



*St. Joseph Catholic School
Educating the mind, body and spirit since 1894
Elementary Weekly Bulletin
August 21 – August 25, 2017*

*St. Joseph Catholic School was established to provide a Christian Environment for students, staff and faculty alike that promotes both excellence in education and a spiritual faith formation. As a pastoral instrument of the Church, we intend to respond to the needs of the whole person and to support the spiritual, intellectual, physical and social development of each student. It is also our intention to challenge the students to work to the best of their abilities and to live as Christian examples of faith to one another and to the extended community. We will strive to explore and initiate innovations in education and our faith which will prepare the students to take their place as leaders in a changing and challenging society. *St. Joseph Mission Statement**

Greetings!

What a great first week of school! I am so proud of our students with how well they have transitioned into the new school year.

At St. Joseph Catholic School, we believe communication between the school and community is crucial to making our students successful. This is the Elementary Weekly Bulletin that will detail any announcements and events that are taking place the upcoming week. Please look for this bulletin every Friday afternoon to be sent to your email address on file.

Announcements:

Preparing for the Partial Eclipse – Please see my letter attached to this bulletin.

Ethics Integrity Ministry (EIM) – If you plan on chaperoning any field trip, it is a diocesan requirement that all volunteers must be EIM certified. Here is the link to register for a class <http://www.austindiocese.org/offices-ministries/offices/ethics-and-integrity-ministry-office/eim-workshops>. The two upcoming workshops are Catholic St. Mary's in Caldwell on August 20 at 6pm and Catholic Charities in Bryan on August 22 from 1:30-3:30.

Car Line Drop/Pickup – Please refrain from getting out of your car while you are in the car line for drop off and pick up. A teacher will assist your child in and out of your vehicle. This is to ensure safety and to keep the line running smoothly. Thank you for your assistance.

Kickoff Pep Rally – St. Joseph School will have its Kick Off Pep Rally on **Wednesday, August 23th at 6pm at the secondary campus gym** located off of Coulter street. This is an opportunity to introduce the junior high and high school Football, Volleyball, and Cross country.

Yearbook School Pictures – We will have yearbook pictures on **Thursday, August 24th**. Students in grades K-5, will be dressed in their mass uniforms.

Grandparent's Day - Grandparent's Day will be on Friday, **September 8th!** All grandparents are welcome to come eat lunch with their grandchildren. We will be serving fried fish, green beans, macaroni & cheese. The cost for one adult lunch is **\$6.00. We can only honor requests that are made on or before September 3th to Mrs. Shaw in the front office.**

FISH Program - The start of another school year brings us many opportunities to volunteer for the school. You can apply those hours towards your Family Involvement and Service Hours (FISH). As a reminder, the Volunteer FISH Program provides opportunities for parents to work together to build a strong community spirit at St. Joseph Catholic School. **All K-5th grade parents are required to complete 10 hours of service for the school year.** If you have multiple children, you are required to complete the older child's service requirement. It is important to us to have all our families involved with service along with the opportunity to help us to build our community into one of constant service for others. If your family chooses not to provide fish hours, you will be charged \$12.50 per hour. All hours are due on or before the end of the school year. Students of parents/families not fulfilling their FISH requirements (hours or payment) by that time will not receive their school transcript for the 2017/2018 year.

To submit your hours, email fish@stjosephbcs.org, and in the body of the email please include a concise description along with the number of hours volunteered.

Remember, in order for hours to be applied towards your balance, the hours must be used in service of St. Joseph Catholic School.

REMINDERS:

Lunch Program – Lunch must be ordered on Renweb by Sunday(midnight) for the upcoming week. The menu on Renweb, will detail what items can be ordered each day. Please understand that we **CANNOT** provide a lunch for a student that was not ordered by Sunday(midnight) before the upcoming week.

Payments for lunch – You can pay for lunches by check or cash with the front office. If you wish to pay by credit card, go to our school website at www.stjosephschoolbcs.org, click on the PARENTS tab, and then click on PAYMENTS. Follow the directions provided carefully. Please keep in mind there is a fixed convenience fee for each credit card transaction. Each family has one account for all family members, so one payment takes care of multiple students.

