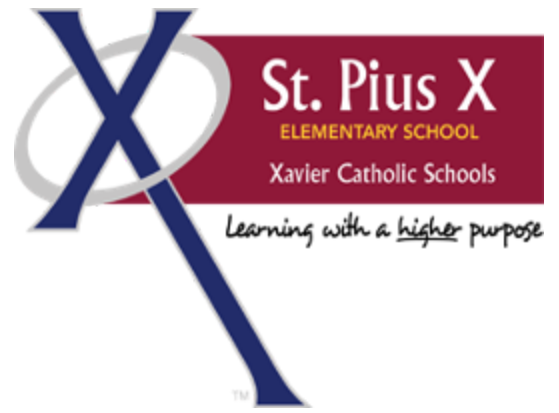


Panther Weekly News

October 23, 2020



Upcoming Events

- Monday, October 26th - Thursday, October 29th - Conferences
- Friday, October 30th - NO SCHOOL

REMINDER:

PLEASE DO NOT drop your child off before 8:15am (unless they are in Panther Playhouse). School doors do not open until 8:15 and there is no supervision outside before that time. As the weather gets colder, we cannot have kids waiting outside. Please help us out by keeping your students with you until the doors open at 8:15.

Conferences

Conferences will be held next week, October 26th - 29th. All conferences will be held virtually. Please schedule your time and the teacher will send you a Zoom link prior to your scheduled time. Conferences are required with your child's homeroom teacher. Conferences with the specials teachers are optional. Each conference will last 15 minutes. <https://www.myschoolsystems.com/StPiusX/conferences/>

Halloween

This year for Halloween we will be doing something a little different. Students will be allowed to wear a Halloween shirt to school on Thursday, October 29th (with dress code pants). Because it is also a Mass day, the 1st and 4th grade students who will be attending Mass in person will wear normal dress code clothes to Mass and then change shirts afterwards.

A parade and costume day were considered, but the logistics of getting 320 students changed while socially distanced being a challenge, we are celebrating with classroom parties in the afternoon. The homeroom teachers will send out specific information for their classrooms. We know that this is not an ideal situation for families but we feel as though we are working to still celebrate Halloween while also keeping students safe.

Welcome to St. Pius X!

We have several new additions to our St. Pius X staff this school year that will be highlighted this week & next! Please welcome:

Mrs. Kelley Dempewolf - long term sub in 1st grade for Mrs. Paris. Mrs. Dempewolf previously taught in Catholic schools for 10 years, before becoming a stay at home mom for 8 years. She has three children in the Xavier Catholic Schools - Ethan (9th grade at Xavier), Coleson (6th grade at Regis) and Drew (4th grade at St. Pius).

Mrs. Nancy Jacoby - our new guidance counselor! Mrs. Jacoby previously worked at Regis Middle School & All Saints.

Mrs. Kellie Jorgenson - our new K-5 Music & 5th grade band teacher! Mrs. Jorgenson previously taught at St. Joseph School. Both of her children attended St. Pius & she served as the PTO secretary for many years.

Mrs. Stephanie Sears - online learning & K-1 support groups. Mrs. Sears is helping our teachers & virtual students navigate online learning as well as teaching K-1 support groups onsite. Previously, she was a teacher &

administrator at Linn-Mar for many years and taught religious ed at St. Ludmila's. She has two sons that attend St. Pius - Luke (2nd grade) & Ben (kindergarten) as well as a two-year old daughter at home.

Mrs. Erica Rheinschmidt - addition to the office staff! Erica is working in the main office, assisting Geri and covering the front desk when Mrs. Maggie has a day off. She has three children that all attend St. Pius X - Molly (5th), Kate (3rd) and Jack (kindergarten).

Health Reminders

Please make sure to have a "back-up" mask in your child's backpack. There have been many instances of broken masks and no backup available. The school does have a handful of extras for emergencies, but having extras in backpacks would be helpful! If anyone would like to donate some extra masks for the school to have as backups, please let us know!

Food Service - Free Breakfast

As part of the USDA grant to provide school meals free of charge, all students are eligible to receive a free breakfast each morning. Breakfast is served from 8:15 - 8:30am - it is a grab & go system, please pick up the meal from the kitchen and take it directly to the classroom.

Teachers will take a count at the end of each day to send to the lunch staff for the next morning.

To schedule a time to pick up meals for virtual learners or any other questions, please contact Dawn Bliss 319-393-4507 or dawnbliss@stpiusxschoolcr.com.

[October Lunch Menu](#)

Contact Information

PLEASE HELP! - Update Parent Contact Information in PowerSchool

Due to a recent PowerSchool update, parent contact information is incomplete for many students. We ask all families to please help us by completing the steps listed below to make sure the information is up to date in PowerSchool. This is especially important in case of an emergency. Thanks for your help with making sure we have the most current contact information!

- Log in to PS
- On the left hand side, click Update Contacts
 - Click on the Contact Tabs across the top to update
 - **Update all fields** for each contact under Relationships, Address, Phone, Emails

Reminders

Absences / Illness / Appointments

For all attendance related items (illness, appointments, picking up early or dropping off late), please email attendance@stpiusxschoolcr.com & your classroom teacher. In the case of illness, please copy the nurse tboston@stpiusxschoolcr.com

Spirit Wear

There are several opportunities to order approved spirit wear:

[St. Pius X Spiritwear](#) - St. Pius X webstore - order window closes Friday, October 23rd at midnight (TODAY!) & items will be delivered to school within 3-4 weeks

[Saints Shop](#) - Xavier online store - order deadline is Friday, October 23rd at noon (TODAY!) & items will be delivered to school within 3-4 weeks

[Grandparent's Store](#) - a special webstore setup for Xavier Grandparent's apparel - order deadline is Friday, October 30th at noon - items will be delivered to school within 3-4 weeks & would make great Christmas gifts!

