



1ST QUARTER NEWSLETTER 2024-25

# GOOD NEWS

FROM ST. JOSEPH COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Faithful to our *mission* entrusted by God, St. Joseph Community School, in cooperation with the family, church, and community, commits to promote the enrichment of every child: mind, body and soul.

**LIGHTING THE PATH FOR A HIGHER PURPOSE**



# P.A.W.S. & P.A.W.S. STORE



Karter, Eden, & Scarlett



Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports, PBIS, is a proactive approach that focuses on teaching and reinforcing positive behaviors rather than solely reacting to negative behaviors. By establishing clear expectations and consistently recognizing students for meeting those expectations, our school is cultivating a more positive school culture. This not only helps in reducing disciplinary issues but also helps us with our mission of building disciples; promoting better academic performance, social skills, and emotional well-being among our students. Engaging students as active participants in this process has enhanced their sense of belonging and responsibility within the school community.

Using a ticket system tied to our PBIS framework—Positive Behavior, Always Respectful, Working Hard, and Staying Safe (PAWS tickets)—encourages our students to consistently demonstrate our values. By allowing them to redeem tickets at the PAWS store, we're providing a tangible reward that reinforces their positive behavior. This approach motivates and builds excitement around being respectful and responsible.



Lynae A. & Landrie E.



Eden D. & McKenna S.

## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCY

### NEW WRITING CURRICULUM IS ADOPTED

Writing, like reading, is a skill that needs to be explicitly taught. Instruction should include predictable routines, procedural supports, and provide meaningful writing experiences and authentic writing tasks. This year, all classrooms adopted the Bridge to Writing curriculum which provides explicit instruction for each of the components of the writing rope as well as focusing on the developmental writing scale. This curriculum focuses on building a community of writers, celebrates writing weekly, and uses multi-sensory instructional strategies. Keep watching St. Joseph Community's social media sites for published writing from our students.



Shyann S. & Lila M.



Lennon L. & Meadow K.



Reese E., Kendall L., & Addie R.

# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCY

## TEACHERS CONTINUE LETRS TRAINING

All teachers are beginning year 2 of the LETRS (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling). This training focuses on instructing teachers on the Science of Reading and the skills that are necessary to effectively teach reading to all children. The intensive training involves required readings, online activities, and zoom sessions. Teachers have already started implementing instruction they have learned in their classroom by administering screeners and determining the best interventions to help students in their classroom.



Hayes H. & Ryan D.

## BLESSING OF THE PETS SERVICE

On October 4th, we celebrated the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi by having a blessing of the pets service. St. Francis of Assisi is famous for his love of animals of all kinds. He once blessed a group of birds, and from that day on, often preached to the animals he encountered. He also channeled his passion into rebuilding the Church and renewing disciples who had grown lukewarm in their faith. Out of this mission came the founding of the Franciscans. Our Blessing of the Pets prayer service was such a fun event and we look forward to making more memories and traditions!



FAITH

## LEADERSHIP

### ADOPTING A STUDENT SENATE

A student council is a group of student leaders who work with an adult advisor to collaborate with others to impact their school community, which impacts their city or town, which impacts our state, which impacts our country, which changes the world! Our goal for the student council is to provide young people with skill development in the areas of creativity, problem solving, self-awareness, communication, and decision making.

Throughout the year students will be focusing on planning activities in the areas of school culture, fundraising and community service, and working to solve other challenges that arise during the year. We want our students to feel empowered to look at our school as a whole and come up with creative ideas to promote a family and faith filled environment.



Kaden A. & Kenny K.

## SERVICE ST. JEROME SERVICE PROJECT

On Friday, September 27, the students honored St. Vincent de Paul and his spirit of giving to others in need. Mrs. Herold's second grade class students prepared the mass and collected good used clothing and non-perishable food items. The students decided to donate these items to the Food Pantry and The Sharing Room in New Hampton. The class challenged the other classes in school to meet or exceed what they had brought in to help others.



2nd Grade Class





St. Joseph Community School  
216 N Broadway Ave.  
New Hampton, IA 50659

Download our app:

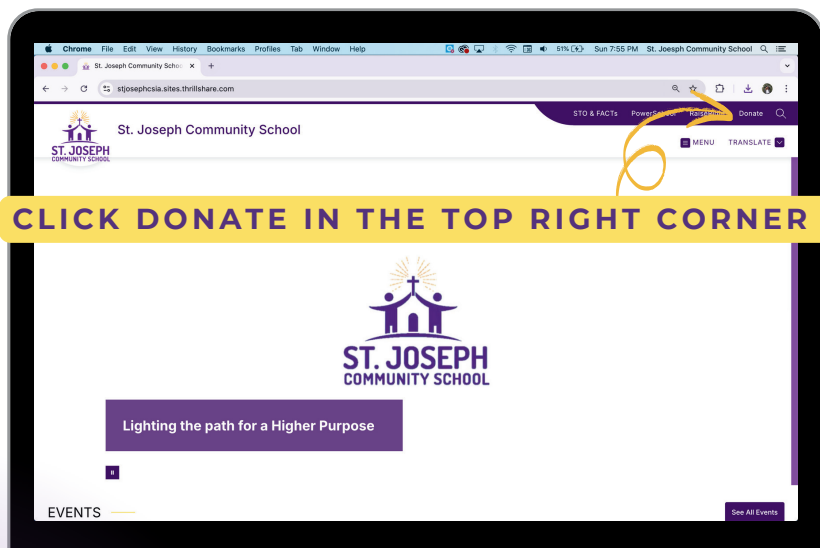


Visit our website: [www.stjosephcommunityschool.com](http://www.stjosephcommunityschool.com)

**ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE | FAITH | LEADERSHIP | SERVICE**

# DONATE TODAY

## CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE TO DONATE ONLINE!



Your contribution will help us continue our mission. We greatly appreciate your generosity and commitment to making a positive impact. If you have any questions or need assistance, feel free to reach out to us. Thank you for being a part of our community and for your support!

GIVE US A FOLLOW



# #PantherPath