

THE JAGUAR JOURNAL

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MIDDLE OF TRIMESTER 2

JANUARY 2022

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL EDUCATES STUDENTS THROUGH FAITH FORMATION, ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF VIRTUE TO BE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE ST. JOSEPH AWARD!

ANNA FITZGERALD - 6TH GRADE
OWEN WELK - 7TH GRADE
ETHAN SALAS - 8TH GRADE

The Middle School St. Joseph Award is presented to a middle school student in each grade level throughout the school year. Middle School teachers offer this in recognition for following the example given by St. Joseph of living a faith-filled life and being a hard worker.



ST. JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 27th 4:00pm
7th grade boys basketball game
Bring money for concessions

January 31st - February 4th
Catholic School's Week

WEBSITES TO NOTE:

educate.tads.com/educate
(Online Grading System)

stjosephwsp.org/msstudents
(Online Middle School Calendar)

stjosephwsp.org
(School Website)

THE JAGUAR JOURNAL

RELIGION MR. BUTLER

For all three grades, we spent the first trimester studying basics of the Christian understanding of the human person. I'm basing the units on Ruah Woods Press' *Rooted* curriculum. Since then, the 6th graders and I have been study salvation history prior to Christ. Looking at the primary texts of the Old Testament, following the life of the Jews.

The 7th graders have been studying the life of Christ, the experience and drama of the disciples, referencing the documents in the New Testament. We will also have a unit on the sacraments.

The 8th graders and I have been studying the lives of the first Christians and the birth of the Church. Most of the 8th graders are planning to receive Confirmation this spring, and Fr. Bruno is teaching class every Friday to walk through the virtues to better prepare them to understand the moral dimension of the Christian life they are about to be fully initiated into.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS MS. ANNA

My name is Ms. Anna and I am the new teacher for 6th-8th grade Communication Skills class. I am super excited to be here!

In all grades we have been working on paragraph structure and grammar review. Each grade took a general review quiz that was graded for participation and integrity. This was for my purpose, so I may begin teaching at the right place in the book!

In all classes, we have been practicing writing with an assignment called Free Writes. This allows the student to practice drafting works without being graded. Free Writes are graded on format and effort. This will be a repeat assignment.

Finally we are starting a Writing Club every Friday. Students may come as early as 7:30am to practice writing!

Thanks for reading!

MATH
MS. MUELLERLELIE

6th grade has been working on algebra topics, focusing on graphing, equations and inequalities.

7th grade students have learned about scale factor and how to use scale to find the distance on a map. They are beginning to learn about slope now. Look out for the Adventures of Slope Dude!

In Algebra students have finished learning about functions and are going to begin to work with linear equations. They will soon be proficient in $y=mx+b$!

The 8th grade Algebra/Geometry class is working through exponents and exponent rules. They will also learn about exponential equations and geometric sequences.

HISTORY/GEOGRAPHY
MS. ROETTGER

6th and 7th grade have both been studying the ever important American Civil War. 6th grade looks at the Civil War based on a Minnesota perspective. 7th grade interprets the war from an American point of view.

After the Civil War, 6th grade will move onto the U.S.-Dakota War that happened within the state of Minnesota. 7th grade will begin learning about the Industrial Revolution. Students have made fun videos showcasing an important invention from that time.

8th grade has been studying the geography, history, and culture of Southern Europe and West-Central Europe. By the end of the trimester, students should be able to locate all European countries on a map!

THE JAGUAR JOURNAL

SCIENCE MS. WRATKOWSKI

The Literature Reviews are done and we are moving into the experiment portion of the Science Fair! Students may work as individuals or in teams for the rest of the project. It is delightful to see the different project ideas that are being pursued! The data is due on February 7th.

In the meantime we are exploring chemistry in 8th Grade, reproduction in 7th Grade, and climate in 6th Grade.

I look forward to the Science Fair presentations during the week of February 21st!

LITERATURE MR. SCHULTZ

The sixth grade is currently reading *Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World*, an incredible true tale of the survival of Ernest Shackleton and his crew, who spent 18 months stranded in Antarctica in the early 1900's.

In seventh grade we are journeying in Middle Earth with wizards, dragons, elves, goblins, dwarves, and the strange little creatures called hobbits in J. R. R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit*.

The eighth grade has traveled to the future in Ray Bradbury's eerily prescient *Fahrenheit 451*.

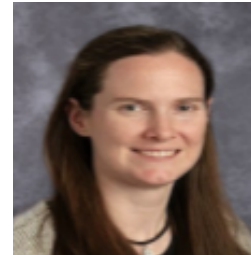
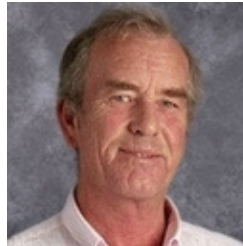
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MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHERS

6A HOMEROOM - MS. ANNA
6-8 COMMUNICATION SKILLS
ANPETERSEN@STJOSEPHWSP.ORG



6B HOMEROOM - MS. ROETTGER
6 MN HISTORY
7 US HISTORY
8 GEOGRAPHY
SAROETTGER@STJOSEPHWSP.ORG



7A HOMEROOM - MR. SCHULTZ
6-8 LITERATURE
DASCHULTZ@STJOSEPHWSP.ORG

7B HOMEROOM - MS. WRATKOWSKI
6 EARTH SCIENCE
7 LIFE SCIENCE
8 PHYSICAL SCIENCE
6-8 ENGINEERING
REWRATKOWSKI@STJOSEPHWSP.ORG



8A HOMEROOM - MR. BUTLER
6-8 RELIGION
PHBUTLER@STJOSEPHWSP.ORG

8B HOMEROOM - MS. M
6-8 MATH
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MS LEARNING SPECIALIST - MRS.
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