

The Dreamer

Exclusive news for the St. Joseph's Indian School DreamMakers



December 2021

2021: A Year in Review

During another year of uncertainty and obstacles, St. Joseph's Indian School is proud to say we can look back on 2021 and know it didn't break us.

While many schools across the country faced temporary closures or transitioned to e-learning, St. Joseph's remained open. Thanks to the bubble of safety created on campus, COVID-19 didn't stop us.

It feels so good to know children received everything they needed this year ... food, clothing, a warm bed, and of course, an education ... all thanks to YOU!

January 2021

Pope Francis declared 2021 the "Year of St. Joseph." We were so honored our school's patron was chosen and took it as a sign of great blessings to come.

February 2021

A brutal Polar Vortex cut through South Dakota. There were homes in reservation communities without electricity and a means to stay warm, so St. Joseph's sprang outreach efforts into action.

St. Joseph's implemented Driver's Education on campus, offering students valuable driving lessons with more flexibility around their busy schedules.

March 2021

Students celebrated College, Career and Military Month by exploring their options after high school.

Gymnastics, wrestling and basketball seasons were able to take place with added CDC recommendations.

St. Joseph's Indian School received the "Best Nonprofit" award from the Chamberlain-Oacoma Area Chamber

of Commerce.

April 2021

St. Joseph's Indian School awarded \$84,350 in spring-semester scholarships to Native American students across the nation, bringing the total awards for the 2020-2021 academic year to \$176,050.

St. Joseph's received the "Top-Rated Nonprofit" award from GreatNonprofits for the fifth consecutive year.

Students made prayer flags and hung them on tree branches outside the school. Prayers included hopes for "COVID-19 to go away" and for their families and friends to remain safe and healthy.



May 2021

A group of St. Joseph's female students performed the Jingle Dress Dance for the healing and well-being of others.

Seventh grade students went on the annual Cultural Trip to sacred sites of their ancestors.

Fourteen eighth grade students and five senior students graduated.

(over, please)



June 2021

Food box deliveries took place, giving families in reservation communities healthy foods such as meat, cheese, eggs, bread, fruits and vegetables.

Rec Center staff donated exercise equipment and athletic gear to two neighboring reservation programs.

July 2021

Food box deliveries continued.

The Bookmobile program safely delivered nearly 6,500 books to reservations and other communities.

Fr. Anthony retired and we were introduced to Fr. Gregory Schill, SCJ, our new Chaplain.

Heritage Month. Although already a primary focus, students took even more time learning about their Lakota culture all month long.

Students celebrated All Souls Day by making prayer ties for loved ones who have passed away. The seventh grade Cultural Trip group will take the prayer ties and use them during an **inípi** — *sweat lodge* — ceremony, Spring 2022.



December 2021

Students will soon pick-out presents for their siblings, parents/guardians and grandparents from the campus Christmas Store.

Students will leave for winter break to spend valuable time with their families. They'll take food boxes home with other necessary items to stay safe and well-nourished during break.



August 2021

The new 2021-22 school year began.

September 2021

We hosted the 45th Annual Powwow virtually, as COVID-19 precautions kept wonderful donors and the public from attending this year.

October 2021

Students celebrated Native American Day by focusing on their traditions, heritage and stories.

The school celebrated Red Ribbon Week by decorating campus trees with red ribbons.

November 2021

Students celebrated Native American

DID YOU KNOW?

The Lakota people marked the beginning of the year in spring, not winter. Though calendar types vary from tribe to tribe, nearly all tribal calendars begin in spring. To Native American people, spring symbolizes the start of a new year through the birth of new plant and animal life.

Learn more about the Lakota (Sioux) culture by visiting stjo.org/culture.



St. Joseph's Indian School
We serve and teach, we receive and learn.
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Dear Friend,

Hi Donors ^{and} thank you for keeping this school going ^{and} supporting this school. I really appreciate the things you do like helping us at Christmas. My favorite sports I like to do are basketball, Football, and Soccer. Also, I really like school. My most favorite subjects are Religion, art, reading, and Gym.

When I grow up I want to be a gamer. I like gaming because I think it's a lot of fun. My other dream for when I grow up is to play in the NBA. I like to practice shooting basketballs all the time. I think that will make me better.

When I'm older I want to live in Miami, Florida. That is my favorite place. I would love to explore the city too. I've never been there but the palm trees and beaches look nice.

Well that's all.

Your friend, Jevjuan