



Panther Weekly News

August 26, 2022

UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 29th - Xhultation Rehearsals Begin
- August 29th - SCRIP Monday Order
- September 2nd - SPIRIT DAY
- September 2nd - Homecoming Tailgate

SCHOOL YEAR THEME

Serve the Lord with Gladness (Psalm 100:2)

Our school theme this year is "Serve the Lord with Gladness." At our first school mass on Thursday, the Gospel reminded us of the importance of serving our Lord. Jesus warns us to "Stay Awake! For you do not know when the son of man will come." How do we stay awake? We can do so outwardly by serving others, sharing the Gospel, and serving our neighbor. We also "Stay Awake" in more subtle ways, through prayer, asking Jesus to guide our steps, and putting God first above all else. We want to serve the Lord the best we can so when he comes at the unknown hour, he will say "Well done, my good and faithful servant."

For the first 6 weeks of school our community is encouraged to participate in a weekly challenge to "Serve our Lord with Gladness." This week we would love for our churches to be packed. A huge way we can serve our Lord is by attending weekend mass regularly. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible. Have a great weekend!

PBIS PROGRAM REVIEW AT ST. PIUS X

Several years ago PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) was started at St. Pius. This program was developed to implement clear and consistent school-wide behavior expectations. Over the summer, our PBIS team reviewed and updated components to our PBIS structure. You may have noticed we have new posters throughout the building that visually show and list behavior expectations in certain areas. In addition to classroom expectations, students have received lessons and positive feedback on our common area expectations this week (hallways, bathroom, recess, lunchroom, church, office, drinking fountain, etc.). Grade level teams have created behavior contracts that layout behavior expectations and positive and negative consequences that occur at that grade level. **Please review these contracts and sign them with your child(ren) over the weekend.** Parents are an important partner with the school in supporting academic, social, and behavioral learning.

One addition to the PBIS structure this year is we will be implementing Oops! sheets starting next week. An Oops! sheet can be given by staff members if students are having repeated difficulty following behavioral expectations in areas outside of the classroom (specials, recess, lunchroom, etc.). If a student receives an Oops!

sheet, a PBIS review of expectations in that area will be given and a consequence may follow. The Oops sheet will then be sent home for parents to review and sign as a way to communicate. If a student has repeated sheets, an office referral or meeting may be called. In the event of a serious behavioral concern, Mrs. Sears will always make a phone call home. An important part of learning is being able to communicate, review and practice expected behaviors. The Oops! sheets are intended to be used as a teaching and communication tool.

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

Contact Information

School Phone: (319)393-4507

Attendance Email: attendance@stpiusxschoolcr.com

Attendance

For all attendance related items:

Email attendance@stpiusxschoolcr.com & your classroom teacher

- Illness (please include illness description / symptoms) - A member of the office staff may call or email you to follow up.
- Appointments
- Pick up early
- Drop off late

Building Access

To ensure the safety of everyone in our building - only STUDENTS & STAFF are allowed in the building during the school day. All doors to the building will remain locked at all times - all visitors and volunteers must check in with the main office whenever entering the building. There will be opportunities for approved volunteers throughout the school year.

Late Arrival

If you are dropping your student off late (or from an appointment), please walk your student into the building and check them in at the main office. There will be a sign-in form for you to complete.

Pick-Up During the School Day

If you are picking your student up early (or for an appointment), please come to the main office to check your student out. There will be a sign-out form for you to complete. The office staff will call down to your student's classroom to have them come to the office. There will be no early pick-ups between 3-3:30pm - students must be picked up prior to 3:00 or will need to wait until the regular dismissal time.

Dropping Items Off

If you need to drop something off during the day, please bring it to the main office and a staff member will meet you there to collect the item(s) and get it to the right spot. Please have the item(s) clearly labeled with your student's name.

DRESS CODE UPDATES

The Dress Code Policy was reviewed this summer, and final revisions have been approved by the St. Pius X / St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School Board. The updated dress code guidelines for the 2022-23 school year are linked below. Please take some time to review the dress code. The items highlighted in yellow are changes &

clarifications that have been made from last year's dress code. Please contact the school office with any questions you may have.

It is **expected** that parents/guardians will ensure their students attend school in dress code.

[ST. PIUS X ELEMENTARY DRESS CODE](#)

2022 ISASP (IOWA STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT PROGRESS)

Our 2022 ISASP scores from last spring are in. We will be sending a hard copy home of results next week with directions on how you can also access them electronically.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

The annual school calendar can be found [HERE](#)

The daily / weekly activity schedule can be viewed at: [SPX Activity Calendar](#)

SCHOOL MASS

Our whole school attends Mass every Thursday morning at 9am. You are welcome to join us every week - please sit in the designated areas for visitors. Students will sit with their homerooms.

