

TIYOSPAYE CLUB

St. Joseph's extended family of monthly donors

September 2018

Dear Tiyospaye,

The 2018-2019 school year is in full force! Everyone — students and staff alike — has successfully made the transition from summer freedom to their school year schedules.

Our elementary and middle school students in grades 1-8 wake up early on school mornings to get dressed and prepare for the day. Before school starts, each home says their morning prayers and eats a healthy, nutritious breakfast before grabbing their backpacks and heading to school.



Art class is a student favorite!

When the first bell rings, St. Joseph's students head to their homerooms. During this time, all classes pray, sing the Flag Song, hear weather announcements and practice reciting the "Phrase of the Week" — all in Lakota!

Throughout the day, our students attend classes in language arts, math, science and social studies. In addition to these core classes, our students participate in "Specials" a few times every week:

- Physical education
- Library
- Native American studies
- Personal living skills
- Religious education

The children attending St. Joseph's Elementary School benefit from small classroom sizes, including individualized education plans that follow nationally approved and accredited techniques.

In addition to their coursework, our younger students are very busy with their extracurricular activities! In the fall, students are able to participate in football, volleyball, cross country, music lessons, drum group and choir if they desire.

The winter and spring months bring many additional opportunities for our students including basketball, gymnastics, swimming, martial arts, wrestling, archery, dancing dolls, softball, baseball, T-ball and track and field!



Ready to head out for the school day.

Although our nearly 50 high school students live on campus with our specially-trained houseparents, a unique partnership with Chamberlain High School gives our students the opportunity to attend class and participate in public school sports, fine arts and extra-curricular activities.

Some of the most common activities our high school students get involved in are volleyball, football, basketball, choir, drama and Native American Club.

One activity not yet mentioned that takes place during the months of August and September is ... POWWOW DANCE PRACTICE! Every week, students gather in the Rec Center to practice their powwow dances to the beat of the drum.

When our students arrive on campus in August, some of their first thoughts go to our Annual Gathering



of the **Wakanyeja** — *little beings* — in mid-September.

Since 1976, St. Joseph's Indian School has hosted a weekend full of Native American culture on our campus.

St. Joseph's 42nd Annual Powwow celebration will take place September 14-15!

Friday morning, visitors take part in cultural activities around campus. Every year, our Lakota Games and Making a Dreamcatcher workshops are guest favorites! Our students are active participants and helpers in the workshops facilitated by staff members and local Lakota elders.

In the afternoon, visitors take tours of St. Joseph's Elementary School. However, these aren't just any regular tours ... the tours are given by the stars of the weekend: our students!

By being tour guides, students can practice their public speaking skills. Visitors also seem to enjoy the opportunity to hear about the elementary school from a student point of view!

Following the tours, everyone is welcome to gather in our Rec Center to watch the St. Joseph's Powwow Royalty Crowning. During this ceremony, our 42nd Miss St. Joseph's, Jr. Miss St. Joseph's and Eagle Staff Bearer will be named! After the ceremony, a special cultural presentation takes place.

Saturday morning begins with our students giving tours of some of our campus homes. This is always a student and guest favorite!

After the powwow grounds are blessed, the Grand Entry begins at noon! Vibrant regalia, quick feet, graceful moves and pounding drums fill the day!

At St. Joseph's **wacipi** — *powwow* — there are four categories of powwow dance: Fancy, Traditional, Grass and Jingle Dress. Each dance is beautifully captivating in its own way!

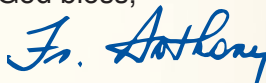
After the dancing concludes and the drums cease, everyone is welcome to gather at Our Lady of the Sioux Chapel for Mass. To conclude the weekend, a community dinner is shared and prizes are awarded to the best dancers in each age group and dance category.

St. Joseph's Indian School was proud to welcome nearly 500 visitors to our 41st Annual Powwow in 2017. We look forward to seeing our **tiwahe** — *immediate families* — and **tiyospaye** — *extended family* — at this year's powwow!

As a member of our **tiyospaye** — you help make events like this possible! Because of YOU, we have celebrated the beautiful culture of the Lakota people for the last 91 years. We look forward to 91 more!

Wopila tanka — *many thanks!*

God bless,



Fr. J. Anthony Kluckman, SCJ
Chaplain



Ready for powwow!



P.S. If you are unable to join us for our 42nd Annual Powwow and cultural activities, follow us on Facebook, [stjo.org/Facebook](https://www.stjo.org/Facebook). We'll be sure to share photos of our weekend's events!



St. Joseph's Indian School

We serve and teach, we receive and learn.

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Printed at Tipi Press Printing