

ST. PIUS X / ST. LEO SCHOOL

JANUARY 2018

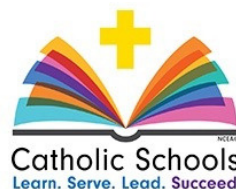
PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The theme of our Catholic Schools Week celebration is “Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.” The theme encompasses the core products and values that can be found in Catholic schools across the country. Not only are we teaching students to become future leaders, faith-filled disciples and enriched citizens in our communities, but our educators are growing with them. In Catholic schools, we are all learners, servants and leaders. These shared qualities are what make Catholic schools work. They are what make Catholic schools succeed.

The theme also focuses on key elements of Catholic education: faith development, academic excellence and dedication to service which aligns with our school’s mission statement. These elements set Catholic schools apart from other educational options. They are why families make sacrifices to provide their children with a Catholic education.

I am grateful every day for the teachers, staff, school board members, parents, volunteers, parishioners and other supporters who make our school a success. Catholic Schools Week is a great time for all of us to thank them for their dedication and overall commitment to St. Pius X / St. Leo School.

Mr. Cory Sepich, Principal



PLEASE JOIN US

Our celebration of Catholic schools begins on the weekend of January 27/28 at both parishes. Students and teachers will speak about SPSL school at all weekend Masses. As supporters of our school, please join us at either of our special weekday Masses scheduled during Catholic Schools Week. CSW Masses will be held at St. Leo Church on Wednesday, January 31 at 8:45 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. We hope you can be a part of these special Masses as well.



ST. PIUS X / ST. LEO SCHOOL IS A DIVERSE COMMUNITY FORMING STUDENTS
IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH TO EXCEL IN ACADEMICS AND SERVICE TO OTHERS.

STUDENT'S P.O.V.

"A reason I love SPSL is because the teachers are like they came from heaven."

- Adele, 3rd grade

"When I'm at SPSL there's always a smile on my face."

- Charlotte, 3rd grade

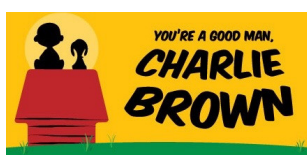
"When I came here in 2nd grade, I thought I could never be where I am right now, without such kind friends. They always support me and lift me up, and laugh at my bad jokes." - Reese, 5th grade

"The teachers really do care about me and how I turn out. In the computer lab there is a sign that says 'All kids are our kids'. I feel the teachers really do this."

- Maeve, 4th grade



DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS...



The 7th and 8th grade students in drama will present two evening performances of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* during Catholic Schools Week. The free performances will be held in the school's gym on Friday, February 2 and Saturday, February 3, both at 7:00 p.m. You are welcome to attend either (or both) of the performances as they will feature two different casts.

TEACHER'S P.O.V.



"My name is Sarah Stratman and I teach 7th grade Science and Geography at SPSL. I am also a graduate of SPSL and three of my children attend this great school. Some things have changed since my days as an SPSL student, including the addition of air-conditioned classrooms, a new uniform plaid, and the 1:1 technology program in the upper grades. What hasn't changed is the energetic and welcoming Christ-centered atmosphere that is the foundation of the SPSL community. It is a privilege to be part of this community and to work alongside other teachers, staff members, and volunteers who are committed to the spiritual and intellectual growth of our students. Thank you for your prayers and continued support of our school!"

SPSL SCHOOL ANNUAL RECOGNITION DINNER

St. Pius X / St. Leo School will host the third annual SPSL School Recognition Dinner on Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at St. Leo Church. The following awards/honors will be presented:

- The Reverend George Kempker 'Volunteer of the Year' Award - Susan Drew
- The NCEA and SPSL School 'Distinguished Graduate' Award - Dr. Johnell Ohlinger Brooks (1987)
- The Sister Brigetta (Burns) 'Teacher of the Year' Award - Pam Botos
- The Sister Viola (Miksch) 'Servant of Mary' Award - Dave Ludwig
- SPSL School 'Hall of Fame' Inductee - Fred Dohmen

Please note: Effective 1/2/2018 the Campbell's Soup Label program has ceased. The school and parishes are no longer collecting the labels. Thank you for your past support.

EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT TRUST

In Memory (January 1 - December 31, 2017)

Each year we receive many memorials in recognition of family and friends of the SPSL community. While we are saddened to hear of these individual's passing, we are happy to continue their legacy and commitment to Catholic education through these gifts.

Norma Adams
Mary Anne Allen
Rosalie Barry
Marianne Bodnar
William Buttell
Mary Ann Clark
Margaret Mary Coyle
Linda DeBolt
Betty Domalakes
Virgil Einspahr
Richard Franks
Joseph Grasso
Dolores Gruber
Susan Guinotte
Michelle Heavican Stroupe (Class of 1963)
Frank Insolera, Sr
Virgil Jarzynka
Walt Kavanagh (Class of 1970)
William Kizer, Sr
Jean Knowles
Bill Lewis (Class of 1964)
Mary Mangus
Theresa McCaslin
Kevin Mulhall (Class of 1974)
Catherine Ryan
Audrey Smith
Cathy Vanhauer (Class of 1969)
Paul Versch
Margaret Welsh
Mary Anne Wurtz

Gifts were also received in honor of:

Steve & Karen Swartz
Cathy Walsh (Class of 1981)

GARDENING & MORE IN THE CLASSROOM

In 6th grade the students will be planting seeds in recycled seed-starter pots representing the following three categories: food, herb and flower. The seeds will be sprouted in a mini-greenhouse in the science lab, and later the students will take them home for transplanting. The students will also be hatching chicks and talking about the surge in the popularity of backyard chickens. On a larger scale, the 6th grade unit will cover the benefits of urban gardening including health benefits, reduction in fossil fuel use and benefits to the local economy. The students will investigate the impact of the potential Keystone XL pipeline to Nebraska farms and ranches.

In 8th grade, the students will be designing and building a self-sustaining garden ecosystem complete with plants and fish, and/or a self-sustaining terrarium. They will also investigate the importance of the honey bee on our food sources, and the impact of bee Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD).

Did you know that St. Pius X and St. Leo Parishes have community gardens? St. Pius X has 12 plots that are each 4 x 12 feet in area but the garden has room for expansion. The charge is \$35 per plot/year. Contact Sandra Peaslee for more information on the plots (renner1@gmail.com). St. Leo Church has 40 plots that are 13 x 13 feet each in area. The cost is \$30 per plot/year. Sign ups are available at the end of March/early April and are publicized in the church bulletin. What a great way to grow the food we eat! A team of 7th and 8th grade S.A.M.E. students are working on a greenhouse design in the hopes that it will someday be built on SPSL property.

MORE THAN A SCHOOL, IT'S A COMMUNITY.



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PRE-KINDERGARTEN ROUND UP

We are hosting a Pre-Kindergarten Roundup on Saturday, January 27th from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. This Roundup is for families interested in our Three and Four Year Old Pre-Kindergarten Programs. The programs will be discussed and you will have a chance to visit with the Pre-Kindergarten teachers and look at the modern classrooms these students use. We are very proud of these classrooms and teachers and would love to see you at the roundup.



KINDERGARTEN ROUND UP

If you have a potential kindergarten student for the 2018-2019 school year, please join us for Kindergarten Roundup on Saturday, February 3rd from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. We welcome you to become more acquainted with our exceptional learning environment here at SPSL. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

If you, or someone you know, have children who will be in 1st through 8th grades for the 2018-2019 school year and have an interest in learning more about SPSL school, please call the school office at (402) 551-6667 to arrange a tour. Also, be sure to check out our school's website, www.spsl.net, to see classroom information, upcoming events and more.