

Immaculate Conception † St. Joseph School Newsletter

www.boscocatholic.org

December 9, 2021

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.

DECEMBER Habit of the Month: **BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND**

- ★ Remember to attend Mass and grab a bulletin to turn in! (Have your child write his or her name on it and turn it in on Monday, or collect them for the month and turn them in at the end.)
- ★ Remember to discuss beginning with the end in mind as a family!
- ★ How is your child living "Habit 2: Begin with the end in mind" at home based on some of the key concepts we have been learning about this month?



High School and Middle School Christmas Concert

The High School and Middle School Choir Christmas concert will be on Wednesday, December 15 at 7:00pm.

Doors will open at 6:30. Middle school choir students should arrive at 6:30 and meet in Mrs. Knepper's classroom to warm-up and prepare for the concert. The concert will feature the new middle school choir and high school choir along with the band, percussion ensemble, and jazz band performing songs of the Christmas season!

Nurse's Notes

We are seeing illness at school and in the community. Please remind everyone to wash their hands frequently. That means using soap and scrubbing for 20 seconds. Hand sanitizer is appropriate to use when running water is not available. It is especially important after coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose. Clean common surfaces such as door knobs, light switches and bathroom fixtures. Remain home if you are ill. This means that you are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication, able to participate in daily activities, and no vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours before resuming normal activities. Viral illnesses can not be treated with antibiotics. Encouraging liquids, rest and medication to help symptoms may be recommended. Check with your health care provider if symptoms persist or if you are not seeing the improvement you would expect. And did I say wash your hands?? Marianne Hickey RN

In Need of Winter Gear?

We are currently in contact with different organizations in the area that are willing to donate Winter Gear for anyone in need. If you are in need of boots, a coat, hat, mittens please call the school at 319-296-1089 with your needs and size. This is strictly confidential. No forms to be filled out, no questions asked.

Congratulations FLL!

Congratulations to Immaculate Conception's FIRST LEGO League team #4721. Saturday, December 4 at the Regional competition in Cedar Falls the FLL team won 1st Place for Project Innovation. For this award the team must demonstrate that they utilized diverse resources for their Innovation Project to help them gain a comprehensive understanding of their problem, have a creative, well-researched solution and effectively communicate their findings to judges and the community. Team members are: Cain Kerr, Kelli Schaefer, Mary Thoma, Kelli Schmitz, Greyson Hallett, and Liam Mangrich. Coaches: Karen Thoma and Kurt Schmitz

Spread the Word

The dumpsters located at the north end of the Bosco parking lot are paid for by Bosco Catholic School System and are for SCHOOL USE ONLY. They are not open to the public for garbage or recycling. Please pass this information on to friends and family. Thank you for your cooperation!

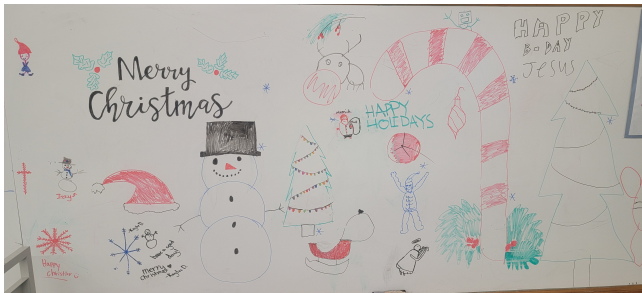


Please send all newsletter items to icsjnewsletter@boscocatholic.org
by 3:00pm on Wednesday, December 15.



From Mr. Wymore...

It's a busy time of year for us all (16 days left as of writing this) but just remember the reason for the season. The Students have taken to drawing on one of our extra whiteboards in our room and spreading a little Christmas Cheer. You will see below in the picture that they have used a little free time in and around homework, math, reading, and all the other stuff on their plates to share a little creative side. Each day the board grows a little more so who knows what it will look like by the time we dismiss for the holidays. In Math class, all middle schoolers have been working hard this year. The new schedule is allowing math class to flow better and all classes are ahead of where we were at last year at this point. Sixth grade is finishing a module on decimals and will be going into Ratios and Rates while 7th and 8th grade are working with writing and solving equations..... Letters in a math problem????? Again, we are all working hard to become better at all we do!! From our class to your homes we wish you a Merry Christmas!!!!



Remember to use Scrip for all your holiday shopping and throughout the year. If you purchase gift cards, please purchase them through our Scrip program. It is a win-win! Information on our Scrip program may be found at: https://www.boscocatholic.org/vnews/display.v/ART/4bcde9539be16?in_archive=1

Tuition Tax Credit

If you would like tuition payments to be credited to the 2021 calendar year for tax purposes, please have payments to the high school office by Wednesday, December 29. This will give me time to get them entered and applied to your account. Thank you and let me know if you have any questions. ~ Leigh Anne Schares

Mailing Address:

Bosco Catholic School System
PO Box 106
Gilbertville, IA 50634

ABC News

Please be sure all ABC payments are paid in full to be included in your 2021 tax statement.

