

# ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

March 1, 2018

NEWSLETTER

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Dear Parents,

I watched a young student clinging to mom before class one morning this week, and remembered my own daughter years ago who struggled with the same thing. In talking with her kindergarten teacher (why do kindergarten teachers seem to know EVERYTHING?), I learned that some of this behavior is from young students being over tired. It was suggested that I send her to bed half an hour earlier, and to keep bumping that half hour until she woke up happy on a regular basis. When we finally found that perfect bedtime (which was 7:00!!) it was such an amazing difference. She was bright-eyed and positive every morning, and got through each day with a smile and a can-do attitude all her own. Every time I see small students struggling with emotions early in the morning, I'm reminded of this valuable life lesson. I'm forever grateful to Mrs. Layton.

It can be difficult in these busy times to have the strength and focus for all the details of a family, particularly when those needs change minute to minute. Successful parents have to be so devoted to their children, and this can be hard to do with outside demands of time and attention. My hat is off to all parents who build their days around homework, soccer practice, and grocery trips. It's a constantly demanding schedule. It can often be done with such grace and charity that people stand in awe, even though we've all succumbed to the days of chaos and illness where nothing goes right.

Our children are our promise to the future that we are doing everything that we can to make the world a better place. They are our gift from God to love and to cherish, so that they will have every opportunity possible to be the best that they can be, bringing their light into the future. I and my colleagues have the opportunity to spend every day with these wonderful gifts, and we are constantly reminded of their many talents and blessings. It's easy to say when everyone is agreeable, but we get to say it EVERY day, and mean it sincerely. Thank you for sharing your children with us.

Deb Dewar, Principal  
St. Joseph Catholic School

## Lifetouch Spring Pictures



Lifetouch will be at St. Joseph on Tuesday, March 13th to take your students pictures. Students will be allowed to wear free dress this day. Information recently was sent home with your student. Please feel free to contact Michelle Bartholomew in the front office with any questions.

## Lost & Found

Have you been searching your home recently for your students missing coat, hat, lunch box, etc.? We have many items in our lost & found and would love to see these items back in the hands of their rightful owners. Please visit our lost & found area that is located downstairs near Mrs. Colley's classroom to locate any items you may have lost. All items that have not been picked up by Friday, March 23rd, will be given to Goodwill.



## Bottle Drive



Our 4th grade class has been diligently working to assist in raising money to offset the cost of attending an overnight stay on the Oregon Trail.

If you have any bottles or cans that you would like to donate to this class, please bring them in to Mrs. Stone on either Friday, March 2nd or Friday, March 16th. Please do not bring them in on days other than the above dates, as we have no place to store them. The 4th grade class sincerely thanks you for your support!

## PIE Hours



We are offering another procurement/PIE hour challenge.

If you, or someone you know, is willing to donate a weekend

away (two nights/three days) at either the coast or central Oregon, you will be able to earn **10 PIE hours**. Or, you may bring in a coffee gift card for \$10.00 or more and earn **1 PIE hour**. The opportunity to earn **3 PIE hours** (per ticket) for bringing in tickets to a sporting event (Ducks, Beavers, Blazers, Winterhawks, etc.) is still available. Items must be brought in by March 9, 2018 in order to earn the PIE hours. If you have already procured/donated an item this is an easy way to earn those PIE hours.

## See's Candy Fundraiser



Our 6th grade students have been hard at work raising funds for the opportunity to attend the NW Outdoor Science School. One way in which these students have been raising money is by selling See's

candy bars. They are asking for your assistance to complete this fundraiser. Currently they have **nine** milk chocolate bars, **seventeen** milk chocolate with toffee nuggets, and **one** dark chocolate with almonds left to sell. These are quality candy bars at \$3.00 per bar.

Please see Teri Martinez if you are interested in purchasing. The 6th grade class wishes to sincerely thank all of you for supporting their efforts.

## School Mass

Our next all-school Sunday Mass will be held on March 18th at 8:30 am. We are looking for readers and ushers to join us. If your family is interested in attending Mass at St. Joseph that day, please encourage your student to volunteer. We love being a part of such a great parish community!



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## Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday of Lent at our Morning Prayer time. 7th grade will read for March 2nd, 6th grade for March 9th, and 5th grade for March 23rd. Please join us at 8:10 on Friday mornings to celebrate!



## In-Service Day, March 16th



Our accreditation self-study is moving along very well. We have a lot of work accomplished, and are busy trying to wrap things up. We have final writings to edit and evidence to gather. Our next full day of accreditation work is Friday, March

16th. Thank you for understanding the immense amount of work that goes into this process, and for finishing and returning your parents surveys. This is an important part of the process, and gives us a chance to see what's really on your mind. Your opinion is important, and will be more than just a statistic in a report. The wonderful part of this process is that we talk as a staff about EVERYTHING, so please make sure to turn that survey in!

## Blanchet Shadow Day

8th graders will go to Blanchet on Thursday, March 8th as a possible option for high school. Instead of missing an entire day to shadow, students are encouraged to watch a presentation, tour the school, and have lunch as a class. We encourage all of our students to continue in their deep connection to the faith with a K-12 Catholic education.

## End of Trimester

March 9th is the last day of the second trimester. Report cards are expected to be printed and sent home on Wednesday, March 14th, along with the latest copy of STAR testing data. We are two-thirds of the way done with this school year! Parents who have not signed into their SchoolSpeak account were sent an email with login information last week. If you have any questions about how to access your students' grades or any of the school communications, please feel free to contact us. We'd be happy to help!



## Feast of St. Joseph



Feast of St. Joseph Mass will be held on Monday morning, March 19th (which will take the place of Wednesday's Mass that week). We will hold Mass and then have a procession. Parents are welcome to join us on our school's feast day!

## Sacrament of First Penance

The Sacrament of First Penance will be held at St. Joseph Church at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, March 21st for all school and religious education students.

## Tenebrae Service



There will be a Tenebrae Service held on Thursday, March 22nd, followed by a Lenten Penance Service at 8:30 am. The service will start with the 3rd through 5th graders, and then continue with the 6th through 8th graders. Please help your students prepare for this important sacrament by guiding them through an examination of conscience.

## Battle of the Books



Helena, Charlotte, Erin and Irene have spent months preparing to represent St. Joseph school in the Oregon Battle of the Books. This Saturday, March 3rd their team, "The Original Narwals" will go head to head with other schools, vying for a chance be the regional champs and win a spot in the State competition.

## Read Across America Day

Friday, March 2nd, is national Read Across America Day, also known as Dr. Seuss Day. Tomorrow our students will be reading with their family groups to celebrate both Dr. Seuss's birthday and their love for literacy. Students may also, if they wish, bring their favorite stuffed animal for the day.



## SLE of the Week

Next week's SLE of the week is: Shows self-discipline, accepts correction, and is accountable for personal choices. We can work on this every day:

- I can sit quietly and attentively in class.
- I can get my work done without being reminded.
- I can admit when I did something wrong, and work to make it better.
- I can learn from my mistakes, and try to build better habits.
- I can do the right thing because it's the right thing to do.

These are skills that can be difficult to build as we grow up, but when we can show growth in these areas, it really shows maturity!

## Weekly Prayer Corner

As your children grow, to help strengthen our Catholic faith and the values of our traditions, we would like to offer a weekly family activity to build in your understanding and practices together. This week's activity: Help your child draw a three-paneled picture with the Israelites and the manna in the desert, Jesus and the multiplication of loaves, and the priest and the Eucharist.



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## Important Dates for Week of February 5th

Wednesday, March 7th— Mass (4th grade)

Friday, March 9th—Stations of the Cross