

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thanks to all those who joined us for Donuts with Dads.

Today is the last day to RSVP to Grandparent's Day that will be held on Monday, May 5. Please click [here](#) to RSVP.

Weekly Classroom Highlight: Mrs. Lovern

In Spanish class over the past three weeks the students have learned many new things. Our vocabulary has expanded to learn places and things in a city and on a farm. Students have also learned directional words. In upper elementary and middle school, students created and labeled a map of a city and wrote directions to places on their maps.

Middle school students were also tested on their ability to conjugate all regular verbs in the present tense. Our focus in middle school over the next few weeks is utilizing our new vocabulary and verb knowledge to create complex sentences and even paragraphs.

During Holy Week (Semana Santa), students learned about the traditions during this special time in Spanish-speaking countries. The week is marked by solemn processions, special church services, and dramatic reenactments of the Passion. Countries like Spain, Mexico, Guatemala, Colombia, and Peru are especially known for their elaborate traditions, which often blend Catholic rituals with local customs. During class we were able to watch some of the processions in Seville, Spain live. The students were able to witness several pasos (the ornate floats), hear the music, and get a sense for what it is like to celebrate Semana Santa in Spain. Students also learned about the "alfombras" of Guatemala — intricate, handmade carpets crafted from natural materials that beautifully line the streets during Semana Santa.

We will end the year learning vocabulary focused on household items, different rooms in a home, and food and restaurant-related terms.

Bonus Weekly Classroom Update: Mrs. Crawford

K-8 art classes are currently working on two and three-dimensional projects. Kindergarten students learned about drawings done 17,000 years ago in the Lascaux cave in France. We talked about primitive people's inventiveness in finding pigments for colors and making their own paint and tools. Students tried to figure out how the painters could reach the ceiling of the caves to draw and paint. We also talked about why the cave painters chose the images and why they were important to them. They are now working on their own

cave drawing using images like those drawn on Lascaux cave.

First graders learned how to make a clay pinch pot and apply texture to make it into a bird's nest. They learned how to form a piece of clay into a bird and eggs. After painting, they assembled all their pieces.

The Second grade is learning about how to make objects appear close or far away in a landscape. They learned about dividing landscape space into foreground, middle ground, and background through drawing different landforms. They are working on their own landscape drawing which they will display on a popsicle stick easel.

Third graders learned about Pop Art sculptor, Claes Oldenburg, and are making a Pop Art sculpture of a donut in papier mâché.

Fourth graders are working on a drawing based on the Cubist portraits of Pablo Picasso. They learned how to draw a portrait in the manner of Picasso by using different points of view simultaneously. They are using chalk pastel to complete their work.

The Fifth grade is working on a self-portrait. They learned the proportions of the human face, how to draw features, and applied that learning in their self-portrait. They are using chalk pastel to complete their work.

Seventh graders are building a clay coil pot and learning how to join clay pieces together.

The Eighth grade finished and displayed their clay fish before "Finding Nemo". They learned how to make a hollow form and use it as the body for their fish. They are now learning the processes of relief printmaking. They are currently carving a linoleum block before printing.

Job Openings

St. Augustin Catholic School is seeking a full-time lunch director. Responsibilities include: design and publish the menu, order food and other supplies for the program, work with administration in processing invoices, manage financial aspects of the food service program, and supervision of cafeteria staff. To apply, please email me (kspike@staugustinschool.org).

St. Augustin Parish in Des Moines, Iowa is seeking a part-time religious education assistant who will work with our Director of Religious Education to prepare the CGS atria and teaching materials, as well as help form the next generation of young Catholics as they prepare for the sacraments of 1st communion, reconciliation, and confirmation.

For the full job description and to apply, go to www.staugustin.org/jobopenings.

Royal Founders

All current St. Augustin families should have received a letter detailing this year's Royal Founders initiative. Please consider donating; your generous contributions continue to make our school the best! Reach out to Emily Kistner, Katie Massop, or Lizzie Dixon with any questions.

