

OUR WEEKLY NEWS

"LIGHTING A PATH TO THE HIGHER PURPOSE."



April 27th - May 3rd

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.

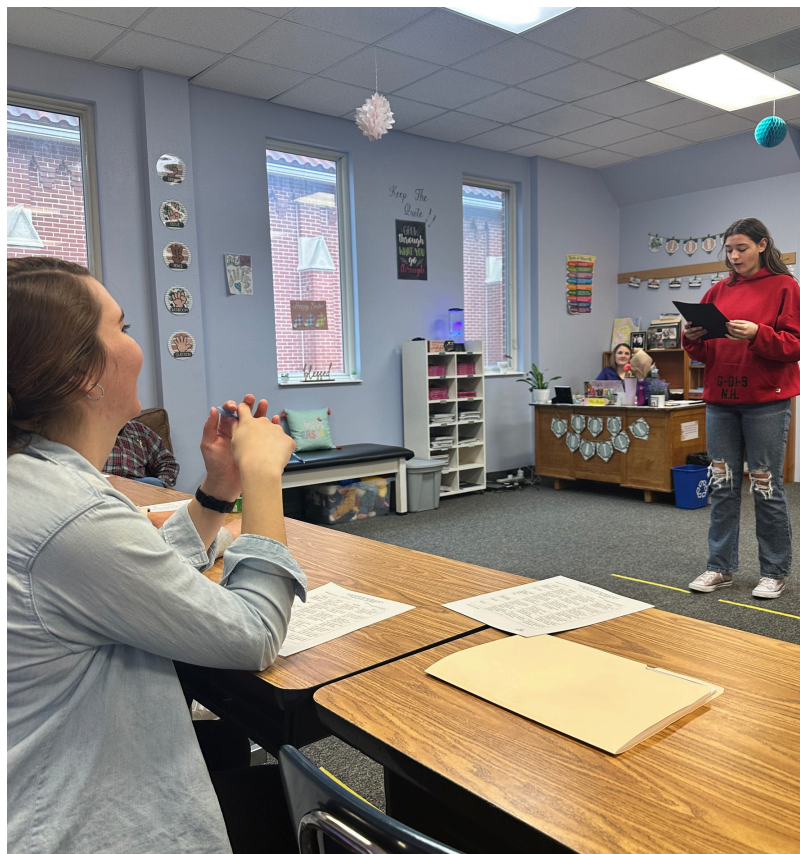
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCY

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

Sunday, April 27th

- First Communion Mass at 1pm

Wednesday, April 30th

- Pajama Day!
- Early Dismissal at 1:10pm

Thursday, May 1st

- 7th and 8th grade speeches presented to Rotary at 12pm

Friday, May 2nd

- 2nd Graders First Communion Mass at 8:30am

Visit our school [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

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

ATHLETICS EVENTS HAPPENING

Monday, April 28th

- Boys 7th and 8th grade track starting at 4:15pm at New Hampton

Thursday, May 1st

- Girl 7th and 8th grade track starting at 4:15pm at New Hampton

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ESA Registration please use this link to fill out the 3-5 minute application! Everyone qualifies so please make sure to fill it out! [Click here](#) 😊



MEET THE TEAMS

Specials

MUSIC WEEKLY RECAP

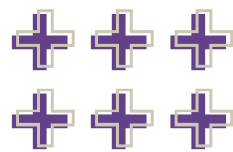
We are working on rhythm using body movement and various percussion instruments. The middle school students are learning rhythm using bucket drums and 3-4 grade students are using Boomwackers to explore different beats and sounds to follow along with sheet music. The students have also been busy learning music for Lenten Mass and will begin instruction with the music we will sing after the Easter break. We're looking forward to hopefully having music class outside (in warmer weather) to explore differences in sound and acoustics in the days ahead. Happy Easter to all!



P.E. WEEKLY RECAP

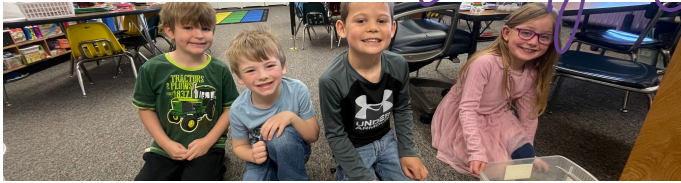
With the short week in P.E., students enjoyed a well-deserved Choice Day! They had the opportunity to pick from several fun activities, including noodle tag, a variety of dodgeball games, basketball, or hockey. Next week, we'll be jumping into our next exciting unit—stay tuned! There's no Athlete of the Week this time, but keep an eye out for next week's spotlight!

- Ms. Winter



MEET THE TEAMS

Early Childhood Team



3 YEAR OLD PRESCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS: A FUN WEEK OF LEARNING!

Inviting friends to play and then playing fair was our social skills theme of the week. Our puppets helped our friends learn different ways to invite a friend to play with them. We talked about how we say things to friends is important. Earth Day was a highlight of this week. We talked about different things we want to do like throw our garbage away and don't be wasteful as well as why trees are so important. The students made Science Earth Art. They had drops of paint on paper plates and then two paper clips on the plate. Under the plate was a magnet and they moved the paperclips around to finish the painting. We focused on the letters a, d, and o as they all involve making a lowercase c when we write them. Figuring out other rhyming words to what Mrs. Schueth said, working on initial sounds, final sounds and blending/segmenting words were a part of our phonics time. We also talked about favorites and Mrs. Schueth shared one of her favorite books called Bear in a Book.

