



# Crusader Chronicle

John F. Kennedy Catholic School 2017-2018

A Student Publication Quarter 1 Edition

## **Welcome Father Dan!**

By: Courtney W. Isabel H. Kyle B.

Have you seen a new face at JFK? His name is Father Dan Dorau. JFK is so excited to welcome him. Father Dan was born in Nebraska, and then moved to Fort Dodge, Iowa. God called him to be a priest in eighth grade, but he didn't answer. God called him several more times before he finally answered. When Father Dan became a priest, the colleges he attended were Loras College and Sacred Heart Seminary. Father Dan looks up to his older brother David, Jesus Christ, The Saints, and the Pope.

Father Dan's favorite part at JFK is visiting classrooms. He also likes meeting new people and them asking good questions. Father Dan came to Our Lady of Victory, because the bishop appointed him here. Father Dan's favorite part about working with Father Jake is when Father Jake makes hard decisions such as writing the homily. Father Dan's favorite part about Mass is to turn the bread and wine into the body and blood of Jesus. Another favorite part about mass is when he looks in the eyes of the children receiving communion and he feels the love of God in their eyes.

Some activities Father Dan likes to do in his free time are riding his bike, hiking, watching football, and basketball. When Father Dan was younger he had a goldfish, dogs, and cats, but now he thinks it would be unfair to have pets because he is gone all the time. Father Dan is a great person and when he visits your classroom, give him a warm welcome.

## **Welcome Mrs. Nykoluk!**

By Chayse H. Maguire L. and Ralph A.

In a galaxy not so far, far away...a nurse from Trinity is here at JFK! Mrs. Nykoluk is new to OLV and JFK working as an office assistant in both the parish office and school office. After seeing the opening this summer she inspired herself to come to work at JFK; so if she didn't encourage herself, she wouldn't be here today! Mrs. Nykoluk checks student and staff records and keeps everything up to date. She also answers the phones and helps out in office if someone is sick.

Mrs. Nykoluk still works as a nurse at Trinity Hospital even though she works here at JFK and OLV. Like everyone, she has unique opinions and favorites; some of her favorite things to do in her free time are to spend time with her kids and watch baseball. Her favorite book is Harry Potter like many kids and her favorite animal is a manatee. She has a pet dog named Bandit, a great name for a dog! Ever wonder what her favorite holiday is? Her favorite holiday is Thanksgiving, another great time to thank God. She also loves to learn science, it's a great subject! She has one brother, she also has two kids, who have and still attend JFK. She came to JFK because she said "it's a great place to work and she really enjoys it here". Overall, she is a very interesting person and really nice, we hope she has a good year at JFK!



## **Welcome Mrs. Rohlf!**

By: Max S. Molly R. Isaac L.



The students of JFK welcomes Mrs. Rohlf to our school! Although she is new to teaching here, her sons Tim, John, and Daniel attended from preschool through eighth grade. Her job is to help small groups of students strengthen their skills in the area of math. She works with students in grades kindergarten through sixth in the little room connected to the cafeteria.

Although Mrs. Rohlf loves teaching she also loves to spend time with her family. She grew up in Clinton, Iowa and in sixth grade Mrs. Rohlf realized that she wanted to teach, then graduated from St. Ambrose University. Her grandmother and uncle taught while she was growing up, therefore they inspired her to become a teacher. Mrs. Rohlf taught first grade in Dewitt for 32 years before retiring from there. In her free time, Mrs. Rohlf likes to do crossword puzzles and play tennis. She is also learning to play pickle ball. She loves to spend time with her family, as well as organize family photos. She loves JFK and said "I know it is a wonderful school because my kids went here, and everyone is kind, caring, and helpful. We hope she likes it here at JFK. Go lead the way!

## **Mrs. Myers is back!**

By: Olivia R., Makayla S., and Sam M

Many might know the wonderful Mrs. Myers but if not here's a little bit about her. This year Mrs. Myers came back to JFK and has become the assistant manager of our lunch program. In 2010 Mrs. Myers first joined our school and was the head manager for our lunch program. She then left in 2014 to take care of her three children and become a stay at home mom. The reason she wanted to come back to JFK was because she said, "I wanted to come back because I love working us students and it was a fun job". She also said she liked working at JFK since it has a flexible schedule.