All church doors will lock shortly after mass begins at 9am. A sacristan will watch for a few minutes to let in anyone who might be running late, otherwise stop in or call the school office and they can let you in.

School Mass Sacristans Needed

The Sacristan team is looking for volunteers to join them in helping out at school masses on Thursdays. This would be on a rotating basis (approximately once every 3 to 4 weeks, depending on the number of volunteers). Please contact [Ramona Eid](#) or [Mali Rushton](#) if interested.

VOLUNTEERS

We are allowing volunteers in the building in a more "back to normal" way this school year. This will include lunchroom & library volunteers as well as the return of homeroom parents and classroom volunteers. **As a reminder, all volunteers in the building must have all their volunteer requirements completed.** If you aren't sure what requirements you have outstanding, please contact Erica in the office - erheinschmidt@stpiusxschoolcr.com

NOTES FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

The Music department is already a flurry of activity. Read on for 3 items of interest!

1. Orchestra Iowa's Children's Choruses is an exceptional non-school related choir for students grades K-6. This is an amazing group! St. Pius has had many students participate over the years and is worth considering. Please take a look at the [attached information](#) and decide if it is right for your child.
2. OPUS Honor Choir rehearsal schedule ("Interest Letter"). Please [take a look](#) and let me know if you have any questions. It is very important that all 5th grade singers interested in auditioning attend all rehearsals.
3. Xhultation! choir rehearsals will begin next week (Monday, 8/29 & Thursday 9/1). All the details are in the [Policies document](#).

NEWS FROM THE LUNCH ROOM

The August & September [Lunch Menu](#) is available now!

Important information for the 2022-2023 school year from the Nutrition Department

Beginning this school year, lunches will no longer be free. Starting in August the following fees for lunches will apply to your students. The [2022-2023 Iowa application](#) for free & reduced price school meals is available now. Please print, complete and return this to Dawn Bliss.

St Pius X Milk and Lunch Prices 2022-23

Daily Milk	\$0.60 (cold lunch or morning snack milk)
Weekly Cost Milk	\$3.00
Monthly Cost Milk	\$12.00
Daily Lunch	\$2.95
Weekly Cost Lunch	\$14.75
Monthly Cost Lunch	\$59.00
Adult Visitor Price	\$4.15(subject to change from government)

Second Entrée (only for 5th grade to purchase) \$1.00

Milk is offered with all school meals and is included with the meal fee. There is a fee to purchase milk with a sack lunch. An alternate lunch is the same price as the main lunch.

You can access your account through the web. www.stpiusxschoolcr.com using the following steps; Parents, Lunch, Online Lunch Account, username, password.

XAVIER HOMECOMING WEEK

Future Saints Pep Walk & Pep Rally

All Xavier Catholic Schools future Saints are invited to join us for our Future Saints Homecoming Pep Walk on Thursday, Sept. 1st from 6-6:45pm. Meet and greet current XHS Saints, take photos, and enjoy treats & swag. Then all are welcome to stick around for our Homecoming pep rally/coronation/bonfire at 7pm. Make sure to wear your neon to help us light the night.

Tailgate Tour

We are excited to host some visitors from Xavier next Friday for the annual Homecoming Tailgate Tour! St. Pius students will be treated to an outdoor pep rally with the Xavier band, cheerleaders, dance team & football players. Afterwards, the Xavier students will join us for lunch! It's always so much fun to have our former students back for a visit! Go Saints!

Homecoming Football Game & Alumni Hall of Fame Induction

Varsity football game begins at 7:30pm at Saints Field - in addition to the football game, enjoy performances by the Xavier Marching Band, Xavier Dance Team & Xavier Cheerleaders. At halftime of the football game, four outstanding individuals will be inducted into the LaSalle-Regis-Xavier Alumni Hall of Fame, including our very own former pastor of St. Pius X Church! Father Phil Thompson will be recognized as an "Outstanding Supporter" of Catholic Education and Xavier Catholic Schools!

SCRIP NEWS

It's a new school year and we are excited to offer many opportunities to purchase SCRIP Gift Cards. Our first Monday Order date is this coming Monday, August 29th. Please mark your calendars for the rest of the year's Monday Order dates.

Monday Order Dates - Order before 10am:

8/29, 9/12, 9/26, 10/10, 10/24, 11/14, 11/28, 12/5, 12/12, 1/9, 1/23, 2/6, 2/20, 3/6, 3/20, 4/3, 4/24, 5/8, 5/15

Watch for an opportunity coming soon to learn more about SCRIP & how you can save money off your tuition!!

