

December 1, 2018



The mission of Sacred Heart School is to promote life-long learning and Christ centered values in a Catholic setting.

A Message from the Principal

I would like to share a very special gift idea with you. The approach of the holidays often means that we are busier than ever. Most of us don't mind, though, because it's all about celebration and family in the name of Jesus. We have special gatherings and do our annual traditions; we become conscientious about the meaning of giving and receiving gifts; we decorate our homes as well as our hearts. And we do all this to honor the birth of Jesus, our Savior.

We want our children to feel the excitement and sparkle of the season, always with Christ in the center of your life. Every night at your child's bedtime, or first thing each morning, make a small cross on your child's forehead with your thumb. That's all. This simple and silent – yet meaningful and powerful – motion says volumes about Christ being the center of not only this season but your entire life. You may find that this simple gesture is something you want to do throughout your child's growing – up years. Your child will never forget this simple daily parental blessing.

May you and your family have a meaningful Advent and joyous Christmas Season.

*Sincerely,
LeAnn M. Dahle, Principal*

Important Information

SACRED HEART SCHOOL WEBSITE...I am excited to announce that Jennifer Peña from Peña Multimedia has been working on our current website. The site is under construction, but I would encourage you to check out the changes. It's much easier to navigate using a mobile device. The website is www.sacredheartschoolwaseca.com.

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM...Sacred Heart School and Children's House Montessori cordially invites families to celebrate the Christmas Season by attending our Christmas program on Wednesday, December 20, 6:00 p.m. at the Central Auditorium. The title of the program this year is **Three Wisemen and A Baby**. We will also host a **Christmas Tea** following the program in Nativity Hall. A reminder that students will need to wear their **Three Wisemen and A Baby** t-shirt, black pants, and black shoes for the program. **Detailed information will be sent with t-shirts explaining the schedule for that evening when shirts arrive.**

ADVENT...During the Advent Season the teachers and children of Sacred Heart School will participate in four Advent Prayer services. We will hold them on December 4, 10, 17, at 8:10 a.m. and December 19, at 12:30 p.m. in the school foyer.

PARENTS VISITING FOR LUNCH...A reminder that parents are welcome to join their child/ren for lunch during the school year. However, please contact the school office by 9:00 a.m. so we can include you in the lunch count for that day. Students in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade have lunch daily at approximately 11:20 a.m. Students in kindergarten and 1st grade have lunch daily at approximately 11:30 a.m. **A reminder that all visitors must report to the school office to check in and secure a visitor's pass.**

Seasonal Influenza Guidelines

You can help us prevent the spread of influenza at school by taking the following important steps:

Keep your child home if they have symptoms of the flu. That means a fever of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater, with cough and/or a sore throat. You should check your child for these symptoms each morning before sending them to school. Students who have these symptoms at school **will** be sent home. Other symptoms that may occur with the influenza include runny nose, headache, body aches, vomiting and diarrhea (in addition to fever and cough or sore throat).

Sick children must stay home for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone without use of fever-reducing drugs like Tylenol or Motrin. Children should not come back to school if they are not well enough to participate in school activities, even if their fever has been gone for 24 hours. Children staying home with flu symptoms should also avoid contact with others except to get medical care. This includes staying away from after-school and other activities. Do not use aspirin or aspirin-containing products when your child has influenza symptoms.

Teach your child to clean their hands often, with soap and water or alcohol-based hands rub. We will remind them to clean their hands regularly during the school day.

Teach your child to cover coughs and sneezes. They should use a tissue when one is available, but they can also cough or sneeze into an elbow or arm. Hands should not be used to cover a cough or sneeze.

Teach your child to avoid sharing personal items. That includes items like drinks, food, or eating utensils.

COLD WEATHER...Please dress your child/ren with appropriate winter clothing every day. Children should come dressed daily with snowpants, jackets, hat, mittens, and boots. We do play outside every day except when the actual temperature and or wind-chill are below zero degrees.

SCHOOL CLOSING...In the event of severe winter weather, we follow the same schedule as the Waseca Public Schools. Please follow the directions given by the superintendent of Waseca Public Schools, and **School Messenger** Instant Parent Contact Program. You may also listen to WCCO, KOWO/STAR 92.1, and KEEZ radio. You may also view school closures on WCCO, KSTP, and KARE TV stations. You may also check the school website www.sacredheartschoolwaseca.com.

SCHOOL MESSANGER INSTANT CONTACT PROGRAM...Our school utilizes the School Messenger system to deliver text messages, straight to you mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more. You can participate in this free service just by sending a text message of "Y" or "YES" to our school's short code number, **67587**. You can also opt out of these messages at any time by simply replying to one of our messages with "Stop". School Messenger is compliant with the Student Privacy Pledge, so you can rest assured that your information is safe and will never be given or sold to anyone. Opt-In from your mobile phone now! Simply send "Y" or "YES" to **67587**.

Stewardship

A Christian Steward is *"one who receives God's gifts gratefully, tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others and returns them with increase to the Lord."*

Each of us have received gifts from God, let us use them to serve one another as good stewards of God. Please remember that every family needs 20 hours of volunteer service for the parish or school during the year. As a member of the parish we ask that each family try to contribute a minimum donation of \$1,500.00 church support for the year.

CALENDAR EVENTS

Monday, December 3	Staff Day-No School
Wednesday, December 5	8:30 a.m. Immaculate Conception Mass
Wednesday, December 12	8:30 a.m. Mass
Tuesday, December 18	12:30 p.m. Dress Rehearsal at Central Auditorium Grades K-4
Wednesday, December 19	1:15 p.m. Early Dismissal
	6:00 p.m. Children's House Montessori and Sacred Heart School Christmas Program at Central Auditorium followed by the Christmas Tea in Nativity Hall
December 20-January 1	No School—Christmas Break
Wednesday January 2	School Resumes
Wednesday, January 9	8:30 a.m. Mass
Wednesday, January 16	8:30 a.m. Mass
	1:15 p.m. Early Dismissal

Bethlehem Inn Pajama and Book Drive December 3-19, 2018

This holiday season our school is collecting pajamas and books to benefit children who might be staying at Bethlehem Inn. We would like to give children in need a warm and reassuring bedtime.

If your family would like to participate, please send a new pair of pajamas and a book, any size, to Sacred Heart School by Wednesday, December 19, 2018.

The pajama drive is a great reminder of how important a bedtime story can be. After all, good nights lead to good days! You'll find great books to read together before bed at www.scholastic.com/bookclubs.

Thank you for your generosity!
LeAnn M. Dahle