

Immaculate Conception † St. Joseph School Newsletter

www.boscocatholic.org

December 21, 2022

With support from families, we respect and encourage students to reach their potential **Spiritually** by developing a strong relationship with Jesus and knowledge of His church, **Academically** by igniting learning, leadership and life skills, **Physically** by learning about and living healthy habits and **Socially** by becoming active members of the community who serve others as stewards of the Gospel so they are the light of Christ in the world.

Merry
Christmas

AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Bosco Families,

Thank you for choosing Bosco Catholic Schools for your family. It is an honor to serve you and this wonderful community.

The Advent season brings joy and anticipation for the coming of Jesus who is our redeemer. What a blessing to be able to celebrate this gift and our faith within the walls of school where we work to develop students Spiritually, Academically, Physically, and Socially.

Each and every day, I come to work and am amazed by all that I see. Support staff that open our buildings and keep them running smoothly, teachers pouring their love into each and every student, volunteers giving of their time and talents to enrich the life of our school, lunch staff preparing healthy meals for our kids, parents actively involved in their child's development, and, the greatest joy of all, I see students full of innocence, joy, eagerness, mischievousness, and kindness. People tell me all the time that they don't know how educators do it having to deal with kids all day every day. For me, it IS the KIDS. From little ones grabbing my legs and mispronouncing my name, to older kids wanting to give me all of the details of a recent weekend's activities, to middle schoolers trying to navigate the world through the midst of puberty, to high school kids transitioning from dependence to independence and truly finding their voice. Where some see angst or naughtiness, I see leaders just waiting to be guided to use their talent for good. Our kids, YOUR kids, really are wonderful and they are my WHY! They are the why for all of us here!

I hope that you, as we enter into Christmas break, are full of joy and anticipation for the gift of time you will have to spend with your children whom God entrusted you with. Family is one of the many gifts God has given us and I wish you and yours the Merriest of Christmases!

Mrs. Douglas



Please send all newsletter articles to icsnewsletter@boscocatholic.org
by 3:00pm on Wednesday, January 4.



Winter Weather and Transportation

Some of you may wonder why schools around us call for a two hour late start and we don't. Well, there are many factors but the primary reason is busing. A majority of our students in grades K-8 are transported to and from school on a Waterloo school bus. We are very fortunate to have this as an option for our students. We have been working diligently with Durham School Services and Waterloo Schools to assure that they would still provide transportation if we decide to have a late start or early dismissal and the Waterloo Schools do not. This has not always worked the way we have hoped in the past and our parents of students that ride the Waterloo buses have had to provide their own transportation to school. We hope that this will not be the case moving forward. Further, if Waterloo Schools choose to call an early out, late start or cancel we have to follow suit.

It has been a long standing policy of the Waterloo Schools to RARELY call school off or call late start/early out. This puts us in a somewhat precarious situation when making decisions for BCSS, especially because our school day starts so early! Each weather situation is unique and we make the call based on what the particular scenario is.

It would take too long to go into each scenario but we wanted to give you some context if you have wondered why we do or don't call a late start or early out when other smaller districts do.

Please know that safety is always our focus when making our decisions. And safety does not always mean that students are safer at home for two hours in the morning. Many times, that forces families to have to load their kids up and transport them to a different location anyway.

Lastly, please know that it is ALWAYS YOUR CHOICE for your child(ren). If we do not call a late start, early out, or cancel school you are always able to decide what is best for the safety of your family. It will never be an unexcused tardy or absence and our teachers will work with your child to get caught up on missed work just as they would for any other excused absence.

Christmas Break

School dismisses at regular time today. Classes resume Tuesday, Jan. 3. The school offices will be closed for the Christmas break.

Attendance Reminder

If you email a teacher about an absence or leaving early, please include the office. Attendance must be recorded in the office. For K-8 students - cberry@boscocatholic.org or 319-296-1089. For preschool students - tweber@boscocatholic.org or 319-233-5980.

Parent Conference Survey

The Archdiocese of Dubuque would like to develop a Conference for Parents in the Fall of 2023. The purpose of the conference would be to support you and offer assistance with the challenging aspects of parenting. As the ideas for a possible conference are being explored, we would like feedback about how such an event could be structured as well as your interest in attending. Please complete [this form](#) to share your thoughts and ideas.

IC Youth Choir

Students in grades 3-12 are invited and encouraged to sing with the youth choir at 10:00am IC Masses on January 15 & 22.

Preschool News...

Throughout the month of December the PreK students in Ms. Heather & Ms. Dawn's classroom have had fun learning about the Christmas season. We have read many books to learn that we celebrate Christmas because we are celebrating Jesus' birthday. We have been lighting our Advent candle each week, have made Christmas ornaments for our classroom tree in the hallway, had a visit from St. Nick and have learned that the letter J is for Jesus. Our classes have also been preparing for our Christmas Concert that you can find on our Facebook page St. Joseph Preschool - Bosco System.

The 5th graders made books for our class as a service project and were able to visit our classroom to read the personalized books to the preschoolers, the preschoolers enjoyed listening to the stories that were made for them.

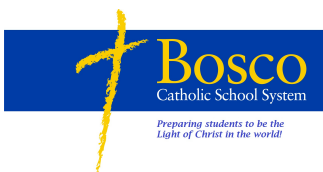


Tax Credit Information

If you would like tuition and ABC payments to be credited to the 2022 calendar year for tax purposes, please have payments in by year end. Tax credit letters will be sent to families in January. Thank you.

