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- Sept 2—Labor Day—No School
- Sept 5—Confessions
- Sept 6—First Friday—Adult Eucharistic Adoration 7:00 pm—12:00
- Sept 11—Picture Day  
—Faculty Meeting
- Sept 16—Progress Reports  
—Health Checks
- Sept 24—Volleyball vs. Hitchcock Co. @ Trenton 2:00 p.m.
- Sept 25—Faculty Meeting after school
- Sept 26—Volleyball vs. Maywood/ Hayes Center @ Maywood 2:00 pm

Upcoming—  
October 12 & 13—Fall Festival

## A Message from Father Gary Brethour

Sitting in the shade of a big old cottonwood tree at a lake this summer reading a good book, I could not help but notice a group of young adults playing. They were loud and it was not hard to overhear their conversation. It saddened me to realize, that while many people are “well educated,” they are really not prepared for the big questions of life and for a truly happy life now, and in eternity.

Mathew Kelly in his new book, Rediscover the Saints, (p. 90), addresses this issue. “Every parent has dreams for his or her children, but do we dream of them becoming saints?”

“We all parent towards a goal. Sometimes we are conscious and intentional about that goal and sometimes it is unconscious. Many parents focus on preparing their children for life in the real world, as it is often called. This usually means parenting towards a successful career and financial independence. Most parents will tell you that good values and healthy relationships are the things they most desire for their children, and yet these are often lost in the quest to help their children accomplish other things.”

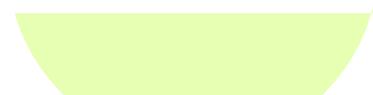
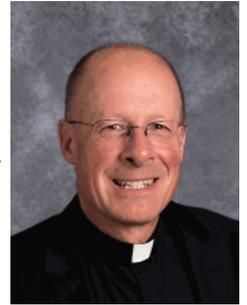
“What are your dreams for your children? Do you want your child to grow in virtue, become the-best-version-of-himself or herself, and live a holy life? Do you want your child to become a saint? Parents don’t often think about their children living holy lives because it has been defined in such a narrow and restrictive way. It is often viewed as missing out on things, but nothing could be further from the truth. The saints experi-

enced life to the fullest in a way that most of us cannot even begin to imagine.”

“Most parents are not called to lay down their lives for their children in one heroic act, but all parents are called to lay down their lives in a million small ways, throughout their children’s lives. My own parents modeled this for my brothers and me.” Kelly goes on to say “ My wife is heroically selfless in the way she ensures the consistency of our children’s routines, the way she makes sure they have what they need, and the many ways she patiently helps them to grow and develop.”

Thank you for being that parent for our students. As St. Pope John Paul II tells in the following quote. Catholic schools and parents working together are a power force for forming saints.

“Not only are the attitudes of teachers crucial for the success of Catholic education but also the attitudes of Catholic parents. Parents must set themselves very definite priorities, such as the determination to have schools in which their children’s faith will be respected, fostered and enriched; schools in which their children learn the value and beauty of the Church’s teaching. They must also see to it that their own homes are places in which these values are first fostered and lived. Parents’ own practice of the faith, their own love for Christ, is of course fundamental.”



# SEPTEMBER

WELCOME

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1	2 <b>No School</b> 	3	4	5 <b>Confessions</b>	6 <b>First Friday</b> 7 p.m. until midnight— Adult Eucha- ristic Adora- tion	7	
8	9	10	11 <b>Picture Day</b>  Faculty Meeting	12	13	14	
15	16 <b>Progress Reports</b> <b>Health Check Day</b> 	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24 <b>Volleyball vs. Hitchcock Co. @ Trenton</b> 2:00 p.m. 	25 <b>Faculty Meeting</b> after school	26 <b>Volleyball vs. Maywood/ Hayes Center @ Maywood</b> 2:00 p.m. 	27	28	
29	30	<b>Upcoming:</b> <b>October 12 &amp; 13</b>					



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE BY MRS. REBECCA REDL

Welcome back to a new and exciting school year. As we enter this new school year, I am hoping for one that is filled with many unique experiences, refreshing challenges, as well as abundant successes for our students and our school. We have an amazing opportunity to let our children have a Catholic education and God has blessed us with a fabulous staff that is as excited as I am to get this year underway!! God is great!!

I am entering my twenty-third year at St. Patrick School and my tenth year as school principal. I enjoy every opportunity that I get to share in your student's day in the classroom, cafeteria and playground. I am pretty sure I have the best job in the whole world because I get to watch each of these great students learn and grow every day!! Thank you for sharing your students with us.

I come from a family of six children, three boys and two girls and I am the youngest. I grew up attending St. Mary's Catholic School in Ellis, KS and graduated from Dodge City High School. I attended UNK for my bachelors as well as my maters and have called McCook home for the past twenty-five years.

My husband, Donovan works Bureau of Reclamation. Our oldest daughter, Breanna, is starting her master's program in Speech Pathology at UNK. Cassidy, our youngest, is a sophomore at Colby Community College studying to become a Physical Therapy Assistant. Both are proud alumni of Saint Patrick School. Each year as I watch our students grow into young adults, my head wonders where the time has gone and my heart swells with pride with their accomplishments. Best of luck to our students.



