

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Fix your thoughts on what is true, honorable, right, pure, lovely and admirable. -Philippians 4:8



Gratitude Corner

THANK YOU to all the wonderful families who made this year a HUGE success! From the dedicated parents who set out cones every morning for traffic duty, to the tremendous generosity given to St. Joseph School throughout the year through your volunteerism and fundraising- you gave of your time, talents, and treasure in countless ways. There was always someone we could call to help as needs would arise. God has truly blessed our community with wonderful and supportive families that enable us to provide students with the necessary resources and safe learning environment.

Thank you to our 4th grade families for hosting the delicious faculty luncheon on June 1st.



Mrs. Bowen has given over 20 years of service to St. Joseph School as a teacher and parent. We wish her all the best as she continues to serve God and our Church

through other ministries. May she enjoy quality time with her family and we look forward to having her visit soon!

Prayer

The Gift of Family

Exodus 20:12

Honor your father and your mother, that you may have a long life in the land which the Lord, your God, is giving you.

Jesus showed us how to live the Fourth Commandment. He was born into a human family and grew to adulthood through the care of Mary and Joseph. Because of the Incarnation, all family life is sacred. Parents are at the center of the family. They have the

St. Joseph School

Happy Summer!

Summer is finally here! I know many of you woke up today with your children asking, "What are we going to do today?" since the routine of going to school has been put on pause for the next few months. I hope as you begin to make your plans you take some time to celebrate and reminisce on your child's various milestones

from the past school year. Discuss their progress- both academic successes and challenges, how friendships were nurtured and repaired, and goals they have for the upcoming school year. Make a plan for summer reading to keep the momentum going. I've included an article on questions parents can ask their children about books at the end of this newsletter. The American Library Association has some great book lists for various age groups which you can find at <http://www.ala.org/alsc/publications-resources/book-lists/2018-summer-reading-list>.

When the alarm went off a half hour later than usual this morning, I was filled with gratitude for reasons beyond the extra 30 minutes of sleep. I took some time to reflect on how my life has changed over the past year. A year ago, I was filled with mixed emotions. It was difficult to say goodbye to students knowing that I wouldn't have a new class of kindergartners to welcome and teach in August. My mind raced with countless questions and a daunting to do list of things I would have to learn to help ensure a smooth transition. Fortunately, I was surrounded by a talented administrative team that has remained patient in answering every question and instrumental in providing historical data and practical advice of how to get every task done. Sr. Mary continues to be an amazing mentor and cheerleader every step of the way. Today I secretly envisioned myself doing a victory dance across a finish line, happy to have made it through year one!

It has been a year filled with learning, hard work, sacrifices, countless blessings and FUN! While I am not teaching students directly, I believe this role affords me the opportunity to make a positive impact on their lives by supporting their teachers and families. Saying "yes" to becoming the first lay principal at St. Joseph School was something I prayed about and reflected on with my family. With two young children at home there was a level of uncertainty knowing the time commitment would be a greater sacrifice. But the two people that know me best- my husband and mother, believed this opportunity would bring me great joy and help me grow in my faith and profession. I now wholeheartedly believe God placed me here 3 years ago because it was part of His plan all along.

Thank you for your support, warmth, and understanding over the past 12 months. I remain committed to the mission and philosophy of our school and will continue to work with you to ensure St. Joseph School continues to serve our community with an excellent academic program in a spirit of faith, generosity, and respect for others. I wish you all a blessed summer filled with great adventures, laughter, and relaxation!

Many blessings,
Mrs. Alamo-Ng



This is what happens when students read OVER 18,000 books in a year!

responsibility and also the privilege of caring for their children and for each other. In living the Fourth Commandment, we return to our parents the appreciation and respect that we owe them. This mutual care is what builds family relationships. Jesus' example of honoring his father and mother shows us the way.

What can I do today to strengthen relationships in my family?

How do I show honor and reverence to my parents and older family members?

(Speak to Jesus using the following prayer or one of your own.)
Thank you, Jesus, for the gift of family.
May I continue to grow in my appreciation of the sacredness of family life. Amen.
-LoyolaPress. A Jesuit Ministry
3 Minute Retreat

Reminders

***Don't forget to donate to His Hands during the summer!**

***Check your local library for summer reading programs! READ! READ!**



Mark Your Calendars...

- **Scrip Days**- Drop off your scrip orders by 9AM and pick them up later that day!
 - Tuesday, June 19th
 - Thursday, August 2nd
 - Thursday, August 16th
- **Dennis Uniform** at St. Joseph School Friday, August 3rd 12-2pm
- **Campus Clean-up Day** and **Supply Drop Off** August 25th 8am-Noon
- **First Day of School** August 28th

***Remember the school office is closed during the month of July!**

What you should ask kids instead of "Did you like it?"

By [Amy Mascott](#) on **October 27, 2014**

Often, when our kids finish a new book, our first question is "Did you like it?" or "Was it a good book?"

And our kids either answer "yep" or "nope" and that's it. We call it a day.

But I'm a firm believer in nudging our kids with questions that get them thinking—questions that require more than a simple "yes" or "no" answer. Books are a great way to open the door to conversation with our kids, and often as parents we don't capitalize on them quite enough.

So instead of asking our children the age-old questions about their books, let's mix it up a bit. Let's *really* get crazy and ask them something *different*.

Who knows where it could go. . .

Here are five questions to ask your child the next time he or she finishes a book:

1. *If you could give the book another title, what would it be?*
2. *Which characters would you like to meet in real life?*
3. *What do you wish was different about the ending?*
4. *Would the book make a cool movie? Video game? TV show?*
5. *What is one thing you could ask the author if you could talk to him or her?*

And just for kicks, asking something like,

- *What do you think the author wants readers to remember most from this book? Or . . .*
- *Was there one big lesson you took away from this book?*

Any way that we can get kids thinking in new ways about their reading is worth our time.

