

# Immaculate Conception † St. Joseph School Newsletter

[www.boscocatholic.org](http://www.boscocatholic.org)

April 27, 2023

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.

## Education Savings Account (ESA) Update:

Families,

Our administrative team recently attended a conference about ESA's. We are SO BLESSED that the Governor signed the Student First Act into law and fast tracked it so that it can be in place by next school year. Fast tracking can also lead to some frustrations but the END IN MIND is what we keep our eyes on!

Here's what we know:

- There will be an application process through a company called Odyssey. It is expected to be up and running by the end of May.
- ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETE BY JUNE 30 OF THIS YEAR. (Yes, that is a short window but doable.) There is no cost to apply.
  - If you are a current family and are close to that 300% poverty level, you should complete the application!
  - All kindergarten and NEW families transferring from a public school HAVE TO APPLY by June 30! IF YOU MISS THAT CUT OFF YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO APPLY AGAIN UNTIL THE FOLLOWING YEAR. (This means that you will be responsible for tuition if you do not apply.)
- We (Bosco Schools) will continue to communicate with you as we learn more. As soon as the application process becomes available WE WILL LET YOU KNOW!
  - We will ALSO be hosting help sessions so that you can come to our campus and we will help you apply if you need it.
    - Please note that Odyssey assured us that it is going to be a very simple, 5-6 minute application. You will NOT have to provide or upload any financial data; you will provide your social security number and that will allow Odyssey to access the IRS to gather your tax data.
    - What they told us is that you will know almost immediately after submitting the application whether you will be approved or not. There will also be an appeal process.

As I said, there are still a lot of questions and unknowns but be assured that we here at Bosco will continue to keep you informed as more information becomes available!

Here is a link that you can click on to find out more information directly from the state of Iowa:

<https://educateiowa.gov/pk-12/students-first-education-savings-accounts>



Please send all newsletter articles to [icsjnewsletter@boscocatholic.org](mailto:icsjnewsletter@boscocatholic.org)  
by 3:00pm on Wednesday, May 3.





Dear Bosco Families,

After being the school nurse for 9 years here at Bosco Catholic School System I have decided it is time for new adventures. I have loved my job here. The children and the staff have been wonderful. It was not an easy decision but spending more time with my mom, children and grandchildren and maybe winters in a warmer climate have convinced me it is the best move for me. I want to thank everyone for all the support I have received and the great memories I will take with me. Work doesn't feel like work when you do what you love everyday. I plan to stay in touch.

Thank you, Marianne Hickey RN

**Bosco Booster Club Car Show this weekend!**

See flyer below.

**Teacher Appreciation Week**

We will be celebrating our teachers May 1-5. See flyer below for details.

**May 8 Busing**

Our calendar lists May 8 is a potential No Waterloo bus day. Waterloo will be in session, so we will have busing on May 8.

**K-5 Spring Concert**



The K-5 Spring concert will be on Wednesday, May 3 at 6:00pm in the Don Bosco Gym. Please have your child dress up for this concert. Students should arrive no earlier than 5:40 and go to these assigned classrooms in the middle school:

Mr. Armbruster (Room 109) - Kindergarten & 1st

Mrs. Zimmerman (Room 107) - 2nd

Mr. Wymore (Room 106) - 3rd

Mrs. Bergfeld (Room 104) - 4th

Mrs. Knepper (Music Room) - 5th

Please contact Mrs. Knepper at [nknepper@boscocatholic.org](mailto:nknepper@boscocatholic.org) with any questions.



My name is Laura Dobson, and I am thrilled to have been appointed as the new Development Director for the Bosco Catholic School System. You will often see me with a cell phone or camera in hand, capturing all of the great things

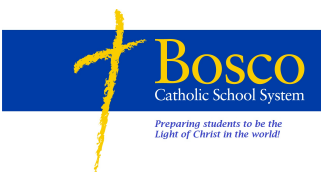
going on so we can share the wonderful news of Catholic education. I am excited to start my new position.

I am originally from the South and graduated from Tulane University in New Orleans and The University of Texas at Austin, but I am proud to call Iowa my home. My husband, Andy, is from Cedar Falls, and we moved to the area a few years after college to raise our family. We have four children – Kelley, Chris, Courtney, and Jon. Our two younger children attended St. Patrick Catholic School in Cedar Falls, where we live. Jon is also a proud graduate of Columbus Catholic High School. The girls are both graduates of Creighton University. You can see that we are huge proponents of Catholic education. We treasure the way it nurtures and shapes young minds, and we believe in the benefits of smaller schools, where students receive personalized attention and families enjoy a strong sense of community.

When the kids started at St. Patrick, I was asked to help with marketing as a volunteer and was soon invited to join the staff. Later I added similar duties at the parish. It has been an amazing eleven years as the Advancement Director there, and I have enjoyed every aspect of the job. I have loved working with volunteers and the dedicated teachers and staff who provide an outstanding academic experience, spiritual support, and guidance.