COF Christmas Party

The Catholic Order of Foresters youth members Christmas party will be held Sunday, December 12 at the St. Mary Center starting at 6:00pm. Santa will arrive around 6:05. Each child will receive a bag of goodies and can visit with Santa.

Attendance Reminder

If your child will not be in school, will be late or leaving early, please call the school office. If you call before 7:00am, please leave a message on voicemail. IC 319-296-1089 SJ 319-233-5980 or **If you email a teacher about an absence, coming in late or leaving early please include the office (cberry@boscocatholic.org or dlutgen@boscocatholic.org).**

Attendance must be recorded in the office.

If you have a planned extended absence, the K-5 and 6-8 Absence Request Forms can be found on our school website. <https://www.boscocatholic.org/vimages/shared/vnews/stories/55dcc0d507de3/Absence%20Request%20form.pdf>

Hy-Vee Cash 4 Students

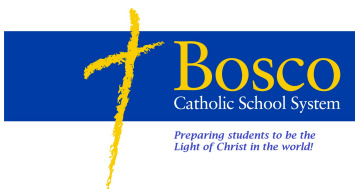
Save your Hy-Vee cash register receipts. Hy-Vee donates \$1 for every \$250 in receipts collected! Send receipts to the school office at any time.

Parent/Alumni Testimonials Wanted

Do you have something you want others to know about the Bosco Catholic School System? What are your favorite things about our schools? If so, please send them to Chris Kangas, Development Director, at ckangas@boscocatholic.org. We will be using these testimonials in our upcoming marketing campaign to share the great things that we're doing here in the Bosco Catholic School System.



December 12



**Bosco Catholic School System † PO Box 256 † Gilbertville, IA 50634
IC 319-296-1089 † SJ 319-233-5980 † Fax 319-296-3847**

Colder Weather

Whenever possible all K-5 and ABC students will spend some time outdoors, so please be sure they have coats, hats, and mittens (snow pants and boots when they are needed).

Please label your student's sweatshirts, coat, hat, snow pants, gloves, mittens, lunchbox, etc.

529 Plan Information for Paying K-12 Tuition

As many are in the midst of their end-of-year tax planning, you may consider setting up a [529 plan for K-12 tuition](#) if you haven't done so already. Information provided by Iowa ACE 529 Plans for [K-12 Tuition flyer](#)

Subs Needed

Do you have a Bachelor's Degree, Associate's Degree, OR have you completed 60 hours of college credit?

If so, you could become an **authorized substitute teacher!**

BCSS has a strong core of subs that willingly help us out as much as they can but we are in need of a few more! If you are looking for part time work and meet the above requirements, this could be a great fit for you!

For more information, click on the link below. IT'S A VERY SHORT COURSE!!! 10 hours online and 10 hours meeting via zoom!

[Substitute Authorization – AEA Remote Learning Courses](#)

Lost and Found

We have collected lots of lost and found items. If you have lost something, look in the lost and found box by Ms. Berry's office.

PTO Volunteer Award

The Bosco Catholic School System PTO is looking for 2022 Volunteer Hall of Fame nominations. The individual(s) will be recognized during Mass for Catholic Schools Week. We ask that you submit nominations by December 22 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!

Can Shed Reminder

THANK YOU to everyone who supports our Bosco Catholic School System PTO by donating redeemable bottles and cans! Our first three pickups of the year averaged almost \$850 each! What an easy way to support our students and teachers, and we are so grateful to everyone who helps make this a success.

Just a few quick reminders to make this fundraiser the best it can be:

- Items need to be separated between glass, plastic and aluminum.
- Plastic bottles and aluminum cans need to be sorted into the clear bags provided by the redemption center. If you would like to take a bag from the can shed and sort your items at home you are welcome to. However, please keep in mind that the bags cost the PTO money, and do not take more than you will use at one time.
- Please, Please, Please refrain from having any liquids, tobacco products or garbage in your bags. Our volunteers appreciate the cleanest job possible!
- Craft beers like Spotted Cow do not have an Iowa 5¢ deposit. When in doubt, please check for the deposit marking.
- If you have any questions or would like to volunteer please contact Jessica Steils (jess.steils@gmail.com) or Leah Reiter (lschmit2000@yahoo.com).

Christmas Break

No school December 22, Professional Development Day. Christmas break is December 23-January 3. School will dismiss Tuesday, December 21 at normal time. Classes resume Tuesday, January 4. The IC/SJ school offices will be closed for the Christmas break.

Mass Times

Christmas Eve Masses

Friday, December 24, 5:00pm, IC Church

Friday, December 24, 5:00pm, St. Joseph Church

Friday, December 24, 9:00pm, IC Church

Christmas Day Masses

Saturday, December 25, 8:00am, IC Church

Saturday, December 25, 10:00am, IC Church

Solemnity of Mary - New Year's Day

Friday, December 31, Vigil Mass, 6:00pm, IC

Saturday, January 1, New Year's Day 9:00am, IC



Holiday Dress Days 2021-2022

Friday, October 29, 2021

Tuesday, December 21, 2021

Monday, February 14, 2022

On holiday dress days, students may wear holiday related apparel. This includes:

- Shirts (tops)/pants (bottoms)/dresses that are in the color/spirit of the holiday. All clothing must follow dress code guidelines for length.
- Jeans with a holiday shirt are okay.
- Leggings with a long holiday shirt are okay.
- Holiday related necklaces or headbands

This does not include:

- Hats
- Costumes (Halloween)
- Items that would need to be carried
- Painted hair
- Make-up of any kind
- Face tattoos/stickers



Dear Catholic School Supporters,

Donate Now

We are blessed!