Daily Schedule

Monday, August 21

- Uniform – non dress uniform
- JH Volleyball @ Brazos Christian – white 5pm and gold 6pm
- HS Volleyball @ Woodlands Christian – JV 5pm and Varsity 6pm

Tuesday, August 22 (Mass)

- Uniform – **dress uniform**

Wednesday, August 23

- Uniform – non dress uniform

Thursday, August 24 (Mass)

- Uniform – **dress uniform**
- JH Volleyball vs. Allen Academy – purple 4pm white 5pm and gold 6pm
- HS Volleyball @ Trinity Tournament - TBA

Friday, August 25

- Uniform – non dress uniform
- HS Volleyball @ Trinity Tournament – TBA
- HS Football @ Tomball Christian (scrimmage) - TBA

Blessings,

Jim Rike

*Please remember St. Joseph Catholic School in your prayers, your service, and your gifts. Call us for the many ways you can support Catholic Education now and in the future.
St. Joseph – Pray for us!*

Preparing for Partial Solar Eclipse Experience

Greetings,

As you know, a partial solar eclipse will take place on Monday, August 21st throughout the state of Texas, beginning around 11:41AM and will peak around 1:10PM. This is an incredible learning opportunity in which St. Joseph Catholic School is preparing our students for an educational, fulfilling and safe experience.

Risk Factor:

The only safe way to look at an uneclipsed or partially eclipsed sun is by using solar glasses or hand-held solar viewer. Eyewear must be dark enough so light can't pass through; if not, you can damage your eyes. According to NASA, "if you stare at the partially eclipsed sun for a length of time, even up to 20-30 seconds, you could definitely burn your retina leaving a blind spot that can't be corrected."

School Participation and Safety Precautions:

To ensure the safety of the students and a fulfilling experience, the school will conduct the following activities which are aligned with NASA's safety recommendations:

- Elementary students will watch a live broadcast in the classrooms. Teachers will provide information and engage in conversations about uneclipsed or partially eclipsed sun. We feel that it is in the best interest of the students' safety to keep them indoors during 11:41AM and 2PM, so that they are not tempted to look directly at the partially eclipsed sun.
- We will have several administrators and teachers guiding the students when they pass through the courtyard on their way to lunch, to ensure the students move quickly and efficiently limiting the temptation to look directly at the sun. Students will not be allowed to sit outside during lunch on this day.
- Junior and High School students will watch a live broadcast in the classrooms. More in-depth lessons and conversations will be conducted by the science teachers during class. During 5th and 6th periods, the junior high and high school students will be allowed to conduct several controlled and heavily monitored experiments to study the partially eclipsed sun that will not involve looking directly at the sun. **At this time, junior and high school students will have the opportunity to look at the partially eclipsed sun by only wearing approved solar glasses under the direct supervision of Mrs. Barry and Mrs. Rayburn. Mrs. Barry and Mrs. Rayburn will ensure the students are wearing the glasses properly and will limit their direct viewing for a brief moment, only seconds at a time.**

Below are the video clips we will show the junior high and high school students.

SOLAR ECLIPSE - REFERENCE and SIMULATOR

<https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/in/usa/bryan-college-station>

Informative Videoclip - by Channel 10 Wixtv.com Columbia, South Carolina News Station

Hazards of Viewing the Eclipse

<http://www.wistv.com/story/36134650/this-is-why-you-cant-look-directly-at-a-solar-eclipse-without-protective-eyewear>

LIVE STREAMING Plus the following two videos:
2017 Total Solar Eclipse - Ways to Watch
NASA EDGE Solar Eclipse2017 - Preview

<https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/eclipse-live-stream>

Please understand that the safety of our students is my number one priority. We feel that the above events and activities will allow the students to have a fulfilling experience of a possibly once in a life time opportunity.

I thank you in advance for all of your support. Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,
Jim Rike