

St. Patrick's Shamrock

Where Faith and Knowledge Meet

<https://stpatricksmauston.com/>

March 2021



Message from the Principal

St. Patrick's School and Parish have given me a warm welcome. The students here are top-notch and so are the teachers. Perseverance is a key word in managing ourselves through this odd year and my observations are that the St. Patrick's community has held on tight to God's goodness and each other. I am grateful for all of the work put into keeping students in school, together, learning at high levels. So, what does that mean, you may ask? It means we are closely monitoring and responding to your child's individual progress



Just a quick note regarding your child's iReady test scores. Our most recent scores were analyzed during our February teacher work day. These scores gave us information regarding where students are in their thinking in two ways: 1. Their current performance level in reading and math and 2. Their tolerance for and understanding of the importance of standardized tests. The data also provides us with important information regarding what we want students to know and be able to do in two ways: 1. We want test scores to show their current level of performance to be on track to finish at or above grade level at the end of this year and 2. We want test scores to be indicative of a student's best effort.

While iReady is one measure, teachers, who are with your students daily, have other valid pieces of evidence of what your child knows and is able to do. All of the data considered, we are working collaboratively, as a TEAM to address any individual learning needs necessary to help your child succeed and grow at adequate levels. We will continue our efforts in regard to all of this and our expectations are that we will end the year with even more impressive scores. Stay tuned.

Perseverance, trust and God's blessing of a strong school community continues to guide us. I am happy to be here with this team working hard to finish strong! Thank you for sending your children to St. Patrick's.



"All of us are specialists in crucifying others to save ourselves. Jesus, instead, allowed himself to be crucified, to teach us not to shift evil onto others."

-Pope Francis



School Happenings



Ms. Larkin's 5th Graders have been proudly displaying their Mardi Gras floats they made this month!





School Happenings



We've got "Super Students" in our Pre-K Class!

Above St. Pat's Pre-K students learning the letter S, got to dress up as Super heroes!



Pre-K students had fun in their tents this week for the letter T!





Other News

We plan to begin Track practice for grades 5-8 on 4/19. However we are still looking for an additional Track Coach. Students will practice at Olsen Middle School 3 nights a week. Call the school and ask for Toni for further information, 608-847-5844



Volleyball Skills and Drills for grades 4-8 will begin 3/8. More information will be coming home with your student if they expressed interest.

The PCCW regrets to announce there will be no Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner this year. They look forward to serving you again next year!



Due to Covid-19 the Home and School Association will be unable to host their annual St. Patrick's Day Trivia Night at this time. They hope to host a separate Spring event at another time so please stay tuned!



Reminder...

There is **NO SCHOOL** on the following days...

March 12-Teacher Work Day

March 19-Diocesan Spring Regional

March 29-April 5 Spring Break/Easter Monday



Other News

Did you know that St. Patrick's School offers mid-semester enrollment right now? If you or anyone you know is ready to send their child back to in person learning, please contact the school or rectory at

847-6054 or 847-5844



The St. Patrick's Parish Holy Week Mass Schedule is as follows...

Holy Thursday -April 1st 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday– April 2nd 1:00 p.m. (Stations of the Cross)
1:30 p.m. (Service)

Holy Saturday-April 3rd 8:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday– April 4 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.



Parents keep an eye out for Walk for Virtues forms that will be going home with your children at the end of March. This year's theme is Faith! Students will be able to raise funds for the school through pledges or pizza sales this year. Weather permitting grades K-8 will have their walk on Friday, May 7. Pre-K will walk on Thursday, May 6.

Thank you for supporting our school!

Please note that Summer School Registration is open as of March 11, 2021.



On Sunday February 7th, 2021 the Solomon Juneau Council of the Knights of Columbus held its annual Free Throw contest. There were 20 contest participants. Each contestant, ages 9 through 14, boys and girls divisions, threw 15 free throws. There were 4 contests which required a run off as two in each of those groups had the same number of successful throws. Because of COVID District and State competitions will not be held. The names of council winners will be sent to the State.

In the photo below we have all the winners of each group, along with some of the Knights who ran the contest. Not shown are Steve Powers and Steve Hesprich.



Left to right in the photo:

Randy Boehm (KC Co-chair), Marisa Endreas, Caitlin Lafold, Jackson Steffel, Jacob Daniels, Tyler Hartje, Jack Vinopal, Jase Navis, Stella Finucan, Dylan Demaske, Eden Finucan, Jon Field (KC Co-chair), and Fr. John Potaczek



Dear Families,

St. Patrick's is looking into beginning an after-school Brains Practice Club. This group would be open to students 5th-7th, who are looking to learn what the Brains team is about and expand their academic knowledge. Sessions would not be required, simply come on the days you can. Participating in this club in no way would guarantee your student a spot on the upcoming year's Brains team, but it would improve their chances of qualifying for the team in October. More than enhancing our student's knowledge, this club is about building back up the excitement and camaraderie that the Brains team has brought to our middle school students for so many years.

This letter is **NOT** to inform you of the start of the Brains Club, but rather just to gain a feel for if there is any INTEREST in such a club being formed. We are asking you to fill out the bottom of this sheet and return it with your student, letting us know if this program would be of any value to your family.

We understand you and your child(ren) live busy lives as it is and adding one more thing on the extra-curricular to-do list is the last thing you'd like to do. You, as parents, chose St. Pat's for a reason though. Not necessarily because we turn out top NBA recruits or the next Aaron Rodgers, but because of the academic excellence we strive to instill in our graduates. This is one of those moments in life where you get to decide what are your lifelong hopes for your child and help to guide them toward that path.

Student(s) Name(s): _____

YES, my child(ren) would be interested in attending Brains sessions when available _____

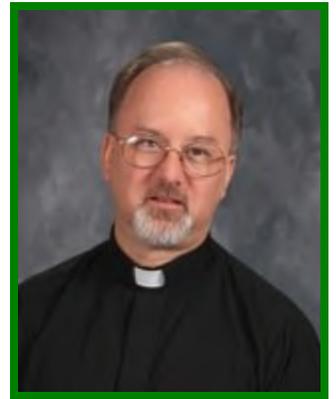
NO, this group does not interest my student(s), at this time _____

Please give me additional information on _____

A Word from Father

Often in the Lenten season the question we ask or get asked is “what are you giving up for Lent?” Each of us looks at what we want to give up or add to our spiritual exercises. But we often point out that at St. Patrick’s school and parish, we are a family. So maybe we can look at that again and consider what as a family at home can we do for Lent? Not just what, but “Why?” Is what we are doing bring us closer to Jesus? Helping us be more merciful, kind or patient? We all see the need for conversion since none of us are perfect. We fall short of being the person we want to be and the person God wants us to be. But God is good and gives us a way to get back on the straight and narrow. We are blessed to have the sacrament of Reconciliation. Our parish Communal Penance Service is March 25th at 7 pm. What are you giving up for Lent? How about our sins and taking on the Lord’s love and mercy!

-Fr. John



Once again this year, we will be having the “**200 Envelopes**” fundraiser during Lent. The money raised this year will be used toward our “**School Boiler Replacement Project**”. Please help out by taking one (or two) of the **purple envelopes** hanging on the board in the gathering area of church and returning them with your donation before Easter.

This year, there will also be two on-line options for making your donations:

Please go to: **stp200envelopes.ggo.bid** to make a donation.



Or use our on-line giving option on our website using this link:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/st401183>

Thank you for supporting our parish and school!