



## The Butterfly Effect

Did you know that this phrase, an idiom, means that a small change, action, or event has the potential to create a larger change, action, or event elsewhere or in the future based on a chain reaction? Ms. Karla, also known as Grandma to Evan (prek), Merritt (K), and Bennett (2nd), is an expert in monarch butterflies. I had lots of

questions for Ms. Karla! “The terms rearing and raising Monarch butterflies both mean feeding caterpillars until they form a chrysalis and eclose into a butterfly. I use the term rearing but both are acceptable. In May, I begin finding Monarch eggs on my milkweed plants. The leaf is taken inside and kept in a container until it hatches, one or two days. The caterpillars need milkweed daily to feed, and milkweed is the only plant Monarch butterfly caterpillars eat. During the next two weeks, the caterpillar is moved to a rearing (mesh) cage and grows larger until it attaches itself to the top of their enclosure. It hangs a couple of days in the form of a “J”, then morphs into a

chrysalis. After about 14 days, the butterfly ecloses, or emerges, from the chrysalis. It hangs onto its chrysalis shell until the wings are full and dry, at least four hours. When dry, the butterfly can be released. Ideally, the butterfly is released the same day it ecloses, but can be released the next day. The outside temperature needs to be warm since these are cold-blooded insects and their temperature is determined by the outside temperature. Butterflies can tolerate light rain but they should not be released in heavy showers. Butterflies will not fly if it is too cool. They seem to do best when temperatures are in the 80's. The adult butterfly needs to begin eating flower nectar to survive, mate, and migrate.”

What path do the butterflies go once they are released?



“Monarch butterflies migrate. This means they start from Mexico in the spring, fly up through the United States to Canada, then head back south to Mexico. Iowa is in the Monarch flight paths between May and September. Depending on when they eclose, they could be heading north or south.”

“The MonarchWatch program site indicates adult Monarch butterflies live two to five weeks (<https://www.monarchwatch.org/biology/cycle1.htm>). Some sites indicate they live this long in captivity. The site <https://monarchbutterflylifecycle.com/pages/monarch-butterfly-life-cycle-facts> advises that temps above 85 speed up the life and temps below 70 slow it down. Since the Monarchs I rear are from the wild and we have warm temps in Iowa, I tell people the butterflies live about two weeks. The USDA indicates, “Generation 1 monarchs are the offspring of the monarchs who over wintered in Mexico. Each successive generation travels farther north. It will take 3-4 generations to reach the northern United States and Canada,” ([https://www.fs.usda.gov/wildflowers/pollinators/Monarch\\_Butterfly/migration/index.shtml](https://www.fs.usda.gov/wildflowers/pollinators/Monarch_Butterfly/migration/index.shtml)).” This 2013 news article indicates up to five generations: <https://www.nbcnews.com/sciencemain/monarch-butterflies-may-take-five-generations-migrate-us-6C10910055>.”

Why is it important to rear butterflies?

“It is important to me to rear butterflies because only one to five percent of the approximately 500 eggs in the wild will hatch and reach adulthood. Some sites indicate that amount to be two to six percent. When researching the butterflies in earlier years, one blogger said that taking any eggs to rear inside gave them a far better chance of survival than leaving them outside so that is why I do this. Rearing Monarchs is not for everyone. It is a commitment. Each egg requires a month of dedication from hatch to release. A supply of milkweed is needed, as well as rearing containers, and the supplies and time that go with it. For those who want to help but are not able to rear butterflies, I encourage planting nectar flowers and milkweed to help the caterpillars and butterflies.”

How many years have you been doing this?

“My interest started in 2016 and I released the first butterflies in 2017. This will be my sixth year finding eggs, rearing Monarchs, and releasing butterflies.”

What sparked your interest in butterflies?

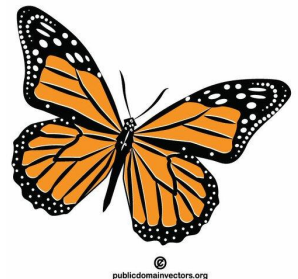
In 2016, I found a chrysalis attached to my garage. I researched what it was and have been hooked ever since. After studying about Monarchs online and how others rear Monarchs, I reared my first Monarchs in 2017. This is the third year I have released butterflies at St. James with the students. The first release was September 16, 2020. The second release was September 29, 2021.”

Here are two resources Ms. Karla recommends if you would like to learn more about Monarchs:

MonarchWatch (<https://monarchwatch.org/>)

Monarch Butterfly Garden (<https://monarchbutterflygarden.net/>)

USDA ([https://www.fs.usda.gov/wildflowers/pollinators/Monarch\\_Butterfly/](https://www.fs.usda.gov/wildflowers/pollinators/Monarch_Butterfly/))







The Nativity of Mary is the annual observance that celebrates the birth of Mary, mother of Jesus Christ, by preparing a Christian Fest and is observed on September 8.

# Happy Birthday!

Happy Birthday Mother Mary! Jacob (4th) celebrated a birthday over Labor Day! Noe (4 YO PreK) had a birthday on his first day of preschool! Best wishes to both boys!