She's not just a lunch worker she's a mom of three to Brianna, Bella, and Bridget and they all attend JFK. She also has two kittens Scratch and Dash who were named by her three year old. Mrs. Myers favorite sport is soccer even though she doesn't have a favorite team. In her free time Mrs. Myers loves to read. We are super excited to have Mrs. Myers back this year at JFK. Go lead the way, the lunchroom, and beyond!

## **Busy Brownell**

By: Cole. M and Ethan. C



Since Mrs. Weiser became the new fifth grade teacher, and Mrs. Brownell took over her teacher's aide position. Mrs. Brownell also had to keep her old position as well, since there was no one to take over. She has a very busy schedule, first starting the day at ECLC in Mrs. Fox's room. Then, she heads upstairs to help out second through fifth grade. Lastly, she makes her way back down to ECLC at one in the afternoon. Over all, though, she says she loves working with kids and also loves the faith based education!

Mrs. Brownell has wanted to be an educator ever since she was a teenager and now her dream has come true, because she has now graduated from Long Wood University in Virginia. When she is not working in the classrooms, some things she likes to do in her free time are bake cupcakes and cookies for her family, play with her awesome kids, as well as watch her favorite NFL team, which is the Packers, play football. She has three kids, two of which go to JFK, and a daughter who is at Assumption High School. Her husband serves in the military, as well. Just like how her husband travels with the military, Mrs. Brownell travels all over the building. If you see her in the hallway give her a wave as for she has one of the most busy schedules out there!

## Mrs. Creech is changing

By: Elexa A. Abby H. and Logan L.

JFK's beloved teacher's aide, Mrs. Creech has been working at JFK for two years now. With her new position this year, she gets to work mostly with first grade. So far she says it is going great. She loves her new position. "I like being in the class with first graders, they are smart and wonderful kids," Mrs. Creech said. She wanted to be in the area of teaching ever since she was a kid, and she definitely enjoys it, because she has been working with kids since college. She has also worked with students with disabilities, elementary age kids, and daycare kids.



Switching of the duties in August.

Mrs. Creech has so many different talents, her jobs are very different and very unique. One of the first places she worked at before coming to JFK was in a chiropractor's office and an insurance office. Did you know Mrs. Creech was born in Utah, but has lived in Davenport most of her life, and that she went to school here at JFK? That is one of the reasons she chose to work here. She thought it was an amazing school and when she got the offer she took it.

Two years later and now she is practically a celebrity, because all of the students know who she is. She helps in first grade for most of the day, but then, switches off so she can be with second, third, fourth, and fifth grades, They are the lucky grades that get to be with Mrs. Creech for math and science. Wow, she's sure busy! She likes math and science because it comes easiest for her. It might just be easy for her, but she sure made it easier for us.

Mrs. Creech is a mother of three kids, Dylan, Derek, and Caitlyn; they're triplets! She really is busy, at work and home. In her free time she likes to spend time with her family, of course.



Mrs. Creech working with a small group of first graders

She also loves doing crafts and working with kids. We think she chose the right profession. She has been so flexible and kind about the new position. If there is one thing we know, it's that she's great teacher's aide!

## **Mrs. Hinchman**

By Sean B, Brooke L, and Jay W-T.

Many people and students know Mrs. Hinchman as a music teacher for all grades. When she first came to JFK Mrs. Brenden was the theater teacher. Then Mrs. Hinchman took it over and she has taught Crusader Theater ever since. But she has reduced what grades she teaches. She used to teach all grade levels, but slowly reduced what she taught to just seventh and eighth grades this year. Mrs. Hinchman has many reasons for continuing to teach at JFK and they all are very good reasons.

The main reason is that she wants to keep Crusader Theater going. She has been big part of Crusader Theater at this school, and does not want to quit it now. Her favorite part of teaching not as many grades is "I have more time to prepare for Crusader Theater."

We all hope that Mrs. Hinchman stays at JFK, because she is a big part of Crusader Theater. She teaches seventh and eighth grade only for now. She is an all around funny and a nice teacher. She has been at JFK for so many years, she can't even remember how many.

## **Mrs. Weiser**

By: Anika E, Owen W-T

Mrs. Weiser is the new fifth grade teacher here at JFK. Before being one of the fifth grade teachers she was a teacher's aide at JFK for three years. Before coming to JFK she was an elementary school guidance counselor. She likes working at schools and being able to teach kids new ways to do problems; it was time for her to get her own classroom. Her favorite subject to teach is math because when she was little her dad always played math games with her in the car and helped her learn her math facts.

