

ST. JOHN'S ACADEMY PARENT NEWSLETTER

www.stjohnsacademynd.org

701.252.3397



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

ST. JOHN'S ACADEMY



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2023
JAN 29TH - FEB 3RD

Sunday

- Mass at the Basilica
 - Saturday 5:00 pm
 - Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am
- Pancake Breakfast at SJA 9:30 am - 12:30pm

Monday

- Class Color Day
- Service Project Begins
- 9:00am Community Recognition, 6th grade
- Ice Skating - 5th & 6th grades

Tuesday

- Crazy Socks & Hat Day
- NED Growth Mindset Presentation
- Ice Skating - 3rd, 7th & 8th grades

WWW.NCEA.ORG/CSW
#CSW23



Wednesday

- Dress Fancy Day
- Mass with Bishop Folda
 - 9:00am @ Basilica
- Ice Skating - 4th grade
- Eucharistic Procession

Thursday

- Hawaiian Day
- Family Feud K - 8th
- Decade of the Rosary

Friday

- Spirit Day
- Lightning Competition
 - 4th - 8th grades
- Quickest Eagle K - 5th
- Scooterball - 6th vs. 7th
- Dodgeball - 8th vs. Staff



Giving Hearts Day

IMPORTANT DATES

- FEBRUARY 1ST - ALL SCHOOL MASS @ BASILICA WITH BISHOP FOLDA - 9AM
- FEBRUARY 6TH & 7TH - PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES/BOOK FAIR
- FEBRUARY 9TH - GIVING HEARTS DAY
 - 8TH GRADE HIGH SCHOOL SITE VISIT - 9AM
 - BURGERS & BINGO - 6PM
- FEBRUARY 14TH - VALENTINE'S DAY ♡ ♡ ♡
- FEBRUARY 17TH & 20TH - NO SCHOOL
- FEBRUARY 22ND - ASH WEDNESDAY
- FEBRUARY 24TH - FINAL FRIDAY, 11:45 AM DISMISSAL



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

S T . J O H N ' S



A C A D E M Y

St. John's Academy Families,

February greetings from the Academy. As I recall, in the February issue I typically write about my grievance with winter and deep desire for spring to arrive. I'll spare you the details but can assure you that my feelings have not changed on the topic.

I want to first give a quick word of appreciation to our students and families who, throughout the course of the school year, have dedicated their time and talents to support the school. I realize that at times the volunteer requests can be a bit overwhelming and unwelcomed, but your contributions make a huge difference in our events and ultimately in what we are able to offer here at St. John's Academy. Our fundraising efforts contribute to approximately 20% of the school's annual budget, which in turn reduces the tuition for every student at the school (Kids' Kingdom through 8th grade) by nearly \$1,500. Your time and effort effects everyone at the Academy and we are very thankful!



As we approach the Lenten season, I was reflecting on the idea of fasting and prayer. The Bible is filled with passages that indicate that prayer and fasting are staple practices of the faithful. Christ, himself, went to the dessert for 40 days to fast and pray. It got me wondering. The benefits of prayer seem logical enough but what do we have to gain by denying ourselves things that aren't necessarily bad for us. It seems sensible that giving up certain vices might be beneficial to a person who needs to break a bad habit. Furthermore, as I age, I realize that limiting my food consumption might improve my blood pressure, decrease my waistline, and lower my cholesterol but why is the combination of prayer and fasting mentioned so often in the Bible and recommended throughout the centuries as a valued practice to grow in relationship with God?

As I have previously stated, I am not a theologian, nor did I sleep at a Holiday Inn Express last night, so feel free to move onto the next section on the newsletter as I share my musings on the topic. After some reflection and some dabbling with the practice of fasting and praying, I have come to recognize some of the fruit that is to be gained.

One of things I first realized, was that often I was eating or drinking for the sole purpose of enjoyment. I like food (a lot) and I suppose that's no crime and that doesn't make me any different than most people. However, recognition of this led me to ask myself why I was eating when I didn't need to. The only logical answer I could generate was that I was eating for selfish reasons. I enjoyed eating and wanted to eat because I liked it, it gave me a good feeling, made me happy, etc. Ok, well that line of thought made me dig a little deeper. Why would I do something, just to make myself feel better, especially if what I was doing, say eating sweets or chips (I love potato chips), was ultimately not good for me? Going down that road really got me questioning things, like, what else am I doing just for my own satisfaction? Are there other things I'm doing that aren't good for me that I really don't need to be doing? As I looked deeper into this, numerous areas for improvement became apparent. I realized that I had developed many habits that were affecting my actions, decisions, and relationships with others. I began to realize that I was going throughout much of my day jumping from thing to thing just to satisfy a need. As a result, I could see that some of these actions were negatively impacting my health, relationships with others, and most importantly my relationship with Christ. I realized that I had generated a habit of daily living that was a lot more about me than others or my faith. As you can sense by now, I learned a lot about myself through some brief times of practicing some self-denial and through intentional prayer.

