

HOLY HAWKS NEWSLETTER

November Edition 3

Week of November 13

Another week completed! Thanksgiving is next week and then the hustle and bustle of Christmas. Where is the time going? We sent out a schedule of events from now till Christmas and PTF has sent out their schedule of fun things that are happening in the next few weeks. We need a big calendar to keep all this straight! We will do our best to keep everyone on track during this busy season. If I repeat things or send out too many notices, please excuse that (I am the oldest one in the building and I need to repeat things to remember them)!!!!

We are re-establishing the Honor Roll at St. Joseph. Please disregard the information that is in the handbook, we have new guidelines. Each quarter we will recognize the students in grades 5-8 who have achieved a 3.0 or higher grade point average in the six core subjects (religion, math, language arts, reading, science and social studies). There will be three levels: academic excellence (all A's), high honors (3.5-3.99) and honors (3.0-3.49). Students must, also, receive a passing grade in the non-academic classes. I will announce first quarter honor roll on Tuesday.

There will be an end of the year awards day which will acknowledge and reward students in grades 1-4 for their academic work throughout the year. I am not sure what format this day will take but the staff and I have talked about the need for some type of awards day. This will be held during the day and parents will be invited to attend. More information will be shared on this idea in the spring.

I will be sending the IOWA scores home on Monday. They will be in an envelope and all students in grades 2-8 will bring one home. You will find your student's information sheet in the envelope along with a letter from me explaining the test. Grades 5-8 will, also, have a sheet showing longitudinal growth over the past few years for your child. The younger grades will not have this sheet because a couple years of testing are needed to show the progress of the student. If you would like to discuss your child's IOWA or Cogat (grades 3-5-7) results, I would be happy to schedule an appointment with you.

Advent begins on December 3. Each Monday we will meet as a school family outside the office for an Advent prayer. We will light the appropriate candles for the week and discuss waiting for the birth of Jesus. Monday, I will be sending home a letter explaining a project that we will be doing for the weeks of Advent. We will have a Giving Tree in the hallway by the office. Students and staff are

asked to bring in hats, mittens/ gloves, or scarves for St. Vincent DePaul . Also, the Optimist Club has put a box in the school to collect toys.

It is the last few weeks for selling the Christmas Cash raffle tickets. We still have quite a few tickets to sell to meet our goal. We will be drawing the winners at the fish fry on December 8. Let's see what we can do about getting closer to that goal of 800 tickets!

Congratulations to Lydia Heap! Lydia is the Freeburg Optimist Student of the Month for November. This is awarded to an 8th grade student who goes out of their way to be helpful and kind to all people, is cooperative, follows the rules, and displays and an "optimistic" outlook on things. Way to go, Lydia!

Have a great weekend!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Lewis and Clark Field Trip

The 3rd through 8th graders learned a lot at the Lewis and Clark Museum



Tic Tac Toe

The third graders enjoyed reviewing plural nouns with a game of Plural Noun Tic-Tac Toe.



Tic Tac Toe

More Tic-Tac Toe fun.

Christmas Cash Raffle

We're officially past the halfway point of our goal of selling all 800 tickets, with 435 tickets sold so far! Be sure to turn in your sold tickets by Tuesday morning (November 21) so they're eligible for our \$500 Early Bird drawing at noon that day. The winner of the Early Bird is re-entered in the main drawing—give yourself a chance to win twice!

If you need more tickets—even one extra matters!—please contact Sarah Wiskamp in the Parish Office or Katie Welsch at katherinekoss@yahoo.com. As a reminder, if you can't sell all of your tickets, **do not throw them away**. Please return any tickets you can't sell to the office by **Monday, November 27**, so they can be redistributed to other sellers. Families will be charged for unreturned tickets. If you misplaced your tickets, please let Sarah or Katie know as soon as possible. Another way to help is to to sell tickets after an upcoming mass. You can sign up here: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084BAEA622AAF49-45262735-christmas#/.](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084BAEA622AAF49-45262735-christmas#/) Any tickets you sell will count toward your family's total for the top seller prize of \$100. Thanks to everyone for their support of this major fundraiser for our school!

ST. JOSEPH • FREEBURG
Christmas Cash Raffle
Only 800 Tickets to be Sold
\$13,000 Prize Money
30 Prizes to Be Awarded!
GRAND PRIZE - \$6,000
1st Prize \$2,500 • 2nd Prize \$1,000 • 3rd Prizes 2-\$500
AND: 3-\$250 Prizes • 4-\$100 Prizes • 8-\$75 Prizes • 10-\$50 Prizes
Prizes Awarded Friday, December 8, 2023, at St. Joseph Parish Center,
Freeburg, IL • Drawing Will Be Held at 6:30 P.M.
\$500 EARLY BIRD DRAWING AT 12:00 P.M. NOVEMBER 21
One prize awarded per ticket for main drawing. Winners will be notified immediately after drawings. Prizes should be made payable to ST. JOSEPH PARISH, CASH RAFFLE. In the event that all tickets are not sold, prizes will be awarded on the basis of 50/50 split.
TICKET COST: \$35.00 EACH

If you're able to sell tickets after an upcoming mass please sign up here:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084BAEA622AAF49-45262735-christmas#/. Any tickets you sell will count toward your family's total for the top seller prize of \\$100. Thanks to everyone for their support of this major fundraiser for our school!](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084BAEA622AAF49-45262735-christmas#/)

Following in the Footsteps of Christ

We have a nominee that we'll post about next week. In the meantime, keep following in the Footsteps of Christ.

Important Dates to Remember

November 21 - Thanksgiving Feast

November 22-24 - NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING BREAK

PTF Announcements

SHOP WITH RAISERIGHT

RaiseRight is a year-round fundraiser for our school families and St. Joseph PTF. You can purchase physical or e-gift cards to hundreds of retailers, and a percentage of the purchase price goes back to your family for tuition. Full details, including how to sign up for the online + app versions, are available on the [school website](#).

If you have questions about the program, contact Katie Waeltz (office@stjcsil.org) or Katie Welsch (katherinekoss@yahoo.com). If you'd be interested in selling RaiseRight cards after the Sunday masses at St. Agatha or St. Joseph, contact Sarah Wiskamp at parish@stjosephfreeburg.org.

Athletics

Nothing to inform anyone about at this time.

OUR CATHOLIC HIGHSCHOOLS

Gibault

Shadow Visits

Come see what life as a Gibault Hawk is like! On select Tuesdays and Fridays, your 7th or 8th grader or current high school student can spend the day at Gibault as a Shadow Visitor. Shadows will be matched with a current student with similar interests and together, they'll attend classes, meet teachers, enjoy lunch in our cafeteria, and more! Get started at: <https://bit.ly/GCHSInquire>

Cheer Camp

Future Hawk Cheerleaders! You're invited to our Mini Camp! Learn cheers alongside the Gibault Cheer Team and perform at halftime during December 9th's varsity basketball game! Kindergarten – 6th Graders are welcome. Camp will be held on Friday, December 8: 5 p.m.-7 p.m. and Saturday, December 9: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. (pizza lunch provided). Visit www.gibaulthawks.com/winter-camps to download registration form.

EMPOWER ILLINOIS®

Don't Take Away Student Scholarships!

I told my legislators to #RemoveTheSunset and #SaveMyScholarship. Join me in showing support for #TaxCreditScholarships. #TCSHelpsKids #EmpowerFamilies <http://p2a.co/gMQReHi>

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St. Joseph