Mrs. Weiser has a daughter named Jadyn, a son named Heath who is in third grade also here at JFK, a stepson named Matt, and a husband whose name Ray. Ray works for a computer company that makes maps in Scott County. Mrs. Weiser has one dog and three cats. Jadyn is in fifth grade and has Mrs. Weiser for science. Jadyn is very happy that her mom is a fifth grade teacher at JFK.

Overall Mrs. Weiser is a great teacher who appreciates her students. Mrs. Weiser is excited to teach fifth grade and for all the exciting new things the students are going to learn. We all welcome Mrs. Weiser to JFK with her new teaching job!

## **Ms. Turnquist**

By: Macie R. and Jordyn A.

You might be wondering who is Ms. Turnquist? Does she work in the office or is she new? Turns out Ms. Turnquist has been working at JFK for 10 years! She is the preschool teacher's aide for Mrs. Zeimet, Mrs. Knox, Mrs. Jordan and Mrs. Blocker. Ms. Turnquist switches classrooms during the day. Last year Ms. Turnquist only worked in Mrs. Zeimet and Mrs. Knox's room.

Ms. Turnquist has always wanted to be in teaching since elementary school. She says she loves her job so much, and loves working with different classes of children especially since they make her feel so special all the time. She especially loves watching the children grow academically of course, and says it's such an experience to help them learn to write their name. Ms. Turnquist says it's such an awarding job being around all the kids and seeing all of them smile. I bet you can imagine how much Ms. Turnquist loves to watch all the little kids grow from the beginning of the year to the end.

Ms. Turnquist also loves doing things outside of JFK, such as camping, spending time with her family, and decorating her house. Ms. Turnquist got her associates degree at Scott Community College and finished up at St. Ambrose University. Ms. Turnquist is such an amazing and kind teacher's aide, who loves and take cares for all the little kids. Over all Ms. Turnquist is the sweetest teacher's aide anyone has ever met!

## **Mrs. Saxton**

By: Ella M. and Matthew M.

Mrs. Saxton has been working here at JFK for two years, including this year, as a teacher's aide, and has just added in some new duties to her job. She was asked to help out with more grades and she enjoys it very much. She is now helping second, third, and fifth grade in addition to first grade. She especially enjoys seeing what the other grades are doing. For example, when asked how she felt about her job, she replied, "I enjoy working with the students and helping them with studies." In the same way she likes helping them with their projects and other activities.

Mrs. Saxton's response to the question why she started working for JFK was, "I was looking for a job that worked around my kids schedules and this is a friendly environment." Before coming to JFK she worked at John Deere and she also went to Iowa State University. "Go Cyclones!" she says. Although she enjoys her job she has many hobbies. She enjoys reading, going to flea markets, and decorating in her free time. To wrap it up Mrs. Saxton does so much for are school she is a great part of JFK!



Mrs. Saxton and some first graders

## **Mrs. Van Speybroeck**

By: Elijah S. and Maddy A.

Want to know about Mrs. Van Speybroeck, one of the music teachers at JFK? Mrs. Van Speybroeck used to only teach third through sixth grade music classes. This year she is teaching kindergarten through sixth grade. Once she found out that she was going to teach more grades, she felt a little nervous, but since school has started she is getting the hang of teaching younger students as well as teaching more students. Mrs. Van Speybroeck is a very organized person which is good if your teaching a lot of students.

Mrs. Van Speybroeck loves her job which is why she is always excited to come to work. Even though it sometimes is tiring, she never quits on her students. One of her favorite things about music is the different songs that show different emotions. She has always wanted to be a music teacher since she was a kid. She loved to sing and listen to music, but she decided to teach music. Her high school band instructor inspired her to teach music. She loves to teach Christmas music to her students in the winter time in their textbooks. Mrs. Van Speybroeck loves all the staff and students at JFK.

Mrs. Van Speybroeck has other things going on other than just teaching music class to fourteen classes at JFK. For example, she sings in two choirs, loves to cook, and she has three girls that she loves to spend time with. Two of her kids go to JFK and one is a freshman at North High School; their names are Elizabeth, Margaret, and Mary. . Mrs. Van Speybroeck graduated from St. Ambrose University and has been teaching since 1997. She also loves to listen to Adele, 80's music, and choral music, but when she teaches the students she has them listen to Laurie Berkner. Mrs. Van Speybroeck is a wonderful music teacher here at JFK and we wish her luck on this first year of teaching seven grades!

