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# St. Francis Elementary School

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September 2025



## **A NOTE FROM** THE PRINCIPAL

It's September! Where did the month of August go? It's been an active start to the school year and it's fun to already see how much your children are learning. Last year, I felt like everything was so new that I really didn't take the time to grasp all that was happening. This year, I feel like I'm more engaged with what is happening within the classrooms and have really enjoyed watching what the students and teachers are both doing.

As a reminder, the spring assessment scores have not been released yet. As soon as we receive them, we will review them and then will make sure you receive them during Parent-Teacher conferences in October. We have been completing some internal tests in Math and Reading to see how we can better help with student growth. Targeting weak areas allow us to really focus on what they are struggling with to hopefully give them the information they need to excel.

We have some new teachers in the building and I hope you have seen them around. I have taken the time to share a little bit about them later in this newsletter. Please make sure if you see them out and about you encourage them as much as they are encouraging your children.

This year, I took a page from a colleague in Oberlin who has incorporated what she calls "Wellness Wednesday" where she encourages her staff and students to be more active on Wednesdays, doing at least 15 minutes of active movement. You maybe have seen Mrs. Ehresman taking the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students on a two block jog with some station work occasionally for stretching, push ups, etc. I get to witness lunges in the hallway, arm circles while walking, as well as more active brain breaks. Obviously, wellness encompasses not only fitness, but eating and mental health. Throughout this year, there will be more focus on those two items, especially on Wednesdays.

As we move forth throughout September, please be mindful of trying to really enforce routines and habits. Several of the teachers have been sending home some homework, so please assist your child in remembering to complete it and return it the next day. Also, reading with your child is instrumental in their learning. Please spend time reading with them everyday. It's amazing to see how much they grow in a month's time!

Let's partner together for a fabulous, fun year of education. We look forward to having you work with us!

*-Susan Drupel*



September 1 - No School  
(Labor Day)

September 8 - No School  
(Teacher In-Service)

September 22 - 1st Day of Fall

# Important DATES

Monday: Pajama Day  
Tuesday: Hat Day  
Wednesday: Workout Wear  
Thursday: Favorite Color  
Friday: Green/Gold Day

# Homecoming ACTIVITIES

# Teachers NEW



2nd Grade: Arely Ramirez

Mrs. Ramirez comes to us from Head Start, where she worked for the last several years.

Mrs. Ramirez loves chocolate, chips/nuts, and chips with hot sauce. Her birthday is January 4<sup>th</sup> and she loves to listen to music. She would love to travel the world and her favorite shopping spot is Amazon. She also loves the colors purple and black and enjoys tiramisu for dessert. Her personal motto is to treat others like you want to be treated.

Enjoy your year, Mrs. Ramirez!



5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Addie Ehresman

You may not recognize the last name, but without a doubt, you should recognize Mrs. Ehresman. She is a SFCITS graduate with 2 parents who likely taught you. If you are struggling to figure it out still, her maiden name was Swihart. Her birthday is April 5.

Mrs. Ehresman loves ice cream, dark chocolate pretzels/raisins, chips and salsa, and loves the colors pink, blue, and yellow. Her favorite dessert is a white chocolate raspberry cake and she enjoys shopping at Amazon. Her motto is the more the merrier. Her dream vacation has her going somewhere with mountains and a lake!

Thankful you are here, Mrs. Ehresman!



3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: Kourtney Finley

Kourtney grew up in Colby, KS. Many of you may know her - her grandma is Ilene O'Leary and her boyfriend happens to be 2019 SFCITS graduate, Jordan Raby. Miss Finley is a recent graduate of Kansas State University and will be celebrating her birthday on September 27.

Some of Miss Finley's favorites are Diamond R Corn Nuggets, snickers bars, pretzels & pickles, sweatshirts, and Dr. Pepper. She loves yellow and gold, and her favorite dessert is a good ol' brownie. Her motto is to Be the Light. Miss Finley feels like her happy place is anywhere with a beach.

We are excited to have you here, Miss Finley!





# Photographs

## FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL









