



NEW RICHMOND, WISCONSIN

SUMMER 2019

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

## Change is Everywhere

With the start of the new school year there have been some new changes in and around the school. Both inside and out has seen many upgrades and additions over the summer. In early June new cement was poured outside of the playground door to help drain water away from the school.

In August the front flower bed was removed and grass was seeded around the flagpole. Installation of a new sign occurred just prior to the first day of school along with a rather large load of wood chips being purchased and spread in the playground area. The south entrance received a new banner and an updated billboard was put up on the south side of town near the Casey Strawberry farm. All of these improvements were with the help of grandparents, parents, students, and alumni who volunteered their time and talents to make these improvements possible.

Inside the school also saw changes with an upstairs classroom being

sound proofed so that noise from the gym would not disturb learning. Additional work was also done in the back stairwell where settling of the building had occurred and a crack needed to be repaired.

The final change that occurred this summer was the addition of Mrs. Kat Clobes as the 6th grade homeroom and middle school math teacher. Mrs. Clobes holds a masters in Elementary Education and lives with her husband in New Richmond. We are very excited to have her join the St. Mary School family.



### Upcoming Events:

- September 15  
Catechetical Sunday
- September 23  
Professional Learning Day ~ No School
- September 30 ~ October 2  
WRISA Accreditation Site Visit
- October 2  
Pet Blessing
- October 12  
Marathon It
- October 21  
Professional Learning Day ~ No School
- October 23  
Grandparents' Day
- October 25  
Diocese of Superior Fall Conference ~ No School
- November 7  
Veterans' Day Assembly

**MISSION:** St. Mary School serves the parishes of Immaculate Conception Church of the Blessed Virgin, St. Patrick's of Erin Prairie, the New Richmond community, and the surrounding areas. St. Mary School exists to pass on the values and teachings of the Roman Catholic Church and is open to all families of faith who accept the philosophies and mission of St. Mary School.

St. Mary School students, preschool through eighth grade, **grow in knowledge** through having their needs and abilities met by nurturing and compassionate staff. Students grow in faith by having God placed in the center of learning. Dedicated staff are devoted to students realizing their potential as God's children. All are welcome to **follow in faith** as members of God's kingdom.

Our mission call us as teachers, parishioners, parents, and student to **serve in harmony** by being active members of our communities and promoting Catholic values through civic responsibility, charity, leadership, peace, and tolerance.



## Life Long Learners

*“Once you stop learning, you start dying.” ~Albert Einstein*

St. Mary School teachers have been very busy this summer continuing their life-long learning. Teachers read two books this summer: *The Power of Our Words* from the Center of Responsive Classrooms and *In Other Words, Phrases for Growth Mindset* by Annie Brock and Heather Hundley. Words are powerful, and the staff is always looking for ways to better serve the students in all their needs. How something is stated can change the meaning and reception of those words.

Teachers also attended a Northwest Evaluation Association training on MAP (Measurement of Academic Progress) testing results and reports. This workshop is designed to help

teachers identify areas of concern or acceleration and then individualize the instruction for each student. Teachers were amazed at the information that was shared and all of the ways it can be used to help students grow academically through the year.

Just before the start of the school year, all faculty and staff joined with the other three parishes with schools in St. Croix County and participated in a rejuvenating retreat. Along with our minds, we must also nurture our faith.



## Alumni:

### Kendra Mitchell

I attended UW-Stout and received a degree in Business Administration with a Minor in Human Resources. After college I worked a couple years in the HR field before accepting the position as Catholic Formation Coordinator for grades 6-9/Youth Minister at Immaculate Conception and St. Patrick Parish in October 2016. The foundation of faith and importance of community that was instilled at home with my family, and even more through my attendance at St. Mary School, grounds me in every step of life. Through high school, college, and my young adult years I have continued to live out our faith driven call to mission through service, leadership, and involvement in community. St. Mary School also taught me many practical life skills helpful to living a healthy and happy life. I am always amazed to look back at my life's journey and see how one thing lead to the next. I praise God each day for the blessings He provides – although the journey is not always easy and may not be clear – life continues to be filled with blessings better than I can ever imagine. I am so grateful to serve the school and parish community that helped me get to where I am now, in pursuit of being the person God created me to be!



