

St. Patrick's Shamrock

Where Faith and Knowledge Meet

<https://stpatrickismauston.com/>

February 2023



Principal's Report



Dear St Patrick families,

I hope you are staying warm during this brisk week! We had so much energy moving through the school this week, it was hard to say there was a chill in the air. We ended January with Catholic Schools Week and more fun than you can imagine. We also had our work cut out for us with other events throughout the month as well!

Catholic Schools are such a vital part in the formation of our future, and we are blessed to have the opportunity for our kids and families right here in Mauston. St. Patrick's and other Catholic schools offer an education that truly teaches the whole child: physically, emotionally, mentally, and most importantly, spiritually. We are able to work with children and give them a foundation in faith. Another unique aspect of St. Patrick's is the family input and connection that is formed. Knowing the families of St. Patrick's, I can truly say that they have a desire to grow and support children in all of these areas as well. Catholic education is a partnership between the school and home.

This year, with Catholic Schools Week, we were able to showcase the importance of family and teamwork. We had a focus on our family trees of St. Patrick's. There are some very deep roots here! The families created family trees that showcase the history of Catholic school attendance at St. Patrick's along with other Catholic schools. We had an open invite for families on Wednesday before mass with refreshments to follow in Reardon Hall. There is also a lovely display of family photos in the entryway that will be up for a bit if you would like to stop in and see it! Keeping alive the importance of faith and family is important.

We held true to other St. Patrick traditions through Catholic Schools Week as well! The dress up days and afternoons of activities had students and staff buzzing with excitement. We had students attend a movie at the Elroy Theater, snow tubing, and a visit to local community offices to share a bit of "thanks", while learning something about business and community service as well. Our students were challenged by Father John and staff in a series of volleyball games Thursday, and our Friday afternoon was filled with "Minute to Win it" challenges!

To say everyone should need a good rest this weekend would be an understatement! Also considering, our middle school brought back a time honored tradition the weekend prior! It is the first time in many years that St. Patrick's has participated in the brains tournament through the diocese! This year, training was intense and it was a learning experience for both Mrs. Whitney and the students. Our brains team represented well and battled for 3rd place! St. Patrick's was back with a bang! The students shared mass with the bishop and other students from the diocese as well. We are so very proud of our team and thankful for their dedication and hard work! Our team was led by Mrs. Whitney, who has worked so hard to bring back traditions like these to our 8th grade class. She is also not afraid to look at starting new ones either! We are blessed beyond measure here at St. Patrick's.



Principal's Report Con't

January also brought us some changes and opportunities for growth! As a staff, we were able to participate in a bit of fun and learning too. If you are not aware, our staff is pretty amazing, and they do so much for our students. One of the many things classroom teachers do is teach art class. Though this can be a fun, engaging experience sometimes it can be overwhelming to come up with lessons and ideas. On the other hand, as teachers, we also enjoy a bit of learning and fun along the way! One of those opportunities came in January with staff development in art. We were able to have fun doing some guided art and see the artist in each of us! Through the "Josephine Powers Art Fund" we were able to provide art support and team development to our staff! Thank you to those who have donated to this fund and made this event possible for our staff! It was appreciated by all. This year at the art fair you will be able to see the teachers display along with all of the items that will be shared by our students! More to come on that in the next editions of the Shamrock.

January has blessed us with a new staff member as well. As many of you know we started the year with our 4th grade teaching spot open. This created an opportunity, challenge, bridge to cross, or whatever you want to call it! The staff pulled together to make things possible for this class to work. We hired a part-time, retired teacher -Lynda Vinopal, who was a tremendous asset to the class; and we co-taught most of the semester. Lynda's time and effort are so greatly appreciated. We were also blessed with subs to help fill in when things arose- Ann Benz, Spencer Davies, Molly Demaske, Terrie Hollenbeck, and Ashley Lynch. None of this would have been possible without the team of teachers, subs, and the dedication to our students. With each turn and twist of this process, the students have remained the focus of what we need to work for. The students have shown us what it means to be resilient learners and they will finally be getting to know one classroom teacher for the remainder of the year. Mrs. Stark is joining us from the Mauston area and brings with her classroom experience from various other districts/schools. Mrs. Stark has a passion for learning, experience in various classroom settings, as well as a willingness to grow with families of St. Patrick's. She has innovative ideas to share and is also looking to promote the faith. We are so blessed to have her on board, and I hope that if you see her around that you say hello or give her a warm welcome!

January has been a month filled with growth, change, and hope for what is to come. As we look forward to the warmth of spring, we must recognize the beauty of what we have in the moment and be thankful for the many blessings and opportunities that we are granted now! God is good and provides in each moment.

Blessings,

Mrs. Ross



St. Patrick's

❖ 2023 ❖

High Honors

4.0 GPA

Eight Grade:

Carson Demaske
Eden Finucan
Landynn Miller
Weston Pouillie

Seventh Grade:

Evan Seagren

Sixth Grade:

Kaden Cook

Fifth Grade:

Nolan Klapps
Leia Kocyan

Honors

3.5-3.9 GPA

Eight Grade:

Carmen Onsager,
Hannah Hersil
Gracey Kobylski
Owen Lubinski
Hudson Randall
Johnny Tambornino
Nick Trute

Seventh Grade:

Jillian Cook, Parker Smith
Holden Eckerman, Kaden
Gottschalk, Caroline Marien

Sixth Grade:

Stella Finucan, Johnny Riley,
Reed Sommerfeldt

Fifth Grade:

Kellen Housworth, Emma Kies-
ling, Molly Randall, Cooper
Thayer, Ryleigh Vinopal

Scholastic

Recognition

3.0-3.4 GPA

Eighth Grade:

Avery Thayer

Seventh Grade:

Myah McNally, Sofia Olson,
Garett Pouillie

Sixth Grade:

Adalynn Lenorud
Evan Onsager, Mia Wang
Blaise Van Hoof

Fifth Grade:

Theron Miller
Logan Randall
Markie Seagren



Catholic Schools Week!

