



St. Mark's Catholic School Vision

St Mark's Catholic School is dedicated to educating student disciples in body, mind and spirit, through the collaboration of families, community and the Church.

Our Mission

St. Mark's Catholic School is a ministry of St. Mark's Catholic Community that fosters academic excellence, rooted in the Catholic faith, and Christian values.

Letter from our Pastor

Dear families and friends of St. Mark's Catholic School

Our readings for this coming weekend can serve as a powerful rally cry to embrace the identity of our Faith, and live with intention to follow Christ.



The prophet Amos (1st Reading) is speaking to us from approx 760 - 755 BC. He is an older contemporary of Isaiah. His Holy Spirit inspired teaching is to the people of the northern Kingdom (the people of Israel were divided after the death of Solomon 200 years before Amos into the northern and southern kingdoms). They were enjoying bountiful harvests. As we hear read...they were enjoying sumptuous meals, eating heartily, and living a life of leisure and comfort. But they are not adherent to matters of faith. They had become ambivalent or indifferent to the God-denying practices and cultural norms that had been gradually accepted as normative. They were losing their identity as a people called by name by God through whom God would bring salvation to all peoples. A mere half century after Amos' public ministry, the powerful Assyrian army invaded and laid siege to the northern kingdom. Many were killed, and their people and their treasury taken into captivity. The trauma of this invasion will impact the people of Israel for generations. God used the Assyrian army and their brutal invasion to bring the people of Israel to account.

In the Gospel reading from Luke, we hear in the 16th Chapter the story of the wealthy man, and the poor beggar Lazarus. The wealthy man enjoys the many comforts of life, indifferent to the sufferings of those around him. Poor Lazarus dies, relieved of his earthly struggles, and is carried by angels to the "bosom of Abraham"...heaven. The rich man also dies, and is cast into the netherworld...or hell. We can learn from this story several key points. First, there is definitively a heaven and a hell. Jesus, who is God, is telling us so. Second, how we live in this life determines our eternal destination. We must choose Christ as Savior, and we must follow His way and teachings. All people will live forever in a full and present consciousness. Either in heaven in the proximity to and in the glory of God, or in hell, eternally separated from God, and under the eternal suffering and abuse of the evil one. The wealthy man, now cast into hell and fully aware of his eternal sentence, asks that a messenger be sent to his brothers so that they might avoid this eternal damnation. Abraham replies, "they have the prophets", and "even if one were to rise from the dead, they would not be persuaded".

Let us be bold in claiming and living our identity in Christ. The world desperately needs followers of Christ to provide the example of how to live as people of God. Our walk in the Catholic Faith is not only for our benefit. It is for the benefit of the many who do not know him, who do not have the privilege of receiving a formation in the Catholic Faith. Let us rise each day in humility before the Lord, and then engage the day enlivened by the Holy Spirit, and committed to being Christ present to all we meet. If we seek to follow Him, God can use our lives in the Catholic Faith to save the lives of many.

Pax,
Fr. John

Letter from our Principal

Dear St. Mark's Families.

Happy Fall!



On behalf of our entire staff, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our 7th grade parents for the absolutely delicious lunch today. Your thoughtfulness reminds us how blessed we are to be part of such a loving and supportive community.

I pray you had a wonderful, productive, and joy-filled week, just like we did here at St. Mark's. We are so proud of how hard your children are working each day. To celebrate their effort and determination, we ended the week with a music/dance party in the lunchroom. It was such a fun reminder that **Together We Rise** when we learn, laugh, and celebrate as a school family.

These weeks between Labor Day and Thanksgiving can feel long, and we are so grateful for the perseverance your children are showing each day. This week, our Kindergarten-2nd grade classes were visited by the Boise Fire Department, who taught the students about fire safety and reminded us of the everyday heroes called to serve and protect us. Next week, our first graders will head off on a field trip to the apple orchard to learn about God's miraculous creations—please keep them in your prayers as they travel off campus.

Today, our SRO, Officer Webb, met with our faculty to review lockdown procedures and answer questions. He is working with other officers to schedule a drill for us next week. We know these practices can feel unsettling—especially for students—but they are a vital part of keeping everyone safe and prepared. Thank you for helping us reassure your children as we work together to make these experiences calm and meaningful.

Please be sure to read this edition of Friday Facts for important information and upcoming events. For example, who doesn't want to see me kiss a pig on October 6th? Our Community Night at Farmstead is just around the corner and will be a wonderful way to come together and celebrate as a school family.

Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing. -
1 Thessalonians 5:11

Blessings,
Donna Gordon



Policy Highlight

As your children continue to grow and may need new shoes, please remember our shoe and sock policy. Socks must be solid white, black, gray, or navy, and should be free of any logos. The shoe policy is outlined below for your reference.

St. Mark's Catholic School Athletic Shoes Policy

Guide for Students and Parents

ACCEPTABLE SHOE STYLES



- Solid Black, Brown, White, Grey or Navy Blue "Uppers"
- ONLY the logo can be a different color
- Black or white soles are acceptable

UNACCEPTABLE SHOE STYLES



Together We Rise



SAINT MARK'S
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

As mentioned at Back-to-School Night, one way we can live out our theme "**Together We Rise**" is through open communication. To support this, we've introduced the Rise & Share Google Form.

Rise & Share Google Form

Here's how it works:

- If you have a question or concern and prefer to share it through the form, Mrs. Gordon will check responses every morning.
- If you'd like a reply, you can include your contact information, and Mrs. Gordon will respond as soon as possible.

THIS NEWSLETTER CONTAINS A LOT OF INFORMATION, AND THE LENGTH OF THE NEWSLETTER CAUSES IT TO BE TRUNCATED.

LOOK FOR THE LINK AT THE BOTTOM OF THE EMAIL THAT SAYS "VIEW ENTIRE MESSAGE" TO EXPAND THE EMAIL, OR [CLICK HERE TO VIEW](#)

Spirituality Spotlight

Upcoming Dates

10/1- Wednesday: Student Body Mass @ 8:30am hosted by Mrs. Workman's 5th grade

10/2- Thursday: Spirituality Committee meeting @ 3:15 in the conference room

10/8- Wednesday: 6th grade Teaching Mass with Fr. John @ 8:15am

10/9- Thursday: Altar Server training @ 3:30pm

St. Mark's School Altar Server Training

**Thursday, October 9th 3:30pm at
St. Mark's Catholic Church**

Fr. John will be hosting a second Altar Server training next month for any 4th through 8th grade students who have received their First Communion.

The training is expected to last 30 minutes. Parents are responsible for drop off and pick up.

Please register using the link below.



Parent Prayer Group

Wednesday, October 1st

8:10-8:25am

Resurrection Room

St. Mark's parents warmly invite you to join them in prayer prior to our Student Body Masses this school year.

All are welcome!



Does your child need to be baptized?

Does anyone in your family need any sacraments?

If so, contact Ginger Mortensen at St. Mark's Catholic Church: gmortensen@stmarksboise.org or call the parish office: 208-375-6651

Our 2nd and 8th graders have completed their Teaching Masses with Fr. Celestine and Fr. John



Student Spotlight



Hudson P. ran her 2nd FitOne 5K this weekend with her mom. She PRed with a time of 29:32!! It helps to have a great fan club (pictured with her brother, Banks, and sister, Mason).

Lion Pride Recognition



LionPRIDE

Practice
MAKES
Saints

	CLASSROOM	HALLWAYS	LUNCH ROOM	PLAYGROUND	BATHROOMS	CHURCH
PERSEVERANCE <i>Every Day - Every Time</i>	Be Prepared Be On Time Be On Task Be Present	Be Timely Be Courteous Model Good Behavior Walk Slowly	Use Your Manners Be Patient Wait to be Excused	Be Safe Obey the Rules Play Fair Share Space & Equipment Be a Good Sport	Throw Away Trash Keep it Clean Flush Toilet Wash Hands	Be Engaged Pray, Not Play Behave Appropriately
RESPECT <i>Others, Self & Property</i>	Be Positive Listen to Others Be Prompt Follow Dress Code Care for School Property	Be Quiet Keep Your Hands to Yourself Keep Clean	Clean up Messes Share Space Eat Only Your Food Keep Voices Low Keep your Hands to Yourself	Use Kind Words Use Equipment as Intended Keep Your Hands to Yourself	Give Others Privacy Use Appropriate Volume	Listen Attentively Enter and Leave Quickly Treat Church Materials with Care
INTEGRITY <i>Honesty in All You Do</i>	Be Honest Be Accountable Do Your Own Work Set & Meet Goals Honor Due Dates	Do the Right Thing Respect Posters & Displays	Use Manners Don't Be Wasteful Pay for Purchases	Notify Staff if Problems Arise Follow Staff Directions	Return to Class Promptly & Quietly Report any Inappropriate Behavior Use at Appropriate Times	Be Kind Be on Time
DISCIPLESHIP <i>Following Jesus' Example</i>	Support Others Cooperate with Others Be Honest Share Christ's Love	Help Others in Need Say Thank You to Our Custodians	Sit by Those Sitting Alone Engage in Appropriate Conversations	Encourage Others to be Kind Be Inclusive Lead by Example Help Others When Needed	Use Only as Needed Report Supply Shortages Clean Up After Yourself	Be Reverent Actively Participate Be Involved Show Appreciation
EXCELLENCE <i>Strive for Success</i>	Do Your Very Best Work Challenge Yourself Learn Beyond the Classroom Ask Questions	Set a Good Example Greet People Politely	Follow Cafeteria Rules Use an Inside Voice	Solve Issues in a Peaceful Manner Line Up on Time Stay in Assigned Areas	Use During Non-Instructional Times Report Problems to an Adult	Be the Best Version of Yourself Follow Dress Code for Mass