Summer Tutoring

Please click [here](#) if you are interested in signing up for summer tutoring with one of our teachers.

Saturday, April 26: St. A Sock Hop

You can still get tickets to the Father Daughter Dance! Join your friends for a night of dancing and father daughter fun at the St. A Sock Hop in the school gym Saturday 4/26/25 6-7:30pm. Poodle skirts and leather jackets highly encouraged!

Dads do not need tickets, \$20 ticket per daughter, max per family \$40 (two tickets). Drop off your check or cash to the office marked Attention: Stephanie Haas with your daughter's name or pay at the door.

If you are available to volunteer to help at the dance please contact Meg Norberg at megblatt@gmail.com or 574-386-1819.

Tuesday, April 29: Battle of the Books

Tuesday, April 29: Little Learners

All future royals are welcome to attend our final Little Learners session of the 2024 - 2025 school year on Tuesday, April 29 from 9am - 10:30am. :)

Wednesday, April 30 - Wednesday, May 7: ISASP Administration

Our 3rd - 8th grade students will complete the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress Wednesday, April 30 - Wednesday, May 7. Please avoid appointments if at all possible during these dates.

Thursday, May 1: Mass

Please join us for Mass at the school on Thursday, May 1 at 8:45am. Our seventh grade students will lead next week.

Thursday, May 1: Transportation Reimbursement Form Due

Transportation Reimbursement deadline for the second semester is May 1, 2025. Please click [here](#) to go to the "School Forms" page of our website. Then, click "Transportation Reimbursement".

Families living in the districts listed below will no longer file a paper request for transportation reimbursement. You are now required to submit your reimbursement request online by going to the websites linked below.

Des Moines - [Click Here](#)

West Des Moines - [Click Here](#)

Ankeny - [Click Here](#)

SE Polk - [Click Here](#)

Friday, May 2: Knights of Columbus Golf Tournament

The Knights of Columbus Golf Tournament is Friday, May 2. Please click [here](#) to register your team.

Saturday, May 10: Mother Son Kickball Game at Waterworks Park

You can still get tickets to the Mother Son Kickball Game at 3pm on Saturday, May 10! Moms take this opportunity to bond and have fun with your son outdoors. Come join the fun and find out who will be victorious. Stay and hang out after at the Beer Garden. Moms do not need a ticket. \$20 ticket per son, max per family \$40 (two tickets). Drop off your check or cash to the office marked Attention: Stephanie Haas with your son's name or pay at the game. If you have any questions please contact Meg Norberg at megblatt@gmail.com or 574-386-1819.

Monday, May 12: Kindergarten Round Up

Our current kindergarten class will not have school on Monday, May 12 to host our 2025 - 2026 kindergarten students.

Tuesday, May 20: Clap Out

The 8th grade clap-out is scheduled for Tuesday, May 20, at 3:00pm. If you plan to attend, please do not leave your car parked in the car line. Parents are welcome to stand between the front doors and the second set of double doors or outside the front doors.

Facility Request Form

Please complete the form linked [here](#) to request our school facility use. This form helps us

to determine what paperwork is necessary.

DCHS Camp/Club Information

DCHS Winter Weight Training (7th & 8th Grade): [Info Linked Here](#)

DCHS Cheer & Dance: [Flyer Linked Here](#)

DCHS Baseball: [DCHS Spring Baseball Clinic](#)

DCHS Maroon Softball Club: [Flyer Linked Here](#)

IGHSAU Basketball Clinic: [Flyer Linked Here](#)

DCHS Summer Camps: [Flyer Linked Here](#)

DCHS Riptide Swim Lessons: [Flyer Linked Here](#) (registration open March 3)

DCHS New Swimmer Evaluations: [Flyer Linked Here](#) (March 8)

DCHS Track and Field Club: [Maroons Track & Field Club](#)

CFL Registration: [CFL Open Registration](#)

DCVC Tryout Information: [Flyer Linked Here](#)

Thank you!

Mrs. Spike