

Saints News

*"St. Joseph School, following the Mission of Christ,
Where we Learn Our Faith, Live our Faith and Prepare for the Future"
~ St. Joseph Mission Statement*

April 2015

Dear St. Joseph Families,

Just a reminder to mark your calendar to come join our St. Joseph Parish Spring Festival events. Come and join us for the following activities:

Saturday, April 30th – Clay Shoot with dinner
Saturday, May 7th – Golf Outing with Dinner
Friday, May 13th – Family Carnival and Taco/Potato Bar for Dinner
Saturday, May 14th – 5K/Walk, Plant and Bake Sale, Veteran's Celebration, Bags Tournament, Euchre Tournament and Gala Dinner with Auction and Raffle Drawing

Also, don't forget to turn in your raffle ticket stubs and money to the school office by Friday, May 13th at 3:30pm.

There will be no school on Thursday, March 21st – Sunday, April 3rd for the Easter holiday. Classes will resume Monday, April 4th at 8:50am.

In Christ,
Mrs. Rogers

Congratulations to Destination Imagination Team

St. Joseph School students in grades 4-8 had their first competition at BJHS on Saturday, March 12th. They participated in an exciting and creative team competition called Destination Imagination. After weeks of hard work our team, consisting of Gavin Burns, Billy Small, Lenna Seidel, Brenner Abts, Connor Martin and Mira Medina-Dixon. The team will now advance to Affiliate (State) on April 16th at Northern University in DeKalb. Way to go St. Joe's!! Best of luck on April 16th!

Spring Fling 2016 is just around the corner

On Thursday, April 28th, St. Joseph School will be hosting our annual Spring Fling, The Lion King. Students in 4th – 8th grades should report to their classrooms between 6:45pm and 6:55pm. The doors to the school will not be open until 6:45pm. Come and see a wonderful performance beginning at 7:00pm.

Dismissal concerns

Please remember that when you are picking up your child(ren) at the end of the school day, you need to park on the school lot. Please do not park on the street, as the buses cannot maneuver around parked cars. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping everyone safe.

Heart of SJS Raffle Tickets...

Remember...Each family received 10 raffle tickets in your blue folder back in October. The raffle drawing will be at the Gala dinner/auction on Saturday, May 14th. Please remember to reserve your place for the event and also to buy or sell the raffle tickets for your chance to win! Please return the ticket stubs and your money to the school office no later than Friday, May 13th.

St. Joseph School Carnival & Silent Auction

The school carnival and silent auction that will be held on Friday, May 13th is in need of your help. If you donate a gift card for any store/ restaurant valued at least \$20, and your child (ren) will earn ONE Free Dress Day! If you purchase the donated gift cards using Scrip, your child (ren) earns TWO Free Dress Days! If you choose to donate the two gift cards, in addition to the free dress, you will receive one volunteer hour toward the required amount. All gift cards must be turned into the school office by April 29th!

Capri's and Shorts...

It's that time of year again!!! Students may wear uniform shorts and capris to school beginning April 1st. Please remember they are to be navy or khaki shorts/capris no more than 2" above the knee, belts are required if there are belt loops and tights are not to be worn.

St. Joseph School has K-8 Openings

St. Joseph School has openings for the 2016-2017 school year for Kindergarten – 8th grade. If you are interested in enrolling your child or know of a family who would be interested in attending St. Joseph School, please call the school office at 347-7194 and schedule a tour.

St. Joseph Preschool Registration

Preschool is now accepting registration for its fall classes. We are offering classes for children between the ages of three to five years old. Beginning this fall, we are offering an all-day 5 year old transitional kindergarten class. If you would like more information or would like to register, please call 347-7194 ext. 226.

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Peoria Notre Dame Wrestling Camp

Peoria Notre Dame High School will host a wrestling camp for grade school athletes who are interested in learning the sport of wrestling. No experience is needed and there is no cost for the camp. The camp will be held in the wrestling room at Notre Dame and will start on March 29th. Visit our website ciwapride.com for more information. Contact Kevin Burk at 472-5247 with any questions.

