



St. John the Evangelist Catholic School

Jet Gazette Newsletter

October 2, 2020

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

News and Views from Mr. Schmit

Hello!

We have now completed six grace-filled weeks for this school year. So many great things happened throughout the week. This is the first week all of our K-8th graders were able to attend mass (K, 2nd-5th on Monday and 1st, Middle School on Friday). Two of our 8th grade students, their parents and Mrs. Adams went to St. Mary's Cathedral on Tuesday to represent St. John School at the annual Mass with the Bishop. Our middle school band program was able to meet for the first time with Mrs. Forsleff. We are hoping that in the weeks and months to come that we can continue to experience "normal" SJS-type things. However, we are still in the midst of the pandemic and there are two things I need to briefly cover with you as we are now full steam ahead into October, as well as include several other items within my weekly run-down:

- COVID/GCHD Updates: Runny nose and congestion are no longer considered a secondary symptom, following the State's latest Executive Order. I thank you for your understanding and for practicing caution daily while monitoring your child's health. Please continue to follow the guidance and direction of your family's doctor if a student is showing COVID related symptoms. We have been handling all situations case-by-case and are in daily conversations and check-ins with Mrs. Darcy Thomas.
- GCCS Athletics Update: GCCS Principals originally hoped to have an update for you all on October 1...which was yesterday. We have been going back and forth through email correspondence to establish protocols and procedures. We will be meeting next week to hammer out some things in stone but it is looking like we will begin our 2020-21 Flint Area Catholic Schools League (FACSL) with 7th/8th Grade Volleyball. We are hoping to have practices begin later this month with competition to begin in early November.
- Middle School Band will meet on Wednesday, October 7 and Thursday, October 8 from 3:30-4:45.
- Thank you to our Knights of Columbus for awarding \$250 scholarships to the 16 Knights who have students enrolled in the school.
- Thank you to our Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus for donating \$1500 to the tuition assistance program.

Together we are making this school year work, one day at a time. However, we are all dealing with "stuff." God helped me this week in dealing with my own "stuff." "Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." (*Philippians 4: 6-7*) This passage is our second reading at Mass this coming Sunday. God's timing is perfect, isn't it? Just as I begin to struggle and get caught up in "stuff," God sends a person, a word, or a situation that reminds me of His providence and love. Here are two other examples from this week where God was sending a similar and perfectly timed message. Yesterday, the Catholic School principals of the Diocese gathered (socially distanced, of course) for a meeting at the Diocese. We attended Mass at the Cathedral, celebrated by Fr. David Hudgins. He reminded us in the homily that even though we are dealing with something, there is no need "to freak out," because "Jesus will work it out, not for the good, but for the best." Fr. Ryan's homily from this morning's mass, he reminded the First Grade and Middle School students that even though we are all dealing with "stuff," that God loves us and if we take time we will see all of His blessings in our lives. He finished his homily with a question of, "God loves us very much. Do you believe that?" Our first graders all yelled, "Yes!" It did my heart well to hear those voices proclaim the Gospel truth!

God bless you all and have a wonderful weekend.

Andrew Schmit

PARENT CALENDAR



October

Sat	3	Happy Birthday Ms. Jacoby!
Sun	4	Pet Blessing Mass in Bush Park-3 PM
Wed	7	Parking Lot Rosary
Thurs	15	Staff PD—No School for Students
Fri	16	Staff PD—No School for Students



Masks for Sale

Face masks with the St. John School logo are for sale in the school office. The cost is \$8 per mask. We have adult and child sizes. If you would like to purchase one, please send cash or check in an envelope and specify which size you would like. We will send them home with your student. You can also let us know by email if you would like to order one.



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram to stay up to date on day to day activities and be informed of special announcements.

Facebook: St John the Evangelist Catholic School

Instagram: stjohnfenton



PARENT PACKETS

This week, your child brought home the Parent Packet that we normally send home the first week of school at our Curriculum Night. This packet contains some helpful information to keep on hand, such as lunch account information and a hard copy of our school calendar. Additionally, the following forms should be returned to the school office:

- Updated Code of Conduct form
- Concussion Awareness form (New Families only)
- Background Check form (New Families only)
- E-tithing registration form (This form is completely optional and is for families who are interested in signing up for e-tithing at the parish).

Please note: Some packets did not have 2 Code of Conduct forms. There is a copy attached to this Jet Gazette email if you need an additional copy.

Report All Student Absences

When a student is absent, the parent or guardian **MUST** call the school office no later than 8:45 AM or email Mrs. Haiss at: ahaiss@sjseducation.com. **This year, we need to follow up on all absences. To cut down on the number of follow up phone calls, we kindly ask that you report all absences.** If the student absence is due to illness, please report the nature of the illness to the school office when you call. Please refer to Page 23 of our Phase 4 plan regarding our general sick policy. If your child is feeling ill for any reason, please be sure to keep him or her at home. If you are feeling unsure about whether or not to keep your child at home, please refer to the COVID decision tree or call your doctor's office.

Please note: If you are emailing your child's absence, please include the following information:

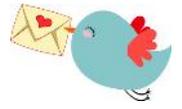
- **When symptoms first started**
- **Whether or not your child has a fever, and the exact temperature if a fever is present**
- **Whether or not your child has been exposed to any individual who has tested positive for Covid**



Preschool celebrates the color RED this month!



