

# St. Mary's Catholic School Spring Newsletter, 2023



## Philosophy Statement

As a facility in the Grand Island Diocese, we are dedicated to making our school identifiably CATHOLIC in philosophy, teacher performance, curriculum choice, and community spirit. We provide an education, in which values of love, justice, and mercy are exhibited, to aim for EXCELLENCE in religious and academic areas, to develop the whole child physically, spiritually, mentally, and morally. Supportive relationships between teachers and parents are fostered for the welfare of the children and to create an awareness of the part that children play as members of the larger community.

## Mission Statement

St. Mary's School, under the patronage and guidance of our Blessed Mother, will strive to love and serve Jesus Christ. Through excellence in academics, spiritual growth and positive attitude towards all, we encourage and empower students to become great in the eyes of God. To be sanctuaries of Christ and witness to the truth and teachings of the Catholic Church.

## Activities

St. Mary's students and staff have been involved in many activities throughout the year. They spent a day at a pumpkin patch. Students attended several cultural activities at the Golden Husk. They participated in fire safety month at the Ord Fire Department. Students enjoyed an entire week of activities centered around Catholic Education during Catholic Schools Week. Winter and Spring programs featured wonderful singing and talented recorder music. Spring field trips included visits to Fort Kearney Expo, Stuhr Museum, Elyria Gardens, Ord FFA petting zoo, and several local businesses. May crowning and the track meet brought the year to an exciting close.

## Service

One unique aspect of a St. Mary's education are the opportunities for the students to learn about service to the community, parish, school, and each other. Students visited Grandview numerous times throughout the year. They decorated pumpkins, built snowmen, sang to the residents, made May baskets, and sent them cards. Students served as song leaders, readers, and altar servers for weekly Mass and on Holy Days. Students in all grades helped with a schoolyard clean-up this spring, picking up sticks and trash, and moving rocks. Their favorite thing to do was pair up older students and younger students. Older student had the honor of guiding younger students in new situations, teaching them how to sit quietly and use hymnals in church, and reading books together.

## Academics

Each year students are tested to gauge their academic progress using the NWEA MAPS. They are tested during the Fall, Winter, and Spring. The scores below show the Spring results.

Grade	# of Students	Average RIT Scores (St. Mary's/State):			
		Math	Reading	Language	Science
Kindergarten	12	159/157	156.6/153	-	-
1 <sup>st</sup>	6	176.8/176	173.7/171	-	-
2 <sup>nd</sup>	3	(No results)	184.3/186	191/188	-
3 <sup>rd</sup>	3	183.7/201	191/197	193/198	190/196
4 <sup>th</sup>	3	197/211	196.7/205	203.7/205	200.7/201
5 <sup>th</sup>	6	196.3/219	200.5/211	199.3/210	197.5/206
6 <sup>th</sup>	6	213.5/223	216.5/215	213.7/214	209.3/208



