

St. Francis Elementary

December 2019

St. Francis Elementary will be collecting canned goods and non-perishable foods to donate to the food pantry throughout the month of December. If able, please send any items to school and place them in the boxes



under the Christmas tree in the front hallway. This is a perfect way to give back during the holiday season!



The winter months are among us. Please be sure students are dressed appropriately. We will attempt to go outside for recess daily. This means your children need to wear warm coats, have hats and gloves, and if needed, snow boots.

Please regularly check the weather and send your children appropriately clothed. Thank you!



MTSS update

We are in full swing with our MTSS implementation and our students continue to amaze us with their growth each day. All interventionists have been tailoring instruction to meet as many individual needs as possible. Some students need a little extra time and some are soaring above and beyond. We will be doing Winter Fastbridge screening beginning December 3. This will give us more insight regarding how we can better meet our students' needs. The screener results will be sent home with your student's second quarter report card.



GOOD ATTENDANCE FOR SUCCESS

Every Minute
in School Counts



Fifth Grade Helps at the Thrift Store

By: Dailey Rose & Maci Workman

All of the fifth graders, plus three fourth graders, got to go to the thrift store to help Mrs. Smull and Mrs. Burr. It was really fun! Some of the boxes were heavy and some were light. Some also were breakable, so we had to be careful taking them up and down the stairs. It was a lot of work. We carried like 100-250 boxes! Everybody upstairs put on Santa hats and acted like they were Santa's elves. That was a lot of fun! When we left we took a picture and got a piece of candy.

We want to thank Mrs. Smull and Mrs. Burr for letting us come!



Sign up to receive important updates from St. Francis Elementary. Please contact your child's teacher or Miss Raile if you have questions.

Get information for St Francis Elementary School right on your phone—not on handouts.

Pick a way to receive messages for St Francis Elementary School:

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/draile

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message [draile](mailto:draile@stfrancis.edu) to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting [draile](mailto:draile@stfrancis.edu) to (908) 793-0103.

* Standard text message rates apply.

Due to allergies, please do not bring nuts/peanuts (or any foods that contain them) into the USD 297 schools.



Cooking with Karen Jones

By: Gus Gardner & Zane Jensen

This month 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students participated in a cooking activity called "Cooking with Karen". In this activity, 3rd and 4th grade learned about nutrition. 5th grade learned about the four steps of keeping our food safe. In "Cooking with Karen", students first learn a lesson related to nutrition or healthy eating. After this, they start cooking a healthy snack. The 3rd and 4th grade learned how to make salsa. The 5th grade learned how to make vegetable and sausage skillet. This was a fun experience for all of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students!

We would like to extend a big thank you to Ms. Karen and Mrs. Loretta for letting us use her kitchen!

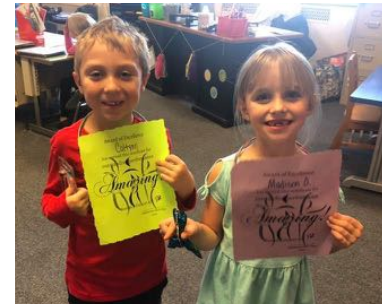


December 2019

December Classroom in the Spotlight

Lots of learning has been happening in First grade for the past four months! We have started reading CVVC words, words with blends & digraphs, writing friendly letters to people around us, exploring measurements, and learning how to correctly use a ruler.

Last month, we were able to go to Subway to make our own sandwiches. The students were encouraged to try something new and different. This month our field trip will be to the Post Office to see how mail gets from one place to another, as well as mail our letters to Santa.



1st Grade



Don't forget Christmas Tea on Wednesday, December 18, at the Assisted Living Facility. Class

pictures will also be taken this day. Wear your Christmas best! Picture forms will be sent home and will be due on December 13. 5x7 pictures will be available for \$5 each.



Tips for a Healthy

CHEERIES

Don't get sick during the holidays. Remember to wash your hands for 20 seconds. Just sing one chorus of jingle bells while you wash.



A good way to get on Santa's Nice list is to eat your fruits and veggies!





Do you know the hidden value of your child's homework?

Homework gives your child an opportunity to practice the skills he/she is learning in school. But did you know that it also teaches important life lessons?

When your child completes homework on his/her own, he/she learns:

- ❑ **Responsibility.** Your child learns the importance of fulfilling his/her obligations. He/She also learns to hold himself/herself accountable for his/her mistakes and successes.
- ❑ **Initiative.** Homework can help your child learn how to be self-motivated. When he/she chooses to complete writing assignments a few days before they are due, he/she is showing initiative.
- ❑ **Perseverance.** Most parents want to protect their children from frustration. However, making your child's life easier now may make it harder in the future. When your child sticks with a tough assignment and refuses to give up, he/she is showing perseverance.
- ❑ **Time management.** The ability to manage his/her time in order to get her homework finished is one of the most valuable skills your child can learn.

*Parents make the difference! November 2016



INCLEMENT WEATHER

Occasionally, the weather dictates the school's schedule. In that event, many of the school's operations are affected causing logistical challenges for parents, students, and school staff. Over the years, the school has adopted the use of various media to inform parents and students of these changes.

If any change is made to the schedule of the school day or to events that had been scheduled for that day, the school will immediately publicize those changes. Parents will be officially notified through the following media.

- ✓ Indian News – 785-332-8111
- ✓ Remind Notice
- ✓ Area TV and radio stations
- ✓ St. Francis Community Junior/Senior High School Facebook page.



Do you like not having to cook supper? Better yet, do you like not having to worry about those dirty dishes? Do you like prizes and gifts? Do you enjoy **FREE** books? Do you like to enjoy an evening of fun with your family?

If you have answered **YES** to any of these questions, then the L.I.F.E. Program is for your family!

We would like to invite you to join us for our L.I.F.E. Spring Unit 2020!

SPRING DATES:

January 21st & 27th

February 4th, 11th, 25th

March 3rd

How do I sign my family up?!

Sign up either way and Miss Kattie will send home a confirmation letter. **DEADLINE TO SIGN UP IS DECEMBER 11th!**

Contact Kattie Aldaco

Email: kaldaco@usd297.org

Phone: 785-332-9494

Text with your name to: 620-290-3871

---Text only---



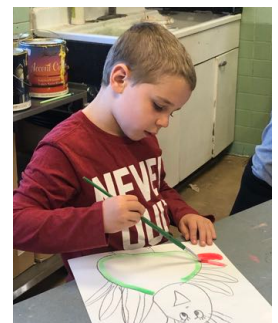
December 2019



December



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 "The Fabulous Chinese Acrobats" 3 rd Grade Sings at Senior Center	3	4 2-hour late start Teacher Inservice	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Christmas Tea at the Assisted Living Facility Class Pictures	19 End of 1 st Semester	20 No School Teacher Inservice	21
22	23 No School	24 No School	25 No School Merry Christmas	26 No School	27 No School	28
29	30 No School	31 No School	School Resumes on Monday, January 6			



If your child is going to be absent any day for any length of time, please communicate with your child's teacher and the front office ahead of time!