## MRS. JENIFER JACOBS LIBRARIAN

Welcome back everyone!! I hope you all had a great summer and are ready for a fun-filled year at St. Patricks. This is my third year here, and I am excited to begin.

My husband, Brandon, and I have been married for twenty-four years. Brandon is a lineman at McCook Public Power and is an alumnus of St. Patrick School. We are blessed with four wonderful children. Emily is a sophomore in college here in McCook. Tanner is a junior and Taylor is a freshman he at MHS where they are both busy with sports and hopefully homework. Ellie attends St. Patricks and is in the third grade. We have a very busy but fun time together.

In addition to being the librarian, I am a para and substitute teacher for St. Patricks. I am looking forward to working with your children and helping them develop a love for reading and a passion for life. If you have any questions regarding the library please feel free to ask. Looking forward to a great year!!!





MRS. LARA STEWART  
KINDERGARTEN

Welcome back! I am looking forward to another great school year! This is my fourth year in the Kindergarten room. My husband, Kevin, is an agronomist at Frenchman Valley and my daughter, Brooke, is a senior at MHS. She is also a proud St. Patrick alumni! The summer flew by entirely too quickly but I managed to do some flower and vegetable gardening and just enjoy time at home. I look forward to seeing everyone!



## I Love Kindergarten

MRS. CINDI ARTERBURN  
KINDERGARTEN PARA



My name is Cindi Arterburn, and I am the Kindergarten para. This is my fifth year here at St. Patrick School, and my eleventh year as a para. My husband, Tom, and I have three grown children. They all attended this amazing school! We have also been blessed with eight fantastic grandchildren—four boys and four girls. I am so excited for this year, and am looking forward to getting to know our new class.





MRS. AMANDA PETERSON

1ST GRADE

MRS. BARBARA BORTNER

SECRETARY

Hi! My name is Amanda Peterson and I will be teaching first grade this year. I am excited to be here to teach this year! I have spent a lot of time in my classroom over the summer, so I am excited to finally have kids in my room so we can begin in an exciting new "Adventure" in first grade! My summer went by very fast and was filled with lots of family time, coaching/watching Softball, running kids around and catching up on a few projects around the house. Our family was able to take a vacation to the Black Hills this summer and it was beautiful!

I am married to Aaron Peterson who is an engineering tech. at W Design Associates here in McCook. Aaron and I have 5 children, so I feel like we are always on the run! Andrew is a Junior and Sara is now a Freshman at McCook High. Rebecca is a 7<sup>th</sup> grader and Hannah is a 4th grader here at St. Pats. Our youngest daughter Lexi is 5 and will be in preschool at Little Knights in a few weeks! I enjoy baking, running, and to play/watch/coach softball and spend time with my family!

I am thrilled to start this new school year and I look forward to all that God has in store for us this year!



St. Patrick's School is a fantastic place to be, and I am so very happy to be a part of it. In October of last fall, I began working at St. Patrick School as secretary. Right away, I was, and continue to be, impressed by the children and their families, the dedicated faculty and staff, and our surroundings. I am fortunate to see firsthand how much the priests, the faculty, and all of the staff care about each of these students.

This summer I enjoyed time with our family which includes my husband, Bob, our children, and their families. We are very fortunate to be expecting our fourteenth grandchild any day. Attending their events, and riding bikes with grandchildren made for a fun summer. I also love being at home on the farm/ranch, and helping there where and when I can. Working in the yard and garden are also hobbies I enjoy.

I have been so happy to see the students this fall. They have grown and changed so much over the summer! A new Kindergarten class, with new faces and names, is an affirmation that change, especially here, is inevitable. Children learn, grow and move on. Seeing last years' eighth grade students do well and adjust to their new surroundings makes the fact that I miss seeing them each day a little easier as we wish them well with their futures.

Thank you, parents, for your part in making this a great school. You send us your world, your children, and we strive to make this a great experience for them. Happy trails!



**MS. KHALEY LEE**

**2ND GRADE**

Hello and welcome to Second Grade! This summer has went by so fast and I am eager to get this school year started. This is my fourth year of teaching second grade here at St. Patrick School.

I was born in Oberlin, but McCook has been my home for most of my life. I graduated from McCook High School. After that I went to McCook Community College where I became a member of Phi Theta Kappa (the international honor society of the two year college), and graduated with an Associate's of Arts in Education degree. From there I went on to UNK; graduating Summa cum Laude and in the top five of my class.



**MRS. TAMA KAIN**

**4TH GRADE**

Welcome back to routine! While the fourth-grade class is adapting well to their schedule of classes and to the homework routine, I am adapting to teaching a

self-contained classroom for the first time! The students have been training their teacher! What a great bunch of kids they are with their keen insights, eagerness to learn, witty humor, and sweet personalities!

