

February 3, 2026

St. Cecilia School

O A K L E Y

4115 Taylor Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45209
School.StCeciliaCincinnati.org T: 513-533-6060



Upcoming Events

Thursday, February 5

No School Mass

Friday, February 6

Early Dismissal at 1:00PM
TOP CHEF fundraiser dinner

Thursday, February 12

Valentines Parties gr PK-3

Fri & Mon Feb 13 & 16

No School for Students

Wednesday, February 18

Ash Wednesday – Mass at 9AM

Friday, February 20

Stations of the Cross at 2:15PM
in church
End of Trimester 2

Thursday, February 26

School Mass at 9AM in church

Friday, February 27

Stations of the Cross at 2:15PM

Wednesday, March 4

Spring Picture Day

Thursday, March 5

School Mass at 9AM in church

Friday, March 6

Fish Fry 5-7 PM for Explorers
Program in gym

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The priority registration period for enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year for existing school families has ended. Open registration has begun, and we will now begin enrolling new students. Many of our current grades are full, so if you are planning on having your child return to St. Cecilia next school year, please ensure that all registration paperwork has been completed and turned into the school office.

Thank you for your cooperation during the most recent inclement weather days. We have been able to be in school more than many other schools or districts, but I think that we can all agree that we are looking forward to warmer temperatures for next week!

Take note of other important school news in this newsletter. Have a great week



Mr. Michael Gosde
Principal



TOP CHEF Early Dismissal - Friday, February 6th

St. Cecilia 8th graders and a handful of staff will need extra time in the kitchen and in the commons (cafeteria) on Friday afternoon as they prepare for the third St. Cecilia Top Chef competition. This year's dinner has a decidedly American twist as we approach the 250th birthday of our country this July 4th. We will need the afternoon for a restaurant makeover and prep for 82 diners who will act as judge on this special evening. Proceeds will support 8th graders' spring Washington DC trip. Wish us all well!

- Morning bus service is available *but* there is *no afternoon bus transportation*
- Breakfast and lunch will be served
- No *Champions* after school care
- PK + older siblings *dismissal is 12:30*
- K - 8 students *dismissal is 1PM*

NO SCHOOL
Friday & Monday
February 13 & 16
President's Day Weekend

More News

End of Trimester - February 20th

Trimester II officially ends on Friday, February 20th. Parents are encouraged to check your child's academic progress in Option C and ensure that any missing assignments that can be turned in are turned in.



PK-3 Valentine's Day Parties - Feb 12

Parties for students in grades PK-3 will be held on Thursday afternoon, February 12th. Parents who wish to assist, and secure service hours with these parties can use the following sign-up genius link.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4BAEA82FA1FAC52-62104062-copy>

If purchasing Valentines' cards for your child's class, be sure to secure enough for all class members. Parents can check with your child's homeroom teacher or the school office for an accurate count.

Grade 9 High School Registration

Parents of 8th grade students are reminded that it is their responsibility to fully register and enroll their child for high school. All Catholic high schools have admission departments to assist in this process.

Tax Season School Benefit

Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO)

Parents are reminded of a special state of Ohio tax credit that can be very beneficial to St. Cecilia. Use the QR Code to learn more.



Our Goal:
\$100,000

Scholarship Granting Organization 2025 Tax Year

Last year, 139 Ohio taxpayers (89 parishioners) helped provide tuition assistance to St. Cecilia School students through their Ohio tax dollars. When completing your 2025 taxes this year, will you consider joining other parishioners in supporting St. Cecilia School?

With tax credits, the dollars come back to you. You will receive a credit for anything below your Ohio tax liability. Individuals can give up to \$750, and joint filers can give up to \$1500. You will receive the dollars that you donated, either by reducing your tax bill or increasing your refund after filing your 2025 taxes. **The cost to you - Nothing.** The benefit to St. Cecilia School - Great!

Taxes can be daunting, and often we place our trust in tax specialists. If you have a good one, he or she will be well-versed in how this tax credit works; we encourage you to ask them about this opportunity. If you prepare your own taxes and have any questions, reach out to our school principal, Mr. Michael Goedde mgoedde@stceciliacincinnati.org, and he will be happy to answer any questions that you may have.



We are grateful for your generosity to St. Cecilia School.
We strive to be faithful stewards of each dollar entrusted to us.