TRANSPORTATION REIMBURSEMENT

Reimbursement will be 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 busing available for any students. St. Pius X School has no control over the reimbursement, but wants to provide parents with the forms they need to request the reimbursement. 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. The Cedar Rapids school district forms need to be turned into the St. Pius X office. Linn-Mar needs to be signed by the principal before it is sent to Linn-Mar. Contact the school if you have any questions. There are two submissions for the year (the second will be due May 1, 2023). You will be paid after the second submission for the full year.

[Cedar Rapids Community School District](#)

[College Community School District](#)

[Linn Mar Community School District](#)

[Marion Community School District](#)

NEWS FROM OUR SUPPORTING PARISHES

Welcome to a new year at St. Pius School! Supported by both St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and St. Pius X, you and your families are in the prayers of both our parishes. We continue to support the education and spiritual formation of all our students.

Please remember that 2nd grade is a Sacramental year. During this year, your son or daughter will be formed in preparation for First Reconciliation and First Communion. In order to support all our students, this formation takes place through your parish instead of the school.

If your student is in 2nd grade or has not yet received the sacraments of Reconciliation or First Communion, please contact your parish.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Jill Sires

jsires@seasp.org

(319) 393.3778

St. Pius X

Tony Lavorata

formation@crpiusx.org

(319) 393.4445

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Sacrament Registration

Registration is now open, and here is the link to the registration form:

<https://seasp.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/33/responses/new>

Dates for Reconciliation parent meetings (attend one or the other/not both) are Sunday, Sept 18th or Sunday, Sept 25th from 12:15-1:15.

You can also find the information on the St. Elizabeth website: www.seasp.org by selecting Learn and then either Reconciliation or First Communion. If they have any questions, reach out to Jill Sires at jsires@seasp.org or 319-393-3778.

XAVIER CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS

Future Saints Cheer Clinic

Future Saints in Kindergarten - 6th grade, come join the Xavier Cheerleaders for a cheer clinic on Saturday, October 8th from 9am-11:30am! The clinic will include work on cheers, chants, jumps & basic stunting. We will perform at halftime of the 9th grade football game on Friday, October 14th.

Cost is \$50 and includes a camp t-shirt and two admission tickets into the football game on 10/14.

Learn more and sign up online at [XavierSaints.org/Camps](https://xaviersaints.org/Camps)

Questions?: email erica.rheinschmidt@xaviersaints.org

Saints Baseball

The winter registration for the 2023 Saints Baseball Youth Program is now open. The Saints Baseball organization was formed nineteen years ago as a feeder program for Xavier High School. Saints Baseball serves the Catholic Community by providing competitive and recreational baseball for boys ages 6-14.

Joining Saints Baseball is a great opportunity for your child to grow as a player, while focusing on individual skills and teamwork. The teams will have access to nine ball diamonds located at various Catholic churches and schools. The teams also have access to a great indoor facility called St Rita's year round.

The season typically starts in early April and ends at the end of June/early July. We now form competitive teams at all age groups based on late summer evaluations and coaches feedback. Non-competitive 7U teams are formed based on school affiliation and friend requests. We are looking for boys for the following age groups to participate in the 2023 Baseball Season:

- 7U – Kindergarten and 1st graders. This is for our recreational teams and can likely expect 10-12 games during the year
 - 8U - 2nd Grade Boys - This is for our recreational team and can likely expect 10-12 games during the year
 - 9U- 3rd Grade Boys - This is for our recreational team and can likely expect 10-12 games during the year
- Fall registration for the 2023 Season is now open for the age groups listed above.

Registration will end September 30th. If you want to register your son please go online to:

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

Future Saints

Order your "Future Saints" card [HERE](#) - this activity card gets you into all home Xavier activities.

Saints Shop

The Saints Shop (located in Xavier High School) is open Monday - Friday (when school is in session) from 1:30-3pm. The store sells trademarked Xavier youth & adult apparel. Remember all Saints Shop purchases directly support the students, teachers and staff of Xavier High School.

Xavier Dance Team

Xavier Dance Minis

Do you have a little one who is interested in dance or is just dancing around the house every day? This team is the perfect opportunity to get them involved in school spirit! Spend two great mornings with our XDT dancers and perform at half time of a football game and basketball game.

Annual cost is \$125, open to ages 4-12. Your annual fee includes:

- Dance Team Minis t-shirt
- 2 pom poms & a hair bow

- Attendance at two camps, Sept 24 and Dec 10
- Performances at a fall football game on Sept 30 and a basketball game Dec 13
- Two tickets to football and basketball game for guests to attend and watch performance

SIGN UP ONLINE AT XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/CAMPS

Saint Paint

The Xavier Dance Team will be out and about again this fall doing Saint Paint including driveway stamps, touch-ups & stamped concrete pavers! Order yours today, show your Xavier spirit and help support XDT! [ORDER FORM](#)

****The Panther Weekly news is a weekly email sent 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.****