## **Magazine Sale**

By: Annemarie E., Jackson C., Ryan B.

This year's magazine sale was great. All thanks to Great American Opportunity, Mrs. Woerdehoff, who filled in for Mrs. Tilkens who usually organizes the sales, the preschool teachers, for bringing the coops to the preschoolers, and everyone who sold not just magazines, but different items. There was something new to the Magazine Sale this year. Students were not just selling magazines! There were many different things people could order such as` football flags, posters, frames, cookie dough, Cinnabons, wrapping paper, chocolate, and much more. Most people do magazine sales so the school can afford playground and gym equipment like footballs, soccer

balls, new exercise equipment, soccer goal nets. Students this year were booming with excitement about the prizes they could win such as fidget spinners, banners, waterproof sports speakers, and even the new the One X!

This year people have been trying to get as many prizes from the magazine sales as well as the coops. Coops are the little keychain chickens that are representing the magazine sales this year. In past years students have collected emoji's, monkeys, penguins, Garfields, and Weebles. Speaking of coops, Mrs. Woerdehoff has informed us that the most popular coops this year were Sharkbait, Incognito, and Bling. Thanks to everyone who helped with the magazine sales. We raised over \$5,000 this year. Let's beat this next year!

## **Improvements to JFK**

By: Grant S., Brycen A., and McKay D.

What an exciting summer for JFK. Mr. Sweeney and Mr. Holland were very busy. Have you noticed the new tables in the cafeteria? They are very helpful when it comes to moving them for school occasions. Also JFK got new faucets and an ice maker in the kitchen. The faucets were getting old so they had to replace them. One major improvement that happened at JFK this summer was the new boiler to heat the school. The new boiler helps JFK very much in the long run. The old one was over 50 years old and cost too much to repair.



JFK also got more floor savers. Floor savers are placed on the bottom of chairs and desks. They make it so the chairs and desks don't scratch the floor as much. Also the upstairs boys bathroom door was replaced. The old door couldn't close all the way, so they decided to get a new one. Have you been in Mrs. Lundquist, Mrs. Weiser's or Mrs. Whelchel's room? The walls were all painted, and it looks really good. In Mrs. Kubalsky and Mrs. Motto's they painted an accent wall around the white-boards. Accent walls help kids focus in one direction.

The cost was one thing that JFK had to be careful on though. The overall cost of the improvements was around \$227,000. The largest improvement was boiler which cost about \$172,000. The new cafeteria tables, chairs, and chair racks cost about \$25,000. All the other improvements and repairs were about \$30,000.

These changes were very important for JFK. One of these examples is how much money it will save JFK in the long run. So all together JFK had a busy summer. Thanks for all this hard work put in by Mr. Sweeney, Mr. Holland, Ms. Turnquist and the contractors, helps to make JFK a great school. The students and staff appreciate what you have done and are continuing to do.

## Technology Improvements

By: Seamus A., Sam S., and Rylie D.

It's great to be back here at JFK because all of the new technology improvements that happened over the summer. One improvement was JFK purchased and installed a new router for the wireless internet system. This will help as for there are more computers trying to use the internet at one time. As for the computers they are starting to replace some teacher's computers which are becoming outdated. While on the subject of about computers, all of sixth grade and one eighth grade class got new Chromebooks. This has been helping with time lost spent on waiting for the computers to start up. Whenever a student comes to Mrs. Siefers with a broken computer, if it is in warranty, JFK will send it to the manufacturer to fix it. Otherwise Ms. Siefers will work on it here at JFK.

It's important for student learning on computers because when students reach High School and College they will be using computers in almost every class. Technology programs help our students be prepared for the future. Mr. Siefers and Mr. Steimle said, "having technology is a huge responsibility and a bonus for learning and writing, you can get stuff done quicker and print things." Technology is used in almost every job in the world, it is a big effect to our lives and the students are glad we are updating it as much as we can.



## Student Council

By; Brynn B., Emerson S., and Justin C.

Get ready for a jam-packed year for student council! This school year at JFK our four student council officers have creative ideas for our dress days and service projects. These ideas include Penny Wars, Humility of Mary, Duo Day, and many more. This year's officers are Anastasha M., Grace M., Isabella K., and Lily H.

