are learning about all the important information on the cover of our book and how that can help us to know if the book interests us or not. In math we are working with number 0-5. We have learned about "hidden partners" in our numbers. These are the parts that make up a whole. For example 2 and 3 are hidden partners in 5. In writing we have continued to work on what makes a complete sentence and practicing drawing and writing about things we like. - **Mrs. Westwater**

In religion this week, we learned about how God's love created the universe. We watched a short clip from the Brother Francis series entitled "Who Made the World and Everything in It?" We know that God made the world and all of the things around us. We will be spending the next several days learning about each part of creation. This week we started by talking about God's gifts in the skies. The moon, sun, and stars are so beautiful. We finished our "books about school" text collection this week. One of our favorite books in this collection was, "I Love You all Day Long". It is comforting to remember that even when we are away from our loved ones, their love is always with us. We tested over Topic 1, numbers to five, this week in math. Our phonics focus has been on peeling beginning sounds in words, sorting by beginning sounds, and rhyming. We worked on writing capital N, E, F, and R in our handwriting lessons. We have been working on adding details to our drawings in our writing books. Our drawings tell a story and can help us to think about things we could write about. We are looking forward to another great week of learning and growing in kindergarten! - **Mrs. Flugum**

Happy Sunday! This week we had a lot of great things happening in our classroom. We have continued to build on prayer time right away in the morning. Part of that time we read from the children's bible and we listen to others prayers (petitions). In math we were focusing on addition working with addends and sums as well as finishing up our unit on addition. This coming week we will be starting our Topic 2 on understanding subtraction. In writing we are learning to add details to our sentences to make them more interesting. We have been stretching words out to try to spell them the best we can. This is a skill we also are learning in phonics. Lastly in science we have been focusing on mini lessons that teach us something different each day. We hope you had a great weekend and look forward to another great week! (Reminder there is no School on Monday due to inservice). See you Tuesday! - **Mrs. Heying**

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The second graders took their first math test and did pretty well. They remembered the skills for drawing pictures to help them figure things out. In religion we talked about the sacrament of Baptism and the four main sacred symbols. We looked at the oils in church and how each one is used throughout the year. Our first mindfulness class was on Thursday and the students were fantastic. They were shown excellent strategies for those times when our emotions can be too big and we need to regroup. In reading our stories focused on family memories. It was fun to hear their stories of memories shared with them by grandparents and parents. - **Mrs. Herold**

We had an amazing week in 3rd/4th-Grade. We spent the first part of the week preparing for our first math tests over number sequences. We also had the opportunity to help out in the school garden by picking some fresh tomatoes that were used to help make fresh salsa for lunch. Our 4th Graders headed off to Nashua for the annual Farm Safety Day. They had a blast learning about ways to stay safe around the farm and other important safety tips and tools. (Electrical safety and Fire safety). They learned about the importance of having a fire safety plan and were encouraged to ask about your Fire Safety plan. Help them to make sure they know what to do in the event of a fire. We finished the week by being song leaders for Mass. The students definitely can sing much better than Mr. Larsen can. We continue to pray each morning for our family members who are traveling as well as those battling illnesses. - **Mr. Larsen**

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

On Wednesday, September 11th, our student took time to reverently remember those, almost 3,000 people, who lost their lives on this day in 2001. Students began by learning about the timeline of events and watched some live coverage from that day. They learned about the attacks on the Twin Towers, Pentagon, and the plane that crashed in Pennsylvania; and the devastating health effects to those in the area. During the day, our students also paid their respects to those brave men and women who helped in any way shape or form on that day and the days following; firefighters, nurses, doctors, dispatchers, medics, police officers, and other people just helping out of the kindness of their heart. These people were a true example of Jesus' love shining through the darkness. The middle schoolers finished their day by making cards for the heroes who serve in our local community. - **Mrs. Stumme, Mrs. Shatek, Mrs. Schueth, Mrs. McDonald, Mrs. Denner**

To read last week's newsletter  
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