

The Dreamer

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



November 2023

St. Joseph's Indian School Hosts a Pumpkin-Picking, Hot Chocolate-Sipping Day

A recent autumn event at St. Joseph's was a smash!

On a crisp fall day at St. Joseph's Indian School, students gazed over the mountain of pumpkins in search of what they deemed to be the perfect pumpkin. Some were on the hunt for the common orange and round pumpkin. Others wanted a misfit — a pumpkin with discoloration, and maybe a couple of bumps and warts for a spookier or unique look.

Whatever it was, they sure found it at St. Joseph's Pumpkin Patch in a special spot on campus known as Wisdom Circle!

All of St. Joseph's 20 campus homes took turns coming to pick out a pumpkin, grab a cup of hot chocolate or apple cider, listen to some festive music and have a good time with their buddies. Older students helped younger students lug their pumpkin picks back home, where pumpkin carving or painting took place later.

Maija, St. Joseph's Residential Services Support, was the mastermind behind the event.

"Nothing says 'Fall' like pumpkin picking," she said. "Giving kids the opportunity to not only be given a pumpkin,

(over, please)





but to pick it out themselves was a lot of fun.”

And the students? They were so appreciative. While pumpkin picking may be a typical event for many this time of year, it was a first-time experience for so many of our students.

“Laila, what do you think of this one?” asked one staff member to the student.

The student gasped at the sight of the pumpkin, with deep vertical lines and a couple of bumps for added character.

“Yes!” said Laila. “That’s the one!”

While some hunted for character, other students had the size of the pumpkin on their minds.

“Look at this thing!” said one student as he proudly held up his chosen pumpkin, which rivaled him in size. “It’s huge!”

Also “huge” was the overall sense of joy from this simple, yet fun, moment at St. Joseph’s Indian School. **Philámayaye** — *thank you* — to our DreamMakers who make everyday moments turn into magic at St. Joseph’s! It was wonderful to witness the joy on the children’s faces as they spent this delightful day with their friends, all while soaking in the beauty of the season.



DID YOU KNOW?

St. Joseph’s has Lakota-inspired pumpkin carving stencils to kick your carving up a notch. Get your St. Joseph’s Halloween Pumpkin Stencils for FREE at stjo.org/pumpkin and get to carving!



St. Joseph’s Indian School
We serve and teach, we receive and learn.
PO Box 326
Chamberlain, SD 57326
1-800-762-2162 • www.stjo.org/Dreamer

Printed at Tipi Press Printing



Dear Friend,

Thank you for donating to St. Joes. I enjoy many activities here like playing basket ball and doing archery. I like reading and Social Studies Class the best, though my other classes are fun too.

I want to be a Pharmacist when I grow up. I would like to help people. I also wanted to be a pharmacist because i'd like to earn money for my family and for the poor.

I would like to live in my grand mother's house. She keeps pictures of all my family and cousins. The neighborhood is quiet. There is a herd of buffalo in the back of her house. And there is a river in front of it.

Thank you for donating to St. Joes.

-Sincerely, Victoria