Most of you know me because I've taught one or more of your older children. Here's a brief autobiography for those of you who don't. Born and raised in Ohio, I attended a Catholic elementary school, public high school, and Methodist college. At Ohio Northern University, I met Fritz, my husband. Together we pioneered to Nebraska and settled west of town where we discovered a small, empty farmhouse into which we moved – free rent in exchange for caring for a shorthorn herd of cattle. During this time, I taught four years at the old St. Patrick School before staying at home and starting a family of seven sons and one daughter. Twenty plus years later, after homeschooling for more than a dozen years, I returned to teach at the new St. Patrick School where I've taught my former students' children!

# Knights News



I spent this summer being a nanny for my aunt and uncle that live in Cedar Bluffs, KS. They have three children; Addison, RJ, and Harper. We had a great summer together and now I am ready to return to the routine of school!



**FATHER ANDREW LITT**  
**5—6 RELIGION**

Well we're back again. I'm looking forward to this school year especially with a couple years under my feet. It's amazing how much you learn as a teacher, from the staff and the students. A little bit about myself:

I grew up in Lincoln, at St. John the Apostle Parish. Those of you with family ties to St. John have probably prayed for my vocation at a Sunday mass or two over the last few years. I've spent most of my life in the Catholic school system with a stint early on in public schools and a year at UNL. I've spent 4 years at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia and am glad to be back in 'The Good Life'.

I look forward to getting the chance to interact with and teach your children, and you as well. I will be praying for a successful 2019 and 2020.



**Fr. Carson Kain (Mrs. Kain's son) and Fr. Andrew Litt at**

**Fr. Kain's ordination**



**MRS. PATRICIA JANSSEN**  
**SPANISH 6—8**

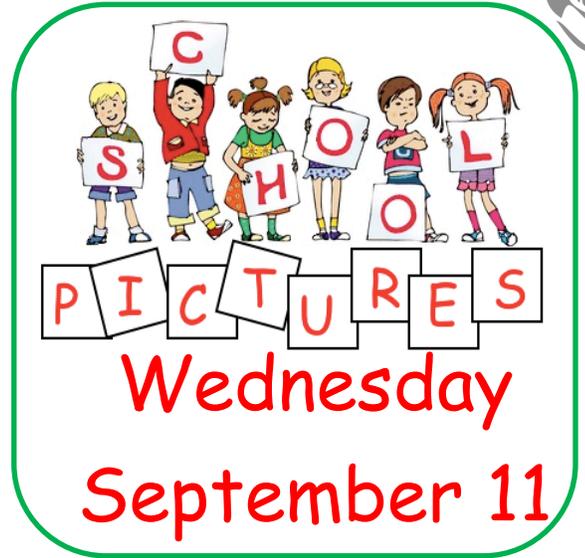


It is with pleasure that I return to Saint Patrick School for the 15th year as a volunteer in the Spanish program. My teaching career has taken me to many fine institutions of learning but none have been finer than St. Pats. We have a great dedicated staff.

I feel well qualified to speak on this subject not only because I have taught in many different venues but also because St. Patricks has graduated our fine children and three grandchildren. They were all well prepared for high school and college.

I am also happy that our students have an opportunity to start their foreign language study at our school. The reports seem to be very favorable concerning their progress.

I am prayerful that we have another great year. I feel honored to be a part of the St. Pat's team.



Mrs. Janssen was featured in an article in the Southern Nebraska Register in Oct., 2016. We are very proud of the volunteer work Mrs. Janssen does at Saint Patrick. To see the article, click on the link below. A copy of the article is also in an addendum at the end of this newsletter.

<https://www.lincolndiocese.org/news/diocesan-news/6860-volunteer-spanish-teacher-gives-mccook-kids-a-leg-up>

**MRS. LINDA BREWSTER**  
**3RD GRADE**



Hello and welcome to 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade! My name is Mrs. Linda Brewster and this is my 34th year of teaching at Saint Patrick School. I

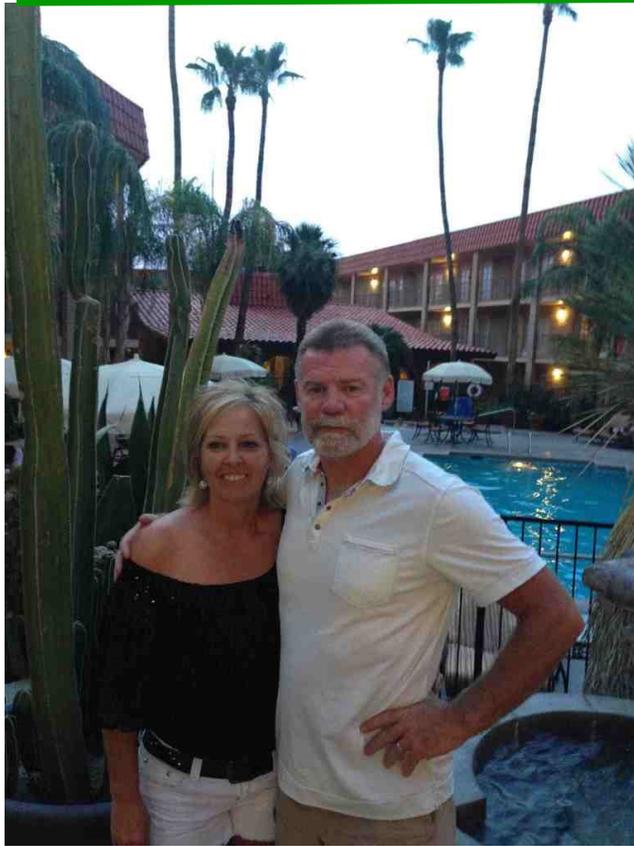
have a wonderful husband, Johnnie. Our son, David, is a junior in college at UNL, majoring in Civil Engineering. We love to spend time together as a family. I am an avid quilter and I love to sew and embroider. I look forward to working with each of your children this year. This will be a year filled with incredible amounts of learning as well as fun!