ON A PERSONAL NOTE



Thank you:

- To Mr. Garbutt's 7th grade class for adding mums to the fall decorations at our entryways.



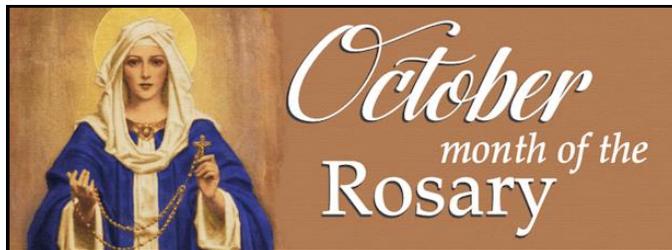
- To the Educational Foundation for funding the purchase of our water bottle filling stations, We were so excited to use them this week!

Prayers:

- For Mike Bade (Ms. Bade's father) who is hospitalized
- For Mrs. Boyle who is recovering from surgery. We wish you a speedy and restful recovery!

Building Foundations of Faith

As Catholic parents, we are called to provide moral education and spiritual growth for our children. What better example than to learn and grow in faith yourself? Visit this Jet Gazette feature weekly for thoughts, articles, and tips to strengthen and deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith.



October is the month of the Rosary. Watch this quick video, [The Rosary in 2 minutes](#), from Busted Halo for a quick lesson on the how and why to pray this simple prayer.

Today's #microchallenge from bustedhalo.com



To stay up to date with parish events, here is a link to the weekly parish bulletin: <https://stjohnfenton.org/bulletins>

Staff Spotlight

Sunday is the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals.

This week, our staff members share with us their beloved pets!

Mr. Willard: I used to have a spaniel mix named Hyde ("Heidi") who would smile for visitors she was excited to see. This would make my mom laugh hysterically!

Mrs. Forsleff: We have three calico cats and one big dog. Our cats are Sweetheart, Meemoo, and Isabel and our dog is Rami. (See below)

Mrs. Roche: My favorite pet was our chocolate lab, Captain. Captain was not a well-behaved dog. He chewed up shoes and got into the trash can (with a lid) all the time. Captain was, however, a great dog. He listened and snuggled. He loved swimming. Most importantly, when the kids were little, he let them climb all over him and was nothing but a fluffy brown heart. We miss him still!

Ms. Jennings: I have Godiva who is now 11 years old and, Godiva's best friend, Eugene the Stray Cat.



Mrs. Roberts:

Our Rosie Girl!!!



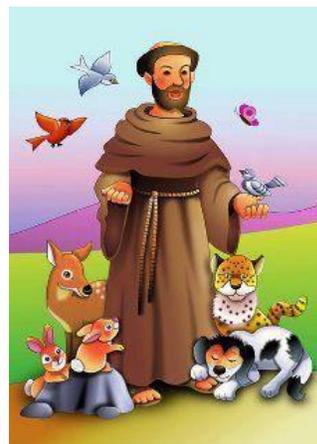
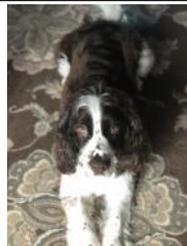
Mr. Forsleff: This is our dog, Rami. He loves his family, but thinks delivery people are a terrorist threat!



Mrs. Ratke: We LOVE our dog, Benny. We rescued him from Adopt-a-Pet and he acts like a little human.



Mrs. Anderson: Bentley and Mr. Purr Purr aren't as innocent as they look.



St. Francis,
Pray for
us! !

Staff Spotlight

Ms. Bade: Vinnie and Izzy love the Lions!



Mrs. Boyle: Our Mo dog is our lovable lab who will be 12 soon. Natalie likes to feed him her leftovers.



Ms. Wharff: Here's my little sidekick, Beauregard! He loves coming to kindergarten ALMOST as much as I do. He loves walks, toys, and peanut butter.

Ms. Feazel: Gracie is black lab/Border Collie mix and she is 15 years old.

She is a sweet old girl.

Matilda is a Goldendoodle who is just over a year old.

She is always being mischievous and getting herself into trouble!



Mr. Schmit: Max is our four-year old Goldendoodle who thinks he runs the family.



Mrs. Adams: I have a new puppy, Juno, a Bernedoodle. She is now 5 months old and gets into everything, but she is just a puppy! She loves to go for walks. She is a lot of fun and we are all having a lot of fun with her at home!



Mrs. Haiss: Hank is our 3 year old yellow lab who lacks spatial awareness and likes to sneak treats off the counter and sleep in laundry baskets.



Kitty likes to monitor Hank's mischievousness from a distance.



Ms. Adams:

We got our bernedoodle puppy, Juno, at the end of June this year. She is a little (getting much bigger now) fluff ball! She's a goofy, speedy, little girl. Don't let her hair falling in her eyes fool you though, she's a

little terror at times, but we love her so much! She's been the best addition to our family during 2020.

Submit your idea for a Staff Spotlight question to Mrs. Haiss via email at ahaiss@sjseducation.com.