Since beginning my job in April, I've had the privilege of visiting our Catholic schools. I've learned that we are blessed with great schools and teachers across the Archdiocese; from Bellevue Marquette to Newman Catholic and St. Cecilia in Ames to St. Patrick's in Waukon. *But without your support, these schools might be missing enough of one important ingredient, and that is students.* Please remember that 1 out of 3 students in the Archdiocese receives STO tuition support which might make the difference whether or not they attend our Catholic schools. **If you've not yet given to the STO, now is the time. If you've already given, thank you!**

Campaign Update:

Would helping 80% of the students be good enough? Currently, we are at 80% of our goal with just over a million dollars to raise to utilize our tax credits. **Please note that if you are still considering a stock contribution or IRA gift, our cut-off for those contributions is Dec. 15th.** Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions at b.zeman@dbqarch.org or (563) 556-2580 x296. I'd also encourage you to check our website for regular updates at OurFaithSTO.org.

As we reach the final stages of our 2021 campaign, I'd ask for your prayers of support. Pray that we can utilize all our income tax credits to raise the most money possible, benefiting as many children as possible.

Thank you, Take Care, and God Bless!

Deacon Brian Zeman

The kids need your help!

With only 23 days remaining, we still have over \$1 million dollars to raise



A Letter from our Superintendent



The STO program is of paramount importance to our families. It allows those that are income-qualified to receive tuition assistance and make their dream of a faith-based education for their children a reality. This school year, 34% of all students within the Our Faith STO benefitted from this program. The **21-22 STO Impact by School** was tremendous, with nearly 3000 students receiving STO awards. Of special note is that five of our schools/systems had over 50% of their students qualifying for this critical assistance.

We need your help as we are near the deadline to raise funds for the 22-23 school year. Not only will you receive a 75% state tax credit (the best tax credit in Iowa) but thousands of students are depending on your generosity. You can make your donation and monitor progress at OurFaithSTO.org. Tax credits are running out, so don't delay!

Please know of my deepest appreciation for your support of our students!

Kimberly A. Hansen

Why do I teach in a Catholic school?



Lisa Blair

*St. Edwards
Elementary - Waterloo*

Kindergarten
32 years teaching

Why do I choose to teach in a Catholic school?:

I chose to teach in a Catholic school because my parents instilled the importance of faith into my family from a young age. I am the youngest of 11 children, with half of my siblings having attended West High and the other half Columbus. I begged my parents to enroll me at Columbus, but money was tight coming from such a large family, so they had to negotiate my tuition after knowing how important attending a Catholic school was for me. I knew that because I had assistance with my tuition and was privileged enough to attend a Catholic school, teaching at one would be the perfect way to give back.

How has God affirmed that I've made the right choice?:

My choice was reaffirmed one of my years teaching when I received the devastating news that my father had been hospitalized and I had to leave immediately. A little girl asked me if she could pray for him, and that moment has stuck with me ever since. That same support has been continuously exemplified by my fellow staff members who are always encouraging, uplifting, and supporting me when I need them.

One final note from Lisa... Over the last 32 years I've gotten to see my three children grow up in the CVCS district, as well as their friends and family. It has been full of so many fun memories and times I will cherish forever, especially with my upcoming retirement at the end of this school year. I will be sad to go, but I know the staff and students will continue to make many wonderful memories in the years to come.

For more information contact:



Deacon Brian Zeman at b.zeman@dbqarch.org

563-556-2580 x296



Unsubscribe

The Archdiocese of Dubuque

contactus@dbqarch.org

Leader in Me Monthly Challenge

Hello families!

As part of our mission of developing students *spiritually, academically, physically, and socially*, we have been focused on the importance of **attending Mass** and our **Leader in Me habits**.

- December focus habit: Begin with the End in Mind
 - As a family, talk about Beginning with the End in Mind at home
 - Tell us what you did on the form below.
 - **Turn the form in by Tuesday, January 4**
- Go to Mass
 - Have your student (one for each child) collect a bulletin
 - Make sure the bulletin is dated (Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26)
 - It can be from any church you attend that weekend
 - **Turn the bulletins into your teacher the following week. (Or save them up and turn them in by Tuesday, January 4)**

Prize: The December prize is **Donuts with Mrs. Douglas**

Two students from each unit (K-2, 3-5, 6-8) will be drawn. You will get your name in a drawing for filling out this slip and once for each bulletin you bring in. The prize will take place the following week.

December Habit of the Month

Habit 2: Begin with the End in Mind

How is your child living "Habit 2: Begin with the End in Mind" at home based on some of the key concepts (Mental creation precedes physical creation, setting long term goals, mission statements) we have been learning about this month in K-8?

Child's name: _____ Parent Signature: _____