**8th Grade Candidates**

Congratulations to all of the students who ran for Student Council! You are showing great leadership and enthusiasm for your school by your efforts.

MR. SCOTT DAUWEN  
CUSTODIAN



Hello Everyone, I'm Scott Dauwen and I'm the new custodian. My wife Gnelle and I live in Cambridge, we moved there about 10 years ago from Rapid City, SD with our 2 children. Gnelle is the kindergarten teacher at Cambridge Public School, and our daughter Taylor also lives in Cambridge as she is continuing her schooling through on-line classes and MCC. Our son Rayce is in the Army and is posted at Ft. Drum, NY. When not working Gnelle and I enjoy weekend get a-ways, the outdoors, and especially enjoy time at home catering to the numerous needs of our 5 year old boxer Sadie. While at home Gnelle enjoys walking, watching her "episodes" and staying in contact with our children, while I prefer to read, watch old westerns and try to keep up with the home projects. I also like to get back up to the Black Hills for hiking and camping, but not as often as I'd like.

I've worked in construction most of my life along with a little farm and ranch work back home and I am looking forward to serving as your new custodian. It may take me awhile to learn everyone's names and positions but I'll get it figured out eventually. I'd like to thank Dave Clough for taking the time to come back and show me around. I can see that you'll miss him, as will I! I hope to serve you all well. God bless, and have a great year.

# Knights News



MRS. CATHY JONES  
MATH 7-8 & ALGEBRA

This is my 5<sup>th</sup> year teaching at St. Pat's teaching 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders math. I feel at home here and really enjoy teaching St. Pat's students! As all the students know, I **LOVE** math (and science) and **LOVE** to teach it to others. I even give the students my phone number – 695-2326 (BEFORE 10:00 pm) - so they can call me while doing their homework if they need help – please, encourage your child to do so. I am here on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday each week and Mr. Hall and I will try to cover for each other when one or the other needs to be gone. This means very little subs in upper level math! I am very excited to be here and am so looking forward to meeting those I do not yet know. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you have about the progress of your children. *It takes a village* as the saying goes and all of us want to help your children be the very best they can be.

My husband, Warren, is a dentist and we have been married longer than most of my student's parents have been alive! We have three children: Melanie, Jenica and Walker. Melanie is a dentist practicing with her dad here in town. Most of you know her and her family. They have two children: Syd and Liviya. Jenica is a physical therapy assistant in Omaha. Her husband is a lieutenant colonel in the army and they have three daughters: KayLynn, Gabriel and Bristol. Walker is a mechanical engineer in Broomfield, Colorado with a wife and no children yet. We are very blessed with three children, four granddaughters and a grandson who are all very busy. We travel often to all their activities. We, also, have a cabin in the mountains where we go to rest and relax and to be with friends and family. We

enjoy the breathtaking scenery and see many different kinds of wildlife while there. God's creations never cease to amaze me!!

So far the year has started off wonderfully! The students at St. Pat's are always so respectful, helpful and kind. I notice this in and out of the classroom and am always proud to be a part of St. Pat's. We are so fortunate to have our school. God has blessed us greatly!





**MRS. HALEY PRIEBE**  
**6TH GRADE HOMEROOM**  
**READING GRADE 5**  
**ENGLISH 5—8**

Hello! I am so excited to teach English and Reading this year! I have been teaching for 4 years, and this will be the start of my fifth year. My first two years I taught Music at Hitchcock County, last two years I taught Music at Central Elementary and Science last year at St. Patrick's.

I have a Bachelor of Arts Degree, with a K-12 Teaching Field Endorsement from UNK. My husband, Nathan is the I.T. Network Administrator for McCook Public Schools. We have two sons, they keep us busy! Micah is two and half years old and Ezra is 4 months old. We also have our husky Koda, and our two cats Amarah and Loki. Family is everything to me, we enjoyed our summer together by swimming at my parent's pool, fishing, golfing, cruising in my dad's 69' Camaro at Cruise Night and spending most weekends with my sister. I absolutely love teaching at St. Patrick's and I can't wait to get this year started with my students!