Purchase Scrip For All Your Holiday Shopping!

Information on our Scrip program may be found at: https://www.boscocatholic.org/vnews/display.v/ART/4bcde9539be16?in_archive=1



Nurse's Notes

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope we all get rest and recovery over the break. Let's all take a moment to remember the reason for the season. What are the things that we count as blessings? I know my faith, family and health are the things I am most thankful for. I am also blessed to work with an awesome staff and great families here at Bosco. So as we start the new year, think about the things we can control and those we cannot. Our personal health is one of the things we can have some input in. Eat healthy whole foods, limiting the number of processed foods we consume. Drink water and try to move our bodies 30 minutes most days. Cheers to a healthy 2023!

Marianne Hickey RN

*Merry Christmas to our students
and families.
May you have a blessed New Year!*



STO Tax Credit News

Time is running out; 2022 STO tax credits are only available until December 31! Donating to the Our Faith School Tuition Organization (STO) will help qualifying Catholic school families with tuition assistance while you will receive a 75% STO tax credit. With the tax credit, the impact of your donation is multiplied. Here's how it works: When you donate \$2,000, you will receive a \$1,500 Iowa income tax credit, making your final net investment only \$500. Your \$500 donation is multiplied 4x, making STO tuition support available for Catholic school families. Please contact Development Director Chris Kangas at 319-296-1692

ckangas@boscocatholic.org or Deacon Brian Zeman, the Archdiocese STO director at stodir@dbqarch.org 563-556-2580 x296 or visit the STO website directly at their link: Our Faith STO - Dubuque, IA



Volunteer Hall of Fame Nominations Wanted

The Bosco Catholic School PTO is looking for 2023 Volunteer Hall of Fame nominations. The individual(s) will be recognized at the Catholic Schools Week Mass. We ask that you submit nominations by December 23 to Jessica Steils (jess.steils@gmail.com) or Leah Reiter (lschmit2000@yahoo.com). Please provide a write-up/list of the volunteer activity for the nominee as to why they are deserving of this award. We have so many wonderful volunteers in this community please consider nominating someone!

Canned Food Drive



What: A Canned Food Drive

When: January 5, 2023

Who: Kindergarten - 12th Grade Students and Staff

Why: To support the NE Iowa Food Bank

***Anyone who brings a canned/boxed food item or \$1 may be out of uniform. Hopefully, kids can work to earn the items or money from home!**

***This is to support the 8th grade Service Learning Project.**

***8th graders will collect the items and deliver them to the NE Iowa Food Bank.**



Quick & Easy ways to support the Bosco Catholic School System



Casey's Rewards Cash for Classrooms

Cash for Classrooms supports teachers through cash donations to schools for the things they need most. Members can turn their points into Cash for Classroom donations that is directed specifically to the school of their choice.

Office DEPOT OfficeMax

Give Back To Schools

<https://www.officedepot.com/cm/school-supplies/give-back>

Make a purchase of qualifying school supplies, provide your school ID and your school will receive 5% back in credits for FREE supplies

School ID: 70028239

Pop Can Recycling

Collection Site is located on the North end of Don Bosco Catholic High School



Coca Cola Give:

Download the Coke app or sign into <https://us.coca-cola.com/give>

Donate to your local school. Search by zip (50634) and select **IMMAC CONCEPTION-ST JOSEPH**



Hy-Vee Cash 4 students:

Save your Hy-Vee cash register receipts and turn them into school. Hy-Vee donates \$1 for every \$250 in receipts collected!



Amazon Smile: AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices & shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop with AmazonSmile 0.5% of the purchase price on eligible products is donated to the charitable organization of your choice!

| HOW MUCH IS MY CODE WORTH? | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|-----------|--------|------------|--------|
| SEE HOW WE REACHED THESE VALUES | | | | | |
| 35-PACK | \$0.38 | 12-PACK | \$0.15 | 20 OZ | \$0.05 |
| 32-PACK | \$0.38 | 8-PACK | \$0.12 | 24 OZ | \$0.05 |
| 30-PACK | \$0.38 | 6-PACK | \$0.08 | 1 LITER | \$0.05 |
| 28-PACK | \$0.38 | 12 OZ | \$0.05 | 1.25 LITER | \$0.05 |
| 24-PACK | \$0.30 | 12.5 OZ | \$0.05 | 1.5 LITER | \$0.05 |
| 20-PACK | \$0.27 | 14 OZ | \$0.05 | 2 LITER | \$0.05 |
| 18-PACK | \$0.23 | 16 OZ | \$0.05 | 2.5 LITER | \$0.05 |
| 15-PACK | \$0.23 | 0.5 LITER | \$0.05 | 50 OZ | \$0.05 |

THE OLD BOX TOPS CLIPS



Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production, but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store. You can still clip them and send them to school.

Every valid Box Tops clip is worth 10¢ for your school. Make sure each one has a clearly visible product acronym and expiration date.

*All valid Box Tops clips submitted per the Program Rules by a Coordinator(s) of an eligible, enrolled school(s) will be honored.

THE NEW BOX TOPS LABELS



Eventually the Box Tops program will become digital-only. Participating brands are starting to change their packaging from a traditional Box Tops clip to the new Box Tops label.

If you see this label, use the new Box Tops app to scan your receipt. **Box Tops are still worth 10¢ for your school.** The app will find participating products purchased at any store and instantly add cash to your school's earnings online.