

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

August 3, 2017

NEWSLETTER

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Dear Parents,

It's been a busy summer here at St. Joseph. We have team members hard at work on amazing tile floors! Brand new tile, new baseboards, some new paint... the building is almost ready for fall! Check out our FaceBook page for pictures! The teachers should be moving into their rooms during the first two weeks of August.

We also get to introduce you to some of our new faculty members! We have been blessed to find some positive, energetic teachers who will make great additions to our St. Joseph family. I can't wait for you to meet them.

We are busy in the office as well. Setup has started for our new online grading portal. Teachers will train on that during their first week back to school, and we will spend some practice time the first 2-3 months of school learning the ins and outs. We expect to roll it out to parents by the second trimester. We will also be training on a new diagnostic tool in math and reading developed by the same company who administers the STAR tests. This gives teachers a refined look at specific strengths and weaknesses of individual students, giving teachers another tool with which to identify, intervene and enrich your child's education.

Thank you all for making me feel so welcome in your community. St. Joseph is a wonderful place to be, and I'm excited and honored to be able to offer whatever I can to such a great school. I look forward to meeting you all!

In Christ,
Deb Dewar, Principal



Hispanic Food Festival

If you love good food with some flair, St. Joseph's parking lot is the place to be on Saturday, August 12th from 3 to 10 pm, our parking lot will be full of booths, celebrating all of the wonderful Hispanic foods from our community. Stop by the St. Joseph booth to spin the Giant Wheel, and you could win a prize! Bring the whole family to this culinary adventure! Who says you have to travel to Mexico for great food?



Solar Eclipse



Don't forget the Great Eclipse on Monday, August 21st. And to make sure none of our St. Joseph students miss it, Mrs. Dewar purchased 50 glasses for viewing. She will be at the Hispanic Food Festival in the St. Joseph parking lot on Saturday, August 12th, and in the Parish Center after the 8:30 and 10:00 masses on Sunday, August 13th. If you're a St. Joseph student and you don't have your glasses yet, stop by and get one. Only while supplies last! You can't miss the event of a lifetime!

Bridge to Cross 5k and Fun Run

Salem area Catholic Schools are hosting the first annual Bridge to Cross 5k and Fun Run on Saturday, August 26th at Salem's River Front Park. The 5k will begin at 8:30 a.m., with the Fun Run immediately following at 9:00 a.m.

This event not only serves as a beautiful way to unite the Salem Catholic School community, but our community at large.

We encourage you and your families to join us on August 26th. So, dust off those running shoes and register now. Registration ends on August 20th.

www.runsignup.com/race/or/salem/bridgetocross5kandfamilyfunrun



A Warm Welcome to St. Joseph's New Faculty Members

Matthew Seim, Fifth Grade Teacher



Matthew is originally from Salem, and moved to Beaverton in 2009 to finish up his Bachelor's Degree at Portland State University in Political Science. He went on to earn his Master's in Teaching at Concordia in 2017.

He believes all children are capable of learning and growing in their own way and time. He looks forward to helping each student become the best they can be; and to

help them learn to share their gifts and talents from God with others. Matthew is excited to be the new 5th grade teacher. He is looking forward to seeing both spiritual and educational growth from your children this year.

Lori Day, Eighth Grade Teacher



Lori Day is the new Eighth grade teacher who will be teaching Middle School Science Gr. 6-8, 8th Grade Math and 8th Grade Language Arts. She comes from St. John Fisher School in Portland, where she taught for the last eleven years. Lori received her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Master's degree in Teacher Leadership from the University of Phoenix.

Lori loves to see the light in a student's eyes when they are excited to learn or when they understand a concept that they have been struggling with. She believes that every child needs a champion that will be in their corner to help guide and fight for them. She has lived in Oregon all her life and wouldn't live any other place. In her spare time, she goes fly fishing, camping, riding horses, snow skiing, or anything outdoors with her husband of thirteen years.

Kathleen Kercheski, Media



Kathleen Kercheski was born and raised in Great Falls, Montana. After receiving her B.S. from Montana State University, she moved to Portland where she worked as a Medical Technologist. Realizing her true passion was working with children, she attended Concordia University to become a teacher. She taught 4th grade at St. Joseph for three years, then taught

middle school math for Salem-Keizer for fourteen years.

Kathleen is delighted to return to the Catholic School system where she can share her faith and love of God with her students. She is excited to teach media, where she can help all students become life-long learners, ready to adapt to our ever-changing world. Kathleen's vision is a school where all members love coming to school, filled with curiosity, joy, and wonder, eager to find God's purpose in their lives. In her free time, Kathleen enjoys gardening, reading, cycling, hiking, and time with family.

August/September Happenings

AUGUST

- 28-1 Teacher in-service days
- 31 New Families Orientation—5:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Pre-K/K/1st grade visitation 10:00-11:00 a.m.
- 4 Labor Day, No School
- 5 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL**
- 5-8 Kindergarten—half/day
- 7 Jog A Thon Kick-off Assembly—2:30 p.m.
- 11-29 STAR testing window
- 14-17 Oktoberfest, Mt. Angel
- 21 Back-to-school BBQ and Open House—5:30 p.m.
- 29 Bingo—gym—5:30 p.m.