I am excited to bring my enthusiasm and experience to promoting Catholic education at BCSS. I look forward to meeting everyone and working together to ensure families have access to a top-notch Catholic education that prepares their children for success in life.

~ Laura



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

## No School tomorrow, April 28 - Professional Development Day

### ***The Bosco Booster Club needs YOU!***

Officer elections are coming up in May and the Booster Club would love for more members to get involved on the planning side of our activities! We are looking for people who have great ideas for fundraising, merchandise and concessions - and the ability to follow through with them. All families are already members of the Booster Club, so no joining is necessary! You simply have to attend our meetings to become involved. The Booster Club supports ALL extra-curricular activities - from sports to fine arts and everything in between. Our next meeting is Monday, May 8 at 6:00pm in Mr. Arndt's Room 111. We'd LOVE to see everyone there!

### ***Uniform / Spirit Clothing Swap***

The PTO is planning a uniform swap again this year. If you have gently used uniform clothing or spirit clothing that you would like to donate, please send it to any school office clearly labeled "PTO uniform swap." The PTO is planning to have this clothing out multiple times between now and the beginning of the school year for families to take what they can use!

### ***IC Youth Choir***

Students in grades 3-12 are invited and encouraged to sing with the youth choir at the 10:00am IC Mass on Sunday, April 30.

### ***From Mrs. Olson...***

It is that point of the school year when time goes quicker, calendars get fuller and to-do lists get longer. In the meantime, teachers are trying to find a way to slow things down while students are trying to find a way to make summer break come even sooner. We just completed our ISASP assessments (during a stint of very warm weather). But we haven't reached the finish line yet...over the next two weeks, we will complete our FAST and MAP assessments for the year. With everything going on at school and home, now is a great time to Sharpen the Saw! Did you make it to our Leader In Me Family Night? Hopefully, you picked up a couple of helpful ideas about how to sharpen both your personal saw and your family's. Sharpening the Saw is all about finding balance...take time for yourself so that you have the ability to accomplish everything else. Take time to renew your body, mind, heart, and spirit and strengthen your greatest asset - yourself. Please see the Balance Feels Best! flyer below for some ideas on how to "sharpen those saws".

### ***Youth Group***

There will no longer be Youth Group on Wednesday, May 10. We look forward to another season of fun next school year!

### ***Nurse's Notes***

What do you know about sugar? Sugar not only adds inches to our waistline it is also harmful to our cardiovascular health. The American Heart Association recommends no more than 25 grams of added sugar for women and children and 36 grams for men. Reading labels for sugar content is a great place to start looking for hidden sugars. Breakfast cereal should have less than 10-12 grams. One serving of "Fruit Loops" has 14.5 grams of sugar. One "Pop Tart" can have 12 grams of sugar. Yogurt can also be full of sugar. A carton of "Yoplait Strawberry Yogurt" has 19 grams of sugar. Try serving plain yogurt with added fruit. Ketchup, barbeque sauce and salad dressings can have between 8-12 grams per serving. Ketchup has almost 4 grams per tablespoon. Read labels for drinks. One 12 ounce can of "Mountain Dew" has 46 grams. Flavored sports drinks and milks can have added sugar. Other names for sugar may include syrups, words ending with "ose" or you may just see sugar in the name such as brown sugar.





Marianne Hickey RN

### ***2023-2024 Academic Calendar***

The 2023-2024 Academic Calendar has been board approved. It can be found on our website <https://www.boscocatholic.org/vimages/shared/vnews/stories/5e6a97adbd70d/2023-24%20BCSS%20Calendar.pdf>

**APRIL** Habit of the Month:  
**Sharpen the Saw**

# Balance Feels Best!

<p style="text-align: center;">Body</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Exercise</li><li>· Eat healthy foods</li><li>· Get 8 hours of sleep</li><li>· Relax</li></ul> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Heart</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Build relationships with others</li><li>· Volunteer</li><li>· Be with people who are fun and make you laugh</li></ul> 
<p style="text-align: center;">Mind</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Read</li><li>· Learn new skills</li><li>· Write</li><li>· Solve Puzzles</li></ul> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Soul</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Meditate</li><li>· Keep a journal</li><li>· Pray</li><li>· Listen to music</li></ul> 





## March "Leaders of the Month"

Our habit for the month of March was Synergize. During the month we focused on coming up with something better than both of us had in mind, valuing differences, and seeking alternatives. Students are being recognized because they value creativity, cooperation, and diversity. Two leaders in each of our four units have been chosen.