Extra-Curricular Recognition Night

Please come join us for our 2015-2016 extra-curricular recognition night on Monday, April 25th beginning at 6:00pm. We will recognize all extra-curricular activities.

Extra-Curricular Coaches for 2016-2017

The extra-curricular committee is looking for coaches for the 2016-2017 school year. If you are interested in sharing your talents with our students, please complete the coaching application and turn it onto the school office by Wednesday, April 6th at 4:00pm.

Extra-Curricular Committee

The Extra-Curricular Committee is looking for new members to join our extra-curricular committee for the 2016-2017 school year. The committee meets every other month and they are responsible for fundraising, running the home basketball/volleyball games, extra-curricular banquet, and recruiting of coaches. If you are interested in being part of this committee, please contact the school office.

Notre Dame Scholarship

The Extra-Curricular Committee is sponsoring a scholarship to the top 8th grade student who will be attending Notre Dame High School. The application criteria: 1) GPA; 2) Student Activities; 3) Essay; and 4) Letter of Recommendation. If any 8th grade student is interested in applying for this scholarship, they may pick up an application form from Mrs. Rogers. Applications are due back to her by Wednesday, April 13th.

Payments for After Care and Lunches/snack

This is just a friendly reminder, when paying for after-care and/or lunch/snack; you will need to make out two different checks. One to after-care and the other for lunches and/or snack. Thank you for your cooperation.

Time, Talent & Treasure Volunteer Hours

As we are beginning the 4th nine weeks, I just wanted to remind each family of their commitment to Time, Talent & Treasures for St. Joseph School. When you registered your child(ren) for the 2015-2016 school year, you committed to the following:

Time and Talent:

During the 2015 – 2016 school year, each two parent family will need to complete 20 hours of volunteerism. A single parent family will need to complete 10 hours of volunteerism.

Treasure:

Each family may buy out their family volunteer hours at \$20.00 per hour.

Please take a few minutes and check to see where you are regarding your commitment. You may view your hours in RenWeb by following these instructions:

- Log into RenWeb
- Click on Family Information
- Click on Family Profile
- Click on each parent's name
- Service hours

Please remember there are a few current hours that have not been entered as of yet. If you have any questions, please call the office.

Mathletics Update

Our Mathletics Program has been an impressive one this year. Our students have logged in a staggering 590 hours of activities and Live Mathletics. With 126 bronze and 24 silver certificates, each class has done an amazing job. Our third grade class has mastered an astounding 395 activities. As a school our students have mastered 1,238 math activities! In our Live Mathletics, where students race for points, our students' average points are above the national average in each level. Way to go St. Joe's!!

Quote of the Week

To change and to change for the better are two different things.

- German proverb

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Cafeteria

Mrs. Burks has asked for everyone's assistance as she is short several forks and spoons in the school cafeteria. Please check at home to see if you have any silverware that doesn't match yours and return it to the cafeteria. Thank you for your help!!

Payments for Pre/After Care and Lunches/Snack

This is just a friendly reminder when paying for pre/after care and/or lunch/snack; you will need to make out two different checks. One to pre/after care and the other for lunches and/or snack. Thank you for your cooperation.

Box Tops for Education

Once again we are participating in the General Mills Box Tops for Education program. We ask families to clip the specially marked box tops from General Mills products and turn them in to the school office. We receive 10 cents for every box top submitted.

Staff Free Dress Days

On special days, you will notice the SJS staff wearing free dress. These days are what we call "Angel Days". The staff donates money to wear free dress to help with the families who receive money in the form of a student scholarship for their child(ren) to receive a Catholic education.

Camp Ondessonk

A representative from Camp Ondessonk recently spoke with our students about their summer camp. They have two financial assistance programs available. The Camp Ondessonk General Fund offers partial assistance and requires the child to complete an essay. The St. Kateri Scholarship Fund has been established to make Camp Ondessonk accessible to families of limited financial means. Applicant must provide a copy of their most recent Federal 1040 form. Parents can obtain information about both of these programs by contacting their registrar, Becky Jennings, at (618) 695-2489 x109. You may find more information about opportunities for growth and summer fun on their website (www.ondessonk.com). Please send in your registration forms soon to ensure you get a spot in the week of your choice.