SAINT MARK'S
—CATHOLIC SCHOOL—

Congratulations to this week's winners:

Tate B (2), Kingston S, Jo G, Francis W, Charlotte S, Rylee B, Cameron C, John W, Ms. Murray, Amaya W (2), Macy K, Alexei B, James W, Quincy S, Barrett D, Madelynn J, Jensen S, Eugene K, Willie G

Weekly Calendar

Wednesday, October 1

8:30 a.m. Student Body Mass presented by Mrs. Workman's 5th grade
Ms. Eaton's Birthday

Thursday, October 2

School Custodian Appreciation Day

Friday, October 3

\$1 BSU/ND Dress Up Day
8th grade Wreath sales begin
8:30-9:30 a.m. Individual Student Retakes - Free Dress per Dress Code ONLY for students having Retakes and must change back into uniform or BS/ND wear after picture is taken

Saturday, October 4

BSU Broncos vs. Notre Dame Fighting Irish football game in South Bend

Upcoming Events**Monday, October 6**

4:00-9:00 p.m. St. Mark's School Farmstead Community - 6:30 Mrs. Gordon kisses the pig

Tuesday, October 7

6:30 p.m. Foundation Meeting

Wednesday, October 8

8:30 a.m. Student Body Mass presented by Mrs. Maltby's 5th grade

Thursday, October 9

8:30-9:30 a.m. Flu Shot Clinic for students/staff
3:30 p.m. Altar Server Training for Grades 4-8 at the Church

Friday, October 10

Spirit Day
School Adoration
Mrs. B. Brady's Birthday

Saturday, October 11

Mrs. Boroff's Birthday

Home & School

This year's Dinner Auction " Buffalo, Boots and Blessings" takes place on Saturday, February 7, 2026. It will be held in Donoghue Hall (at the church). Money raised from Paddles Up will go towards a new playground.



FUNDRAISER NIGHT

St. Marks School

Monday, October 6, 2025

6:30PM Kiss the Pig

*Lowe Family Farmstead
2500 S. Eagle Rd. - Kuna, ID*

***ARRIVE anytime after 4PM
to start having FUN!***

The cost is \$12.00 (+tax) per person and includes:

- Idaho's Original Corn Maze
- Hayrides
- Corn Poppers
- Cow Train Ride
- Huge Slides
- Farmyard Games
- Bee Line Ziplines
- Grain Train Ride
- Farm Animals
- and much more!!

*Tell admissions which school you're with to receive the discount...
\$1 per admission will be donated back to your school!*

WWW.LOWEFAMILYFARMSTEAD.COM   **#farmsteadfun**

Volunteer Opportunities

**TO VOLUNTEER IN ANY CAPACITY AT ST. MARK'S SCHOOL,
YOU MUST TAKE A LIVE SEW CLASS AND PASS A BACKGROUND CHECK.**

St. Mark's Book Fair runs Monday, October 20 - Friday, October 24 (yes, during Parent/Teacher Conferences). Volunteers are needed to help set up on Friday, October 17, through the week to sell books, then tear down on Friday, 24. **Click here to sign up to help**. A great way to get those Volunteer

THE LUNCHROOM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS! Parents, grandparents...are all welcome to volunteer weekly, monthly, occasionally (must be SEW trained). Contact schooloffice@stmarksschoolboise.com with the dates you can volunteer to get signed up. Time volunteered counts toward your Volunteer Hours.

Library Helpers (Parent Volunteers) are needed during the following times:

Tuesdays @ 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Wednesdays @ 11:15 am.-1:15 p.m. and 1:15-2:45 p.m.