Service Hours

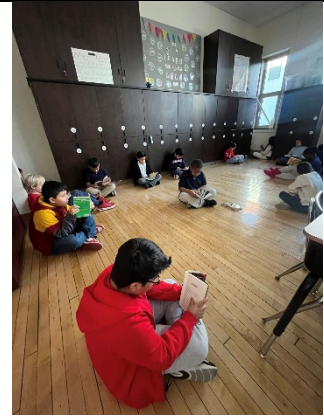
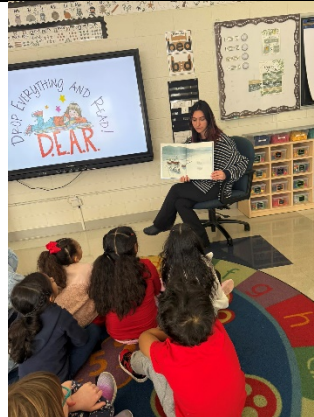
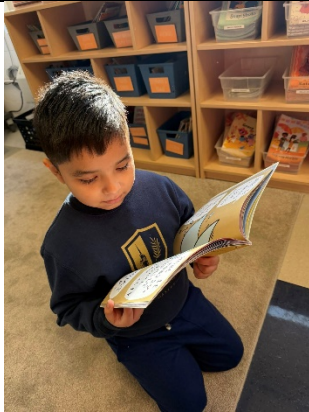
In the next couple of weeks an accounting of the number of volunteer hours that your family has secured for this school year will be sent home. There will be a couple of March opportunities to secure hours with back to back fish fries held on March 6th and March 13th. Many of you may wish to sign up for these. Sign-up forms will be sent home as we get closer to the event.





Catholic Schools Week

Thank you to parents who attended this year's Family Night Open House, purchased books for their child at the book fair, or assisted with our ice cream treat, helping to make what was a somewhat abbreviated CSW celebration successful. A shout out to Mrs. Costanzo and grade 6 homeroom who won this year's America 250 door competition, our ping pong champions Charlotte Lechko & Jude Cullen and our Spelling Bee champion, Madeleine Wrightsman.



Students took time to "Drop Everything and Read"



Much fun was had on the dodgeball court.



In Ping Pong, seventh graders reigned supreme. Charlotte took her 2nd straight women's title and the Cullen twins battled it out in the finals with Jude just edging out Elias for the victory.



The final three in the spelling bee were in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade with seventh grader Madeleine taking home the win this year.

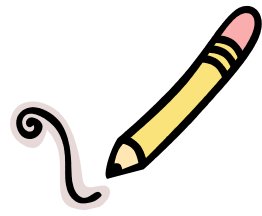


Thank you to the parents who helped serve a special ice cream treat!



Everyone got in the spirit of the door decorating competition.

In the Classroom



What's coming in the next weeks...

Preschool

- **Religion** – Students are learning about how God made different animals and plants.
- **Language Arts** – Students are practicing writing letters and their names. They are also learning how to put stories in the correct order.
- **Math** – Students are learning how to count up to nine in different configurations.
- **Science and Social Studies** will be integrated through our language arts program, CKLA, throughout the year. Students have begun their unit on balls where they will go over different kinds of balls and their characteristics.
- **Art** – Students are learning about shapes and how to draw a bird shape using tracing and self-draw.
- **Music** – Students will be practicing rhythms with drumsticks and dancing/singing different songs.
- **Gym** – Students will begin a teamwork unit.

Kindergarten

- **Religion** – Students will learn how Jesus loves and heals the sick, they will learn about the Presentation of the Lord. They will also learn about St. Blaise.
- **Language Arts** – Students will continue to read words containing 3 to 5 letter sounds. They will also be introduced to new tricky words. They will practice reading full sentences in their decodable *Kit* readers.
- **Math** – Students will continue to focus on numbers to 20. They will compose and decompose numbers in the teens using ten frames.
- **Science & Social Studies** will be integrated through our language arts program, CKLA, throughout the year. Students will continue their unit of study in farms.
- **Art** – Students are learning about watercolor, how to mix them to create secondary colors, and are creating a valentine heart project to take home.
- **Music** – Students will be practicing rhythms with drumsticks and dancing/singing different songs
- **Gym** – Students will wrap up their overhand throwing and catching unit. Students will begin a unit focused on basketball fundamentals.

Grade 1

- **Religion** – Students will be learning about Jesus and the Incarnation. Also why God gave us His Son. They will learn the Corporal Works of Mercy.
- **Language Arts** - Students are spelling words using the floss rule (double letter ending), reading words with bossy r (er, ar, or), and reading and writing tricky words. Students will continue identifying nouns and verbs, and will begin learning about past tense verbs. Students will read stories from “The Green Fern Zoo”, and will be answering comprehension questions.
- **Knowledge** - Students will be studying the parts of the Solar System, focusing on the sun, space, moon, and constellations. Throughout the unit, they will complete an astronomy journal identifying important facts.
- **Writing** - Students will continue answering questions with complete sentences. Students will begin creating their own Astronomy Journal in their unit of Knowledge.
- **Math** – Students will continue their chapter on addition and subtraction within 40, focusing on subtraction with and without regrouping.
- **Science & Social Studies** will be integrated through our language arts program, CKLA, throughout the year. Students will begin their unit on Astronomy.

