

The Dreamer

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



June 2025

The Fun Never Falls at Rising Eagle Day Camp

At St. Joseph's Indian School, the fun isn't falling — it's rising higher and higher, especially as Native American children attend Rising Eagle Day Camp!

How do we entertain hundreds of energetic kids? By having fun! Children experience an unforgettable time at Rising Eagle Day Camp (REDC), participating in an array of activities such as playing games, enjoying a healthy breakfast, learning about Lakota culture and language, eating a healthy lunch, swimming with friends, making arts and crafts and snacking outside.

Camp runs for four weeks and is divided into two different sessions for children from the Crow Creek and Lower Brule reservations. To keep kids entertained and engaged at their learning levels, REDC includes two age groups: six to nine and 10 to 14. Evan, Rec Center Associate at St. Joseph's Indian School, says, "We create a fun, inviting atmosphere for the

kids at camp. I think camp is special because it's an opportunity to highlight our campus, staff and all the things that St. Joseph's has to offer. Camp is always 'organized chaos' in the best way possible and never fails to get a smile out of everyone involved."

To begin the day, campers get off the bus and head straight to the dining hall for breakfast.

"That breakfast pizza is so good. I love the crust!" exclaims Ella.

After breakfast, younger kids play an outdoor game, while the older kids head into the classroom to learn inspiring and important Lakota information.

"I know a lot of Lakota numbers! I can count up to 10 in Lakota," says JDean.

"I'm learning these words in Lakota: **tǎaspáŋ** — *apple*; **šúŋkawakháŋ** — *horse*;

(over, please)



and **thózi** — *green*,” says Oakland.

After exercising their brains and bodies, both age groups head to the dining hall to eat a delicious lunch!

“My favorite food is the walking tacos at the St. Joseph’s summer camp!” says JDean.

“I love the chocolate milk!” says Oakland.



After refueling their tummies, it’s time to burn off some more energy! Children have recess and free time, where their creativity and imaginations flourish. Most kids enjoy this time by rolling down the big grassy hill located right next to the beloved playground! Plus, children swim in the Rec Center pool.

“My favorite activity is swimming!” says Oakland.

Once all the kids’ hands are pruned and wrinkly from an afternoon of swimming, it’s time to get crafty! The kids sit at a long table filled with craft supplies, such as markers, crayons, scissors, glue, cotton balls, colored paper, coloring sheets and so much more! They brainstorm what they would like to create.

“I’m making a little house out of paper. I grab cotton balls that are big and color them since they’re always white, and then I put them on the bottom. It’s really cool!” explains Ella.

As the day wraps up, there’s one last thing to do ... snack time! Children gather under the shady trees to enjoy a treat and then beep-beep! It’s time to load the bus to go home before returning to do it all again tomorrow!

DID YOU KNOW?

Our DreamMakers monthly giving program is getting a new look and a slight name change. It will further be known as the “Circle of DreamMakers” to highlight how you are part of a group that wraps our Lakota students in a circle of kinship and community. You’ll be granted access to content created just for you, simply for being the caring person you are.



Stay tuned for more updates and thank you for being a DreamMaker!



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

Thank you for donating to St. Joe and all the help and money you give to this school. You have helped us for our playground. I will tell you about my school home it is nice and neat. I like this school in many ways. If there are not any donor's St. Joe would not be a school. I would not be in a home at all. But there are donor's I am grateful for this school and I am grateful for you. You help us and I have been in this school for five years and I had a good time being at this school thank you for donation.

By: Edwards