Thursdays @ 9:00-11:15 a.m.

Contact Mrs. Rosania at brovania@stmarksschoolboise.com.



On Wednesdays walking to and from Student Body Mass, we can always use volunteers to walk with our classes. Please stop by the School Office on any Wednesday morning that you can help and you will be given instructions.

Lunch Room Volunteers

NEXT WEEK'S LUNCH HELPERS

Monday (29)—Perez, Carroll, Corcoran, Antonoplos

Tuesday (30)—Glasgow

Wednesday (1)—LaMott, McDonald

Thursday (2)—Hudspeth

Friday (3)—Cavazos

St. Mark's offers a healthy, delicious hot lunch to students and staff EVERY FULL DAY OF SCHOOL!

4 LUNCHROOM HELPERS ARE NEEDED EACH DAY from 10:45-12:45 to serve lunches and clean tables in the lunchroom. Volunteers are given a free lunch.

Please come into the School Office and sign up in the black "lunch" binder, call (208) 375-6654 or **email** to volunteer.

Daily Lunch Schedule: 11:15 a.m. (PS-2); 11:35 a.m. (3-5); 12:05 p.m. (6-8)

News



The next LIVE SEW class will be held on Monday, September 29 @ 6:30 p.m. in the Middle School.

THIS LIVE CLASS IS REQUIRED 1 TIME. You are also required to view the video "Protecting God's Children Online Awareness Session 4.0", which will be available after you register. Go to virtusonline.org, create an account, click on register for training, find the class at St. Mark's on

Since the weather is starting to turn cooler in the mornings, please send a jacket or sweatshirt with your student(s) every day. This is especially important for recesses and on Wednesdays when our student body walks to Mass.



On Friday, October 3, we will have a \$1.00 BSU/Notre Dame Dress Up Day. For a \$1.00 donation, students may wear jeans and a BSU or Notre Dame shirt or a shirt with the colors of their favorite team, either BSU or Notre Dame. Students may not wear jeggings, leggings, yoga pants, sweatpants, athletic pants or athletic shorts. The \$1 may be brought to school before or on the Dress Up Day.

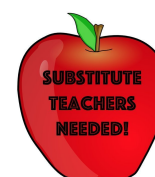


If you were absent on picture day or didn't like your photos, Retake Day is Friday, October 3 from 8:30-9:30. If you have a picture packet that you want to exchange for retakes, please return them to the School Office before Retake Day. Students having retakes may wear Free Dress to school then must change back into uniform after their photo is taken.

Thank you to our 7th grade families for supplying September's Home & School lunch for staff. We are so very thankful to you for your generosity and support.

Thursday, October 2 is School Custodian Appreciation Day. Thank you to Mrs. Godfrey and Mr. Rossi for all the work you do for our school.

We are in need of substitute teachers. If you or someone you know have a higher ed degree, associates or higher and have classroom experience (we can work with you on this), we would love to have you fill out an application. [Click here](#) to complete the fillable application, print and turn it in to Mrs. Anderson in the school office.



Child care **WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE** on Thursday Oct 23 during Parent/Teacher Conferences because the gym will be used for conferences.



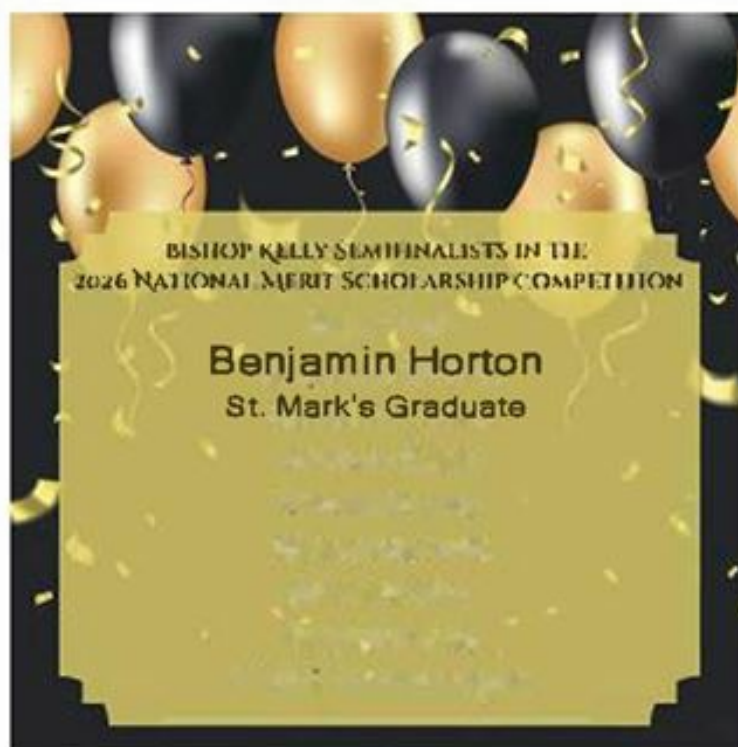
The Boise Fire Department visited our PS-2nd graders this week and taught them about fire safety ahead of Fire Safety Week.