New Website & Social Media

Our new school website will be going live soon! Check out <http://www.stpiusxschoolcr.com> in the next few days!

Follow St. Pius X Elementary on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/SPXSchoolCR>

And, find us on Instagram - [St. Pius X Elementary Instagram](#)

Technology - Online Learning

Need an additional resource to learn about your child's Google Classroom or Seesaw? Take a look at the [Family Technology Resource](#) page. Bookmark this page for easy access. Information will be updated and added throughout the school year.

STO Information

What is STO? Click [HERE](#) for more information!

65% Tax Credit Too Good to be True? Not at all. If you file an Iowa Income Tax Return, your contributions to the *Our Faith School Tuition Organization (STO)* receive a 65% tax credit. That means for every \$1000 you donate, you receive an Iowa income tax credit, not a deduction, of \$650, which would lower your Iowa tax bill by \$650. In addition, your gift may qualify for federal deductibility. And that gift you made? It's going to provide \$1000 in need-based assistance to families in the Archdiocese of Dubuque. And your out of pocket cost for that gift? No more than \$350 and will be less if you itemize and are able to take the federal charitable gift deduction! It really is that simple. Visit www.ourfaithsto.org or call the Archdiocese of Dubuque at 800-876-3546 ext. 219 to learn more.

SCRIP News

[Cash & Carry Order Form](#)

SCRIP Important Dates - These dates are subject to change

Monday Orders - due no later than 10am and sent home on Thursday of the same week with your Pius student.

11/09, 11/30, 12/07, 12/14

Cash and Carry Dates - Orders are due by noon & will go home with your Pius student.

10/29, 11/12, 12/03, 12/10, 12/17

Transportation Reimbursement

Reimbursement is given from the public system to parents who do not have busing available to them and live outside the 2 mile boundary. **For this school year, that includes all students living outside the 2 mile boundary due to no busses available for any students.** First semester forms for the area school districts are due December 1st. Click the district in which you live to find the form you need to submit. Cedar Rapids school district forms need to be turned in to the St. Pius X office. Linn-Mar forms need to be signed by Mr. O'Donnell before it is sent to Linn-Mar.

[Cedar Rapids](#)

[College Community](#)

[Linn-Mar](#)

[Springville](#)

[Marion Independent](#)

PTO News

Hy-Vee Cash for Students

Save your Hy-Vee receipts to earn money for St. Pius! \$1 will be earned for every \$200 collected in receipts. Receipts can be turned in to the school office at any time. Qualifying Cedar Rapids and Marion Hy-Vee receipts include:

- Grocery
- Catering
- Pharmacy
- Fuel
- Hy-Vee Starbucks & Caribou
- Wine & Spirits

Box tops for Education

Earn cash for St. Pius simply by scanning your grocery receipts! It's simple, no more clipping! Just download the All-New Box top app and scan your receipts to find participating products. School earnings are instantly added online. Download the app from the Apple store, or get it on Google Play. Use Referral Code NBVP2IVE when signing up. Note: Receipts must be redeemed within 14 days of purchase.

Activities for St. Pius X Students

Trunk or Treat - Saturday, October 24th

Organized by St. Pius Elementary 4th grade Girl Scout Troop 2378

Saturday, October 24th 3:30-4:30pm

Location: Master Tool & Manufacturing parking lot (1450 Progress Drive, Hiawatha, IA 52233)

Come join us for trunk or treating fun & support a wonderful cause. Donations will be accepted to support the Intercultural Center of Iowa for derecho relief. We will be accepting monetary donations, coats (for both adults & children), hats, gloves, boots & snow pants. Support our local community.

Costume wearing encouraged! Social distancing and masks are required.

Saints Baseball - Registration for the 2021 Season is Underway

Saints Baseball is the youth feeder organization for the Xavier Saints. The Saints Baseball program offers the opportunity to play on either competitive or recreational baseball teams in a fun/Catholic environment. Our program has our own baseball fields and also offers an indoor practice facility.

Registration for the 2021 Saints Baseball season is underway and teams are filling up quickly.

- 7U - Coach Pitch for Pre-K, K and 1st graders
- 8U - 2nd grade
- 9U - 3rd grade
- 10U - 4th grade
- 11U - 5th grade
- 12U - 6th Grade
- 13U - 7th Grade
- 14U - 8th Grade

To register:

Go to: <https://active.leagueone.com/Olr/Pages/Welcome.aspx?ClubId=16152>

If you have registered with us before, you can use the same login and password as last year - If you have not registered with us in the past or if you've forgotten your registration information, please click on Create Account. Questions, please email saintsbasketball2013@gmail.com

News from Xavier

Football Playoff Game Friday: Xavier vs. Marion

Good luck to Coach Schulte and Xavier Football as they host Marion in their 2nd-round playoff game on Friday, Oct. 23 at Saints Field. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. Health & safety measures are in place, including spectator restrictions. A total of 400 general admission tickets will be available at the gate on a first-come, first-serve basis when gates open. Gates will open at 6 p.m. Masks are required for all spectators and attendees are expected to

sit within their household. Tickets are \$6 each for everyone (no passes accepted since this is an IHSAA playoff game). The Saints Shop will be open Friday night from 6-8 p.m. This game will be live streamed via the NFHS Network (details at XavierSaints.org/Live) and broadcasted on radio on KMRY 1450AM/93.1FM.

****The Panther Weekly news is a weekly email sent (usually on Fridays) to parents & other supporters of St. Pius X Elementary to keep you up to date with school & community news. If you would like to be added or removed from this email distribution list, please reply to this email to let us know.****