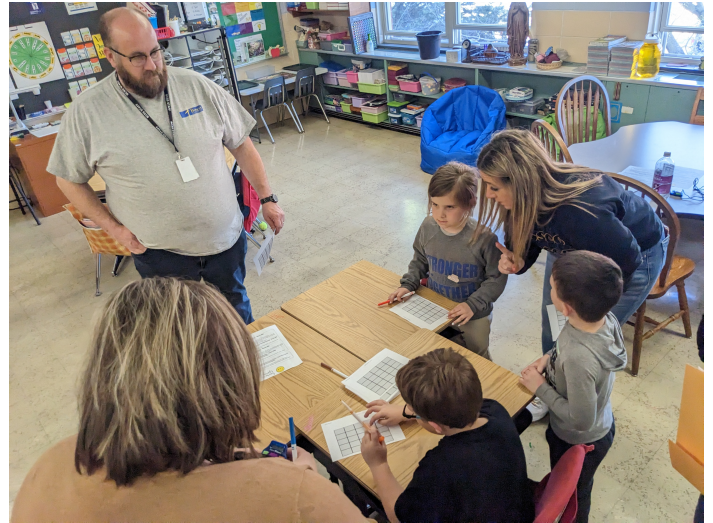
**K-2:**  
Brody Frost  
Camryn Fagerlind

**3-5:**  
Audrey Blakeman  
Zoey-Anne Walen

**6-8:**  
Ashton Nie  
Brayden Perry

**9-12:**  
Mason Kalkbrenner  
Mack Ortner

Thanks to everyone that attended our Leader in Me Family Night on Wednesday! We had a great turn out. It was a great opportunity for students to share what they have learned about the 7 Habits with their families.





# **BOSCO** *CAR SHOW*

**SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023**

Hosted by Bosco Catholic Booster Club

**10 AM- 1 PM**

**DON BOSCO PLAZA  
405 16TH AVE GILBERTVILLE**

Contact Cody with  
questions 319-290-6272

**TROPHIES  
CONCESSIONS**

**PLAYGROUND FOR KIDS**



**ONLY  
\$10 PER  
VEHICLE  
ENTRY**

**BEST CAR, TRUCK, INTERIOR, ENGINE & PAINT**



# TEACHER APPRECIATION

## MAY 1 - MAY 5

*Monday's Episode*

THE ONE WITH PHOEBE'S RELAXI-TAXI

Students & Teachers: Relax with an out of uniform day in your most comfortable clothes. (Chocolate Chip cookies in the lounge for teachers)

*Tuesday's Episode*

THE ONE AT CENTRAL PERK

Students: Write your teachers a note of appreciation...but take advice from Ross, it doesn't need to be 18 pages, FRONT & BACK! (Gunther will deliver Thirsty Bohemian coffee to teachers provided by PTO)

*Wednesday's Episode*

THE ONE WHERE CHANDLER MAKES YOU LAUGH

Students: Tell your teacher a great joke to brighten their day. (Chips & dip provided to the teachers)

*Thursday's Episode*

THE ONE WHERE JOEY DOESN'T SHARE FOOD!

Students: Show Joey how to share & bring your teacher their favorite snack or drink. (Teachers will receive "The Joey Special" lunch provided by PTO)

*Friday's Episode*

THE ONE WHERE ROSS & RACHEL WERE ON A BREAK

Students: Take a break in your day to high five & compliment your teachers! (Kit Kats placed in teachers' mailboxes)



**OUR WONDERFUL TEACHERS ARE ALWAYS THERE FOR US! WE INVITE YOU SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION EACH DAY TO HELP MAKE TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK A SUCCESS. TOGETHER, LET'S TELL OUR "FRIENDS" AT BCSS, "I'LL BE THERE FOR YOU".**

Please note these are just suggestions. Feel free to show your appreciation however you choose.



**BOSCO CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
SYSTEMS**

# **BCSS AMBASSADOR FAMILIES NEEDED!**

Do you love BCSS?  
Do you like to meet new people?  
Do you want to help without a big time  
commitment?  
Then join our team!

**WHEN: 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR**

## **What is it?**

- New families are paired with current families with similarly aged kids.
- Ambassadors share information about our school different times throughout the year.
- New families reach out to you with questions.
- If interested contact Kelli Zimmerman:  
[kzimmerman@boscocatholic.org](mailto:kzimmerman@boscocatholic.org)

## Attention Theater Kids!

Come join the Steve Brown Art Center and Jesup Community Recreation for a week of musical theater camp at the Jesup Park Pavillion!

Campers will learn the process of putting on a musical in just one week. As a group we will design the sets, props, and costumes and also star in the show! The camp ends with a performance for friends and family!

July 24-27 9:00-2:00 pm

July 28 9:00-5:00 with a  
Performance @ 4:00

Register using the QR code!  
Spots are limited to the  
first 25 registrations



All aspiring actors\*  
Ages 6-13

Cost: \$200\*

\* Our instructors welcome all who wish to participate! Please reach out via the QR code if your child has special needs that require accommodations or if scholarship funding is needed.