- **Art** – Students are finishing up their winter collage and starting a valentine themed piece using watercolors.
- **Music** – Students will be practicing rhythms and choreographies with drumsticks and easy solfeggio.
- **Gym** – Students will finish their overhand throwing and catching unit. Students will begin a basketball unit.

Grade 2

- **Religion** – Students will begin learning about the roots of the Eucharist in the Old Testament and the Passover. They will learn the Bible story “Feeding the Five Thousand”.
- **Knowledge** - Students are working to publish their Greek myths. Our next unit will be exploring The War of 1812, building background knowledge for westward expansion and the U.S. Civil War.
- **Writing** - Students are publishing a Greek myth and practicing dictation sentences/journal responses restating the question.
- **Skills** - Students are reading and spelling words with long -o (oe, oa, ow), building fluency reading passages, and building comprehension using strategies from our reader, *Kids Excel*.
- **Math** - Students are reading and analyzing graphs like picture graphs, bar graphs, line plots and tally charts. Students are also using addition and subtraction strategies to answer questions about graphs.
- **Science & Social Studies** will be integrated through our language arts program, CKLA, throughout the year. Students will begin studying The War of 1812.
- **Art** – Students are starting a new valentine project using watercolor pastels and learning new brush strokes and correct practices for this medium.
- **Music** – Students will be practicing choreographies with drumsticks and body percussion, and easy solfeggio.
- **Gym & Health** - Students will be playing pickleball.

Grade 3

- **Religion** - Students are preparing for their vocabulary quizzes on Human Dignity.
- **CKLA** – Students are writing opinion papers about the accomplishments of Ancient Roman Civilization by developing their own opinion and also recognizing those of other writers.
- **Writing** - Students will continue to work on cursive writing, and will be introduced to our new unit which will be biographies.
- **Math** – Students are continuing to work with fractions and will focus on identifying equivalent fractions.
- **Science & Social Studies** will be integrated through our language arts program, CKLA, throughout the year. Students are launching a new unit on Light and Sound, writing in cause and effect format with detail
- **Art** – Students are creating their own mountain village using watercolor paint and acrylic. They are focusing on folk art as a theme.
- **Music** – Students will learn to follow song rhythms and identify different rhythmic patterns through the use of different resources such as hula hoops and basketballs.
- **Gym & Health** – Students are completing table tennis and beginning some Health topics.

Grade 4

- **Religion** – Students are finishing up their Unit on the 10 Commandments.
- **Language Arts** – We are finishing our Geology Unit by writing a compare and contrast essay about scientific reports of earthquakes and the myths of several native tribes.
- **Math** – Students will begin a unit on decimals.
- **Science** – Students are completing their Electricity Unit and moving on to Heat Energy.
- **Social Studies** – Students are continuing their study of The American Revolution with a focus on the choices and pressures colonial revolutionaries faced.

- **Art** – Students are finishing their Penguins in an arctic Tundra and starting a valentine themed watercolor project.
- **Music** – Students will learn how to use the metallophone and practice simple melodies such as the 4th Movement of Beethoven's 9th Symphony in D minor, Op. 125.
- **Gym & Health** – Students will be playing pickleball.

Grade 5

- **Religion** – Students are continuing their Confirmation Unit by studying the Rite of Confirmation and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- **Language Arts** – Students will begin reading the novel, *Number the Stars*.
- **Math (Wolfe)** – Students finish their study of decimals and begin working on volume.
- **Math (Lewis)** – Students will begin Chapter 6 Volume. The students will begin by working on building solids using unit cubes.
- **Science** – Students will complete their study of light. Then will then engage in a study of Earth's water.
- **Social Studies** – This week we will be continuing our unit on the Golden Age of England, focusing on England's nautical endeavors and their Civil War.
- **Art** – Students are finishing their winter collage and starting a Valentines themed watercolor piece, developing their mastery of this medium.
- **Music** – Students will practice different rhythms using basketballs and learn how to use the xylophone.
- **Gym & Health** – Students have just completed their Ping Pong unit and will begin pickleball.