Why, you might ask, is a principal of school blabbering on about a topic like this. It's a prudent question. Let me answer the question by asking some questions.

Would our children benefit from developing the ability to wait, to be moderate, to put other things ahead of their own self interests? Would they benefit from learning to listen, be quiet, to be intentional in prayer? Would they benefit from seeing that it is quite easy to fall into the habit of jumping from thing to thing just to find satisfaction? Would we, as parents and educators, benefit from learning to recognize moments when we are putting our interests in front of the people we love and care for and to see the things that we've put in our lives that are clouding our vision of what truly matters?

In Christ,

A handwritten signature of Jeff Trumbauer in black ink.

Jeff Trumbauer
Principal - St. John's Academy



Mrs. Gange's Kids' Kingdom

January was a fun month for Kids' Kingdom! We covered so many fun subjects.

Our goal in Kids' Kingdom is to "play" while we learn which in turn teaches our students that learning can be fun! What we think of as "play", translates into each students social, emotional, cognitive and physical development. Our playtime this month was focused on the following:

- The book *The Mitten*. We used mittens to measure our height, we created our own mitten, and we talked about the difference between a mitten and a glove.
- Arctic Animals
- Practiced writing our name and using letters to spell
- Shapes & colors review





Mrs. Mahoney's Kids' Kingdom

We started the new year with an emphasis on the alphabet and phonics. With our winter assessing now almost complete, we are celebrating the growth and progress of these sweet, young learners! There have been measurable leaps in all areas of development. Our 'Littles' work hard. What a privilege it is to witness such a variety of milestones being conquered! Forever working on all areas of development, we continue to focus on readiness skills and social behavior. This month, we used the theme of Arctic Animals in our math, language, and fine/gross motor stations. For example, we studied the habitats of the polar bear, penguin, and walrus. Using blocks, magnet tiles, and other manipulatives (such as white felt for ice and cotton balls for snow), students worked in small groups and were challenged to use what they had learned about these creatures in order to create spaces each animal would enjoy living in.





COMMUNITY OF SAINTS SPOTLIGHT



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Pharmacists:

Matt Perkins, PharmD

Lori Graves, RPh

Molly Rachel, PharmD

Ashley Montag, PharmD

Hours:

9:00am - 6:00pm Mon-Fri

9:00am - 12:00pm Saturday

Drive-thru opens at 8:30am

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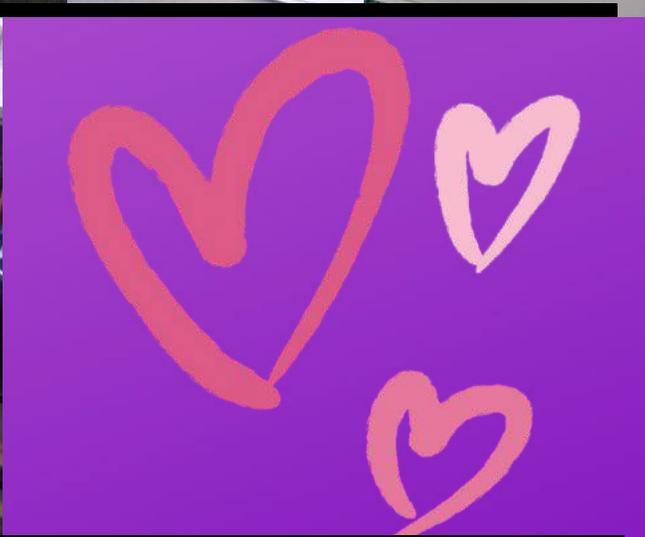
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Mrs. Neville's Pre-K

Pre-K has been very busy! We've been having so much fun playing and learning together. Here are some of the last month's highlights:

- To practice spelling our names, we used magnet letters and cookie sheets.
- We celebrated a few of our friends' birthdays and half-birthdays.
- During our occupation unit, we dressed up like what we want to be when we grow up.
- We worked at lots of fun penguin centers to help us with counting and fine motor skills.
- We also enjoyed playing in our sensory bin.





