



Immaculate Conception/St. Joseph Newsletter

www.boscocatholic.org

December 21, 2017

The Bosco Catholic School System provides students and families with academic, spiritual, moral, and sacramental formation so that they are prepared to be faithful disciples who are the light of Christ in the world.



Christmas Break

Christmas break is December 22-January 2. Classes resume Wednesday, Jan. 3. The school offices will be closed for the Christmas break.

Today marks the end of the First Semester. Report cards will be sent home January 4, 2018.

Lunch Account Balance

Statements of your current lunch account balance will be coming home with your youngest student today. Balances below \$10.00 should be receiving automated emails on Mondays. Balances that have dropped below \$1.00 should be receiving daily emails Monday through Friday. If you have a low balance and have not been receiving the emails please be sure that you have added district@wordwareinc.com to your contacts. Remember that when your family balance dips below -\$6.00 your child should not be served the regular hot lunch until your balance is paid.

Tax Information

If you would like your tuition or ABC payment to be credited to the 2017 calendar year, payment must be postmarked by December 31, 2017. Tax credit letters will be sent to families in January.

Paper Collection Trailer

Remember when recycling Christmas packaging - NO styrofoam, no pizza boxes, no plastic bags. Please do not leave packing styrofoam or plastic in boxes. PLEASE NO GARBAGE.

Class Composites are being sent home today.

Spelling Bee

The Waterloo Knights of Columbus will be holding a spelling bee for students in grades 4-7, on January 27 at Columbus High School.

Students interested in participating in the spelling bee may pick up entry form, rules and word list in the IC office.

Volunteer Hall of Fame Nominees

Its purpose is to honor those people who have given and sacrificed through the years to sustain Catholic education. There are many ways these wonderful people have given their time, talents, and treasures because they value and support the Catholic education. These people have offered years of service as faculty, staff personnel, or volunteers. They have gone above and beyond in giving of their time and/or helping support financially.

If you know of someone who fits this description, please provide the name of the nominee and include a letter explaining why you think this person would be an outstanding choice. A committee then votes on the nominations based on the above criteria. Nomination deadline is December 27. Please send nominations to bschares@asiowa.com.

The inductee will be recognized in January during Catholic Schools Week.

Vacation Bible School

We have a group interested in hosting a week-long IC/St. Joseph Vacation Bible School this summer for students going into PK4 through 5th grade. This would take place at the IC center. We are looking for middle school and high school students to help as well as adults. We would ask you to complete the survey at this link <https://goo.gl/forms/wzHEuHzQolRzFL8c2> if you are interested in your children participating in Bible School or your older children would like to help.

Please send all newsletter items to icsjnewsletter@boscocatholic.org by 3:00pm on Wednesday, January 3.

FIRST LEGO League News

Have you ever wondered how dehydration may affect your child? Has your child mentioned new water bottles in their classroom? Immaculate Conception School's FIRST LEGO League team has some answers for you.

Hydro Dynamics is the challenge theme for the 2017-2018 First LEGO League season. The Super LEGO Frogs, the FIRST LEGO League Team at IC, have chosen to do a project on dehydration and how it affects children at school. Through internet research, we learned that symptoms of dehydration include fatigue, lack of concentration, and headaches to name a few. For our project, we have provided water bottles to students in 2nd through 5th grade, educated them about dehydration symptoms and the importance of staying hydrated, and encouraged them to drink throughout the day. We have asked Mrs. Hickey to track the number of students who visit her office with symptoms of dehydration. We hope to find that by drinking more water, Mrs. Hickey will have fewer students visiting her with symptoms of dehydration. In addition to our research, we are proposing that three hydration stations be installed at Immaculate Conception School and one at St. Joseph School, replacing the older drinking fountains. Hydration stations are similar to drinking fountains, but also have a device to fill a water bottle. We presented this request to the Bosco Catholic System School Board and hope to present to the Facilities Committee soon. We attended the Cedar Falls Regional Qualifier on December 3 and earned a State Qualifying Award. We are excited to participate in the Championship event at Iowa State University January 14.

FIRST LEGO League introduces young people (grades 6-8), to the fun and excitement of science and technology. Children program an autonomous robot (using a LEGO® MINDSTORMS® robot set) to score points on a thematic playing surface, create innovative solutions to a problem, all while being guided by the program's signature Core Values. Students in grades 6-8 are able to participate in the FLL team at Immaculate Conception.

Please speak to one of our youth member or coaches if you have any questions. Members: Ryan McFadden, JJ McManus, Koen Bovy, Ryan Hayes, Sam Willey
Coaches: Karen Thoma, Marita Schroeder.

Don Bosco Benefit Breakfast

The St. Joseph Parish Don Bosco benefit breakfast will be held on Sunday, January 21 from 8:30 to noon at Reuter Hall, 313 E. Central St., Raymond, IA. The menu includes: scrambled eggs, sausage patties, homemade cinnamon rolls, hash browns, juice, coffee, and milk. Cost is \$7.00 for adults, \$5.00 for youth ages 5-11, children 4 and under are free. Everyone is welcome.



Sunday's Word - Nativity of the Lord, December 25

Synopsis

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and said to them: "Do not be afraid, I proclaim to you good news of great joy. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

One-Minute-Homily

- What is it about babies that moves even the coldest heart? Their innocence? Their vulnerability? The fact that their very existence is a miracle under any circumstances?
- The fact that God saves us from our sins is not the fundamental conviction of Christian faith; it is the fact that God saves us from our sins by becoming human, God-With-Us, joining the human race as an infant, wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.
- The world has often tried to confine or deny the presence of God-With-Us, but it cannot extinguish it. The Spirit lives among us, slowly but surely transforming us and the world around us into a Kingdom fit for the most vulnerable and defenseless child.
- We acknowledge this presence each time we reach out to receive the Eucharist; with our "Amen" we consent to hold it, to nurture it, to protect it and to share it.



*The Immaculate Conception-St. Joseph faculty
and staff wish a Merry Christmas to all our
students and their families.*

May you have a blessed New Year!