**MRS. TONI GERVER**  
**K—8 PHYSICAL**  
**EDUCATION**

Welcome back, I am looking forward to my 21<sup>st</sup> year here at Saint Patrick. I am hoping for a healthy year all year with the students. I will be teaching P.E. and am looking forward to being active with the kids again. My husband Bill and I just celebrated our 37<sup>th</sup> anniversary in August. We have a daughter Danni and son-in-law Walter Pedersen, they are blessed with Paxton and Ashton (who I spend my summers with). We also have two sons Nick and Chance. Chance has our only granddaughter Rikki Anne. Most of our weekends are spent with our family. To complete our household we have Molly, our Macaw, and only one boxer, Tig. We lost our old dog Jade this summer. When not with family our at school I hope to get back to my swimming. I am looking forward to a fantastic year with our students. They are awesome.



**7th Grade**  
**Candidates**

Congratulations to all of the students who ran for Student Council! You are showing great leadership and enthusiasm for your school by your efforts.



MS. TAYLOR GEISLER  
5TH GRADE HOMEROOM  
MATH GRADES 5 & 6  
READING GRADES 6 -8

Hello!

I am Taylor Geisler, the fifth grade homeroom teacher. I will be teaching fifth and sixth mathematics as well as sixth, seventh, and eighth reading. This will be my first year of teaching and I couldn't be more thrilled to start my career at St. Patrick's. In May I graduated with a degree in Elementary Education and Middle Level Mathematics from Chadron State College. Go Eagles!! Math and reading are two of my favorite subjects and I am looking forward to sharing my love for them with my students.

I was born and raised in McCook and am so glad to be back here in Southwest Nebraska with my family. My two wonderful parents are Brad and Jill Geisler, who are just as excited as I am to be back. I have one younger brother, Kyle, who is studying Civil Engineering at the University Nebraska at Lincoln. During the past few summers I've spent my time coaching summer swim team and working at Pinnacle Bank. Outside of school I enjoy reading, swimming, travelling, crafting, playing with my dogs Jaz and Luca, and spending time with my family. I am blessed to be a part of this school and am excited to jump into this year!



5th Grade Candidates

Congratulations to all of the students who ran for Student Council! You are showing great leadership and enthusiasm for your school by your efforts.





MR. JIM HALL

MATH 7—8; ALGEBRA 8

I am Jim Hall and it is my third year teaching at St. Patrick's School. I have a BA and MA from the University of South Dakota and enjoyed employment at MCC from 1976 through spring semester of 2018!! My wife is a funeral director here in McCook and is really good at her profession. I have been married for just over 20 years to this lovely lady and we have five (really six) children. Our eldest is Christopher who was living the hippy life and recently settled in McCook and is working for a plumbing contractor. Second, Jennifer has settled in Scottsbluff and works at a nursing home. Third is Sarah Rose and her family who have settled in the Kansas City area. They are the proud parents of three children (2 in the Smithville, MO school system and 1 working). Jay works for BNSF and Sarah Rose is DON in an outpatient surgery clinic. Fourth is Sarah Elizabeth who lives with her two daughters here in McCook where she works at the Work Ethic Camp. And nearly last is Emily Marie who is the most popular DJ in Philadelphia and is the proud mother of our tenth and eleventh and twelfth grandchildren (three lovely daughters). Finally, the sixth is Benson whom the others think is our most

spoiled child but we know exactly where to find him at 10 pm every night. He is our second Beagle after we had to put down our first right after Christmas, 2012 – still a sad day in the Hall house. I enjoy teaching immensely. I am a recently retired A&P/microbiology/nutrition/chemistry/math instructor who taught his last online nutrition class for MCC and am now honored to be teaching 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade math classes at St. Patrick's School. I



want to thank Cathy Jones, the other faculty and the staff of St. Patrick's School for making me feel welcome here in the classroom. I also enjoy working in the yard, golfing and RV camping.



Mrs. Hilker and the 2nd grade students recently went on a Music Listening Walk. Students agreed they heard many sounds they are often unaware of.





**MRS. LANAE FRITSCH  
EIGHTH HOMEROOM,  
SOCIAL STUDIES 5—8,**

Hello everyone! I am Lanae Fritsch your 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies teacher. This will be my 6<sup>th</sup> year teaching at St. Pat’s. Teaching is a dream come true for me. It is a great feeling to be able to say I Love my job and enjoy each and every day with my students, faculty, family, and friends. I am also the Student Council sponsor. I am married to Bob Fritsch and we have four children (Drew & Tausha Wilson, Jessica Fritsch, Ryan & Austin Martin, and Sarah Fritsch. I have nine adorable grandchildren (Asher, Abel, Annabelle, Aiden, Aaron and Adley, Wilson, Peri Joy, and Charli Mae Martin, and MaKenna Heron). I am so blessed to have such a loving and supporting family. I enjoy camping, fishing, gardening, golfing, coaching, and spending as much time with my grandkids as possible. This summer we did a little traveling and went on a cruise to Alaska. Wow, Alaska is beautiful this time of year!

I received my Bachelors of Science Elementary Education degree from the University of Phoenix. I completed my Master’s degree in Special Education (Mild to Moderate) with a Coaching Endorsement from the University of Nebraska Kearney. I have an open door policy and look forward to meeting and working with each one of you. I am really excited to start this school year and look forward to having a fun and successful year. “To Teach is To Touch a Life Forever!”

