

Notre Dame Elementary School



Address: 700 S. Roosevelt
Phone: (319) 752-3776
Web Site: www.nd-burl.pvt.k12.ia.us
Principal: Bob Carr
Enrollment: 173 (K-5)

Additions are symbols of school's faith



Above is a crucifix in the entrance of Notre Dame Elementary School. At right, Anna Marie Carr's great-granddaughters Addison and Avery Rump pose with a statue donated in Carr's memory.

Notre Dame Elementary School has two recent additions that are daily reminders of the Catholic faith, and the reason for the school's existence.

The crucifix from the former St. Patrick's Church in Burlington has been mounted on the wall in the entrance of the school.

Also, in the elementary school office there is a new statue of the Virgin Mary that was donated in memory of Anna Marie Carr. She was the mother of Principal Bob Carr.



School gets new desks

Notre Dame recently acquired desks that are not brand new, but which the school is very thankful to have. They were purchased at an auction at the old Oak Street Middle School and cleaned before placement in Notre Dame classrooms.

The old desks had been brought over from St. John's School when the new elementary school opened 15 years ago, and they were not new then.

Students in fourth-grade teacher Karen Engberg's class enjoy their new desks.



Weed patch is now a garden

Just before school started in August, several Notre Dame parents got together and went to work on what had become a weed patch in front of the elementary school. The plantings were overgrown and the mulch was mostly missing, but what was left had deteriorated to almost nothing. Now the garden areas have been weeded, and river rock has replaced the mulch. Notre Dame has many blessings, and those who care about the school and support it are a blessing indeed.

ND patrons share input

On Nov. 13, the Notre Dame School Board held a town hall meeting in the elementary school gym to receive input from school patrons and provide information on four topics:

- Catholicity and adherence to the School Mission Statement
- School finances
- Building and grounds
- School/community relations.

After an opening prayer, Ruth Skeens facilitated the meeting. Discussion on each topic emphasized how to continue improving the school, but participants also took time to recognize what Notre Dame is doing well. The school board members listened to concerns and provided answers to patrons' questions when possible.

As might be expected, improving communication was a goal in each of the four areas.



Along with implementing the new Roman Missal, there are a few other changes at the elementary school Masses each Tuesday. New albs were purchased for the servers. Shown wearing the new albs are Alexander Becker and Hope Ward.



Notre Dame has started a new elementary/middle school cheerleading squad this year. The students will be cheering at home games and may be guest cheerleaders at a varsity game later in the year. The team is coached by Jennifer Cagle and Lindsay Amacker. In front are Maya Manning, Kelsey Bush, Holly Siefken, Cassidy Rashid, Chloe Cagle and Sydney Schwenker. In back are Madison Hatfield, Elani Mears, Sarah Meeker, Chloe Timberlake, Katelyn Gallagher, Katie Tucker and Katie Jackson.



Students in third and fourth grade are working on learning proper key-boarding skills as part of the technology curriculum at Notre Dame. Students in Crystal Poindexter's third-grade class are shown using the elementary school netbooks. From left are Emily Bevers, Matthew Smith and Isabella Carlson.



Students check out the new selections for a Bookfair. Notre Dame holds two Bookfairs each year in conjunction with the elementary school concerts. Connie Siefken, school librarian, uses the proceeds from the Bookfair to purchase new hard-back books for the library.

"Space Out in a Good Book!" is the theme for Notre Dame's accelerated reader program this year. As students read and earn points each month, they move from planet to planet. Shown are fourth-graders Sam Henneman and Mikaela Tarrence.