*Dear Lord,  
Please grant our  
students and faculty a  
warm and friendly  
school year. Help them  
to grow in knowledge  
but also kindness and  
grace. Help them to  
follow in faith as Your  
word is the greatest of  
all. Help them to serve  
in harmony with loving  
hearts to those around  
them. In Jesus' name we  
pray.*

*Amen.*

## First Day of School

### What are you most excited for this year?

Math Class ~Cameron 4th grade

Being a mentor in the Little Buddies Program. ~Piper 4th grade

To be able to see Mrs. Olson again every day. ~Ada 1st grade

To have recess with the upstairs kids. ~Gwen 3rd grade

RECESS! ~ Lewis 2nd grade

To watch my students become better readers. ~Mrs. Engelhart 1st grade

The 7th & 8th grade trip to South Dakota. ~Mary 8th grade



## Welcome Back Picnic

A good time was had by all at the 3rd Annual Welcome Back Picnic.

Students had fun playing the fishing game where they could win prizes such as candy, freeze pops, play dough, and non-uniform days while the parents tried their hand at the bean bag games.

Everyone enjoyed a wonderful dinner together of hotdogs and a very large table of potluck offerings. It was a feast of epic portions! Rumor has it that many passed on breakfast the next morning because they were still too full from the dinner.

Entertainment was provided by musician Steve Mireau of New Richmond. Steve is an inspiration in overcoming personal tragedy. After a terrible accident Steve fought to overcome injuries and uses the talents that God bestowed on him to further his career as a musician and artist.



First Day of School smiles



New sign out front was installed by a group of volunteers in August

## Bearing Witness Institute

Jennifer Struss, our middle school Language Arts teacher, was chosen from educators across the country to participate in the Eileen Ludwig Greenland National Bearing Witness Summer Institute. The institute is a week long seminar for Catholic school educators on anti-Semitism, the Holocaust, and contemporary issues.

This unique professional development opportunity is designed to provide Catholic school educators with the training and resources necessary to teach their students about the historical relationship between Jewish and Catholic communities, and the impact of that relationship of Catholic teaching, catechesis, and liturgy. This intensive five-day study covers topics and practical strategies about the Holocaust, changes in Catholic teaching on Jews

and Judaism, the history of anti-Semitism, and modern day anti-Semitism. Through this program over 2,000 Catholic school educators have been trained impacting more than 270,000 students nationwide.

Mrs. Struss is ready and excited to share with her students all that she learned during her week in Washington D.C.



10 lucky students fished out a non-uniform day as a prize at the picnic



Food, fun, and friends were all on the menu at the Welcome Back Picnic



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Building Improvements

### St. Mary School

**Pastor:**

Rev. John Anderson

**Principal:**

Mrs. Laura Jo Jarchow

## A Note From the Principal

### Dear Graduates, Parents, Supporters, and Friends,

Once again the halls are filled with student voices and smiles; the excitement of the first week of school still amazes me after all of these years. As I begin my fifth year as principal at St. Mary School, I am excited to announce that our enrollment is at a 10 year high. We have a kindergarten class of 20 students and 11 new students in grades 1st, 4th, 5th, 6th, & 7th. We have a total of 185 students in the building this year.

With the close of the 2018-2019 fiscal year the school is happy to report that it finished the year with a surplus in the budget. The surplus was used to make some repairs to the building with the remaining funds being deposited into savings and the endowment fund. Being fiscally responsible and saving for the future are top priorities to me as an administrator. We must plan for the future generations of students.

During the last week of September St. Mary School will have its WRISA (Wisconsin Religious and Independent School Association) site visit. This visit is the first step in renewing the school's accreditation. Every seven years a team visits and audits the school practices to ensure that the quality of education being offered is of the highest standard. I will share the team's report in an upcoming newsletter.

Blessings,

Mrs. J.

