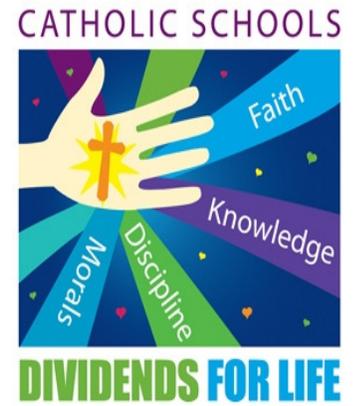


The Principal's Newsletter January 19, 2018



Educating * Mind * Heart * Spirit



The church establishes her own schools because she considers them as a privileged means of promoting the formation of the whole individual, since the school is a center in which a specific concept of the world, of humankind, and of history is developed and conveyed. The Church is absolutely convinced that the educational aims of the Catholic school in the world of today perform an essential and unique service for the Church herself. It is, in fact, through the school that she participates in the dialogue of culture with her own positive contribution to the cause of the total formation of humankind. The absence of the Catholic school would be a great loss for civilization and for the natural and supernatural destiny of man.

Catholic schools are meeting places for those who wish to express Christian values in education.

TAX NEWS: When working on your taxes, please don't forget about the tuition tax credit. Taxpayers who have one or more dependents attending grades KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TWELVE in an Iowa school may take a credit for each dependent for amounts paid for tuition and textbooks. **The credit is 25% of the first \$1,000 paid for each dependent** for tuition and textbooks which amounts to a maximum tax credit of \$250 per child. Please note that this is an **Iowa tax credit** and not a deduction.



Upcoming Events:

Catholic Schools Week: January 28th through February 2nd

We kick off with our annual **FREE Chili Supper** after the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, January 27th as we celebrate the 44th Annual Catholic Schools Week and our 65th year as a parish school.



On Monday, January 29th, we have an all-school assembly at which I thank our young people for being a part of our parish school and then explain why their parents sent them here. Of course, we have to end with glazed donuts/cookies and a juice drink.

On Tuesday, January 30th, KQWC will be here with a live broadcast from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. Mr. Pat Powers will interview some of our young people with assistance from Mrs. Natalie Stark-Fouarge. We will entertain at certain points with all students singing a few songs.

On Wednesday, we celebrate Grandparents/Grandfriends Day; **however, we wait until more favorable weather in the Spring (April 6th)**. On Thursday, we celebrate the staff with pizza for lunch. After our student Mass on Friday, February 2, we head for Seven Oaks in Boone – weather permitting – for skiing, snow tubing, and snowboarding. This is always a great day!



*Thursday, February 8 – Annual Jump-Rope-for-Heart starting at 12:45

*Friday, February 9 – Prayer Partner Mass at 8:30 a.m. followed by social in gym

*ASH WEDNESDAY, February 14 – **WE HAVE SCHOOL** with classes at the regular time. Note: WCCSD has Professional Development and NO CLASSES so the buses will not run.

The Ash Wednesday Mass will be at 12:30.



*Tuesday, February 20 – Mrs. Engstrom’s SWIM unit begins



*Monday, February 26 – Kindergarten Roundup at 7:00 p.m. in the gym. All kindergartners will NOT have class on Friday, March 2nd as next year’s prospective kindergartners will come to experience life as a kindergartner.

*Monday, March 5 preschool roundup 7:00 p.m. in the gym

*Thursday, March 8 – Parent/Teacher Conferences beginning at 3:30 p.m.

*Week of March 12 – SPRING BREAK



Planning ahead?

Correction: Last week I indicated that Grandparents/Grandfriends Day would be Friday, April 13th. It will be Friday, April 6th as First Communion is scheduled for Sunday, April 8th. Grandparents/Grandfriends will celebrate Mass with us at 10:30 followed by a luncheon for grandparents/grandfriends & students

Annual St. Thomas Aquinas Ball
Saturday, May 5



Graduation – Kindergarten & 6th – Friday, May 25
Mass at 8:30 followed by a graduation ceremony in the gym



Hot Lunch Information

TICKET PRICING

Student Lunch Tickets

20 day	\$65.00
10 day	\$32.50
5 day	\$16.25
1 day	\$ 3.25

Adult Lunch

1 day	\$ 5.00
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Student Seconds Ticket

10 punch	\$10.00
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Student Breakfast Tickets

20 day	\$40.00
10 day	\$20.00
5 day	\$10.00
1 day	\$ 2.00

Adult Breakfast

1 day	\$ 3.00
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Breakfast is served every day starting at 7:30 a.m. The breakfast tickets are kept in the lunchroom and students will pick up their ticket when they go through the serving line.

The lunch tickets are kept in the office and sent to the classrooms before lunch. Meal tickets are not kept in student desk or lockers.

When your child has used the last punch on any of their tickets, a reminder email will be sent. At this time money should be sent for a new ticket. Charging is allowed for two days. Payment for meals may be set up electronically or money may be sent to school with your child.

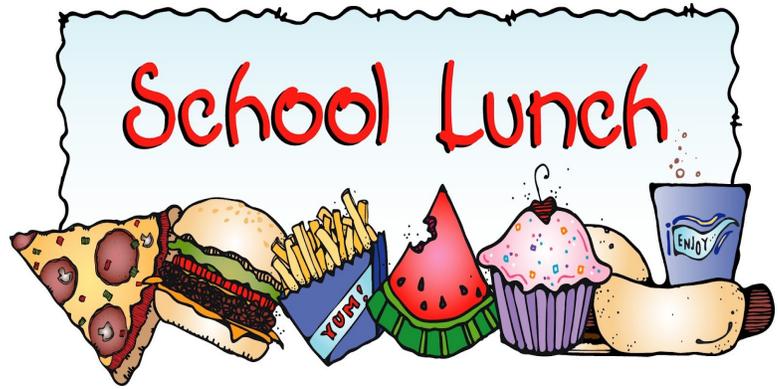
St. Thomas School also participates in the government Free and Reduced Meals programs. Applications are available when school starts. Families may apply anytime during the year.

Menus are sent home in the monthly school newsletter, published in the Daily Freeman Journal, and announced on KQWC radio.

Prices are subject to change depending on state and federal guidelines as well as school board decisions.

Parents that wish to join their child for lunch need to make a reservation by 9:30 a.m. the day they wish

Student Extra Milk Ticket: 20 punch = \$10.00



Official Publication of the Archdiocese of Dubuque

Article about our STEM program

Robots rev up learning

Robotics becomes a major part of the STEM curriculum at Webster City Catholic School for the first time this year.



STEM Integrated into the curriculum – a standard part of each of the science courses that Mr. Meyers teaches – a type of learning that integrates the four disciplines of science, technology, engineering, and math while utilizing real world applications. Students focused first on design and construction, then later on programming their robots for autonomous movement. Then students incorporated sensors into their programming allowing the robots to identify colors, others distance so as to navigate a simple course.

For complete article, refer to the Sunday, January 14, 2018 edition of The Witness.