Lily H. is this year's student council secretary at JFK. She has some awesome ideas to make this a great school year. Her service projects include making cards for the sick children at University of Iowa Children's Hospital. Those cards would give them such a big smile on their faces. Another of her ideas is a mitten tree. The mittens, hats, and other winter items would be donated to people in need.

Next up is Isabella K. as treasurer. In her speech she talked about some interesting dress days such as Animal/Mythical creature day, which allows you to dress up as your favorite animal or mythical creature. Another awesome dress day is duo day. "Grab your best friend and dress as your favorite duo such as Buzz and Woody, peanut butter and jelly, and some other fun ideas." she said. One very special service project is donating to the Handicapped Development Center (HDC). She

explained, “This program is where my brother Nathan and many other kids with special needs go to hang out with their friends and go on field trips together.” Students that participate by bringing a dollar or more will get a jeans day.” she stated. A great idea for a great cause.

The next officer is our Vice President, Grace M.. She has a lot of great ideas for the year. One of her many ideas was sending cards to Ridgecrest residents because they can get a little lonely. That would make their day so much better! Another one of her ideas was to fill backpacks with food because some kids don’t have the privilege of eating dinner every night. First up, for her dress day ideas, is movie day. On this dress day you would be able to dress up as your favorite character from a movie/book or, create your own. Another of her ideas is pajama day where you get to wear your pajamas to school. Wearing pajamas to school, now that’s awesome!

The part you all have been waiting for our last student council officer is Anastasha M., our president this school year. This is not the first time she was president of the student council, she was president last year. This means her ideas are even better than before! Her first idea is collecting funds for those affected by hurricanes this year. Donating to Humility of Mary is her other great ideas. Each grade could collect a different item to donate to help the homeless living there. One of her cool theme day ideas include athletic day. You can wear clothes that represent your favorite sports team , whatever that may be. Her last theme day is mismatch day. You can wear your clothes mismatched, crazy right!

Most people don’t know that Mr. Ryan and Mr. Connors play a large role in student council. Their job is to handle and hand out paperwork, assist in running meetings, and provide them a say in charities and dress days at JFK. Mr. Ryan has been helping student council for five years, while Mr. Connors has been helping for four years. Mr. Ryan enjoys helping student council and working for a common goal. On the other hand, Mr. Connors likes that he gets to assists students in their mission to help others. They both agree that it doesn’t add any stress to their lives, it’s all for fun! These four are working very hard to make this school a better place with the help of Mr. Ryan and Mr. Connors.



## Super Summer STEAM

By: Grant W, Emma S, and Delaney S

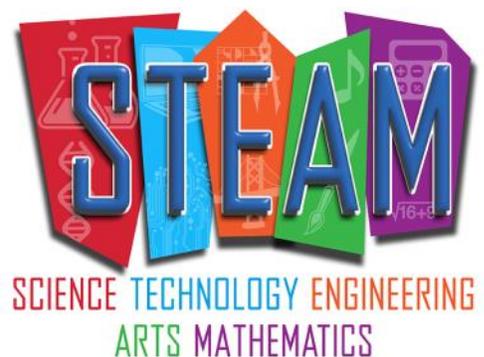
How do you like to spend your summer? Do you go swimming, play sports, hang out with your friends, or just simply stay at home and read a book? Some students this summer created projects that kept them busy, and had a fun learning experience while doing it!