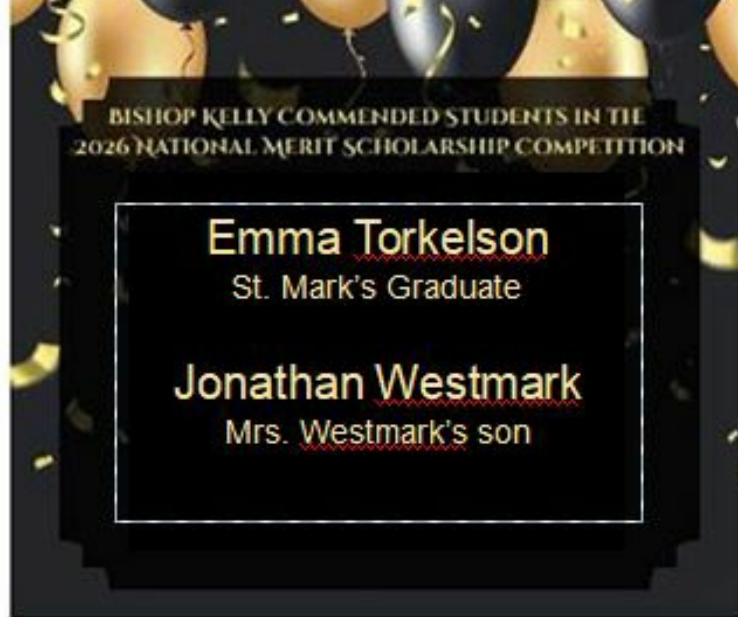
Are you looking for a chance to be a part of the St. Mark's community? Do you like playing basketball in a low stress environment? Do you want to give back to St. Mark's school? We have a great opportunity. Our next adult recreational "pick up" basketball game is open to anyone

affiliated with St. Mark's school or the parish. For a \$5 drop in fee, you can come play "pick up" basketball, get some exercise and meet others in our community. 100% of proceeds will go back to St. Mark's school. Come join us Sunday, 9/28, from 12:30-2:30pm after mass. For more information, please reach out to jamescjower@yahoo.com.



Please **RSVP HERE** for Altar Server training.





TVCS Events/Sports



[Click here](#) for the TVCS athletic schedule.

Dear TVCS families,

The Fall season is coming to an end. Thank you to the families, players and coaches for a great season.

Our next season is rapidly approaching. Early Winter includes Girls Basketball for 7th and 8th graders and Wrestling for boys and girls grades 6th through 8th.

Practices begin October 6th. More information about coaches and practices will be sent early next week. If you and your students are interested, please use the link to the **TVCS Website** and the **registration form**.

Be on the lookout for Late Winter information which starts after the holiday break. Late Winter includes boys basketball, and ski and snowboarding clubs.

Thank you and GO KNIGHTS!

Kevan Grant
Go Spartans!
St. Mary's Catholic School - Principal
TVCS Athletic Director

Preschool Happenings



We were so lucky to get to have the Boise Fire Department come and let us see their ladder truck up close. The kids got to learn a bit about their safety gear and were encouraged to remember that firefighters and emergency responders are here to help!



Church Connection

If you would like to receive the Parish Newsletter **text** BOISESTMARKSNEWS **to** 42828 to sign up **OR** **Click here** to sign up.



“Card Bingo”

Saturday, October 11th

Sponsored by Red Hat Angels



Tickets: \$10.00

Tickets available at the door



Fun from 1:00 to 3:00 pm



**St. Marks Donoghue Hall
7960 Northview**



**All monies go to St. Mark's student tuition fund
NO experience needed!!!**

**For more information and tickets contact: Faith Ann Swayne
faithannswayneccw@gmail.com - 208-373-2971**

Vaccine clinic

10% off groceries with every immunization*

SKIP THE LINE!
SCAN TO MAKE
AN APPOINTMENT



Date: 10/09/2025

Time: 7:30am-9:30am

Location: St. Mark's

Additional Information:

- Pharmacist can administer age 6 mos and older
- Please provide a copy of insurance card(s)
- Wear a short sleeve shirt

Shots administered by the Pharmacy Team from your neighborhood



* Restrictions apply. Visit pharmacy for details.