Library News



It's Book Fair Time!

Get ready! The Scholastic Book Fair is coming our way (YAY!). During the Fall fair we got almost 500 books into the hands of SJA students! Choosing their own books empowers kids and inspires them to become bolder, prouder, and stronger readers. AND... as always, every book they buy earns rewards for our school. Mark your calendars, the Scholastic Book Fair will be taking place February 6th and 7th from 3:15-6:30. The fair will also be open on February 8th and 9th from 3:15-4:00. The fair will officially close on February 10th at noon. The Fair URL can be found at <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/stjohnsacademy>



Visit our school's homepage to get the latest Book Fair news, shop our Online Fair, and more!
www.scholastic.com

Purchases will include sales tax as per Scholastic's new sales tax policy.

Happy Reading!

~Miss Hournbuckle



Music Notes & News

In the new year 2023 our Sixth-Grade students have been having fun reviewing note values and practicing reading rhythm patterns and playing them on xylophones.



Kindergarten



After a very cold December, we were excited to have lots of outdoor recess and the chance to play in the snow this month. We met with our 5th grade prayer partners and played the card game War. We also read to them one of our readers from our reading curriculum. We really enjoyed traveling to the different early childhood classrooms for Friendship Friday. Our theme of the month was construction/building. We did a variety of activities and projects that fit the theme. We are looking forward to all the fun activities planned during Catholic Schools Week.





SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY OF SAINTS

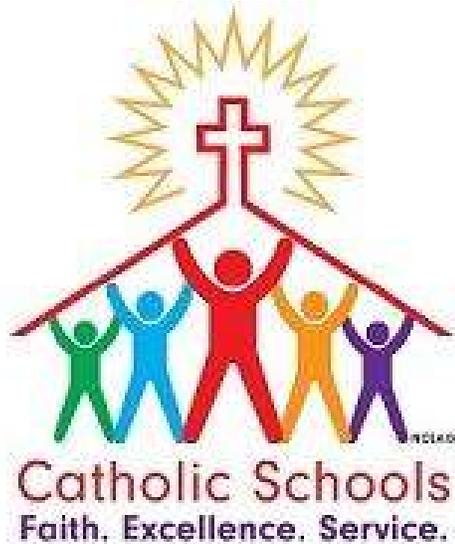


For more information on our Community of Saints program, visit:
www.stjohnsacademynd.org

First Grade



January was a busy month for the first graders. It was full of Big Bad Wolves, trolls hiding under bridges, blond girls hiding in bears' houses, and so much more! In case you forgot, January is Fairy Tale Time in first grade! We each picked a fairy tale, made a poster, and dressed up as one of the characters to present to our families! We also got to enjoy royal treats afterwards! We all had a great time and lived happily ever after!



Catholic Schools Week
January 29th - February 4th



Second Grade



We have had a great start to the new year! In religion we learned about the Ten Commandments and Seven Sacraments, in math we learned how to use a variety of strategies to fluently subtract within 100, and in social studies we are answering the question: what is the world like? We completed a STEM project created by a few 7th graders and enjoyed collaborating in small groups to build a tower using a limited number of objects. We will continue to learn and explore new things together!



Third Grade



What are we learning about?

- the Sacrament of Confirmation & becoming strong witnesses to our faith
- multiplication times tables (whew, lots of hard work is happening)
- Bald Eagle Nests (thanks to a parent tip, we can watch a live cam of 2 Eagles and their 2 eggs)
- how our words matter when speaking to one another
- setting goals and attaining them

Way to go, 3rd graders! Keep up the strong work.