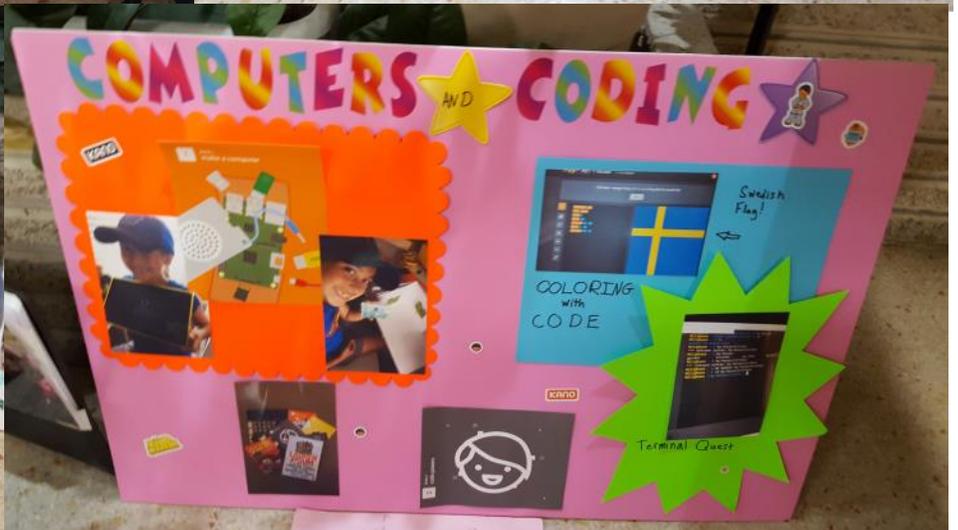
Mrs. Schott, JFK's school counselor created a program, called Summer STEAM. This allows students have fun while still learning over the summer break. When asked why have a summer STEAM project, Mrs. Schott said "I came up with the Summer STEAM idea because she felt too many kids were missing out on what they were passionate about. Summer is a great time to learn about your interests and set goals for yourself." The students who participated in Summer STEAM had some guidelines to follow. They each had to include three sources, which could include books, websites, or articles. They also had to include a poster or item explaining what their project was about. Mrs. Schott thinks that this is a good way to teach the students responsibility.

One of the students who participated in Summer STEAM was Anika E. When she was asked how she came up with the project idea, she said that she got her idea after watching the movie, "Beauty and the Beast." After watching the movie, she decided to replicate a clay sculpture of the character, Belle, for her project. Then, she wrote a paragraph about the original and new movie, explaining their similarities and differences.

Some of the other students who created Summer STEAM projects were Wrigley M, and Brandon S. Brandon made a solar eclipse box for his project. He said that he got all of his materials from items that he had around his house. He said he made the box because of the solar eclipse that occurred back in August. With help from his grandfather, he successfully made a solar eclipse box! For Wrigley's project, she performed a set of weather experiments to try and predict the weather. She got help from her family, and got her supplies from a local craft and grocery store. Wrigley's sister, Millie, also did a project. She played a computer game that she coded herself! "We loved our projects and we're both going to do another one next summer!" they both told us.

Not only did those four students make Summer STEAM projects, but a lot of other students did too! We would like to give them a round of applause! Those students include Sean B., Nathaniel B., Elise. B, Jayden W., Clara N., Ava W., Sophia H., Sullivan G., Andrew B., and Natalie B. All of those students did a very good job, and with their hard work and determination they all made fantastic projects!





# Summer STEAM Projects



# These are some of the best jokes and riddles from the books in the school's library

By: Gabe H., Trenton N., and Olivia D.

Why is it good to have frogs in the outfield?

Answer: They Never miss a fly!

Why is a sold-out ballpark a good place to go on a hot day?

Answer: Because there's a fan in every seat

Baseball Player: Son, would you please get my fielder's glove out of the car?

Son (Later): Dad, I can't find it!

Player: Where did you look?

Son: In the glove department!



What kind of dog is a fighter

Answer: A Boxer



Why did the student bring a ladder to class

Answer: Because the teacher asked him to sing higher

What did the magnet say the paperclip

Answer: I'm attracted to you

Where's the best place to learn how to make ice cream?

Answer: At sundae school

Why did the girl bring a ladder to graduation?

Answer: Because she was going to high school

What did one needle say to the another

Answer: Sew what's new?

What happened when a skunk wrote a novel?

Answer: It became his best smell.

Why do two-headed monsters make bad drivers

Answer: Because they double park

What do you get when you cross a bee and a cow?

Answer: A hamburger

Who builds houses for snakes?

Answer: A bore constructor

Why is the king of the jungle the laziest animal?

Answer: He's always lion around



Want to read more jokes?  
Find these books in the JFK  
library.

*Baseball Jokes and Riddles.*  
*That's so Funny I Forgot to*  
*Laugh!: Jokes, Jokes, and More*  
*Jokes.*

*The Nuttiest Riddle Book in the*  
*World.*

*Ninety-nine and a Half Spooky*  
*Jokes, Riddles, & Nonsense.*

*Chalkboard Chuckles: A Book of*  
*Classroom Jokes.*

*Game-day Giggles: Winning*  
*Jokes to Score Some Laughs.*