

SAINTS WEEKLY NEWS



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Saint Wenceslaus Catholic School

Weekly Office Update



From the Office of the Principal ...

Dear Parents, Grandparents, and Friends of SWS;

This is a very big and important week. The Starry Night is the event of the year. It brings in the most money for our school budget and it also brings in the money for the annual fund-a-need request that has been used to turn SWS into a STEM school. This evening is a fun night out for all of our 300 adult guests who are treated to wonderful appetizers and an enormous dinner, served specialized drinks, listen to great music, and have a whole lot of fun bidding on some really great items. This is a social time where people of our greater community, our parish and our school come together to enjoy, meet new friends, and just have a fun time.

We are so fortunate to have so many people who are working to make this night an awesome experience. We have many volunteers who are led by some highly capable and creative leaders that serve on the auction committee. A special heart-felt thank you to everyone who is making this night possible, a night that truly benefits the children of our school.

See this year's Fund-A-Need Request on page 2



Early Catholic Family Life (ECFL) Starts this week!

This is a new program for families who want to learn ways to help create a Catholic home through hands-on activities and discussion with an intentional Catholic perspective.

St. Wenceslaus' ECFL is offered 9am - 11am on Saturdays, April 14th - May 5th. Cost is \$35/family. This program is for parents and their children ages 0-5.

To learn more, call 952-758-3133 or e-mail

info@swsaints.org

The first session is on Saturday.



Calendar of Events:

- Tues., April 10 - 6:00 PM Home and School Assoc. meeting
- Wed., April 11 - 8:00 School Mass (Gr. 3 plans)
- Sat., April 14 - Starry Night Event 5:00 PM - Midnight**
- Mon., April 16 - School Advisory Meeting 6:30 PM
- Wed., April 18 - 8:00 School Mass (Gr. 7 plans)
- Thurs., April 19 - Gr. 6 trip to State Capitol/JJ Hill House
- Thurs., April 19 - Gr. 7/8 trip to Second Harvest to work
- Sat. April 21 - STEM Big Bang Fair 8:30-1:30 at Holy Family Catholic High School**
- Mon., April 23 - Staff Appreciation Week begins
- Wed., April 25 - 8:00 School Mass (Gr. 1 plans)
- Fri., April 27 - PreK trip to Como Zoo
- Wed., May 2 - 8:00 School Mass (Kindergarten plans)
- Thurs., May 3 - Special Guest Day - Pre - 8**
- Thurs., May 3 - Spring Concert 1:00 and 6:30 PM**
- Fri., May 4 - Special Guest Day for Pre-K**
- Wed., May 9 - 8:00 School Mass (Gr. 2 plans/1st communion celebration of entire class)
- Wed., May 9 - Thurs., May 10 - 8th gr. Retreat
- Thurs., May 10 - Gr. K-2 Trip to MN Zoo
- Fri., May 11 - 4th grade leaders presentations-1:00PM
- Mon., May 14 - K-8 Filed Day
- Tues., May 15 - Field day alternative
- Tues., May 15 - Home and School year end meeting
- Wed., May 16 - Preschool Graduation at 8:00 Mass
- Fr. May 18 - Gr. 3 trip to Mala Strana
- Mon., May 21 - School Advisory Meeting 6:30 PM
- Tues., May 22 - Gr. 5/6 to Grand Slam
- Tues., May 7 - Gr. 7 to Gymnastics Studio
- Tues., May 22 - Gr. 8 to Valley Fair
- Wed., May 23 - Gr. 8 Graduation-6:30 PM
- Thurs., May 24 - 8:00 School Mass and year end picnic
- Thurs., May 24 - Last day of school

Big Bang STEM Fair

This event is open to all school families. Come to see the winning STEM displays from many of the Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese. SWS will be sending 6 winning projects. The fair takes place at Holy Family Catholic High School in Victoria on Saturday, April 21 from 8:30-1:30. Please come to look at all the great projects.

Our School Mission Statement

St. Wenceslaus School is a family centered faith community committed to the intellectual and spiritual formation of our students. We provide a high quality academic program that builds leadership and self-confidence while nurturing a loving relationship with God and encouraging service to others.

Fund-A-Need 2018
STEM to The Next Level

The infusion of STEM philosophies and techniques into our curriculum has been an amazing transformation in academic excellence for SWS. STEM teaches students to work collaboratively, think critically, communicate clearly, and design creatively. STEM students become problem solvers and inventors as they work to find solutions to challenging tasks. Our students are learning to work in a new frame of mind. We see them achieving at higher levels. This chart can show you the difference.

GROWTH MIND SET WITH C-STEM

Instead of thinking this.....

I'm not good at this.
I give up.
It's good enough.
I can't make this any better.
This is too hard.
I made a mistake.
I just can't do this.
I'll never be that smart.
Plan A didn't work.
My friend can do it.

SWS students are learning to think this way....

What am I missing?
I'll use a different strategy.
Is this really my best work?
I can always improve.
This may take some time.
Mistakes help me to learn
I'm going to train my brain.
I will learn how to do this.
There is always Plan B.
I will learn from them.

Our 2018 Goal: Take our STEM school to the NEXT LEVEL.

- Integrate more complex STEM initiatives around engineering, design, programming, and problem solving.
Funding Target: \$10,000
- Enhance curriculum in self-expression, communication, public speaking, and personal confidence. Develop media, visual arts, performing arts, photography, and broadcasting skills.
Funding Target: \$5,000
- Ongoing education for SWS staff for advanced STEM teaching.
Funding Target: \$5,000
- Enable advanced STEM techniques with the latest technology. Expand the scope of our STEM program to every classroom at SWS with technology designed to advance teaching methods.
Funding Target: \$9,000 per classroom set.

Special Guest Day
Thursday, May 3 - 9:00 AM

Students can have as many adult guests as they wish. Please share this with the people who might want to come!

9:00 - Living Rosary - Meet school children in Church
9:30-11:30 Visit classrooms
11:30-12:30 Lunch at school - Cost \$4.00 per adult
1:00 - Spring Concert

Sign-up sheets are attached for special guests to attend.

NWEA testing

Students in K-8 will be doing the spring NWEA testing beginning on April 23. These tests are done within the classrooms and in the computer lab. Each class spends about 1-2 hours on Math, reading, and writing over the course of 2 weeks. Tests help the school see the strengths and the areas in which we need to improve our program.

MVEC Energy Challenge Sign up
Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative

<https://www.mvec.net/our-community/challenge/sign-up/>

Join the SWS if you have MN Valley Electric in your home. This will give our school a chance for a winning grant.

First Communion

In the next couple of weeks the 2nd grade students will be receiving their First Communion. This is a very special time for them and we are proud to have them be able to more fully participate in the Mass with the rest of the Church. They will receive this sacrament at one of the weekend Masses with their families. The school will host a special Mass where we will celebrate with them being a part of the faith community of the school. That will be held on Wednesday, May 9 at our 8:00 am Mass.

