



***John Ireland School
2017-2018
A Year in Review***

*Let all that you do be done with LOVE.
-1 Cor. 16:14*

**John Ireland School is a
Catholic School welcoming
students of all faiths,
devoted to Gospel Values,
Academic Excellence, and
Christian Service.**

Mission Statement

- School began on Tuesday, September 5, 2017 and ended on Thursday, May 31, 2018.
- Enrollment for grades K-6 was 55, and there were 35 families. Preschool classes were added which included an additional 18 children.
- Tuition Cost remained the same for the fifth straight year, and scholarships were awarded to those who applied and qualified. Our goal is to keep costs affordable to families and yet strive for excellence in the education the students receive while attending.
- Students in grades 2-6 standardized test scores ranged from 64 to 94 in the national percentile rank. Our students perform well above average in all areas.

School Year Stats

Accomplishments this School Year

- Opened Little Angels Preschool in the Fall of 2017
- School Music Programs were new and fresh and highlighted students' talents and favorite songs from the school year – musical, public speaking, use of many different instruments
- In December JI students joined the Little Angels Christmas Program for a song, and in May we joined all students together for the spring program
- Two all school retreats planned by teachers helped deepen faith of not only students but also staff
- Fund a Need (as part of our Luck of the Irish fundraiser) – Raised \$9770 for Scholarships
- Completed the majority of our Self Study for MNSAA
- Updated our School Science Fair to a Genius Fair where students could select from a variety of categories such as Science, Technology, Arts, Music, and Religion
- STREAM (Science, Tech, Religion, Engineering, Arts, and Math) bins were created and put into all classrooms

More Accomplishments

- Increased and provided additional diverse field trips and off site learning experiences such as Children's Theater, Sculpture Garden and Basilica in Minneapolis, Children's Museum of Southern MN, and Trip to Dairy Farm
- Continued Kindergarten and Sixth Grade Buddy Program but added opportunities for students in other grades to work with preschool classes
- Our new music teacher created weekly YouTube videos of what students did in music classes
- Some teachers used Class Dojo for their classroom management program and for family communications
- Thanks to generous donations we added the Top 20 Program to our school. This is a positive program with common language used school wide

Even More Accomplishments

- Thanks to a couple generous donations we added Superkids to kindergarten through second grade
- New Staff added fresh insight and new ideas
- Vacation Bible School continues to be a special part of our summer plans
- Made and sent Baptism cards to the newly baptized in the parish
- Increase in visibility through Facebook and our local newspaper (Both in print and online)
- Updated mailing list for brochures and postcards
- In July 2017 we participated in the huge Fourth of July Parade in St. Peter
- New classroom projects and opportunities such as: Advent and Lent Adventures, Lent Madness (getting to know the Saints), Wandering Wise Men, Children's Analogy book writing and illustrating, Service Project Making Blankets, St. Nick Play, Puppet Show, Service Project Making Birthday Bags

In addition, we continue many of the wonderful traditions from set books to the adopt-a-grandparent program!

School Strategic Plan – A Few Highlights

OBJECTIVE 7 John Ireland Catholic will provide students and teachers with the technology tools best suited to meeting their learning and instructional needs.

2017-2018 Through our Fund-a-Need event during our Luck of the Irish fundraiser in 2017, twenty Chromebooks were purchased for students in grades 5-6 and the computer lab. The primary grades each received a second iPad for their classrooms.

OBJECTIVE 8 John Ireland Catholic will meet the needs of unique learners.

2017-2018The Diocese of New Ulm explored the option of giving NWEA diocese wide. The decision was made this spring to implement NWEA in 2018-2019.

2017-2018The principal met with the assessment director for the St. Peter Public Schools to learn more about FAST testing.

2017-2018STREAM (science, technology, religion, engineering, arts, and math) bins were created for each classroom.

2017-2018Superkids Curriculum was added mid-year to better meet the needs of the students in the primary grades.

2017-2018The Top 20 Curriculum was purchased to provide teachers with a common PBIS program which promotes social and emotional growth as well as conflict resolution.

- We will be entering Year 7 of our Accreditation Process which includes creating a new strategic plan, preparing for the onsite visit, and hosting our onsite visit in the Spring of 2019.
- Team Building will continue be of particular importance since many staff members are still new to the school and community.
- We will continue to review and update Science and ELA (English Language Arts) curriculum.
- We will also begin looking at our Social Studies curriculum especially Minnesota History.
- As part of our new strategic plan we will create goals which focus on meeting the diverse needs of the students and their families, improving security in our building, improving our phone and intercom system, improving our infrastructure to meet the additional technology use in daily classroom activities and lessons as well as with communication, and continue to increase our efforts in marketing our school to increase our enrollment.

Goals and Areas of Focus for 2018-2019