

TIGER TALES

St. Joseph School providing Catholic Education for 125 years
Written by a tale-telling teacher

I was blessed this week with the opportunity to watch some serious service right before my eyes. This tale-telling teacher has always believed that stewardship, faith, manners, and good behavior starts at home and that belief came to fruition as I watched parents this week serve their SJS students and school. First, last Wednesday, after the last Tiger football game of the season, football, cheer and mascot moms and dads took our team out to eat. Moms worked with the restaurant staff to serve the players and witness happy, energetic, LOUD conversation and laughs for over two hours. It was a joy to see such involvement!

THEN, two days later, parents were trickling in to begin prep for the annual SJS Fall Festival! If you have never volunteered or hosted an event like this, you simply canNOT appreciate all of the time, talent, effort, flexibility, frustration, passion, purpose, prayer and love that is involved. From the very first parent letter, to the advertising flyers and yard signs, to the day of the events and the clean-up crew at the end... it's a big deal! THANK YOU, Leslie Chancellor (Fall Festival Chairman) and her co-chairs, Susie Eggemeyer and Angie McElroy, along with the Jack O'Lantern Jog co-chairs, Kendra Wenske and Tim Respondek, and our PTC officers - all of you guys did an amazing job! Please know that all of your efforts, down to the tiniest, ticket-stuffing detail was noticed and appreciated.

As a recap of last week's goings-on, SJS Tigers played the final volleyball and football game of this season! Both teams grew in skill-set, ability and sportsmanship and we are proud of all the hard-work both in practices and games! We also thank all of the volleyball and football coaches this season - your volunteered hours and dedication has been a testament of service and an example to our SJS students. Last Thursday, all of the Kinder-3rd grade students traveled to the corn-maze and had a blast! That field trip is always a hit - especially when they bring back that awesome kettle-corn for a beloved tale-telling teacher! We finished out the week wearing red for drug awareness from Red Ribbon Week - thanks Mrs. Klmitchek and SJS Student Council, for raising drug and alcohol awareness in our school community. And our Pre-K and Kinder students journeyed the halls of SJS, trick-or-treating at several classrooms in their Halloween costumes! They even got to go visit a few homes in the neighborhood, getting candy and prayers as they held out their pumpkin baskets. The weekend was full of 5K excitement and Fall Festival fun and, of course, Monday brought about Halloween, with MORE costumes and candy. Religion teachers have diligently been

focused on the importance of Catholic tradition, as it pertains to Halloween and All Saints Day. We end the month of October, celebrating "Halloween" or, as it is also known, "All Hallows Eve." Halloween is actually the vigil (eve) of All Saints Day. So as we enter November - as the seasons are changing and preparing for nature's dormancy - we remember especially those who have gone before us. We also recall the challenge each of us have to be God's holy ones - Saints! In fact, our 3rd annual Saintly Social was held yesterday in the SJS library. Eight saints came to life and presented themselves to the school and church community. We also had LOTS of saint projects on display - pretty cool that the students have these saints as role-models.

Upcoming events that you don't want to miss: Mass Celebration Wednesday at 8:05 - All Souls Day Parish Rosary @ the cemetery at 12:00 with 8th graders and parishioners on Wednesday - Thursday is 24-Hour Eucharistic Adoration - Friday, early dismissal @ 1 pm - Saturday, Diocese of Victoria 5K and Fun Run @ Riverside Park - Sunday, Daylight Savings Time: Set your clocks BACK an hour! - Tuesday, Vocations Day @ the Motherhouse in Victoria and Presidential Election - VOTE!!!

Seriously, prayers for our nation, our state and our local leaders! Thanks and God Bless!