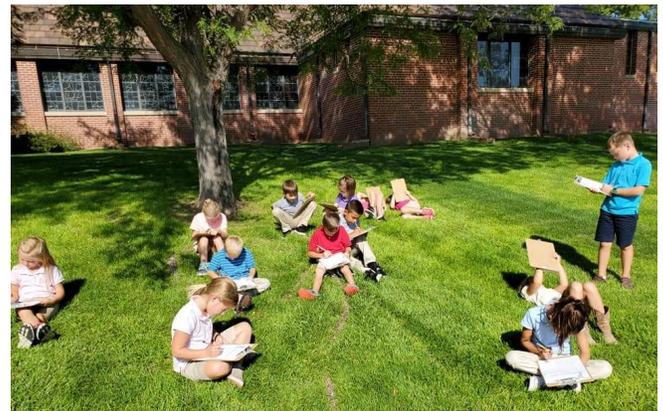


**MRS. LORI HILKER  
VOCAL MUSIC K-8  
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

Welcome back to school! I hope you and your families had a blessed and happy summer during which you created wonderful memories. It was great to see so many of you at Open House. You have grown so much!



My husband Kent and I had a good summer. We got to spend time with our kids and grandchildren, got to see lots of extended family, and finally went to the Grand Tetons and Yellowstone National Park. I also took a photography class at MCC and have been trying to learn to speak a little bit of Spanish. We definitely kept busy!



2nd Grade Music Listening Walk

Here are a few things I’d like to share with you. My husband Kent and I are long-time members of McCook and St. Patrick parish. We enjoy spending time with family, traveling, and working on houses. I received my teaching degree from the University of Nebraska at Kearney in 1999 and my Master’s Degree in 2010. Mr. Hilker has worked at the Parker plant for 42 years. We have two married daughters (Amanda Dame and Keri Galarneau) and one son (Shane). Their families all live in McCook and we are grateful for that because it means we get to see them and our eight grandchildren often. ☺ Are you looking forward to the new school year? It will be a great one; it’s hard to believe it is my 12<sup>th</sup> year as the Music Teacher at St. Pat’s. Let’s work and pray together to grow in knowledge, grace, and the love of God!!



**MR. ZACH WIESER**  
**5—8 SCIENCE**  
**2ND GRADE RELIGION**

I am Zach Wieser. This is my 5th year of teaching overall, but my first as a Science teacher! I taught math for one year in Columbus, NE and three years at the junior high. I graduated from the University of Nebraska-Kearney in 2014. I am married to Taylor, who is a nurse at the hospital. We have two amazing children. Aidyn Miller (my step-son) is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader here at St. Pats and Jackson, who is 3. We love going out to the lake and going on bike rides. I am so excited to be teaching here at St. Pats and look forward to an amazing school year!



**MRS GALE SLATTERY**  
**HEAD COOK**

Welcome back! Summer goes by faster every year! There's never enough time to complete all those summer projects and plans. I am the head of the lunchroom, Gale Slattery. This is my ninth year in this position. My husband, Mike, and I have four children, all past students at St. Patrick School. Our granddaughter is a current student. I'm excited to be back and see so many familiar faces as well as the new students and teachers. It will be an exciting year!

I have a few reminders with the new year beginning. PLEASE try to keep your child's lunch account current. I try to send bills home with the students every 1-2 weeks. A bill is sent when their account goes over \$5 past due. If you ever have a question as to their balance you can call the kitchen at 345-5542. Please do not call between 10:30am and 1:00pm, which is when we are serving students lunch. Please send lunch money separate from other school fees or dues. Checks can be made payable to St. Patrick Hot Lunch. It is helpful to write your child's ID number (found in the bill) or your child's name on your check. If you send cash be sure it is labeled with your name. If you want payments divided a certain way let me know. Otherwise I will split according to their individual

account balances.

If your student has any food allergies or sensitivities we have a form that you need to fill out. We must have that on file in order to avoid any health issues. Also, if you do not want your child to be served seconds you must let us know in writing. Sometimes they forget that seconds are costing their parents \$0.50. Parents might be surprised how quickly the lunch money goes away! This applies to those who receive free or reduced price lunches as well. Finally, if your family qualified for free or reduced price meals last year you need to reapply before September 27. Eligibility from last year only carries over to that date. If you do not submit a new application you will lose your eligibility. If your family situation changes you may apply anytime throughout the school year.

Remember that parents and guests are welcome to come enjoy lunch with the students. Cost is \$4.50 per guest. We just ask that you please let us know ahead of time to be sure that we prepare enough!

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve your children! We are looking forward to a wonderful school year!





**MRS. DEONNE HINZ**

**ART K—8  
COMPUTER 5—8**

## KNIGHTS NEWS

100 YEARS 1919—2019



Welcome back and I hope everyone had a wonderful and creative summer. I feel so blessed to be a part of the staff here at St. Patrick's School, teaching Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Art as well as 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Computers. This is my 12<sup>th</sup> year here at St. Pat's and I am looking forward to another wonderful year.