Parents' Corner

Helping Parents Deal with Homework

Every night in millions of homes across the country you can imagine the scenario: the age-old story of children and their homework. The scene may have different characters, but the script is usually the same. Parents have always attempted to help their children with homework. This help ranges from a short occasional explanation to total completion of the task by the parent. Whatever the case, numerous problems exist. In an attempt to cope, parents will use trial and error, bribery, threats, reasoning, and anything they hope will work. There seems to be little doubt that the motives of the parents are genuine. Who could find fault with the motive of concern? However, it is not the motive that creates the anxiety and tension for both parents and children, but the techniques employed.

For some children, school can be a stressful place. When one takes into account work demands, social pressures, concern over parental approval, fear of failure, and so much more, children may need the home as a haven to unwind. If they encounter stress in the form of parental agitation during homework, then where can they "hang their hat?" For those of us who work, it might be comparable to working all day at a job that has its share of stresses and coming home to a tense environment. Think of how long you might be able to handle such a situation. Also keep in mind the alternatives that we have as adults if the pressure gets to be too great. Children do not have the same options. The following techniques are provided to facilitate the process of homework and prevent frustration, anger, and disappointment:

[Homework Schedule](#)
[Rank the Assignments](#)
[Don't Hover](#)
[Check Correct Problems First](#)
[Never Let Homework Drag On All Night](#)
[Success Strategies for Textbook Assignments](#)
[Be Aware of Negative Messages](#)
[Avoid Finishing Assignments for Your Child](#)

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April Calendar of Important Dates

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	7th/8th grade Electives School Resumes @ 8:40am	7th/8th grade Electives Scholastic Bowl @ Georgetown 3:30pm Track Meet @ PCHS 4:15pm Preschool Wendy's Night 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	7th/8th grade Electives SJS Coaching Application Due by 4:00pm Track Meet @ PND 4:00pm	7th/8th grade Electives Scholastic Bowl @ Home against Broadmoor 3:30pm 5th Grade Fine Arts Visit Day Parents' Club Meeting 6:00pm	7th Angel's Kitchen Mass - 6th	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Extra Mass and Rehearsal for SJS Choir	Extra- Curricular Meeting 5:15pm Scholastic Bowl @ Home against Rankin 3:30pm Track Meet @ Rankin 4:00pm	Scholastic Bowl @ South Pekin 3:30pm		Free Dress-\$1 donation to Children's Hospital of Illinois PND Band Visit Day Track Meet @ St. Patrick's 4:00pm	Mass - 4th PND Scholarship Application Due by 4:00pm	Destination Imagination State Spring Extra- Curricular Mass Recognition 5:00pm
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Alumni Meeting 6:30pm Extra- Curricular Spring Activities Shirt Recognition with uniform	4th Grade Foreign Language Visit Day	6-8 Field Trip - DARE Game	Education Commission Committee Meeting 5:30pm Scholastic Bowl @ Home against BSS 3:45pm	No School - Diocesan Institute	Track Meet @ St. Patrick's

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	bottoms Track Meet @ Rankin 4:00pm			Track meet @ St. Pat's 4:00pm		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Extra-Curricular Recognition Night @ 6:00pm Track meet @ Robein 4:30pm	Track Meet @ Illini Central 4:30PM	Scholastic Bowl Regionals	Grades 4 - 8 Spring Musical @ 7:00pm	Mass - 5th Spring Musical - 10:00am Performance	Track meet @ St. Mary Metamora 10:00am Gather Together Day
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1st Communion @ 1:00pm	Track meet @ Tremont 4:30pm Extra-Curricular Meeting 5:15pm			Band Field Trip Parents' Club Meeting 6:00pm	Mass - 2nd - May Crowning/First Communion 2 nd	Spring Festival Golf Outing Track Sectionals TBA