



From the Principal's Desk

DECEMBER 14, 2023

A Christmas message

Christmas concert time brings me back to special times when I was growing up. I will always cherish the memories and the magical feelings of concert night. Memories of waiting in the classrooms to be escorted to the stage, performing for families who sit in the dark and wondering where my parents were sitting, and staying out late on a school night. As I grew older and had my own children, I could see the excitement on their faces and knew they were experiencing the same things I had as a child.

It is exciting to see the joy in the faces of school students during the Christmas season. Due to the busy nature of the season, sometimes schedules and added responsibilities can cause stress. Concerts, parties, family visits and so many other events seem to be packed into a limited amount of time. Scheduling becomes an issue and we always seem to be looking for ways to complete our to-do list. As the holiday season approaches, please give your child the gift of extra time. Put an I.O.U. for a special event or activity in his/her stocking. When students are asked to write about a memorable event in their lives, it isn't a special gift they usually choose to write about, but a particular experience they have had with someone special.

As we prepare for Christmas, we recall that Advent is a time of hope, waiting, compassion and kindness, as we await the coming of Jesus. During this time it is important to take to a moment to reflect and give thanks for the many blessings bestowed upon us, but also to pray for those members of our school community and families that maybe facing challenges during this time. The birth of Jesus signifies a new beginning for all of us. A time for renewed hope, peace, love and new beginnings.

I am proud of how much our community gives during this time of the year. Hopefully years from now, during the holiday season, you and your child will remember many wonderful times spent together.

Birthday Party for Jesus

Our students will be celebrating Jesus's birthday on Wednesday, December 20th at 10am. They will be gathering together in their Faith Families to play some games, watch the Drama Club perform a Christmas skit, and then sing some songs. We will sing Happy Birthday to Jesus right before we go to lunch.

All are welcome to join us in the gym.

Adoration and Reconciliation

Fr. Dan led our Middle School students in Reconciliation and Adoration today. What a gift this was to prepare ourselves for the coming King.



News from Mrs. Moulton - Reading Specialist

Books Wanted

Has your child outgrown books on their shelves? Mrs. Moulton is collecting Step Up To Reading books to build a library of beginning readers for students to borrow for their nightly reading. She will be collecting all levels of Step Up To Reading books including pre-readers, levels 1-5, and Stepping Stone chapter books. These books are of high interest to students and help bridge the gap between interest and readability. Books can be donated in the box next to the book return through January 15, 2024



Last Call for Pizza

What better time to enjoy free pizza than Christmas vacation? Please turn in November calendars so your student can be rewarded for meeting their reading goal. All their hard work has earned them their free personal pan pizza. Please remember calendars are due the 10th of the following month.



Student Council Announcements

Middle School Dance - Tomorrow

The middle school dance is coming up on December 15 from 7:00 to 9:00 in the gym! The theme of the dance is Christmas in Hawaii. If you are coming please bring a non-perishable food item and \$6 to get in. All proceeds will go to the middle school student council.

Hot Lunch reminders

Extra, Extra! Read all about it

When ordering for hot lunch, students in grades 5-8 have the ability to order an "extra entree". Students in grades 1-4 can, BUT they need parental permission to do so. Hot lunch orders are called in by 8:30am, so if your child is going to need your permission for an extra entree, please provide it **in writing** when they come to school in the morning.

ALL EXTRA ENTREES ARE AN EXTRA CHARGE FOR EVERYONE! The cost of a student hot lunch meal is \$3.65. The cost of an "extra entree" is \$2.50. All students who order an "extra entree", regardless of whether or not they are eligible for Free or Reduced, are charged the same.

If you have any questions about this, please call the office.

St. Joseph Junior Knights Basketball

St. Joseph Junior Knights Basketball program is going into our 6th season. This program is geared to students in 1st through 4th grade. The season occurs on Saturday mornings for 6 weeks from mid-January to the end of February. The Junior Knights program is designed to give our younger children a taste of the game of basketball. The children will learn the rules, basic drills, positions, and have a chance to play the game. Our adjustable hoops enable the 1st and 2nd graders the opportunity to make baskets without being discouraged. During practice things are kept fun while also teaching the kids how to play the game.

2024 Dates: January 13, 20, 27, February 3, 10, 17, and (Feb 24 Snow date if needed) with scheduled times to be decided between 8AM to 12PM based on grade level and number of teams. We are also looking for parent volunteers to head coach or assist, indicate on form if

interested.

A registration link can be found on the St. Joseph website under Parish then Athletics, then basketball tab or click the link below:

[Click here](#)

Registration is due by December 22, 2023, to allow proper time for season planning.

Fee: \$50 per player for Registration and T-shirt (Make Checks Payable to St. Joseph Athletics)

Please send to school office in an envelope marked St Joseph Junior Knights. Please include Family name in the envelope with the check so credit is applied to your registrant(s).

Please Mail Checks To:

St. Joseph School

Attn: Athletics Junior Knights

S89W22650 Milwaukee Ave

Big Bend, WI 53103

If you have any questions, please email Joe Searing at joe@searingbrostile.com.

Recess supervisors needed

With the coming winter season, many of our recess supervisors fly south to escape the cold. We are in need of extra special persons to come in for an hour to spend some time with our students as they play on the playground and then come in for lunch.

If you would like to "give" your time this winter season, please call the office. We will happily take you as often as you are able.

Does this belong to anyone?



We have a lost container from the cookie walk.

Please call the office if this is yours.

Funeral on Friday

Please be aware that there will be a large presence tomorrow during pick up. There is a funeral with visitation starting at 2pm. We expect it to be well attended. Please be mindful of the traffic. Thank you.

Upcoming Events

~Mass planned by 2nd & 8th grade

~Student Council .50 OOU Wednesday December 20th

~Red & Green OOU Friday December 22nd



Laura Bisher

Laura is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

Principal St. Leonard School