Some information about myself and my family you might not know. I have lived in the area for almost 25 years. My husband, Merlin is currently helping farm his family's land, plus is the Chemical Plant Manager for AG Valley COOP in Indianola. When he is not busy working he loves restoring old cars. I also have three daughters named Micah, Noelle, and Stacia.

Micah is 24 years old and just moved back to Nebraska from living in Michigan for 2 years, and currently living in Lebanon, Nebraska. She got married this summer to Randy Potts and they are really excited to be back in the McCook area. Not only did my husband and I gain a new son in law but also a grandson named Anthony and he is 10 years old. Micah also found it in her heart to bless a local family through adoption. We are so glad the family wants us in their lives. So now we are happy to say I have the blessing of four grandchildren. It has been great to have such a wonderful extended family.

My daughter Noelle is 22 years old and has been serving our country in the United States Marine Corps for the

past four years. She has been stationed in Twenty-nine Palms, California working as an aviation ordinance distribution and maintenance officer. We are so proud that she had chosen to server our country but as for September 6, she will be moved to inactive duty and finally able to come home to Nebraska. We are so excited to get the opportunity to see her more and help her transition to civilian life in the upcoming months.

My youngest daughter, Stacia, is 18 years old and graduated this past year at Southwest Schools. She is currently working at Taco Johns in McCook. She decided to not pursue going to college at this time. My husband and I are so glad to have all our girls close to home.

I also can't forget my two very large dogs Bentley who is now 5 ½ years old and Miura who is now 3½ years old. They both are Great Danes and keep my family entertained by their silly shenanigans. I also have a cat named Rue along with several ducks and chickens.

My summer has been very busy working on organizing our art classroom. When I am not doing that I would be taking care of our large garden. Our family did find time to go to the lake this summer, as well as a vacation trip to California and Grand Canyon which was a lot of fun. When I was not working on school or home projects, I would keep myself busy working on some of my own artwork. My favorite things to do is making various pottery pieces, Fused Glass Jewelry, as well as drawing and Painting.



Keep current on school messages and information through the SchoolMessenger system. Information such as school closings, menu changes, and other school happenings will be delivered to you through your email and texts. Please be sure that your phone number and email addresses are correct in your PowerSchool contacts.



# News of the Little Knights



MS. LAURA MILLER  
PRESCHOOL

Hi! My name is Laura Miller! I live in McCook, Nebraska! I love to spend time with my family and play all sorts of games! I am the preschool teacher for the 2019-2020 school year! This will be my third year teaching and also my third year at St. Patrick School! This will also be my first year coaching volleyball at St. Pats! I know we are going to have lots of fun learning in preschool this year, and I can't wait to get started!



MRS. BRYN JORDAN  
PRESCHOOL AIDE

Hi! My name is Bryn Jordan. My husband Clay and I have been married for 9 years and have three kids, all attending St. Patrick School this year, Jaxyn, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade; Corbyn, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade; and Brekkan is in 1<sup>st</sup> grade. We live outside of McCook where we enjoy our "Funny Farm" with horses, ponies, goats, chickens, guineas, and a peacock. This will be my third year as the pre-school aide. We had a lot of fun last year, and I am looking forward to another fun year!





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <b>LABOR DAY</b>	3 Deli Sandwich on Flatbread Salad Vegetables Fruit Milk	4 Chicken Nuggets French Fries Baby Carrots Fruit Cookie Milk	5 Sloppy Joe on Bun Baked Beans Sweet Potato Fries Fruit Milk	6 Tuna & Noodles Vegetables Fruit Dinner Roll Milk	7
8	9 Hot Dog on Bun Baked Beans French Fries Fruit Milk	10 Chicken & Rice Casserole Vegetable Fruit Dinner Roll Milk	11 Stromboli Salad Marinara Sauce Fruit Milk	12 <u>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Menu</u> Walking Taco Corn Mashed Potatoes Strawberries & Bananas Apple Crisp Milk	13 Cheese Pizza Baby Carrots Vegetable Fruit Milk	14
15	16 Hamburger on Bun Baked Beans Vegetable Fruit	17 Mandarin Orange Chicken Fried Rice Vegetable Fruit Fortune Cookie Milk	18 Roast Chicken Mashed Potatoes Vegetable Fruit Roll OR Muffin Milk	19 <b>COOK'S CHOICE</b>	20 Cheese Ravioli Spaghetti Sauce Salad Fruit Garlic Bread Milk	21
22	23 Pancake Sausage On a Stick Hashbrown Patty Fruit Juice Box Milk	24 Pasta Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce Salad Fruit Garlic Bread Milk	25 Chicken Fajita Beans Salsa Fruit Tortilla Chips Milk	26 Corn Dog Nuggets Sweet Potato Fries Vegetable Fruit Milk	27 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tomato Soup Vegetables Fruit Milk	28
29	30 Shredded BBQ Pork on Bun Baked Beans Sweet Potato Fries Fruit Birthday Cake Milk					