Monday

St. Pat's started off Catholic Schools week with Hat and Sunglasses Day and donations for the Food Pantry!



Tuesday

The coldest day of the week found our students enjoying the cold outdoors having some tubing fun at Christmas Mountain! Our littlest ones stayed a little warmer indoors at the Elroy Movie Theater!



Wednesday

Wednesday the students celebrated 'A taste of St. Patrick's' by having family members join them after morning Mass and showcasing all their past family members who have attended St. Patrick's and other catholic schools!



Thursday

Father John and the teachers had their work cutout for them playing volleyball against the students today!



Friday

Good luck to all the Minute to Win it contestants in today's final games!



Don't forget your

SCRIP!

HAPPY Valentine's Day

- ♥ Need to pick up Valentine's cards for your kids classmate's? **We have Scrip for that!**
- ♥ Need candy for your child's classroom Valentine's party? **We have Scrip for that!**
- ♥ Want to go out to a Valentine's dinner with a special someone? **We have Scrip for that!**
- ♥ Mom and Dad want a fun Valentine's Day getaway? **WE HAVE SCRIP FOR THAT!**



Take a minute to catch up on the news with the Knights of Columbus in their Knight's Compass Newsletter! Visit our website at www.stpatrickismauston.com or click the link below!

<https://stpatrickismauston.com/parish/knights-of-columbus/>

Did you know that until February 24th, **Kwik Trip** cards earn the school **9% back** instead of the usual **4%**

You're
Invited

Please join our 5th grade class and Knights of Columbus men in Reardon Hall following our 8a.m. and 10 a.m. mass on **February 19**, for a delicious **pancake breakfast** the whole family is sure to enjoy!



Congratulations!



We are so very proud to announce that our **St. Patrick's Brains Team** took 3rd place at this year's **Diocesan Brains and Brawns Tournament!**

Back row: Mrs. Whitney, Landon Miller, Weston Pouillie, Nick T, Hudson Randall, Carson Demaske

Front row: Owen Lubinski, Eden Finucan, Gracie Kobylski, Carmen Onsager, Parker Smith

Join us for the annual...

St. Patrick's Trivia Night



SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, March 11th at 6:30 pm

Join us for a casual night of fun, food, friends and TRIVIA!

Start planning your team of up to 8 and table theme now! Team registration forms will be sent home in February. Each question is answered as a team, so no one is put on the spot! It's a fun night while fundraising for our school!

-Organized by St. Patrick's Home and School Committee -

**We're all about teamwork
at St. Patrick's!**

If you haven't had a chance to watch our basketball teams yet, get yourself to their next game! These kids are not only learning and growing as a team, but increasing their winning streak with each game!

Pictured here is the St. Pat's Girls 5/6 Grade Basketball Team with coaches Cassie Thayer and Lauren Wilke



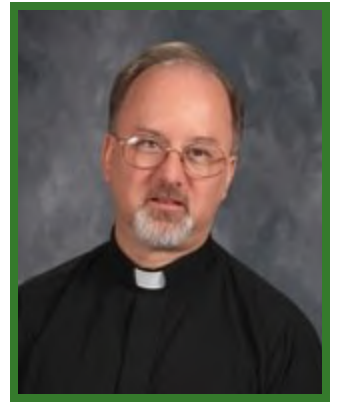
Growing our Ministry Teams

St. Patrick's Sacred Worship committee would like to express our gratitude for those parishioners who currently serve in the many important Mass ministries. We appreciate all of you!

After Masses, during the weekend of February 4 and 5, more of you will have an opportunity to sign up for the following important Mass ministry areas: lectors, servers, ushers, Eucharistic ministers, greeters, and musicians. Please prayerfully consider how you would like to serve our parish family.

**Build a team, watch a team,
join a team!**

A Word from Father



We wrap up Catholic Schools week with some fun Minute to win it games on Friday afternoon. Earlier I was able to go to each classroom and offer the St. Blaise blessing of the throat. Fun activities, serious learning and faith, a great summary of what we are doing at St. Patrick school. Catholic Schools Week is a great opportunity to thank all of our parents and benefactors that support our efforts on a regular basis. The whole sense of teamwork and family is a tone we try to set for the success of our students.

Learning happens in so many ways and each of our students grasp things at different times, yet our staff works diligently to provide avenues for their learning that expands their academic knowledge and social growth. Math, gym, music or art may not be everyone's favorite subject (I believe recess is!) but they all help round out a full education for our students. We have gotten back to where we can get out for field trips again expanding our student's ways of learning. Our second graders are preparing for the sacraments, another area of learning and experiencing the closeness of Christ. February brings us the beginning of Lent with Ash Wednesday on the 22nd. I invite you to be a part of that Mass or any of the Wednesday Masses. Thank you to all who pray and support our school.

-Fr. John

News and Upcoming Events



February

1-4: Catholic Schools Week

10: NO SCHOOL

-Teacher work day

14: Valentine's Day

18: Gala

19: KC Pancake Breakfast
(proceeds benefit 5th grade)

22: Ash Wednesday



March

3: NO SCHOOL

-Diocesan Spring Regional

10: NO Buses

11: Home & School Trivia
Night!

20-24: NO SCHOOL

-Spring Break

Shamrock Sponsors

Thank you to all our alumni members and families who are sponsoring the St. Patrick's Shamrock this year! If you know of an alumni who has a business they would like to advertise on our sponsor page please email Keilah at keilahpowers@stpatricksmauston.com

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