Grade 6

- **Religion** – Students are finishing the story of Jacob's son, Joseph.
- **Language Arts** – Students will start a new unit on Greek Mythology.
- **Math** – Students will be writing, simplifying, and evaluating algebraic expressions.
- **Science** – After completing their study of cells, students will explore how cells are organized into tissues, organs, and organ systems.
- **Social Studies** – We will continue our study of the French Revolution, focusing on the religion, culture, art, and also the Reign of Terror.
- **Art** – Students are wrapping up their Bear in a sweater piece and beginning a spring project.
- **Music** – Students will learn to play the melodica and xylophone with different simple melodies.
- **Gym & Health** – Students will be playing pickleball.

Grade 7

- **Religion** – In their unit on Confirmation, students will be choosing a patron saint and doing some research about that saint to write a report.
- **Language Arts** – Students will finish a unit on short stories and poetry and complete a grammar unit on complements.
- **Math** – Students will wrap up their Geometric Construction unit by calculating and applying scale factors. Next, they will begin a unit on circumference and area of circles.
- **Science** – Students will finish a unit on ecosystems and begin a unit on the properties of matter.
- **Social Studies** – Students will be studying the first 5 Presidents of the United States.
- **Art** – Students are working on a Matisse inspired piece using scissors instead of paint.
- **Music** – Students will learn to play different instruments to put together a song in groups while learning music theory.
- **Gym & Health** – Students will be honing their pickleball skills.

Grade 8

- **Religion** – Students will be examining some of the heresies that plagued the early Church, the Doctors of the Church who fought them and the Councils that were called to define the truths.

- **English** – Students will complete a personal narrative and continue to work with Latin roots, prefixes, suffixes and verbals.
- **Reading** – Students will complete their autobiographical and biographical unit.
- **Math (May)** – Students will begin their study of functions. They will learn to identify different types of functions and represent functions using equations, tables, and graphs.
- **Math (Poux)** – Students are working with graphs of Quadratic equations in the first couple lessons of Chapter 9. They'll take a quiz on that information and then prepare for their Unit 3 test.
- **Science** – Students will finish a unit on force and motion and begin a unit on reproduction and heredity.
- **Social Studies** – Students will study the Roaring 20s.
- **Art** – Students are finishing their pop art themed portraits.
- **Music** – Students will learn to play different instruments to put together a song in groups while learning music theory
- **Gym & Health** – Students will begin pickleball.

Don't miss
out!

¡No te lo
pierdas!

Your school memories from cover to cover

Tus recuerdos escolares de principio a fin.

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Comunícate con nuestro Centro de Ayuda para recibir asistencia en lifetouch.com/support-us. Selecciona Pedidos del Anuario para recibir asistencia.



In Celebration of America 250



A Culinary Declaration

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for a school community to gather in celebration of ingenuity, patriotism, and fine dining, a proper respect for tradition and excellence requires that such an occasion be joyfully proclaimed.

Be Ye Our Honored Guest on

Friday, February 6, 2026, at 6:00 PM in the
St. Cecilia Commons, to serve as Patron and Judge at
St. Cecilia's Top Chef Competition ~ America 250 Edition.

Whereas our great nation approaches its 250th anniversary,
Seventy-two esteemed guests (twelve tables of six) shall convene to enjoy a grand American repast,
hosted by the teachers and eighth grade students of St. Cecilia School.

Whereas **Team Stars** shall compete against **Team Stripes** in a three-course contest,
and by evening's end, St. Cecilia's 2025 Top Chef Champions shall be declared.

Whereas our Commons shall be transformed into a setting most fitting for our Founding Fathers,
with whispers of distinguished VIP guests in attendance.

Therefore, thou art granted privilege of reserving a seat until January 30, 2026.



Pray, see the reverse for RSVP particulars & further instructions.



Friday, February 6, 2026



6:00pm Social Hour; 6:45pm Dinner

Please enter The Commons using the school courtyard

Cost - \$40 per person

Includes Hors d'oeuvres, 3 course Meal (2 small plate appetizers, 2 small plate entrées w/sides, 2 small plate desserts)

Cash Bar - Wine and Beer

*Because of the nature of the evening, we are unable to accommodate any special dietary needs.

If you have any other questions about the evening please email Mike Goedde - mgoedde@stceciacincinnati.org or call 513-533-6060

Ways to RSVP

- Return the bottom portion of this letter, complete with payment, and listing of full names of fellow diners (reservations should be made in pairs of two or tables of six)
- Call the school office (513-533-6060) and provide reservation details (payment can be made using a credit card or arranged to be paid the night of the event)
- Email Mike Goedde at mgoedde@stceciacincinnati.org to make a reservation or ask any questions

America 250 Top Chef RSVP

Names attending: _____

I/We are unable to attend but, please accept this donation to be put towards the DC trip

Please return RSVP and payment to St. Cecilia School by Friday, January 30

Make checks payable to St. Cecilia School (or call office to register with credit card)

4115 Taylor Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45209