**\*Menu Subject to Change\***

**This institution is an equal opportunity provider.**

# I NEED TO STAY HOME IF . . . .

I HAVE A FEVER	I AM VOMITING	I HAVE DIARRHEA	I HAVE A RASH	I HAVE HEAD LICE	I HAVE AN EYE INFECTION	I HAVE BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL
						
Temperature of 100.0 or higher	Within the past 24 hours	Within the past 24 hours	Body rash with itching or fever	Itchy head, active head lice	Redness, itching, and/or "crusty" drainage from eye	Hospital stay and/or ER visit
I AM READY TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL WHEN I AM . . . .						
Fever Free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication. i.e. Tylenol, Motrin	Free from vomiting for at least 2 solid meals.	Free from diarrhea for at least 24 hours.	Free from rash, itching or fever. Evaluated by my doctor, if needed.	Treated with appropriate lice treatment at home.	Evaluated by my doctor and have a note to return to school.	Released by my doctor to return to school.

 **Southwest Nebraska  
Public Health Department**

404 West 10th Street  
(1 block north of Arby's)  
McCook, NE 69001  
308-345-4223  
[www.swhealth.ne.gov](http://www.swhealth.ne.gov)

501 Broadway  
(5th Street entrance)  
Imperial, NE 69033  
308-882-4269  
[info@swhealth.ne.gov](mailto:info@swhealth.ne.gov)



## Go Lady Knights!

### Volleyball Practice—Getting Ready!



## Volunteer Spanish teacher gives McCook kids a leg up

Southern Nebraska Register

October 7, 2016

*Story by S.L. Hansen*

McCOOK (SNR) — A couple years after Pat Janssen retired from teaching, she was ready to get back in the classroom again – this time as a volunteer for St. Patrick School in McCook.



The K-8 school had been offering a bit of Spanish to their middle school students, but the Hispanic volunteer who was teaching the kids numbers, colors, songs, etc., had left. Mrs. Janssen was asked if she would consider coming out of retirement. She agreed on the condition that she would be a volunteer, rather than paid faculty.

“We have five children, and they all graduated from St. Pat’s,” Mrs. Janssen explained. “I thought it was time to give back.”

She’s been ‘giving back’ as a volunteer Spanish teacher at St. Patrick School for more than a dozen years now.

She said that helping middle school students learn Spanish, while not required, is a great idea because it lays a good foundation in several areas.

“This is getting the kids ready for high school,” she said.

It also helps students who are not quite up to speed in language arts.

“If you are not good at English grammar, you learn it in a foreign language,” she said.

"I started out in college not planning to be a teacher in the least little bit," she recalled.

Her first major was French.

"I went to Grand Island Central Catholic, and I had four years of Latin under Msgr. [Carl] Hayden," she said. "So French was a piece of cake."

By her third year, she had to choose a minor.

"So I tried Spanish, and it was really easy," she laughed.

Teaching became a natural solution, especially when she married her husband 50 years ago and gave birth to five children.

"Most of the blessing of it was, I could teach part-time... three hours a day," she said.

This left her free to manage her own family and still get the fulfillment and joy of teaching. And her kids never seemed to mind, either.

"They liked me better because I was gone three hours a day," Mrs. Janssen laughed.

Her teaching resume is impressive. Certified as a secondary educator in French and Spanish, Mrs. Janssen taught at Marian and Benson high schools in Omaha, Marquette High in Marquette, Walnut Junior High in Grand Island, McCook Community College, and McCook Junior-Senior High.

Of course, teaching middle school students—who are not required to study foreign languages—is considerably different. The lessons are aimed at giving the students a good foundation in Spanish, while keeping it fun.

Mrs. Janssen translated a Jeopardy® board game into Spanish to play with the kids. Sometimes they play "Go Fish" to learn Spanish vocabulary.

She said the students, which now include her own grandchildren, are "very easy to inspire.... They think it's really cool to learn a foreign language."

Mrs. Janssen also secured the same Spanish textbook used at McCook Junior-Senior High for the students through the public school system's textbook loan program. This sets the St. Patrick gradu-

ates up for great success when they move on to high school.

"They have a leg up," Mrs. Janssen said with no shortage of pride. "They still take the two years of Spanish, but they do very well because they have had snippets of it for the last three years. Of course they have a leg up anyway because their parents care enough to send them to Catholic school, and make sure their homework gets done and all that."

Becoming adept at a second language also sets up the students for long-term success.

"Many of our kids major in Spanish in college and go to foreign countries to learn more," Mrs. Janssen Said. "They get very good jobs because [bilingual workers] are hard to get."

Personally, she's developed a new respect for elementary teachers.

"When I was teaching high school, we always said we're working the hardest and all, but now I think it's the elementary teachers who have it the hardest," she said. "You've got those little ones tugging at your dress all day long!"

As a volunteer, she gets all the joy of teaching without the difficulties.

"You don't have to worry about lots of meetings and outside-of-school activities — you just get the fun part," she said. "I just come in and enjoy the people I work with and enjoy the kids and then I go on my merry way."

She hopes more retired teachers will make some time in their schedules to do a little volunteer work at other Catholic schools.