- Mrs. Schueth



4 YEAR OLD PRESCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS: A BUSY WEEK IN PRESCHOOL!

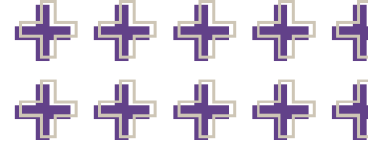
Numbers-16, 15, 14
Shapes- square, oval, rectangle
Nursery Rhyme-Mary Had a Little Lamb
Finger Play-Bunny

The ants were so busy this weekend building their tunnels! The preschoolers are enjoying observing the ants and talking about what they are doing. On Tuesday, the preschoolers visited kindergarten. They met Mrs. Flugum and Mrs. Westwater and enjoyed exploring the kindergarten centers area. We have been enjoying the nice spring weather this week, and are starting to notice the insects that live outside on/near our playground. We have also started working on writing a letter each day using the kindergarten handwriting pages and terminology. You will see those coming home in your child's folder each week. - **Mrs. Abbott**





MEET THE TEAMS



Early Childhood

KINDERGARTEN HIGHLIGHTS:

In religion this week we celebrated the wonderful gift of Easter and the new life we have in Jesus. In phonics, we worked with the new heart words, "we," "he" and "she". We continued our read aloud collection of stories with rhythm and rhyme with the books, "Sleepy Bears" and "When it Starts to Snow". In science this week, we wrapped up our study about animal needs and behavior and are beginning our own animal research project. We continued our topic of measurement in math as we worked with ordering objects by length and comparing objects by height. We also enjoyed spending a little time with Mrs. Abbott in the preschool room on Tuesday when the preschoolers got to come to our room for a little taste of kindergarten!

- **Mrs. Flugum & Mrs. Westwater**



FIRST GRADE NEWSFLASH:

This week we had a lot of fun rejoicing in Jesus' rising. We look forward to the spring and all the new creation it brings. We celebrated Earth Day on Tuesday. In math we started our geometry unit and we are focusing on plane shapes (flat) and the differences in them. We are also working on vertices (the points where they come together). In writing we started our opinion pieces. We will be working on this for the next couple of weeks. Forming an opinion is easy for most, but writing about it is where we are focusing! In social studies we are starting our unit over location, maps, and models to start. We are also learning more about the cardinal directions. The last day of school will be a mass that we are singing at as well. Thank you to those who brought in treats to celebrate Easter. Have a great week! - **Mrs. Heying**



Elementary Team

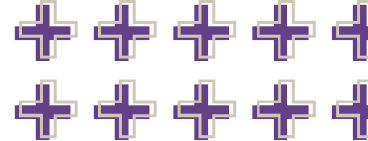
SECOND GRADE NEWSFLASH: A WEEK OF LEARNING AND FUN!

Alleluia- He is Risen! This week in religion we celebrated the resurrection of our Lord while we also mourned the loss of Pope Francis. We talked about the process of how the new pope will be chosen and will anxiously await the white smoke from the Sistine Chapel for the announcement. We also discussed Earth Day and the importance of protecting our Earth through recycling, planting trees, and not littering. Students practiced their poetry writing in choosing a haiku or acrostic to celebrate our Earth. Topic 13 in math is about counting money so we reviewed the coins, their value, and a few important facts about the coins. Skip counting was the focus the last part of the week as it is so important as we count money and change. Cursive writing continues to go well! By May they will know all of the letters and will be writing everything in cursive. The second graders excitedly received their first Holy Communion on Sunday. A beautiful sacrament to welcome them more into the folds of our faith. May 2nd will be their school mass when they will celebrate with our school family. Happy Easter! - **Mrs. Herold**





MEET THE TEAMS



Elementary Team

THIRD AND FOURTH GRADE:

It was a quick but busy week in 3rd and 4th grade. We continued our unit on the Titanic. We watched 2 videos where they digitally mapped the Titanic wreck and created 3d images that allowed us to explore the wreck like never before. We took a look at what the wreck looks like on the bottom of the ocean, and how the wreck will decay/dissolve into nothing over the next 1,000 years. Our I.R.A's books this week focused on different cultures. Our 1st story; Jalapeño Bagels focused on a little boy who was trying to decide what cultural food he wanted to bring to school for a special celebration. We talked about how at some of our family get togethers, we might celebrate with food that is native to our ancestry. (Bakalva, Kringla (which I haven't had in years but yum!), etc). The students were encouraged to find out about their ancestry, how their ancestors got here, and what foods are native to their heritage or how to make it. We continue to pray for our family members, good weather, and those in the hospital.

- **Mr. Larsen & Mrs. Rochford**

Middle School Team

MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Happy Easter, we hope you enjoyed your extra time together! Tuesday, when we returned from break, we were blessed to have Ms. Ali visit and speak with our students about The Veil Removed, a powerful short film that reveals the unseen spiritual reality of the Mass. Her message helped students draw a deeper connection between Easter—the celebration of Christ's resurrection—and the incredible gift we receive each time we participate in the Eucharist.

Later that afternoon, in honor of Earth Day, our students stepped up to show just how much they care about the environment. We spent time at Kindness Square park, rolling up their sleeves to pick up leaves and litter, and help beautify the space for everyone to enjoy.

On Friday, we were excited to host the in-house 7th and 8th grade speech contest. This event gave our students a chance to shine, as they presented their well-prepared speeches in front of the panel of judges. We were honored to welcome judges from Iowa BIG as well as Liz Zweibohmer from the New Hampton Chamber of Commerce. Their time, support, and encouraging feedback helped make the contest a memorable experience for all involved. We're proud of every student who participated and took on the challenge of public speaking with confidence and creativity.

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

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