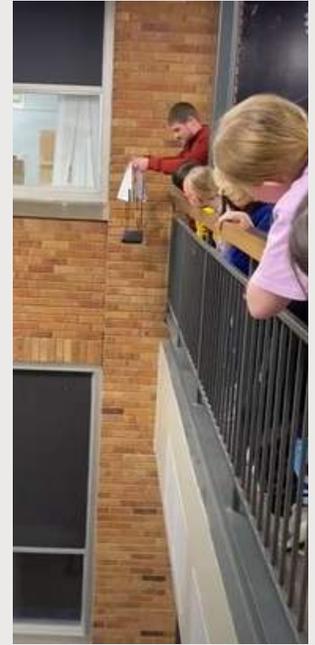
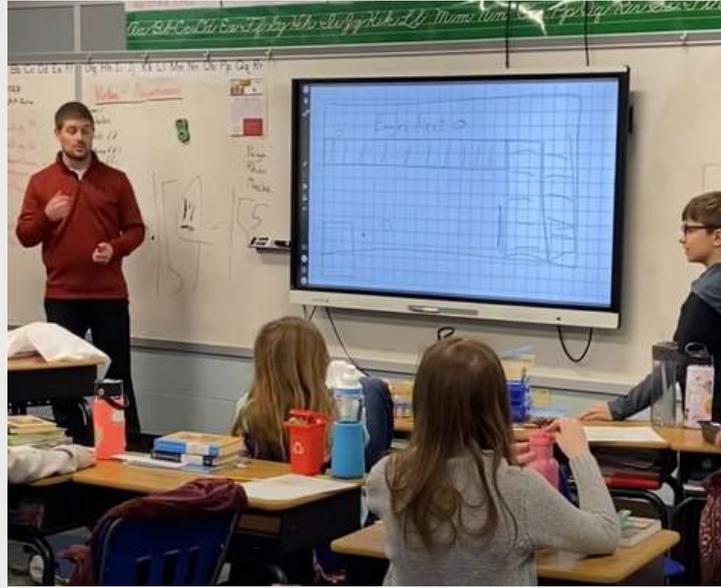


We are watching the eagle pictured below in our classroom via livestream. Her nest is located in Big Bear Lake, CA



Fourth Grade

The 4th Grade has kicked off the New Year with some style! The Egg Drop was a big success as the kids fashioned a parachute in an attempt to safely land an egg after being dropped from the 2nd floor balcony. With only just a few casualties, the event was a "smash" (or rather a lack of smashing when it comes to the eggs). It was fun to see all the excitement and creativity that it brought out of the kids. Here's to a good start to the month of February!



Congratulations to the 5th - 8th graders who competed in the Spelling Bee!



The top 3 finalists from each class:



Adelyn Martin, Hattie Fitzgerald, William Klosterman



Jett Seifert, Micah Sankey, Brady Althoff



Catherine Hunt, Bella Woiwode, Taylor Eckroth



Ava Conway, Adisyn Yunck, Amelia Newman

Congratulations to our finalists who will compete in the Stutsman County Spelling Bee in Montpelier on February 15th.



Top Row - Catherine Hunt, Jett Seifert, Bella Woiwode, Adisyn Yunck
Bottom Row - Taylor Eckroth, Adelyn Martin, William Klosterman



Jan-Feb Breakfast 2023

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
30 Breakfast Pizza Cereal & Fruit	31 Cereal Bar Fruit Cereal	Feb 1 Breakfast Burrito Cereal & Fruit	2 Poptart Fruit Cereal	3 Caramel Roll Cereal & Fruit
6 Muffin Cereal & Fruit	7 Pancakes/Syrup Cereal Fruit	8 Yogurt Cereal Fruit	9 Egg & Sausage BRK Sandwich Cereal Fruit	10 Doughnuts Cereal Fruit
13 Yogurt Cereal & Fruit	14 Cereal Bar Cereal Fruit	15 Pancake Wraps Syrup Fruit	16 Poptart Cereal & Fruit	17 NO SCHOOL
20 NO SCHOOL Presidents Day	21 Cheese Stick Cereal Fruit	22 French Toast Stix Cereal	23 Yogurt Cereal & Fruit	24 Breakfast Bar Cereal & Fruit

SJA Cafeteria
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Jan-Feb Lunch 2023

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
30 Chicken Burger Baked Beans	31 Scalloped Potato & Ham Dinner Roll	Feb 1 Sloppy Joes Corn	2 Chicken Nuggets Potato Wedges Sliced Bread	3 Cheese Pizza Fruit & Vegetables
6 Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potatoes Sliced Bread	7 Tator Tot Casserole Green Beans Sliced Bread	8 BBQ Pork on a Bun Corn	9 Lasagna Bread Stick	10 Fish Sticks Tarter Sauce Chips Chix Peas
13 Hamburger Baked Beans	14 Chicken Alfredo Bread Stick	15 Sweet & Sour Chicken/Veggie Fried Rice	16 Meatballs/Gravy Mashed Potato Roll	17 NO SCHOOL
20 NO SCHOOL Presidents Day	21 Chili/Cheese Breadstick	22 Fish Burger Tarter Sauce Cole Slaw	23 Taco/Bag Salsa	24 Mac-n-Cheese Bread Stick Dismissal 11:45am

A cold sandwich will be offered as a second option every day.

Extra Milk-\$.50

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 Lesley.Tammo@k12.nd.us

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