## Annual CYHAWK Pic





## A collection of children's books, including 'Violet's Really Big Hit', 'How a House is Built', 'Violet-Flie!', 'Those Darn Squirrels!', 'Snowflake Bentley', 'Inch by Inch', 'Just a Little Bit', 'Neo Leo', 'Who Sank the Boat?', 'Down Sea with Magnus', 'Gone Barretta', and 'The Insect Architect'. The books are scattered on a light-colored surface, with some overlapping. The books feature various illustrations and titles, including 'Violet's Really Big Hit', 'How a House is Built', 'Violet-Flie!', 'Those Darn Squirrels!', 'Snowflake Bentley', 'Inch by Inch', 'Just a Little Bit', 'Neo Leo', 'Who Sank the Boat?', 'Down Sea with Magnus', 'Gone Barretta', and 'The Insect Architect'. The books are scattered on a light-colored surface, with some overlapping. The books feature various illustrations and titles, including 'Violet's Really Big Hit', 'How a House is Built', 'Violet-Flie!', 'Those Darn Squirrels!', 'Snowflake Bentley', 'Inch by Inch', 'Just a Little Bit', 'Neo Leo', 'Who Sank the Boat?', 'Down Sea with Magnus', 'Gone Barretta', and 'The Insect Architect'.



A young boy in a yellow t-shirt and denim shorts stands on a paved playground area, looking down at a wooden frame structure. The structure is made of light-colored wood with blue knobs at the joints. In the background, other children are playing on various pieces of playground equipment, including a red bucket and a blue structure. The scene is outdoors with trees and a brick building in the background.





# Everybody wake up!

We have student friendly worship music playing as students arrive in the morning, prior to prayers starting. It took several days for students to engage, but, as you can see, they are enjoying it! It's a great way to start the day! For many it gets the wiggles out, others it wakes up, and students continue to learn the songs and actions.



## welcome Preschoolers!

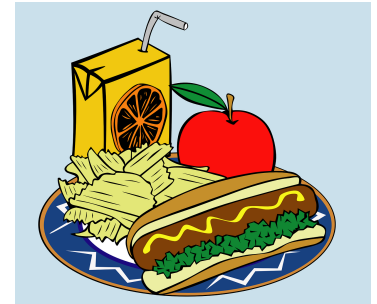
Our preschoolers started on Tuesday, September 6. Students were excited to come to school. They have had full days of learning expectations, playing at centers and outside. It has been wonderful to have the littles in the building. A fun fact is that in our primary hallway, we have 81 students! That is a full hallway and we are grateful to have an increase in enrollment. We still have room in our 3 year old preschool!





# FREE & REDUCED LUNCH

The Free & Reduced lunch applications are due asap. If you qualified last year and/or would like to see if you qualify for the 2022-2023 school year, please stop in the office to pick up the application form. Applications must be submitted annually. Contact Mary Sue Marek in the Business Office 319-653-3631 ext. 108 if you have any questions.



**We are needing Color Station Sponsors: Full Station \$110 or Half Station \$55! If you are interested in volunteering to help at the color dash please let us know, we have a lot of volunteer opportunities available! Contact Kim Farrell at [kfarrell@sjknights.org](mailto:kfarrell@sjknights.org).**



## Children's Mass

Mass is at 8:25am on Wednesdays. Visitors are welcome to join us in person. “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” (Matthew

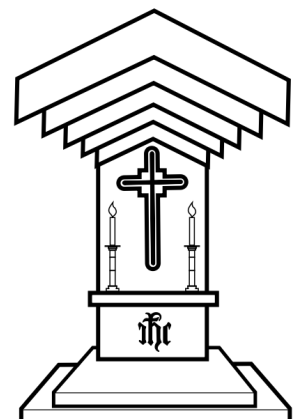


18:19–20.)

## Altar Servers/Mass Family Schedule

September 14 (Mrs. Sheetz)  
September 21 (Ms. Matheson)  
September 28 (Mrs. Sheetz)  
October 5 (Ms. Spears)

Lucas & Lovella (5th)  
Jake (5th) & Elian (4th)  
Scarlett (5th) & Ty (3rd)  
Sophia (5th) & Jacob C. (4th)



October 12 (Mrs. Timmins)  
 October 19 (Mrs. Clarahan/Mrs. Marek)  
 October 26 (Mrs. Fritz)  
 November 2 (Mrs. Heisdorffer)  
 November 9 (Ms. Spears)  
 November 16 (Ms. Matheson)  
 November 23 (Mrs. Sheetz)  
 November 30 (Ms. Spears)  
 December 7 (Mrs. Timmins)  
 December 14  
 December 21 (Mrs. Clarahan/Mrs. Marek)  
 January 4 (Mrs. Fritz)  
 January 11 (Mrs. Heisdorffer)

Isaac (5th) & Hernan (4th)  
 Lovella (5th) & Manny R. (3rd)  
 Lucas (5th) & Alex (3rd)  
 Jake (5th) & Laken (3rd)  
 Scarlett (5th) & MiguelManuel (3rd)  
 Isaac (5th) & Manny A. (4th)  
 Sophia (5th) & Jasmine (4th)  
 Lucas (5th) & Addison (3rd)  
 Lovella (5th) & Ty (3rd)  
 No Mass due to Christmas program rehearsal  
 Jake (5th) & Hernan (4th)  
 Scarlett (5th) & Alex (3rd)  
 Isaac (5th) & Laken (3rd)

## Calendar:

Tuesday, September 13	Bus evacuation drill 8:30am
Thursday, September 15	Principals' Meeting @ Regina; No Mrs. Clarahan
Friday, September 16	Early out; 1:05pm dismissal; Professional Development
Wednesday, September 21	Drills; School Board meeting 5:30pm
Friday, September 23	Early out; 1:05pm dismissal; Professional Development
Tuesday, September 27	Midterms out
Thursday, September 29	Teacher Clarity Meeting
Friday, September 30	Early out; 1:05pm dismissal; Teacher Clarity Meeting

