

Eighth Grade and Kindergarten Buddies

by Max Cervenak, published on 02/04/2019

One of the most fun parts of eighth grade at Saint Charles Borromeo School is the kindergarten and eighth grade Buddy Program. This is a program to help eighth graders learn to be responsible and for kindergarteners to have a role model and make friends, and to develop a greater sense of community within the school. We meet once a month in the kindergarten rooms. Together with their buddies, eighth graders do crafts, play games, and have fun. Eighth grade teacher Mr. Ungvarsky said that Saint Charles Borromeo School has had the Buddy Program for more than twenty-five years. He said the purpose is “to give a sense of community within the school.” It definitely does that!

Eighth graders Conner Peloso, Michael Hatgas, and Antonio Briggs said their favorite parts about the Buddy Program are spending time with their buddies and helping them learn. Conner said he and his buddy particularly enjoy playing Twister. Michael and Antonio said that their buddies are funny and nice. Conner said the reason he likes the program the best is because “it makes the older grades have a better connection with the younger grades.” Antonio added, “It is a good way for the kindergarteners to become more open and social.” And Michael said that the program “helps [the buddies] learn.”

The eighth graders aren't the only ones who love Buddy days! Kindergartener Nicholas Vidovic said that when he knows his buddy is coming, he feels “very happy.” He especially likes “playing games and doing crafts.” He described his eighth grade buddy as “tall, funny, and, nice.”

Both the eighth grade and the kindergarten classes are looking forward to continuing this program for many years to come!