ALBOM201079_Rx_FuGnc_ClinPier_V27_Vaccine_ORcode_10off_Bus_B3BOnly

Click on this link to download and complete the flu shot consent. The cost of the vaccine is free, but please attach a copy of your insurance card. Students not having consents will not be given a vaccine.

Saint Alphonsus School Health Program

Through the St. Alphonsus School Health Program, Mrs. Lewchenko-Colin, our school nurse, is at St. Mark's on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and Mrs. Placido, CNA, SASHP Assistant is here on Thursdays.



Saint Alphonsus
SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAM

Teaching kids to withhold information about school.

You're on your way home from work. You're anxious for a little encouragement, some relaxation, and maybe something cool to drink. It's been a hard day. You need all the support you can get to recharge your batteries and feel strong enough to face tomorrow.

You are greeted with, "Hi honey. How was it today? Where are your papers? I want to see how you did today."

"It was OK. I really don't want to talk about it. Is there anything cool to drink? I'm really beat."

"Well, no wonder you don't want to talk about it. Look at these papers. You can do a lot better than this. Where was your mind today? You sit down right now, and we'll go over these proposals you wrote and get the spelling straightened out. Look at these paragraphs! You'll never get promoted at this rate. I don't understand this. You have so much more potential than this!"

How long would it be before you found a more comfortable place to go after work? "Who needs this?" you will say. "I'll find someone who can show me a little more appreciation for my hard work!"

Many school aged children face this same type of situation daily. After school, they are greeted with, "what did you learn today?" And "where is your homework? You get on it right now!" Children are also requested to bring home their papers so that their mistakes can be corrected. This is done in the name of love and caring by parents who believe they should show an interest in their child's progress.

But children can't choose to go somewhere else after school. They can't avoid facing a replay of their daily failures at work. They must return home and listen to whatever their parents have to say.

It is very difficult for a child to say, "Mother! Do you realize you are training me to keep my school progress a secret from you?" Adults, on the other hand, spend little time with people who remind them of their failures or weaknesses.

Many parents train their children to avoid talking about school through the following tried and true method. First, the kids quit bringing home their school papers. They make excuses and blame it on their teachers. "She never gives me my papers to bring home."

Next, the parent goes to the school demanding that the teacher develops some sort of foolproof reporting method, such as daily or weekly reports. This never proves a long-term solution because it addresses the wrong problem. It also robs teachers a valuable teaching and preparation time.

The real problem is that the child does not feel safe discussing school with the parent. Instead of a reporting plan, it is much wiser for parents and children to learn how to talk to each other in safe and supportive ways. This solution works and it lasts for a lifetime.

You can teach your child to want to discuss school with you. At the same time, you can lay the foundation for helping your youngster become a true winner. This technique is based on extensive research on winners and losers. Winners always think about how they are going to succeed, well losers always think about their possible failures.

Here are four steps to follow that will teach your child to discuss school with you:

Step 1

Sit down with your child two or three times per week. Have him point out the best things he did on his papers.

Step 2

Make sure your child describes the reasons for his success. As he puts these into words, they become imprinted in his brain, never to be erased. He will start to believe that he is in control of his own success or failure.

Step 3

Work with your child on mistakes only when you are asked to help. Let the school work on the deficiencies. Unfortunately, many school personnel have more expertise with what is wrong rather than what is right. Your child will get enough attention about that at school.

Step 4

Be patient. This is a real change in operation. It will take the child a period of time to believe that it is not just a new phase you are going through.

Look for the results and benefits to show up in several months or maybe the next few years, depending on the child's past history. One thing we do know for sure is how the old way works. We can always go back to fighting with our children and blaming teachers if we lose either our patience or our faith.

From article by Jim Fay in love and logic. V. 1 #4.

Have a good week,

Joe Lipetzky, Psy. D.

Dr. Joe Lipetzky, our school psychologist, is at St. Mark's on Monday and Friday morning.

Sarah Lynch, our school counselor, is at St. Mark's on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

St. Mark's School | 7503 W. Northview St. | Boise, ID 83704 US

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